

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

It appears that the fixing of the new boundaries between France and Piedmont is nearly completed, owing to the activity of the engineers employed in the operation. The fort on Mont Cenis alone gave rise to some difficulty. The Emperor is said to have demanded that the fort should be comprised in the French possessions, on the ground that it was the French Government which had originally constructed it at its own expense. M. Cavour had the audacity to claim it as being necessary to the defence of Piedmont. Can it be against Piedmont's liberator? To put an end to the dispute it was determined to demolish the fort.

Pamphlets are again appearing frequently, and their fire is directed a good deal against England. Dentu published three or four the other day. Among the most recent is one "L'Angleterre, la France, et la Guerre," by a member of the Legislative Corps, a zealous Bonapartist since 1848, Prefect of the Lot in 1849, of the Pas de Calais in 1852, and of the Somme in 1855, and officer of the Legion of Honor, named du Hamel—the Comte du Hamel. On this production I prefer, for the present, transcribing the opinions of one of the Paris correspondents of the Independence Belge, extracted from yesterday's impression of that journal. They are as follows:—

"Count du Hamel is much affected, and justly, at the violent and often unjust attacks of which France and its Government have been the object in the British Parliament on the subject of Nice and Savoy. Has not England, which seeks in the eye of France the straw of this modern annexation, in her own the beam of India, of the Cape of Good Hope, of Gibraltar, &c. &c. But the writer has not sufficiently taken into account the habits of a Parliamentary nation.

"How is it to be expected that English speakers will not sometimes show themselves ill-natured towards our nation, when they spare neither their own colleagues, their own Government, nor even their own army. I read to-day in our *Moniteur de l'Armée* that the *Times* correspondent in India energetically points out the cruelty of which the officers of his nation were guilty in the campaign of Oude—cruelty of which it must fortunately be said our army offers few examples. The representative of the British journal thought it his duty to stigmatize these excesses without having to dread anything but the discursive examination of his assertions, without having to apprehend that any ensign would send him a message, or that in default of an administrative act an action for defamation would be brought against him.

"This great impunity of all discussion, which forms the basis of the institutions and of the manners of our neighbors, ought to have been taken into consideration by the Count du Hamel, to make him excuse the liberties taken at the tribune and by the press. England envenomates in her history acts of injustice and of jealousy, sometimes even of national crimes, but she knows to live with and by liberty—liberty of which the exercise may be measured according to the temperament and necessities of peoples, particularly when they have more or less merited it, but of which the principle is the source of all progress and of all political vitality."

"With whom are we going to war next?"—That, says the Paris correspondent of the *Herald*, is the general question in military circles, and it is not, as you may well imagine, confined to the soldiery. The circular of the Minister of War, which I drew prominent attention to a couple of days ago, is held by the middle classes in Paris to indicate decidedly warlike intentions on the part of the Government, and the distrust and apprehension have proportionately increased. In such a state of the public mind you will easily understand that the warlike appearance of affairs in Germany; the alliance between France and Denmark—the belief in the existence of which has, if anything, been strengthened by semi-official contradictions; the unanimous intention displayed by the Prussian Chamber to support the Government in its determination to resist the encroaching tendency of France; all this has revived the rumors of war which were current at the commencement of the year, just before the Emperor put forth his "peace programme" in his letter to M. Fould. No sooner is one "rumor of war" disposed of than another springs up to confirm the impression that the Emperor has not the remotest intention of keeping quiet, and that if he keeps up an army of 600,000 men, and adds ship upon ship to the navy, he intends using them. For the first time since its establishment, the camp at Chalons is not to be merely a training school for infantry and cavalry manœuvres, but a complete *corps d'armée* is to be collected there. There are to be three divisions of infantry on a war footing, which, according to the excellent organization of the French army, means that each division is accompanied by two batteries of artillery (12 guns) and a company of sappers and miners. Each division, moreover, consists of two regiments of infantry and one battalion of foot chasseurs—say in round numbers (including the artillery and sappers) about 12,000 men. There is to be, moreover, a division of cavalry, consisting of two regiments of hussars, two regiments of chasseurs, and one battery of horse artillery—say about 2,000 men. In addition, there is to be a reserve of artillery and military train. The whole of this would give a tidy little force of 40,000 men, a *corps d'armée* which, in the hands of Marshal M. Mahon, would prove extremely efficient.—This will constitute the force at Chalons, but in reality the centre of an army of observation in the course of formation along the Rhine frontier, the right wing being echeloned from Besancon to Strasbourg, and the left wing from Metz to Luneville. At the latter place there is to be a great agglomeration of cavalry. All this is kept very quiet, but the information reaches me from a source which the events of last year have shown me to be reliable. The commander-in-chief, I need hardly say, will be *sa Majeste* himself. The whole force under arms will amount to more than 90,000 men, and, distributed in the

