

Austrian Plenipotentiary at the Congress was not content to discuss with my noble friend and the French Plenipotentiary the question of the affairs of Italy. At the same time I am not at all surprised, because with Austria there is only one rule of government, and that is, force, coercion, direct military repression. It is a principle with Austria, that the people are for the Government and not that the Government is for the people. There is not one liberal idea in their whole system. For such a system to exist in another country, supported by foreign bayonets, must be horrifying, and with what feeling that Austria is regarded by the Italians we have most abundant evidence to establish."

The reply of Lord Clarendon was guarded and diplomatic. The sympathies of the country were with the oppressed Italians, and he regretted he could not produce the correspondence alluded to, to show the opinion of the Government, and the steps taken to produce a better state of things in Italy. "But the correspondence on that subject is incomplete. It is still going on, and we have favourable expectations of the result. I can, therefore, conceive that nothing but injury would occur to the cause my noble and learned friend has at heart by so production at this moment of that correspondence. It might be the means of putting an end to the friendly and confidential communications with those Powers which are chiefly concerned in the condition and welfare of Italy. My lords, we cannot improve Italy by force. We must come to an understanding with those countries from which the movement must proceed. There are many facts to which my noble and learned friend has alluded which exhibit a state of things of long standing. There are many flagrant abuses of authority to which he has referred which seem to be the necessary consequence, to a certain extent, of the caprices of men in the highest state of society, and which can only be remedied by Government and by a power which cannot be produced suddenly and by external pressure. I have endeavoured to collect all the information I can with respect to the present state of Italy, and to separate it from all exaggeration and all party spirit; and I admit that in order to establish a really better state of things, not only a state of things adapted to the character and wants of the people, but which must have some reference to the unfortunate circumstances of Italy, I am certain—and I rejoice to hear the opinion and advice given by my noble and learned friend on that subject—that revolution, however momentarily successful, will not lay the foundation of any substantial prosperity. It is our earnest hope, that the people of Italy are too sagacious and have profited too much by former experience, to resort to means the result of which will render their position worse. My lords, nothing has been done by her Majesty's Government, either to promote or excite revolution. I feel that it would be both unjust and cruel to excite expectations which could not be realised—or rather, I should say, expectations which we are not prepared ourselves to realise. Because if we excite expectations on the part of a portion of Italy—if we lead them to expect aid from us, I say that we are bound to render that aid. And though I am prepared to say that there are cases in which intervention in the affairs of other States not only becomes a right but an obligation as strong as any treaty, still I hold, as a general rule, that interference with the internal affairs of other States, is not justifiable, and can only be resorted to upon the clearest grounds and as a last resource."

Having justified the interference of the Paris Congress in the affairs of Italy, the noble lord paid a compliment to the moderate and dignified conduct of Count Cavour, as the representative of Sardinia, and went on to say that it was not to be inferred that because three months had elapsed without visible results, that nothing was done. "I wish I could say that the result of our communications with the King of Naples was satisfactory. I cannot do so, for it is impossible that any two Governments could be more at variance in respect of the facts of the case than her Majesty's Government and the Government of the King of Naples. Our representations were made to him in the most friendly spirit. We stated our reasons for believing that the existing state of things was dangerous to the stability of his throne, and also injurious to the peace of Europe. We particularly pointed out what were the dangers which threatened his Majesty, and we more especially pointed to the necessity of a better administration of justice. We pointed out the inexpediency, not to say the danger, of a policy characterised by systematic arrest and unjust persecution, and, as we all, we show how essential it was that all subjects of his Majesty, irrespective of their political opinions, should have sufficient security for their persons and their property. I think, my lords, that a milder representation with respect to the existing state of

things could hardly have been addressed to any Government. It is true that at last we received an answer to this representation, but we have not yet been able to confer with the Emperor of the French on the subject of this answer. Until we have communicated with the French Government on the subject, and have determined with them upon the course which it may be necessary to pursue, I think it will be better not to lay that note upon your lordships' table, and I shall confine myself to saying that it was impossible for any answer to be less satisfactory or less indicative of future improvement. But, my lords, the question of reforms in the Pontifical States and the withdrawal of foreign troops from those States, have also been pressed upon the consideration of the Powers principally interested, and, I must say, have been discussed in a manner and in a spirit very different from that in which the King of Naples has met the suggestions made to him. Although my noble and learned friend may be incredulous, I believe the Austrian government itself desires to withdraw its troops from the Pontifical States. I believe that the French Government also wishes to withdraw its troops, and this desire, so far from meeting with any opposition on the part of the Roman Government, is shared and approved by it. If, then, it be true that this desire is sincere on the part of the three Powers principally concerned, I cannot believe that much time will elapse before the withdrawal I have spoken of takes place, and before those precautions are taken which will be undoubtedly necessary after so protracted a foreign occupation, in order to prevent the recurrence of disasters which we should all regret. Unfortunately the exhibition of confidence in the Italian people had never been attempted, and the policy hitherto had always been fear, founded on the apprehension of immediate revolution, without steps having been taken to ascertain whether those fears were justifiable. In conclusion, I could only state that her Majesty's Government had as much at heart the question of the improvement of Italy, as the people of this country, and they would use every effort to advance it.

The Marquis of Clanricarde urged upon her Majesty's Government the production of the correspondence between them and the Neapolitan Government, as a means of bringing the light and force of public opinion to bear upon the dispute.

