

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

DISCUSSION ON THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The discussions in the Commission on the revision of the Constitution are looked to with much interest by the country. On Saturday, M. Montalembert said he was the advocate of a total and legal revision. The election of December 10th was a protest of the nation, not perhaps so much against the Republic, as against the men and the events of February, but it did not precisely indicate a desire for the restoration of monarchy. For his own part he was neither a Democrat nor a Republican. He did not believe that France was as yet monarchical. Accustomed to submission to a national sovereignty, he did not claim the faculty of making or unmaking governments; he took them as they were, for the purpose of extracting as much public good as possible. If he desired the revision, it was to preserve the great interests of society under the Republic. M. de Tocqueville declared that, after much hesitation, he had decided in favor of revision. The repeal of the law of the 31st of May appeared to him, however, to be a necessary condition.

In the course of the discussion, on Tuesday, General Cavaignac said he would reserve himself to explain at the tribune the limits within which he confined the principle of the Republic. He declared that he did not invent the phrase "divine right" applied to the Republic, and that this phrase was used by the Left to the Right in this manner:—"You assert therefore that the Republic is of divine right." He demanded that the partisans of the revision should explain the object with which they demanded it. He wished moreover that they declared whether they desired a total or a partial revision, in order to be consistent with the 11th Article of the Constitution. He added, that he could teach the *sa-disant* party of order what the real principles of order were. In his opinion the Constituent could not possess any power but that conferred by the Constitution. The Assembly consequently must tell it what they wished. Such were his ideas of order; any other were anarchy. The Legislative Assembly, which had perhaps a great desire to change the Constitution, had completely respected it. The Constituent will do the same. He denied that it was the duty of the Assembly to consult the country. In conclusion, he admitted that they had a majority on certain points, such as the two Chambers and the Presidency, but that they were divided on questions of party, and could not obtain a majority; they were, therefore, unpardonable in demanding a revision on points on which they could not command a majority.

A duel took place at Toulon a day or two since between M. Thomas, editor of a democratic paper, and M. Bernadon, secretary to the Legitimist committee. The combat, which was with swords, lasted nearly half an hour, in the course of which, the latter received three wounds, and his opponent one. This was the third duel which M. Thomas had fought, occasioned by the violence of his political writings.

SPAIN—PORTUGAL.

Madrid letters from Spain and Portugal of the 10th instant give an account of an important discussion in the Spanish Senate on the affairs of Portugal. In answer to a question from M. Oliver, the Marquis de Miraflores stated that a case for intervention in Portugal might arise—namely, should the constitutional throne of the Queen of Portugal be in danger; but he frankly declared that at present the Spanish government recognised no such danger. The Spanish government was acting in accord with the other powers closely allied with Portugal, and identical instructions had been sent to the Spanish and English envoys at Lisbon.

ITALY.

The French court-martial at Rome pronounced on the 4th sentence of death against four men convicted of having formed part of a Roman patrol which some time ago attacked a French patrol in the streets at night. One man has, besides, been condemned to hard labor for life, and three to five years of the same punishment. The rest of the prisoners, eleven in number, were acquitted.

The *Journal des Debats* publishes the following extract from a letter dated Rome, the 12th inst.:

"The order for the execution of the individuals condemned by the courts-martial for attacks on French soldiers on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th ult., arrived yesterday. Sarmonci and Sayiri were ordered to prepare for death, when they immediately asked for a priest to administer the last rites of religion. This morning the two prisoners left the Castle of St. Angelo, and were conveyed in a cart to the place of execution. Their eyes were bandaged, and scarcely had their knees touched the ground when the fatal discharge took place, which announced that justice had been done. The crowd separated in perfect silence."

A letter from Turin of the 8th states that Archbishops Franzoni and Marongni have been solicited to resign their functions, to facilitate a settlement of the difficulties pending with Rome. Numerous reports are circulated respecting notes addressed by the Papal See to the Sardinian government. Circulars from Cardinal Antonelli to Piedmontese Bishops are reported to have been seized by order of the authorities. The debates on the privileges of Nice as a free port are continued in the Chamber of Representatives.

GERMANY.

The *Universal German Gazette* states that a bill to be almost immediately brought forward in the German Diet for the formation of a *corps darmee* of not less than 125,000 men on the banks of the Rhine. The principal object of establishing this body of men in the position just mentioned is to protect Germany against all eventualities of affairs in France.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS BY RUSSIA.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin has the following from Bukowine:—"A new ukase of the Emperor of Russia for recruiting in all the empire, has just been promulgated, and as it follows close on a recent very considerable levy, it appears to have a considerable importance. It must be added that it is desired to prepare the army for all the fatigues of war. Orders have been given to send all the troops encamped on the frontier into the interior. The regiments which have served in the Caucasus, and which are considered the best in the army, are to be chosen to proceed to the frontier."