various cantonnements along the frontier, the whole force can be brought together at a moment's notice when the time for active operations arrives. Until then the preparations making in the way of campaign equipage, &c., will be set down as necessary for "the reorganization of the army" and the warnings which appear in this correspondence and elsewhere of what is going on will be the "inventions of a calumnious press." Fortunately Europe by this time knows what value to attach to such official contradictions.

THE FRENCH ARMY.—It is a very remarkable fact, amidst the reiterated peaceable professions of the French Government, that it should feel itself compelled to raise the price of exoneration from service in the army from 2,000f. to 2,300f. More remarkable is it still, after all we so constantly hear of the French love of glory and enthusiastic desire to fight, that the reason alleged by the *Moniteur* for this augmentation is that the desire of young men to escape military service is every year manifested in an increasing ratio. In 1856 and 1857 16 per cent. of the recruits bought themselves off, but the proportion increased in 1858 to 18 per cent., and to 27 per cent. in 1859.—*Paris Letter*, Saturday, May 5.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.—The *Constitutionnel* gives a positive denial to a story told by "a foreign journal" to the effect that the Imperial Prince having been a naughty boy and very impertinent towards his mother, the Emperor had stripped him of his rank of corporal in the Guards and had the stripes torn off his uniform in the presence of a body of soldiers with all the ceremonies used in the case of an ordinary degradation. The object of this libel, the *Constitutionnel* says, is to inculcate the belief that the infant Prince (four years old) is naturally of such a bad disposition that he can only be corrected by measures of extreme severity, whereas the *Constitutionnel* would very frequently have recorded anecdotes showing the extreme goodness of heart and sweet disposition of the child had it not feared to be accused of flattery and of inventing infantine sayings such as were formerly put in the mouths of the King of Rome and the Duke of Bordeaux.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—Whether it be owing to M. Edmond About's pamphlet or not, it would be difficult to say, but the fact is, that to-day the *Question d'Orient* is the principal topic. M. de Lavallette, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, has just left Paris to take possession of his post, and people remembering that M. Lavallette is the self-same diplomatist who brought about the Crimean war, owing to his peculiar conduct with regard to the holy places, naturally fancy that he is dispatched to put the "sick man" out of pain, and that the general squabbling which is to follow over the spoils will commence without delay. Matters are hardly come to that pass yet, but the time is evidently near at hand when the Eastern embroilment will commence. Our *canard* mongers will have it that M. de Budberg has been sent merely to settle what is to be Russia's share in the plunder, and that the Emperor of Austria is expected in Paris on a similar errand.—*Paris Letter*.

The subscription for the 600,000 francs which the Catholics of Lyons have undertaken to raise for the fortifications of Ancona is being taken up with the greatest enthusiasm; 120,000 francs have already been sent on account of their debt to the Holy Father. The *Gazette de Lyon* publishes letters from the Chevalier de St. Cheron, at Disemont, and from his brother in Paris, each sending 100 francs to claim their Lyonsese citizenship. Mr. Clement Gorse, calculating, in a letter to the same paper, that it will take 100,000 Lyonsese at 6 francs a head to pay the whole, sends his tribute accordingly for himself, wife, and three children. A Savoyard sends 20 francs to do honor to his new French nationality. Another Lyonsese gives 500 francs to encourage General de Lamoriciere.

Of the three French officers who through negligence or worse motives were mixed up with the row on the 19th March, in Rome, one has been dismissed from the army, and the other two have been severely reprimanded by the French Minister of War. The French officer who, on the contrary, encouraged the Pontifical gendarmes to do their duty, has been promoted, and received praises and a decoration from the Emperor.—*Armonia*.

