

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

CONSTITUTIONAL BILLS.—Paris, Dec. 16.—The Assembly Committee of Thirty met to-day, and considered the question of placing constitutional bills on the orders of the day. A motion was made by the Right Centre to place the bill for the organization of a second Chamber first, and it was adopted. These proceedings show that all efforts to unite the two Centres have failed.

THE Czar and MacMahon.—London, Dec. 16.—The Czar has sent the Order of St. Andrew to President MacMahon, with a very friendly letter. The circumstance is much commented on.

So far from being settled, the Protestant crisis becomes every day more serious, and not only in France but in all parts of the world its different phases are followed with the keenest interest. The *Journal des Debats* says:—

"Already the Anglican Protestants are profiting by the internal dissensions which divide the Christian Reformed Church of France in order to increase the number of their proselytes. In Switzerland and Germany, where religious agitation is just now so great, the result of the conflict engaged in on this side of the Rhine between the Liberal Consistories and the Synod is impatiently awaited."

POPULATION OF FRANCE.—The proved wealth of France is very strangely compatible with her moderate increase of population. That France is so rich that the greater part of her recent debt has been bought by Frenchmen themselves, and yet that, in the last fifty years, her population has increased but by seven millions, are curious collateral facts. The ratio of the increase is as follows:

France	England and Wales
A.D. 1821.....39,000,000	12,000,000
A.D. 1871.....36,000,000	22,000,000

But there are 2,000,000 to be added for Alsace and Lorraine, which now are not portions of France; and 700,000 to be deducted for the provinces of Savoy and Nice. Thus the French advance is about 25 per cent, and the English about 80 per cent.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has just addressed to the clergy of his diocese a circular letter prescribing prayers for the National Assembly. The text is as follows:

"Monseigneur le Curé,—Before its recess the National Assembly, as usual, decided that public prayers should be asked from the Church imploring the blessing of God on the labours of the new Session which opens on the 30th of November. Legislators honour themselves by such decisions; they place their acts under the protection of the Supreme Being from whom every sovereignty derives its name and power. At the same time they acquire an additional claim on the confidence of nations, for by calling the light from above on their debates they make us hope they will ever have in mind the thoughts which conscience approves and God blesses. It is with joy and zeal that the ministers of religion will respond to this invitation and celebrate on the appointed day in concert with all the faithful these solemn supplications. We shall pray for France, and ask that she may be blessed with peace, prosperity, and strength. But let us remember that these temporal benedictions must be deserved by faithfulness to God and devotion to the Church, which has contributed so much to the development and the greatness of our country. May we see this religious spirit continue to spread through the country! We shall pray for this Assembly, which holds in its hands the destinies of our country. The differences which separate the children of France are the great evil of the present moment, and paralyze all the efforts which the nation is making to recover from its misfortunes. We should indeed be walking in the darkest night or our minds would be sadly deranged if we were not struck by this maxim of the Gospel, so full of truth—'Every kingdom which is divided against itself shall be destroyed, and every house or nation divided against itself shall fall into ruins.' There is no other remedy for such an evil than the abnegation of personal thoughts and the sacrifice of private interest when union has become the first condition of our safety. He who does not know how to forget himself forgets his country, and would incur a very great responsibility."

M. Chenu, Medical Inspector-General of the French Army, whose statistical and clinical observations on the Crimean and Italian campaigns were exceedingly valuable, has published a similar work on the last war. He reports the losses sustained by the French to have been as follows:—Killed, disappeared, or died of wounds and diseases, 138,871; wounded by the enemy's fire, 143,000; men disabled by marching, 11,421; 11,914 missing are treated as dead. These figures include 2,881 officers killed or who died of wounds and disease and 98 missing, with 17,240 prisoners who died in Germany, 1,701 in Switzerland, and 124 in Belgium. While 17,249 deaths, then, occurred in captivity, only 1,220 soldiers were killed at Gravelotte, the bloodiest battle of the war. The German losses were:—Killed or died of wounds and disease, 40,741; missing and treated as dead, 4,000; wounded, 127,887. To these have to be added 1,795 killed, 6,890 wounded, and 1,530 missing in skirmishes, patrols, and slight engagements. The Germans had 44,000 deaths, the French 138,871; the Germans 127,000 wounded, the French 143,070. The French had 11,421 men disabled by *plaies de marche*, that is, through defective socks, boots, and gaiters, while the Germans suffered but little from this cause. M. Chenu shows that in the Crimea and Italy, as well as in the last war, disease was more fatal than the sword, this being partly attributable to commissariat, outfit, and hospital shortcomings.