INDIA.

NEW MISSIONS IN INDUS.—The Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales have just received intelligence from their important mission of Indus. The missionaries under the direction of the Right Rev. Dr. Neyret, Bishop of Olespa, captivate the esteem, not only of Catholics dispersed in small Christian fraternities in the vast vicariate of Visagapatam, and of Irish soldiers entrusted to their Ministry, but also of English Protestants, some of whom now and then renounce heresy. The Missionaries have a good deal to do with native Christians, who, having some time been without Priests to guide them, were perverted by the example of the Pagans, among whom they were, so to speak, as lost, and also by the Protestant Ministers, who used all means to draw them to heresy. At Rondicherry, Mgr. Bonnaud has successfully established a convent for the reception of the native females from the paths of vice and immorality. These women are making astonishing progress. The hope of a similar success at Visagapatam is entertained.—*L'Ecce de l'Ouest.*

CHINA.

The summary of the *Overland Friend of China*, dated Victoria, April 24, is as follows:—

The disarrangement of Southern China, consequent upon continued turbulence in the Kwang-si and Kwang-tung provinces, is now become of such magnitude that the period appears to have arrived when it is necessary for the representatives of foreign powers resident in this country to enter upon some correspondence with the imperial government upon the subject.

We must judge of the seriousness of the rebellion more by the consequences entailed than from the uncertain reports from time to time reaching us. There are not many in China who possess either the means or the inclination to seek out what is going on around them in the adjacent provinces; and one of the great difficulties in arriving at the actual state of things is the continued exaggeration of the informants who bring the news principally which is thought will most please the hearer, leaving truth to find its way through the mass in such proportion as the author has the ability to sift it.

That the progress of the insurgents has been so great that the whole of the available resources of this part of the empire must be speedily brought into action, if the absolute supremacy of the Hien-fung dynasty is ever again to be restored, there is every reason to believe.

It would appear that the Imperial Commissioner Li and his aid the Governor Chau-tien-shoh, have been either unable to concentrate their forces or obliged to retire before their antagonists.

A report runs that in the district towns of Hoi and Kaikou, both situated on the river Ho, the former in the province of Kwang-si, the latter adjoining it in the north-western part of Kwang-tung, have been attacked and pillaged, and that every officer, civil or military, has been put to indiscriminate carnage, and the wealthy inhabitants of the city held to ransom. This report appears, to a great extent, to be a well-founded one.

AUSTRALIA.

An important territorial discovery has been made in New South Wales. Darling Downs has hitherto been the *ultima thule* to the west of Moreton Bay, but there is now rising behind another district—the Maranos—now almost unoccupied, but which promises to become one of the most productive of the northern districts. In illustration of this fact it may be noticed, that tenders for runs for no less than one million of sheep had been received within a few months. The newly-discovered country lies to the westward of Darling Downs, its boundary with which is about 150 miles from Brisbane; it is watered by the Condamine, Balonne, Barwan, Moonee, Maranoa, and other rivers, and creeks out of number. There are considerable scrubs, but along the waters there is generally a belt of fine forest, from two to ten miles in breadth, covered thickly with grass, mixed with salt-bush and herbage the finest of pasture; and in the north-west are Fitzroy Downs, described by Sir Thomas Mitchell, the surveyor-general, as the finest country he had ever seen. The climate is stated to be delightful. The discoverers of this new territory were Mr. Gideon Lang and a resolute old dragoon guard, named Walker, of many years' experience in the Australian wilds. Connected with this discovery is a report current among the blacks that the indefatigable and enterprising Dr. Leichardt and his whole party were murdered, more than eighteen months ago, in a locality still more distant. In confirmation of this melancholy intelligence it is added that the pack-mules of the unfortunate band of adventurous explorers were still running wild there.

THOUGHTS ON IRELAND.

(From a Correspondent of the Glasgow Free Press.)

The more I reflect on the world as it is—the more I ruminate on special spots on the earth's surface—the more I think on particular places in this Christian's valley of tears—the larger does the green Isle of Erin rise to my view; it becomes amplified, expanding as it emerges from the ocean into gigantic