LOUIS NAPOLÉON.—He was the youngest of three brothers; and he had many cousins—five in one family—who stood nearer to their uncle's throne than himself. The eldest of his brothers died in infancy; but till he was 23 he had an elder brother; and his early-planted ambition was altogether of a personal character. He was not in the first rank of the Bonapartes by birth; he is unlike them in the whole cast of his character and quality of his genius, and he evidently uses his ostensible relationship to the first Emperor as a mere charm over the imagination of his more noisy and excitable subjects. It is for himself and by himself that he has been the Monarch-Adventurer; and he has used the Bonapartes generally, and the Emperor in particular, as helps to his purpose.—*Once a Week*.

ITALY.

The Paris correspondent of the *Express* writes on the 4th instant:—"I hear from Turin that Count Cavour cannot reckon upon a majority of more than ten votes in favour of the treaty of cession of Savoy and Nice." A letter from Pisa, in the *Union* of Paris, says "the Cardinal Archbishop of Pisa has neither concurred or allowed any one to concur in the teas for the reception of Victor Emmanuel. He answered that he could not give any permission either for the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the *Te Deum*, the presence of the clergy, or the ringing of the bells, &c. And, as he was being pressed on the subject, he answered, 'Victor Emmanuel ought to be satisfied with not seeing me present myself at the church doors, and act towards him as St. Ambrose did towards Theodosius.' The Archbishop of Florence having written to him to advise him to be more moderate, he answered, 'I have received your Grace's letter; its answer will come from Rome.' The King went to the cathedral for the feast; none of the clergy were to be found, and the doors of the sacristy were locked.

The journals publish a letter from General Garibaldi, in which he says:—"It is the duty of all to encourage, aid, and to augment the number of combatants against oppression. It is not the insurrectionary party in Sicily whom we are assisting, but Sicily herself, where there are enemies to contend with. It was not I who advised an insurrection in Sicily; but from the moment that our Sicilian brethren threw themselves into the struggle I considered it my duty to assist them. Our battle cry will be, Italy and Victor Emmanuel!"

THE PAPAL STATES.—The Roman correspondent of the *Armonia*, writing on the 27th ult., says:—"It is a grand sight to see the Roman people come in crowds to the churches to take part in the public prayers which are being made for the present circumstances. The presence of General Lamoriciere has contributed much to raise the courage of the Pontifical party, which in Rome is the great majority.—Within the last few days Count Giovanni Massi died in Bologna. He was one of those who had taken the most active part in the revolution. He was a native of Lucia, but had married a rich heiress in Bologna. During the first days of April he was seized with a fit of apoplexy, which took away his speech, but left him alive still. His family immediately sent for a priest, and the parish priest of the locality, who came at once, assisted him to the time of his death. Although speechless, the poor patient gave such manifest signs of repentance as to be able to receive the last Sacraments. The conduct of the Piedmontese soldiers in Bologna is edifying. They are often seen in the churches, and they behave there most becomingly. General Lamoriciere is become

more and more afraid of him than the Arcadian poet Manian, as they are much nearer to him. Every day young men belonging to the most distinguished families of France, Belgium, and other countries arrive to enrol themselves in the Pontifical troops. Marquis Lepri has left the Pontifical Noble Guard to become Aide-de-Camp to General de Lamoriciere.—Many young men have emigrated from Tuscany, and have arrived at Perugia, or at Otta di Castello to enlist in the Pontifical troops. But the Government has not granted their request (not to give any pretext of quarrel to Count Cavour). To do full honor to King Victor Emmanuel, at his arrival in Bologna, the head of the municipality, Marquis Pizzardi has mysteriously commanded, by means of a circular, all citizens to adorn with carpets and hangings the windows and balconies of their houses. The circular is printed, and therefore its authenticity cannot be doubted. It has been reported that the friars of La Guardia, near Palermo, were on the side of the revolutionists. But it seems that the rebels entered into the monastery through a stable which the friars had let to a layman.

At Bologna, in five days, and without previous warning, a sum of 10,203 francs were collected to be offered to the Holy Father as a testimonial of fidelity on the part of his subjects. In the list of subscribers are reckoned 105 priests, 218 laymen, and 191 women. Other subscriptions are to follow.—*Bien Public*.

We must notice briefly, as the principal foreign facts of the week, the proclamation in which the Holy Father appeals to the Catholic world in behalf of the Roman Loan of 50,000,000 fr., for which subscriptions have been opened in the capitals of Europe, and to which Belgium had, by the 3rd instant, subscribed 15,000,000. Next comes the emigration to Rome of Irish Catholics, to take service in the Pope's army, to the number, it is at present stated of 1,500.—*Tablet*.