One of the remarkable features about some of the great cities of the old world is the eagerness with which people are found to compete for what, with us, is a nuisance we should gladly get rid of. Thus, in Paris, there are contractors who pay the city \$120,000 per annum for the privilege of sweeping the streets perfectly clean. The work is well done, by men under the orders of the city authorities, and the contractors are reimbursed by the sale of the mud and dust, which, when manufactured into fertilizers, is said to be worth \$600,000.

MARSHAL MACMAHON—HIS HOME LIFE.—The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing of MacMahon's home life says:

The Marshal contrives to be out shooting, if possible, when the bears arrive, or if any of them should wish to run him to earth among the colza or beet-roots fields, they would have to run long and fast, for the hero of Magenta is one of those men who can set off with his gun at nine and be still potting away indefatigably at five, many hours after his two retrievers, his aid-de-camp, and the Marquis Amelot, his neighbor and best sporting friend, have had enough of it. He is a taciturn sportsman and an excellent shot. Bred to the tricks of partridges from his earliest youth, he aims steadily and knocks them over, or, if perchance, he misses one in a day, his chagrin finds vent in one of those round expostives which come very readily from an old soldier. For it must be remembered that the Marshal is emphatically an old soldier, and nothing but that—no politician, diplomatist or minder of words. He hates politics with a rueful sort of horror, which he confesses in his smileless way to all who talk with him, and though his friends have succeeded, in persuading him that "he has" a saving mission to discharge, yet his presidentiality constrains him to varieties of pomp which are most repugnant to his nature. He has never consented to be tamed in private by the etiquette of a court. In Paris he goes periodically to have his hair clipped into bristles in the Rue Vivienne, and afterward to slip off and

breakfast in a private room at Durand's or the Café d'Orsay. He is a great stickler for uniform—not quite to the point of utterly eschewing civilian's dress, like the late Marshal Castellane—but does military undress in his study, puts on his kept-to-go shooting, and of yore he used to make his old regimental overcoat do duty as dressing-gown, until two years ago, when he was stricken with rheumatism, the Duchess pressed on his acceptance a genuine dressing-gown, furred and lined with silk, which gorgeous vestment, however he wore with sorrow and compunction, as tending to effeminacy.

ITALY.