proportions, yet developing the grace and comeliness of a more compact body, when having a symmetrical conformation, and being perfected by the outlines of manly beauty. If Ireland has a painful, she has also a pleasant history, presenting religious contrasts extremely gracious to the spiritual mind. Her history may be painful to those who superficially study her national resources merely with a view to render themselves scientifically eminent, by probing her depths for the means of enriching themselves or their posterity; or to those who feel that their standing and wealth are swallowed up in the abyss of her misfortunes—that their family honors and dignities are blotted out from the heraldic page, having themselves dishonored the banner that was once the glory of their house, having tarnished the escutcheon that shielded their fame; such, indeed, may weep and mourn, and let foreign lands receive the echoes of their bitter but unavailing lamentations. She is, indeed, hateful to such as these, who only desire to serve a temporal end—whose ambition is unjustifiable and insatiable cupidity, passing all the boundaries of Christian propriety, and sapping the foundations of society. But Ireland has her pleasant memories—her green, her virtuous recollections—her sides turning to the sun, and wooing the kiss of the Atlantic breeze. She has her hills and valleys still teeming with fecundity—germinating with a new harvest of hope—fructifying with all the spirituality of faith—caressing her new-born offspring with all the care, concern, and tenderness of charity. She still possesses the materials for happiness, the means of developing devotional resources. The embers of her greatness can easily be enlivened by that Omnipotent Being whose throne is in the celestial regions of eternity, and whose footstool is the glowing pole, suspended in mid-heaven, to be consecrated by the imprint of His divinity. Ireland still, thank God, retains religious sons and daughters, who can repair the fortunes of their fallen country, whose devotedness to her holy cause ripens with their growth, and strengthens with their maturity; they know the filial duty of their calling, and they hasten to offer the holocaust of their loving hearts on the altar of their befriended country. The duties of religion, the calls of humanity, have ever met with a sympathetic response in the *Island of Saints*—the voice of charity has ever pleaded with success—the honor of God's house, and the glory of His sanctuary, have ever been considered, cherished, and respected, and will remain for a great evangelical testimonial, imperishable as the rock of their apostolic faith—solid as the hope of eternal life. Ireland is the religious battle field where the tent of salvation is pitched, from whence proceeds the Davids of Catholicity, to war against the Philistines of this degenerate and sceptical era. Infidelity may howl, and Rationalism may rave, and add blasphemous ingredients to compose a German philosophic specific. Socialism, and Red Republicanism, and Young France, may hold their secret meetings, and have their midnight orgies, plotting against the sacred things of life; but the vigilant, the watchful eyes of Catholic theologians, the keen perception of sound, spiritual men, will, by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the light of His Holy Spirit, ever vanquish these spirits of darkness, and restore the human mind to that healthy condition of thought, which alone can guarantee public peace, security, and happiness.

A PATERNAL GOVERNMENT—EXTERMINATION IN THE WEST.

(From the Dublin Freeman.)

We copy from the *Daily News* a paragraph which appears under the head of naval intelligence, informing us that the Avon steam tender has been for the past three weeks engaged in the humane office of assisting in the extermination of the peasant population of a western island; Innisturk, and that Her Majesty's police have assisted in the same locality, not only in hunting off the human vermin, but in destroying their miserable cabins, lest they might return there again, to shelter themselves from the winds of heaven. How truly has the Rev. Mr. Osborne said, that the whole course of action adopted towards the Irish poor seems to be the result of a fixed determination to root them from out the land.

The following is the paragraph in question:—**DEVONPORT, JUNE 17.**—The Avon, steam tender, Master Commander Alfred Veitch, arrived yesterday from Queenstown, Ireland. During the last three weeks the Avon has been engaged in the very unpleasant work of conveying the sub-sheriff of the county Mayo, a number of sheriff's officers, and policemen, to Innisturk island, where they ejected nearly the whole of the inhabitants from their houses, and demolished nearly the whole of the houses on the island. The greatest possible misery appeared to be the result of this measure, as the people had made no provision, and were most unwilling to leave their houses. The total number rendered homeless by this expedition are considerably over 100. Their only chance of shelter was to be conveyed away from the island by boats to the Westport Union. The island belongs, it is said, to Lord Lucan; but the exact cause of the ejection appears to be unknown.

CARDINAL WISEMAN.

A French Protestant clergyman named Peraux, had the absurdity to challenge Cardinal Wiseman to a public discussion of certain points of controversy between the Catholic and Protestant churches.

To this challenge his Eminence returned the following reply:—

"35, Golden-square, June 16, 1851.
"Sir, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., which reached me in the country, and in which you challenge me to a public discussion with you on certain points of controversy which you enumerate.
"In return, I cannot but express my surprise that you should have selected for such a challenge a bishop in a country in which you do not claim any religious charge, and whose very language differs from yours,

while there are plenty of Catholic ecclesiastics nearer your home, and of your own country, to whom similar application might more naturally be made; if edification, as I would fain hope, and not mere effect, be its object.