The *Memorial Borlaclais* has the following:—"Letters from Rome of a recent date give some curious details respecting discoveries which General Lamoriciere has made since he has been concerned in Roman affairs. Among other things he found, it is said, that 2,527 officers or soldiers who figured on the lists of the army had no existence, but that, nevertheless, pay was regularly drawn for them. He was told also that captains made a rule of not mentioning the numerous desertions which take place in their companies, first, in order not to disturb the good opinion which the Pope has of his army; and, secondly, to receive the same pay for their troops.—The General, having manifested an intention of forming again the Pontifical Dragoons, who were dissolved some time ago, but of whom 150 remained, many objections were made to his project. He at last asked to see the uniforms and helmets of the Dragoons, but was told that they had been sold.—'To whom?' said he. 'To the manager of a theatre.' 'For how much?' 'Three paolis per helmet.' 'And how much did each helmet cost?' '48 paolis.' 'Send for the manager,' said the General, and the manager came. 'You must bring to me all the helmets you have purchased,' said the General, 'and you shall be paid for them.' 'How much have I to receive?'—asked the manager. 'Why, three paolis each—that they cost you.' 'General,' cried the unfortunate man, 'I paid 25 paolis per helmet, and here is the receipt!' And he produced a paper proving that he had really paid that sum."

Notwithstanding the statements of the Sardinian journals that the French troops will have entirely evacuated the Papal States before the end of June, it is certain that the Duke de Gramont, in accordance with instructions received from Paris, has declared to the Holy See that the French garrison will not leave the Papal territory until the Sovereign Pontiff himself shall have acknowledged that the departure of the French troops could take place without any danger to the tranquillity and safety of his States.

THE POPE'S RIGHT TO CLAIM HELP FROM NAPLES.—A Vienna telegram, of the 10th May, says:—"The Sardinian government is said to have been induced by the representations of France to recognise the right of the Pope to claim, eventually, the assistance of the King of Naples to maintain order in the Papal States; it is therefore asserted that, if, after the departure of the French troops, the Papal army were increased by Neapolitan soldiers, Sardinia should not attempt the conquest of the Legations." The official *Giornale di Roma* says:—"The reception of King Victor Emmanuel by the clergy at Bologna was very different from what the Turin papers represented. A large number of refugees and some students were guilty of sacrilege and profanity in making the dome of the sacred Temple resound with their shouting, in order to make the people believe it was a demonstration of the priests. The King was to have passed seven days at Bologna, but remained only two days on the soil of the Romagna, which he appeared very anxious and in a great hurry to leave."

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GENERAL DE LAMORICIERE'S OATH.—The *Opinion Nationale* publishes the text of the oath taken by General de Lamoriciere, in the presence of the Holy Father:—"I, Leon de Lamoriciere, Commander-in-Chief of the Pontifical troops, promise and swear to be faithful to Saint Peter the Apostle, to the Sacred College of the Most Serene and Most Reverend Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, to the Supreme Pontiff regnant, and to his successors canonically elected; and I will faithfully perform the office of Commander-in-Chief of the Pontifical troops confided to me. So help me God and his Holy Gospels."

NAPLES.—On the night of the 15th instant, General Garibaldi embarked with 2,000 men on board two merchant steamers at Genoa, or on some point of the Calabrian coast, in aid of the insurrection.—Such an enterprise is beyond the limits of either praise or blame. It is useless to judge it by the common rules which we apply to political transactions. To reproach the partizan General with violating international law, by taking up arms against a state at peace with his own, would, in the opinion of his admirers, be as puerile as to charge him with piracy for seizing the company's steamers. The man, the cause, and the circumstances are so very extraordinary that they must be judged by themselves. Success will stamp Garibaldi as a general and statesman of the highest rank; defeat, ruin, and death will cause him to be remembered as a Quixotic adventurer, of dauntless courage but weak judgment, who has thrown away his life in a desperate filibustering attempt. The expedition to Sicily may in future be ranked with William of Orange's landing in England, or it may be ranked with Murat's landing in Calabria; all we can be certain of is the heroic courage of the man who has attempted it.