OPENING OF THE TWELFTH ITALIAN PARLIAMENT.—The Speech from the Throne was a forcible example of that periphrasticness in words which follows periphrasticness in acts. King Victor Emmanuel addresses his Parliament "to imitate the policy of the nations which were most advanced in civilization, and of the Parliaments most jealous of the public liberties, which fall into discredit with the people if they do not guarantee security for person and property." It is interesting to note the appreciation of "guarantees" which the Italian Government has exhibited to the world. In 1870 Signor Visconti-Venosta, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed a Memorandum to all Courts, of which the following were the textual conclusions:—"The Government promises to preserve all the institutions, offices, and ecclesiastical bodies existing at Rome, as well as those employed therein." "The Government promises to preserve intact, and without submitting them to special taxation, all ecclesiastical properties, of which the revenues belong to offices, corporations, institutions, and ecclesiastical bodies having their seat in Rome and in the Leonine city." In fulfillment of these pledges the Italian Government has deprived the Church of her property, destroyed her religious corporations, dispersed her secular patrimony, and shaken her very constitution. As the Bishop of Orleans has observed in a pamphlet which is now widely known, and to a recent English translation of which we call attention in another part of this paper, "At Rome alone 126 monasteries of men gave shelter to 2,375 religious, 96 convents of women to 2,183 nuns. Your agents," he is addressing Signor Minghetti—"a brutal soldiery, addressing these venerable asylums; and the cry of the prescriptions of old times has again been heard: 'Huc mea sunt, veteres migrate coloni!' and they were compelled to turn out; to tear themselves from their peaceful sanctuaries, and to give you up everything And there they are at this very day, dispersed, wandering, taking shelter where they can in the houses of charity, which have opened to receive them." The spoliation of the Religious Orders is complete, absolute. All houses, gardens, museums, libraries, archives, rare objects of art; all those treasures of religion, science, art, antiquity—all have been carried away from their monasteries. You have now the power of disposing of everything." The destruction of the Roman College, and of the mother houses of the religious orders; the disorganization of the Roman Congregations, the menaces made to the Propaganda, and the war declared against lay scientific institutions, are other illustrations of that perfidy which was veiled in the following words from the Throne:—"Thus will the regeneration of Italy, free from every stain, have this boast also—one so rare in the history of political changes—that it has never harboured the thought of not keeping faith with the public creditor." One would have imagined that the first creditor of Victor Emmanuel was His Holiness Pius IX., and that, as Victor Emmanuel had robbed him of everything, such vain boasting would have been better unsaid. Meanwhile, the public debt of Italy, as well as all classes of taxes, increasing from year to year. The religious establishments of Rome paid the Pope 11,000 francs; they pay Victor Emmanuel 28,000; and in similar proportion, everything is taxed, even the poor priest for saying his Mass. The National deficit in 1861 was 39 millions in 1871 84 millions, in 1872 233 millions. No wonder that the King says in his speech, "Measures for the reform taxation, especially for equalizing it, will be brought forward." But we do not doubt that it is the Church which will suffer, that it is the church property which will have to pay the heaviest fines for the support of an insolvent Government.—*London Tablet*.

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck has taken umbrage at the resolution of the German Reichstag, that it was necessary for the upholding of its dignity that its members should be free from liability to arrest during its session, and regarding it as a vote of non-confidence, is stated to have tendered his resignation, being represented as saying that he was weary and that it was impossible for him to govern with the present vacillating majority in the Parliament. Opinions are expressed that, however deplorable the resignation of the Chancellor would be, it would not result in any imminent danger to the State; but it seems hardly probable that it will really take place, as the vote of the Reichstag is not generally regarded in Berlin as one of want of confidence, and it is further stated that the difficulties have been completely settled by modifications in the offensive bill, and that in any case the Emperor would not accept Bismarck's resignation. Parliamentary government does not work very smoothly at Berlin yet, and it is stated to test opinions, while members of the Cabinet are often at variance with one another; Bismarck, it is stated, being glad to see the recent defeat of the Bank bill, which was a production of the Finance Minister, and one which would not tend to that centralization and unification of the Fatherland which he has so much at heart.

The German Government avoids invidious distinctions in regard to the practice of persecution. It was generally supposed that the new Realm Press Law would give liberties to writers on the press, who hitherto had been complaining very much. The reverse has been proved to be the case. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* has a humorous picture of Prince Bismarck sitting in his study, sending terror and imprisonment by a few dashes of his pen, to a dozen newspaper editors at a time. As a matter of fact one popular Berlin paper received fourteen communications in one day. Nor does the spirit of interdict confine itself to Germany, but meddles where it can, with other Powers. Two Viennese journalists, declining to give evidence on points which affected Count Armin were at the request of the German Government examined in Austria; and the German Government grew angry because the Austrian Court would not punish them for anti-German cantanary. They ought to have been fined or imprisoned, and not to punish them in this way showed a shocking disregard of the tender susceptibilities of Prince Bismarck. The only reply vouchsafed by the Austrian authorities was that "the points at issue might possibly be uncommonly interesting to Germany, but were not particularly so to Austria; therefore no compulsory measures whatever could be taken in the matter by this latter." Such a slight must have been acutely appreciated; though it cannot be expected to bear fruit. Prince Bismarck is too much occupied in defending his authority against the imaginary tyranny of the Pope, to have time to consider whether he is consciously affected with an actual tyranny over the press.