The Marquis of Lansdowne concurred in the hope that, with regard to other Powers, there existed, in a greater or less degree, a bona fide and deliberate intention of getting rid of the existing interference in Italy, to which it was desirable for the interests of Europe to put an end; and if eventually interference should become necessary by England, acting with other Powers, he trusted it would be firmly and vigorously applied towards a useful result, though he confessed he did not despair of seeing the existing difficulty surmounted by the application of moral means.

## The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1856.

We had intended to publish a letter signed *Clericus*, which has lately appeared in the *Church Witness*, together with the Bishop's reply to it, but the last number of that Paper has relieved us from the necessity of so doing, since the Editor now admits that the Bishop is not chargeable with the grave offence imputed to him, and has administered to the first writer a castigation which requires no addition from us.

We confess that we were very unwilling to assist in circulating the violent invectives of *Clericus*, and it will now be sufficient to give a very brief statement of the case for the information of our readers. The Bishop addressed a letter to the Parishioners of St. Paul's upon the subject of their late divisions, vindicating the Clergy and particularly mentioning the obligations resulting from the oath of Canonical obedience. *Clericus* then wrote to the *Church Witness* charging his Lordship with imposing a new oath upon the Clergy, and abusing him in unmeasured language for so doing. A letter from the Bishop followed, to the same effect as that from the Archdeacon addressed to ourselves. And the Editor has now admitted that "as regards the fact of requiring the oath to be taken by his Clergy the present Bishop of Nova Scotia is not open to the charge of having ventured upon an innovation, or of having imposed upon his Clergy an obligation contrary to Ecclesiastical Law." Here then it is allowed that *Clericus* has openly slandered his Bishop, and we trust that he will now make the only amends in his power both to the Bishop and to his Clerical

Brother, by acknowledging his error over his own name, for at present all the Clergy of the Diocese are to some extent injured, whilst it is unknown which of them is the aggressive party. There are many indeed, such as our own Parochial Clergy, whom no one could for a moment suspect, but there are others, of whom, though equally innocent, we cannot speak with such certainty because they are not generally so well known.

That the interpretation of the oath adopted by the Curates of St. Paul's and defended by the Bishop, is disliked by the Editor of the *Witness*, we are not surprised; but his anxiety to prove that it will bear another explanation seems to us to betray a consciousness that his own position is not quite so strong as he professes to believe. And after all he is setting up his own giant for the purpose of knocking him down, since his Lordship has stated that he only expects the Clergy to act conscientiously, and to regard their oath as any "honorable man of ordinary intelligence" would understand it. His views therefore can only affect them so far as their consciences bear witness that he is right in his estimate of their obligations, and since it is allowed that "the private opinion or interpretation of the Bishop who administers the oath is of no signification to the subscriber," we do not see what good is to be gained by the discussion of its meaning in a controversial spirit.

The Bishop intends to hold an Ordination on Sunday, Sept. 21st, and all candidates are required to send their papers to his Lordship, or the Archdeacon, before September 1st.

We are glad to hear that the children attending the Sunday Schools, at St. Luke's and the Bishop's Chapel, are to have the pleasure of a Pic Nic on Friday next, in Mr. Henry Pryor's pretty field on the N. W. Arm. We think these annual gatherings have a very good effect, and strengthen the bond of union between the teachers and the taught; for children can understand this sort of practical proof that their teachers feel a real interest in them, and are more ready to attend to the instruction of those who will take the trouble to provide occasionally for them the innocent recreation suitable to their age.

It is only about a week since the papers made famous or rather infamous, the outrageous doings in the city of some young men from the quiet town of Lunenburg—and following fast upon the heels of their escapade, some other party or parties, have been engaged in the destruction of the ornamental trees bordering the side walk of Brunswick street. We do not think that any citizen would so wantonly interfere with a systematic attempt to beautify our streets and to make Halifax more attractive, and we are more inclined to attribute the affair to the vandalism which sometimes clings to the disposition of strangers that may come among us, half seas over, than to any merbid perversion of correct taste, or any outbreak of savage ideas among ourselves.—From whatever quarter however, such a desecration may proceed, we hope that the rogues will be discovered, and independent of the twenty-five pounds reward, it is the duty of every good citizen to ferret them out and to see that they are punished.

A sermon will be preached tomorrow in St. Paul's and a collection taken in aid of the House of Refuge.

### LATER NEWS.

The U. S. Mail Steamship *Atlantic*, arrived at New York on the 4th inst., bringing European dates a few days later than previously received. The substance of the news is as follows:—

It appears that some difficulty has arisen with Brazil, on account of the treatment of the British Minister at Rio Janeiro, in a question growing out of the slave trade. It was alluded to by the Earl of Malmesbury in the House of Lords, when Lord Clarendon explained that Brazil had no ill will towards Great Britain. Earl Malmesbury ought to have recollected that the present administration think such small matters as insults to ambassadors on this continent, beneath their notice. Lord Clarendon is an impersonation of the spirit of Christianity in that respect.

There had been a collision at Aldershot, between the German Legion and troops of the line, in which several Germans were killed, and some wounded on both sides. This however, is undoubtedly a repetition of the news by the Cunard Steamer. The Germans appear to make fractious soldiers. Their conduct, during the review at Aldershot by Her Majesty, was very obstreperous. They are, however, in good hands, and by a patient course of dis-