Of the prospects of the Sicilians we cannot speak sanguinely. The insurrection appears, indeed, far from being at an end. The Sicilians seem to have risen against their oppressors with all the fury which years of tyranny can inspire. The royal troops have been held at bay by levies of citizens, hastily armed and almost wholly undisciplined. Men of all ranks and professions have joined the movement. The priests themselves have forgotten their traditional reverence for authority, and the wealthy have been content to stake their all in a struggle for the independence of the island; the old have been carried away by the enthusiasm of youth; even soldiers and officials have in some cases abandoned the principles

of their caste under the impulse of patriotic feelings. But still, a regular army is a very powerful machine. There is hardly an instance in the history of the world of a people withstanding an armed force without either foreign help or military disaffection. The Neapolitan force is large, well appointed, and not ill-commanded. That jealousy, between soldiers and civilians, which, since 1848, has arisen on the Continent—that *esprit de corps* which would make a French or Austrian regiment delighted to charge a Parisian or Viennese mob, will no doubt animate the King's troops against the Sicilian insurgents. No great distance, through a difficult country, is to be traversed. The chief towns are accessible, by sea and the sea is at the command of the King's fleet. Troops have been sent in a few hours from Naples and Palermo, and reinforcements can be poured in as long as necessary. The chances are, therefore, strongly against the success of the movement. It is quite possible that if the communication with the main land were cut off the insurgents would be able to hold their own against the troops already in the island; but if the King is allowed to use the whole strength of the State in coercing his refractory province, we think the cause which Garibaldi has espoused is desperate enough.

We have heard of men conspiring in the streets but such boldness and openness are transcended by the proceedings of the Italian General on the present occasion. The alleged license of British institutions is certainly exceeded by what is permitted to Garibaldi on Sardinian ground. Only in Mobile or New Orleans has a parallel been seen to the independence and the freedom of action enjoyed by the General and his associates. They not only embark with ease, but the newspapers publish the addresses with which the adventurous chief endeavours to rouse his countrymen. Garibaldi is able publicly to charge his countrymen to use every means to aid in his enterprise. He tells them that wherever Italians are fighting against their oppressors, thither all brave men should be sent, and that the Sicilian insurrection should be aided not in Sicily alone, but wherever her enemies are to be met. "I did not counsel the Sicilian movement," says the General "but, since these brethren of ours are fighting, I deem it my duty to fly to the rescue." Of course, a portion of the Continental press attributes the rising to England. One journal states that the Sardinian Government did all in its power to prevent the embarkation, but that "the Insurrectional Committee of London, which had prepared the enterprise," was too cunning, and overcame every obstacle. Without thinking it worth while to discuss this matter, we may be glad to suggest a doubt of the great exertions of the Sardinian Government. It seems to us that Garibaldi had his own way in this matter.

GERMANY.

A remarkable rumor, which seems to have obtained some credence in Paris, is mentioned in one or two continental papers. It is said that the French Government, irritated by the augmentation of the Prussian army, and the consequent demand for an additional grant of some £1,300,000 for military purposes, has dispatched to Berlin a note requiring explanations of the object of Prussian armaments.—There is little doubt that the Emperor Louis Napoleon is annoyed by Prussia's evident determination to place herself in a good state of defence.

A letter in the official *Dresden Journal* from its Vienna correspondent, treating on the position of Austria in reference to the proposed Conference, says:—"France being determined not to accede to the claims of Switzerland, notwithstanding that they are supported by the Powers, the assembling of a Conference would only be a fresh triumph for French policy. The few concessions which France is ready to make could be procured for Switzerland by way of diplomacy. Should England, however, retain her opinion that Switzerland would derive more advantages from a Conference, Austria would be willing to send a representative as well as the other Powers."

SPAIN.

The Minister of Marine had decided that the steamer the *Colon* shall be placed at the disposal of the Count de Montemolin and his brother. All the persons imprisoned in the Saladero and other prisons of Madrid, for political offences, had been set at liberty; not, however, until after they had taken an oath of fidelity to the Queen; and a circular had been addressed by the Minister of Justice to the law authorities in the provinces, directing them to proceed at once, in preference to all other matters, to the execution of the amnesty. The *Esperanza*, a Carlist journal, contains an article praising the Government for that measure.