The fiscal returns of the German Empire show an excess of imports during 1873 over exports to the extent of 800 million thalers. The independence of the workmen in Germany, with their greatly enhanced wages, is ascribed as one cause of the decline in manufacturing products. In the one Prussian province of Posen, there are nineteen Catholic parishes vacant, the priests having been suspended by the Government since the beginning of the month of October. Of these parishes

nine only were invited to join in the late political elections, and these refused to have anything to do with them.

All the Catholic Deans of the Province of Posen have been summoned by the local Courts to give evidence as to the name of the delegate recently commissioned by the Pope to govern the Church of the archdiocese during the imprisonment of Bishop Ledochowski.

We were told you broke the pledge last Spring. You left the society. There is contempt in the shop for you, derision in the street, misery in the house. Is it not a pity? Your are drooping. Your appearance now tells badly for you. The old look is not there. You are not the man we knew a year ago. Can you make one supreme effort to conquer again? You can. Begin by stopping the drink; take the pledge; rejoin the society. It is not too late, you are not too weak, you can to-day carry a resolution. Prove to the old members that you are still a man to triumph for the right—a man to meet with renewed respect—to rally around in faith—to love for so many amiable qualities, no longer under the shroud of drink. In the friendship and esteem of the old time we send you this message. We wait such response as becomes your manly character.—*W. T. A. Union Monthly*.

AN OPEN LETTER.—You took the pledge two years ago. Your salary was good; your employer raised your wages; you had seven hundred dollars saved at the end of the year. You thought of building on the lot you bought. Three children blessed you. Your wife, young and lovely, hung fondly on your arm while the "baby wagon" rolled before you in the Sunday evening stroll. Your looks improved; you were called "really handsome again." Men followed to speak with you on the way to church. You were courted by the best Catholic society. You were in competence, and soon to be of distinction in your town. Not a drop of drink did you take through all this. It was at the grand Union rally you took the pledge. You recalled the night again and again with pleasure. God was good to you. And you deserved it, for you were really a good man.

INSANE THROUGH LIQUOR.—This item, heading and all, says the *Irish World*, is taken from an exchange:—John F. Brownell, a middle aged man, belonging to Portsmouth, came to this city a few months ago, to seek employment. He succeeded in obtaining a good position in a manufacturing establishment, but in consequence of his intemperate habits, it was found necessary in a short time to dispense with his services. On several occasions he was arrested and fined for drunkenness, but not withstanding the punishment inflicted he would not reform. Every cent he obtained was spent for liquor. As a result of his excessive potations his reason soon became deranged. Monday Overseer Wightman deemed it expedient to cause the arrest of Brownell. Accordingly he was apprehended by officer Childs and he will be sent to the Insane Department at the State Farm.

When the women crusaders against whiskey-selling, in the State of Ohio, were attracting a great deal of attention some time ago, chief among the liquor dealers who were convinced of the error of their ways was J. C. Van Pelt. This notable character had kept a particularly low and disorderly saloon, which had been the scene of many a brawl, and Van Pelt himself was the champion bruiser of the State. When he "reformed" so fast, and actually went about stamping the country with the ladies, singing hymns blossoming into angelic perfection, as a temperance lecturer (for a consideration), there were some people unkind enough to say that Van Pelt had only "struck ill" in a new quarter, and as finding an easier way of money-making. We are sorry to say that these insinuations have received some confirmation from the last report to hand respecting Van Pelt himself. The war against whiskey has died away and there is no more money to be got by denouncing it. Hence, perhaps, the fact that that famous convert has found it convenient to be a backslider for a time, as the following suggestive order received from him by a firm of whiskey manufacturers shows:—

WILMINGTON NOV 23
Mr. John Boile & Co. Higginsport O.