"I am, sure, also, that the committee from whose rooms you date your letter, would inform you, should you have any doubt on the subject, that no archbishop or bishop of the English establishment would consider it part of his duty to accede to proposals for public discussion, with any foreign Catholic priest, who might think it right to challenge any of them, this being no part of the episcopal office. Nor can I suppose that the object of that committee, in their courtesy to foreign ministers, was to make them champions in this country of their own various sects, or of English Protestantism. Allow me, therefore, respectfully to say, that I cannot but consider your invitation to me as much out of place, as I should deem a similar one from a French priest to an Anglican dignitary. To such a challenge I should say, did he appear here, that there was in England a proper and sufficient authority to undertake the defence of the Catholic cause, without the gratuitous interposition of a foreign and uncommissioned clergyman.

"I must not conclude without observing that your selection of topics for the proposed discussion, supposes that the Catholic Church and faith are on the defensive, as against Protestantism, and that their supporters have nothing better to do than to answer the railing charges of its assailants at the latter's will. Allow me to say, that I have never been accustomed to treat controversy so, and that, without knowing to what particular section of continental Protestantism you belong, I consider you in the position of having to defend yourself and yours from the heavy charges of schism, by separation from the one only fold of Christ—the pillar and ground of truth—as well as of heresy, for holding doctrines at variance with its teaching.

"Commending you to the grace of our Lord, that you may see His light, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

† N. CARD. WISEMAN,

Archbishop of Westminster.

"M. Peraux, Pasteur Protestant."

THE ACTION AGAINST PUNCH.—**THE QUEEN v. THE PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS OF PUNCH.**—The rule nisi obtained in the Bail Court last week for a criminal information against Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, for a libel upon the Rev. Peter Daly, of Galway, by attributing to him a fierce and seditious speech spoken by a person named Blake, has been discharged on an expression of regret being made by the defendants. Mr. Wells, who appeared to show cause against the rule, said that as it appeared clearly that an unfortunate mistake had been made by the publishers of *Punch* as to the person who uttered these words, they thought that the best course they could take was at once to admit that mistake. Several reports of the speeches that took place at the dinner appeared in different newspapers in Ireland; and he might state for the satisfaction of his learned friend, that the report which appeared in *Punch* was copied from a newspaper published in Dublin. The speech made by Mr. Blake was unfortunately not reported in his own newspaper, the *Galway Vindicator*. Still there could be no doubt but that these extraordinary words being used at the dinner had occasioned various reports to be circulated respecting them, not only in Galway, but in other parts of Ireland. The mistake originally occurred by the proprietor of "some other paper" in Ireland attributing the use of such language to the rev. chairman instead of to Mr. Blake. He (Mr. Wells) had only to say that Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, who were very respectable gentlemen, and the proprietors of *Punch*, regretted much that this mistake had occurred. It was certainly no fabrication on their part—though this was no justification—to have attributed to this rev. gentleman the sentiments which had been uttered by another. It was a novel position for them to occupy in that Court, and he trusted that they would never again be called into Court to answer such a charge. The publishers of the paper in question, thought it their duty promptly to come before the Court to explain the mistake which they had committed, and to express their regret that it had occurred. He trusted that the statement he had made would be deemed satisfactory.—Mr. Baddeley, on behalf of the Rev. Peter Daly, said that he entertained not a practical of ill-feeling against those persons, and had certainly no wish to push the matter further. He felt that the libel was one which compelled him to come forward for the vindication of his character, and openly and promptly to call for the interference of the Court. His learned friend said that the defendants had fallen into a mistake in respect to this statement. They had come forward openly, manfully, and in a proper spirit, to express their regret for having done so. They had tendered their apology to the Rev. Mr. Daly, and vindicated his character. It was, therefore, not his client's wish to press the matter any further, having done that which in justice to his own character and in justice to those who were under his spiritual care and superintendence, he was bound to do. His character was now openly vindicated before the world. His learned friend said it was the first time the defendants were before the Court. He concurred with him in the wish that it would be the last. It was to be hoped that charges of this sort would not be lightly and wantonly made, but that the maxim would be constantly kept in view—

"—ridentem dicere verum

Quid vitat."

He (Mr. Baddeley) consented to the rule being discharged, of course in the usual way, upon payment of costs. Rule discharged accordingly.

THE PROPOSED SYNOD AT EXETER.—THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE LAITY.

The Laical dislike to the approaching Synod has been manifested, during the week, with augmenting force. The feeling of the clergy is scarcely less opposed to the usurpation of the bishop; but their *esprit de corps* renders them more cautious in giving expression to it. More than one deanery have refused to elect representatives.

The Rev. G. C. Gorham has addressed the following letter to the reverend "Rural" of Cadbury deanery:—

"The Vicarage, Bampfild Speke, June 10, 1851.
"Rev. Sir, You inform me that a meeting of the Ruri-Deanal Chapter of Cadbury, will be held at Cadbury, on Thursday, the 12th inst., to deliberate on the matters to be considered at the Diocesan Synod, and to elect two representatives at the Synod from this Deanery. Even were that Synod legal and expedient (on both of which points I entertain serious doubts)