RECTIFICATION OF FRONTIERS.—The *Constitutionnel* of to-day (May, the 4th) notices in extraordinary terms an extraordinary statement in "the Portuguese papers," viz., that a British squadron with 12,000 men on board is expected to arrive at Lisbon for the purpose of protecting Portugal against the fulfilment of a treaty between Spain and France, by which Queen Isabel cedes Majorca, Minorca, Ivrea, and Formentera, and the province of Navarra to France, receiving in exchange permission to annex Portugal. The *Constitutionnel* describes all this as "buffoonery." It is no doubt premature, but the proposed "rectification of frontiers" is one of those practical jokes, the merits of which are obviously exclusive to French comprehension; the "exchange," which seems to have excited uneasiness at Lisbon, is precisely one of those pleasanties which that ludicrous *farceur*, "Alexander the Great," is very partial to; but these are jokes which we don't take in England—lacking the liveliness of our continental neighbors, and supposing that there were any truth in the report of Portugal being attacked, most people north of the Channel would be apt to think it a *bouffonnerie* at which our gallant allies would ultimately have to laugh on the wrong side of their mouths.—*Paris Letter*.

IRELAND IN 1860.

The *Ami de la Religion* has just published a paper on the state of Ireland in 1860, written by a correspondent, and which it characterises as the most vivid and concise study of the Irish question which has yet been presented to the French reader. The writer's object appears to be to give a resume of the political condition of the country from the same point of view at which M. Gustave de Beaumont investigated it twenty years ago, in his celebrated work, "L'Irlande Politique, Morale et Sociale." After alluding to the attention which has been lately paid to Irish affairs by the *Ami de la Religion* and various other Continental journals, the writer proceeds:—

"The difficulties of Ireland are so numerous and so complex that it is difficult to compass them in one view; it is a country that, in comparison with other countries, seems to be the arena of I know not what mysterious forces tending to some unseen Providential end. One night, fifteen years ago, the potato crop failed. There was no such plague in Egypt as that. The whole structure of Irish society rested on the potato, and Irish society simply smashed, as a house does whose foundations are overturned by an earthquake. What horrible catastrophes followed I need not enumerate. In round numbers, a million starved, a million fled their country—fled like some nomad tribe, launched on fresh fields. But after the cross and the trial came the consolation and the crown. Take up the Directories of the Catholic Church in the United States, in Australia, and in Great Britain, regions in which every one knows Catholicity has obtained an amazing development within the last ten years or twelve years, and you will find that the congregations are mainly composed of Irish, that seven-tenths of the priests are Irish, that there are at least 100 Irish Bishops on the role of the Church. A famine has thus given to the Island of Saints in the present day the new glory of becoming

the Mother of Churches. This is one view of Ireland. But Ireland is besides an entrenched camp of Catholicity, set in the flank of the British Empire, and the spirit of the British Empire, in its public opinion, in its law, in its policy, in its whole mind and spirit, is, even in these days of toleration, bitterly anti-Papal. England aided and abetted throughout last year the enemies of the Pope. It is for Ireland to make atonement to the best of her ability. The poor country is in gripe of one of her periodic famines at this minute—but she can afford £100,000 to send to her spiritual Sovereign. She has the material for soldiers too to send, whose military qualities General de Lamoriciere will know how to turn to good account. The English have great sympathy for the Sardinian cause, but, contrary to their usual custom, this sympathy is not on the present occasion of a solid character. It is a stinging English reproach against the Irish, that they know how to talk, but not how to act. At present, I hear very little eloquence in that country I confess—but I believe it is sending the Pope what he wants, money and men.

"The interior politics of the country are however in a state of helpless and hopeless confusion. The truth is, the great mass of the people are utterly indifferent to politics (*La Politique*)—have almost ceased to believe in that haughty and powerful dame since the death of O'Connell. At least, the country has never acted with the same unity and force since. Its mind has been rent by a series of schisms. When the eloquent and earnest Lucas died, and his colleague in Parliament, Gavan Duffy, since Minister in Australia, went into exile, popular politics became a sort of Russian retreat, in which men dropped as they marched. The Irish journals, which give you the idea that she is politically active at present, do not represent the true state of Ireland. The people are working hard and saving money. With this money, instead of sending it to political associations, they build churches, convents, schools. Ireland was always full of Faith, Hope, and Charity—but I am much mistaken if practical religion has not immensely increased in Ireland within the last ten years—more Masses are said, more Sacraments administered, more Confraternities founded, more alms, vocations, more Religious Orders. Church-building more in particular has become a sort of inspired passion with them. You see towns with 10 or 12,000 inhabitants, which have just completed churches that (I speak advisedly) would do honor to Paris.