Yours of the 31st at hand and in reply will order 10 gallon of the one year old 10 gallon of the two year old and if it gives satisfaction I will order further Ship By freight and I will remit By Post offices order Yours, J. C. Vangelt.

"BLAZER" FINDS A PARADISE.—We have in this town a genius known as "Blazer" who is "never at peace except when at war." He would leave his dinner any day if he thought he could find a fight. When he is unable to find a muss he is perfectly wretched. A week without a battle and he begins to think there is nothing in this world worth living for. Although he seldom wins more than one fight out of ten, it is all the same to him. He rather enjoys a good pummeling. A night or two since some friends of his who happened to be passing through the "Barbary Coast" region of the town had their attention attracted to a shebang near at hand by a tremendous uproar. There was a smashing of glass a crashing of chairs, bottles and tumblers; fierce yells, bitter curses, and, in short, a fearful commotion. Thinking one of the voices within had a familiar sound, the gentlemen looked in at the door of the "gin-mill," and there beheld Blazer surrounded by about half a dozen "Coast rangers" who were giving it to him "straight from the shoulder" on all sides. Blazer's nose was flattened; one eye boned a watch-fob; his upper lip was laid open by a blow from a tumbler, and his clothes were nearly torn from his back. A clip under the eye sent him "to grass," when those nearest him began jumping upon him and kicking him in the ribs. His friends at once rushed to his rescue. The breath was completely knocked and kicked out of poor Blazer, and he lay stretched senseless upon the floor. Some water dashed in his face revived him. Recognizing his friends, he smiled as amiably as was possible with his bloated and distorted upper lip, and huskily whispered: "Boys, its gorgeous! I've stumbled into a regular Paradise!"—*Virginia (New) Enterprise*.

"What Algebra do you prefer?" asked a school committee in Michigan an applicant for the district school. "Oh, I ain't particular," was the reply, "most any kind I'll do that I'll just peel the hide when you strike."

HOW A DETROIT MERCHANT WAS FLEECED.—Wednesday morning last a stranger entered a dry-goods store on Woodward avenue and enquired for the proprietor, whose feelings are herewith respected and his name suppressed. The stranger introduced himself as Fiske, and said that a man who lay dying at a certain boarding-house on Larned street was had something to say to the merchant before he passed away. Thinking it very singular, the merchant put on his overcoat and went down to the house in company with the stranger. On a bed up stairs he found a dying man. The merchant expected to find a pale, emaciated patient, but instead he found a pretty healthy looking fellow, who was, however, snugly covered up in bed, and whose voice was way down in his throat.

"You wished to see me, did you?" asked the merchant as he sat down. "I did," answered the patient. "The doctor says that I will not live twenty-four hours, and I want to confess a crime, and ask forgiveness. You don't know me, but I know you. You were keeping store in St. Joseph, 1868." "Yes," answered the merchant. "Well," continued the man, "I happened to be in St. Joseph that year, and one day while you were at dinner and your clerk busy, I took a pair of boots and a cap, amounting in value to perhaps \$8. It is the only theft I ever committed, and it has caused

me endless anxiety. Now, before I die, I wish to ask your forgiveness, and to restore the value of the goods."

The merchant could not remember anything about the affair nor of the man, who said his name was Jefferson, and he replied that it was all right, and that he did not care for compensation. But both men pressed him to take at least \$15 for the amount stolen so long ago, and he reluctantly consented. The dying man pulled out a roll of bills, all of the denomination of \$100, and the merchant handed him back \$54, all the money he had, and told the well man to come to the store for the rest. He shook hands with the patient, hoped that death might be arrested, and returned to the store alone, having the \$100 bill in his vest pocket. The stranger had not crilled up to 2 p.m., and the merchant finally took a closer look at the bill. His hair began to rise up, and he started for a bank. "Best counterfeit I've seen for a year," remarked the cashier as he handed the bill back.