"Is it because they are absorbed by religion that the Irish are indifferent to their political position in the British Empire? On the contrary you would say, a religious people ought to be able to see that there are no public men in Christendom, who might occupy so glorious and so useful a position at present, as the Catholic Members of the House of Commons. Every one in Europe knows that Lord Palmerston held for the last year the key of the situation—and that Lord Palmerston owes his position to Catholic votes, and can hardly even yet afford to dispense with them. Does Ireland understand this? you will ask me—are the Bishops, the Priests, the People also of Lord Palmerston's party? How am I to answer you? I read the Irish papers, but I cannot find that any ecclesiastic, or politician, or political organ of authority, has in really serious terms—that is to say, in terms calculated to shake his seat in Parliament—reprehended the conduct of any of Lord Palmerston's Catholic supporters. Most prominent, and some of the most servile of them, represent constituencies under the immediate influence of Prelates of high authority, and I believe they boast of not having forfeited the confidence of those Prelates. The Government have refused to point-blank the recent demands of the Bishops on the subject of education, not even giving to their last letter the courtesy of a reply—only a formal acknowledgment of its receipt. The Catholic members to whom I allude seem to take this treatment as a matter of course. The other day, the Government put down a lottery for the building of a Dominican Church in Dublin. Such a public opinion in Ireland, that this gross exercise of an obsolete law passes almost unnoticed—and yet the Law Officers, the Attorney and Solicitor General, who had to execute it, are Roman Catholics.

"Here, then, we find supported by Catholic votes with the implicit sanction of the country, a ministry the most hostile that can be conceived to the Pope and to all other Catholic interests abroad—the most opposed to the demands of their lordships, the Bishops, on the subject of Education, and on the other points of their Pastoral of last August, and the most dangerously insidious that can be conceived, since it can always put forward a Catholic to injure the Church. And yet all this passes muster in the country of St. Patrick and of O'Connell.

"How explain these phenomena? Well, I believe a great deal of it arises from absolute indifference to, if not profound disbelief in, politics. The people, during O'Connell's time, and even since, made immense sacrifices, spent enormous sums of money, on the attempt to make an independent Catholic Party in Parliament. They see no adequate result. The only tangible difference they see between one party and another is, that when the Whigs are in Power, some Roman Catholics get office, and when the Tories are in, they find Protestants in the same places. But, after all, what does this difference amount to? I turn to the Civil Service List, and I find that the following Catholics have benefited by Lord Palmerston's accession to office:—

Salary.

Viscount Castlereagh, Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen,.....	£924
Lord Camoys, Lord in Waiting,.....	702
Richard Deasy, Attorney-Gen. for Ireland,.....	1159
Thomas O'Hagan, Solicitor-General,.....	974

Total.... £3,759

Here, then, the only tangible difference between one party and the other is, that two young noblemen (one of whom has no connection with Ireland) get places at Court; and that two lawyers of respectable character get all the Crown prosecutions to conduct. You will repudiate the idea that this is adequate compensation to such a country as Ireland, for being identified with the party and the policy of Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell. Yet do not altogether dismiss this idea from your mind. I assure you that there are persons in Ireland of high character, of great influence, of reputation for sagacity, who seriously believe, or at least strenuously say, that no effect which Ireland can exercise on the general policy of the empire, no political or social amelioration which she may achieve through Parliament for her own population, is equal in importance to the elevation of some particular Catholic to the office of Judge, or of Lord of the Treasury, or of Attorney-General. I will not presume seriously to discuss so low and so narrow (*mesquine*) a view of the position which the people of Ireland ought to occupy; it would amount to an admission that the emancipation of the Catholics had no end but the official elevation of a very limited and a not very religious class of Catholic society. But I declare to you that these opinions obtain largely among the persons who influence constituencies in Ireland; and as those who hold them have a direct interest in propagating them, and as the mass of the electors are indifferent, the result is a party of Catholic Whigs in Parliament, each of whom hopes for office some day or other, and all of whom follow the Whig whipper-in, just as the fox-hounds, from whom that functionary's title is derived—baying, snapping at each other, jumping over each other's shoulders. It is a very sad sight to see, but it is to be seen at any critical division in the House of Commons.

"These gentlemen have for political capital when they go back to Ireland one great bugbear. Do you remember in M. Gustave de Beaumont's admirable book on Ireland the description of the effect which used to be produced throughout that country by the exit of a Whig Ministry, and the advent of a Tory?