The merchant then secured the services of a detective and they hastened to the boarding-house, to find that the men had departed before noon. They came there the evening previous, paid for two days' board, and the landlady did not know anything about them, but supposed the merchant knew them both. One at least must have known something of the merchant's former history, as he referred to facts, and although they did not get the stake they played for, they nevertheless made a good thing of it. Ever since Wednesday a detective has been looking for the men, and the greatest care has been taken that the reporters should not get hold of the item.

BREAKFAST—EPPS'S COCOA—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Sold by Grocers in Packets only, labelled—"James Epps & Co. Homoeopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle Street, and 170, Piccadilly; Works, Euston Road and Camden Town, London." MANUFACTURERS OF COCOA.—We will now give an account of the process adopted by Messrs. James Epps & Co., manufacturers of dietetic articles, at their works in the Euston Road, London.—See article in *Cassell's Household Guide*.

BAZAAR.

THE Ladies of St. Mary's Church, Williamstown, have the honor to announce a Grand Bazaar, to come off in January, 1875, for the benefit of the New Church about to be erected at Lancaster, in honor of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and under the invocation of St. Joseph. Contributions, in money or otherwise, will be thankfully received by the Rev. Father MacCarthy, or any of the undersigned Ladies:

Mrs. ANGUS TOWNS, Lancaster.
Mrs. WM. McPHERSON, "
Mrs. WHITE, "
THE MRS. McDONALD, "
THE MRS. McNEILL, "
Mrs. BOWDEN, "
Mrs. GEORGE McDONALD, Cornwall.
Mrs. DUNCAN McDONALD, Williamstown.
Mrs. ARCH. FRASER, Fraserfield.
Mrs. ALEX. SHANNON, 44 St. Famille Street, Montreal.
Williamstown, Nov. 5th, 1874.

TO BUILDERS!

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Rev. Father MacCarthy, will be received till the 8th day of December next, for the Erection of a BRICK CHURCH at Lancaster, Glengarry, Ont. Plans and Specifications can be seen at the Presbytery, Williamstown. The lowest, or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Williamstown, Nov. 5th, 1874. 13-4

THE LINDSAY LORETTO CONVENT. IS now OPEN with a good attendance. This is said to be the finest Convent in Canada. Parents leaving their daughters there to be educated, can see and judge for themselves. Charges moderate only \$100.

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A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.

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Is the great modern remedy for Coughs, Colds, Consumption, ASTHMA, CROUP, and BRONCHITIS. It is recommended by Physicians everywhere, who are acquainted with its great usefulness.

Dr. A. L. Scovill, of Cincinnati, Ohio, says:—"I have witnessed its effects on the young and the old, and I can truly say that it is by far the best expectorant remedy with which I am acquainted." For Coughs, and all the earlier stages of Lung complaints, I believe it to be a certain cure; and if every family would keep it by them, ready to administer upon the first appearance of disease about the Lungs, there would be very few cases of fatal consumption. It causes the phlegm and matter to rise without irritating those delicate organs (the lungs), and without producing constipation of the bowels. It also gives strength to the system, stops the night-sweats, and changes all the morbid secretions to a healthy state."

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Houses in Wright Village.....	1,500
Farm.....	300
Two Good Horses.....	300
Four Lots, each of \$100.....	400
One Buggy.....	120
A Buggy.....	60
Five Watches of \$20 each.....	100
Ten Watches of \$12 each.....	120

In all 800 objects, many of considerable value.

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Pieces or Tickets.—Fifty cents. Responsible Agents wanted, with commission of one ticket on ten.

The money must be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer who will pay it over to the Committee. Monthly deposits will be made in a Savings Bank.

The drawing will take place during the year 1874, and will be announced in the public journals. It will be conducted on the plan adopted by the Building Societies, and will be presided over by three priests appointed by the Bishop of Ottawa.

Persons wishing to buy or sell tickets will communicate with the Secretary-Treasurer. Deposits of Tickets will also be made with the members of the Clergy and other persons who may be wanting to interest themselves in the work.

EUSEBE PAUER, Pt.
Missionary Apostolic, President.
(By Order), OMER BROUILLET,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Wright, P.Q., 8th Dec., 1873.—81 C.A.C.

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