

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The French government is making quiet but efficient preparations for war. At the Ministère de la Guerre plans are being prepared for the organisation of forty-two divisions, which will give an effective force of six hundred thousand men. One of the great difficulties is to find the money necessary to carry the measure into execution.

Disturbances were, it appears, apprehended at Lyons during last week, and for twenty-four hours the guards were doubled, and the whole garrison kept on the alert. A paragraph in the *Moniteur* makes light of the incident, and all accounts state apprehension to have subsided.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The Porte has consented, at the invitation of the Powers of Europe, to send a Plenipotentiary to reopen negotiations in some neutral city; but Turkey will not abate any of her just pretensions. There have been no military operations of any importance on the Danube; but in Asia the Turks have met with another serious repulse, and have been compelled to evacuate Russian Armenia. An armistice has been demanded.

Up to the 19th ult., the allied fleets were still in the Bosphorus.

At St. Petersburg, the greatest activity prevails; and it would appear that the Czar was preparing for something more serious than a war with Turkey only. The treaty between Russia and Persia was ratified at St. Petersburg on the 18th. The latter Power has dismissed from her service, all French, English and German officers; her declaration of war has been accepted by Turkey.

GERMANY.

The persecution against the Church still rages, and as usual, the Jesuits are called upon to bear the brunt of the war. The iniquitous edicts of the petty tyrant of Baden have again been levelled against them, and their Missionaries have been ordered to leave the country. The sympathies of the people are strongly with their venerated Prelate the Archbishop of Freiburg.

ITALY.

There have been riots in Piedmont, arising from the high price of corn. The military were called out, and the insurgents were dispersed.

ROME.—Our letters from Rome are of the date of the 20th ult. We learn from them that a secret Consistory was held on the 19th ult., in the Palace of the Vatican.

The Holy Father pronounced an Allocution, which is supposed, and perhaps correctly, to have related to religious affairs in the ecclesiastical province of the Upper Rhine.—*L'Univers*.

THE GENERAL STATE OF EUROPE.

(From the Correspondent of the New York Tribune.)

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 23, 1853.

According to my last advices from Constantinople, there was a general outcry against the treacherous conduct of England, even before the defeat of Sinope. The mediating powers, England and France, were well aware that no settlement was possible unless the Turks were defeated. And as Lord Redcliffe, the mouth-piece of English policy, believed fully in the bragging of Russia, and had no doubt that Omer Pacha would be beaten as soon as he encountered the Russian army, he did not oppose the plan of the General in Chief for crossing the Danube. But as soon as the battle of Oltenitz was fought and won by the Turks, and Omer Pacha was anxious to march upon Bucharest, and to expel the Russians from the Principalities, Lord Redcliffe did not cease to entreat the Sultan not to risk his army, and to warn him not to trust the reports of Omer, though the noble Lord was sufficiently informed to know that Prince Gorchakoff could not oppose more than 80,000 Russians to the 120,000 Turks of Omer.

The reason of this conduct is self-evident. The English Government had made up its mind that the evacuation of the Principalities was to be the great concession of Russia, for which the demands of the Czar were to be agreed to in an inoffensive manner by the Sultan; and had Omer expelled the Russians by force, no such concession could be made by the Czar. Lord Redcliffe's counsels prevailed at last with the Sultan, and Omer received orders to recross the Danube, and act on the defensive. This was to be the condition of the co-operation of the combined fleet with Turkey. Of course the people of Constantinople were excited, and the army of the Danube plainly stated to Omer, by a deputation of officers of all ranks, that in case peace should be concluded and the demands of the Czar conceded, they would not lay down their arms, but would march against Constantinople, and take revenge on the treacherous counsellors of the Sultan.

Soon after, when a considerable portion of the Turkish fleet was destroyed at Sinope, the Sultan applied to Lord Redcliffe for the serious co-operation of the fleet at anchor in the Bosphorus, so much the more, as it was in consequence of English advice that the Great Turkish fleet had returned to Constantinople, and the squadron of Sinope had remained quiet in the harbor, Admiral Dundas being of opinion that at this advanced season the Black Sea had ceased to be navigable, and nothing more was to be feared from the Russians. But the Black Sea was unsafe only for the English; the Russians, advised by an Austrian steamer of the state of the Turkish squadron at Sinope, attacked and sunk it.

And now Lord Redcliffe backed out, and instead of giving orders to the fleet to bombard Sebastopol he sent two steamers to Sinope with some surgeons, in order to take care of the wounded; and two steamers to Varna in order to see whether any other mischief had happened on the European coast. The indignation at such mean and treacherous conduct became stronger from day to day, and at last compelled Lord Redcliffe to give orders to the Admirals to enter the Black Sea. In Constantinople people thought of course that the English would now be as good as their word, and go straight to Sebastopol, and avenge Si-

nopé, but I am sure that after a short cruise, the fleet will put back into the Sea of Marmora as soon as the first excitement has subsided. Nobody can doubt any longer that it was not in the interest of the Sultan, but in the interest of the Czar that the fleet was sent to Constantinople.

But in the meantime things are daily growing more serious in England. The *Morning Advertiser* and the Tory papers openly denounce Prince Albert and the German influence at Court, and by a strange breach of confidence—which people are ready to impute to Lord Palmerston—the official instructions sent on the 5th instant to Lord Redcliffe have been published in the *Journal des Débats*, making it clear, even to the most short-sighted politicians, that Lord Aberdeen is only anxious to obtain good terms for the Czar, and not for the Sultan. A storm is rising in England, which will soon sweep away the blundering Ministers of the Coalition, and the popularity not only of the Cobdens and Brights, but of persons in a higher sphere. The Ministry are beginning to be frightened.

The working of Diplomacy is not restricted to the Councils of the Great Powers. In the camp of the exiles the intrigues are just as ably conducted as in the conferences of the Cabinets.—The Pan Slavists of the school of Prince Czartoryski are hard at work; they have sent Lord Dudley Stuart to Constantinople to pave their way, and prepare for action. Their plan is that of a great Slavo-Greco-Wallachian Confederation, which is to absorb Hungary, Poland and Turkey, and to rule the East of Europe under the scepter of Prince Czartoryski. In 1848 this same party met at Prague and openly declared for Ban Jellachich and for the Serbs, because Hungary was in the way of such a Pan Slavist realm. In fact, they would put themselves at the disposal of Austria, in the case that that treacherous power would favor their principal idea. Of course they are most energetically opposed by all the Hungarians, and all the good Poles, who do not care either for the crown of Prince Czartoryski or for the ambitious views of the Pan Slavists; but who are ready to fight for the independence of their country under a republican form of Government. But Austria makes no difference between the Pan Slavists and the Patriots. She hangs them both if she can catch them.

The financial statement of Austria for 1853 shows a deficit of 95,000,000 florins—that is to say \$42,000,000—enough for a bankrupt State which is unable to contract a loan either at Paris or London.

The great victories of the Russians in Asia have, in the course of a week, dwindled down to very petty skirmishes, and the Turks are yet in possession of all the country they had to cede to the Czar in 1829. But their moral influence is far greater. The population of Russian Transcaucasia is emigrating to the Turkish districts. Mustapha Pasha has succeeded in landing the ammunition and arms destined for Shamy, on the coast of Circassia, and the great Bey of the Caucasus is pressing his victories to the gates of Teflis.

All the provinces of Turkey are now ranged against the Russians, Abdalla Pasha, the Arab, who had been exiled to Adrianople for rebellion, was sent to Arabia by the Porte, according to the last advices, he already had 20,000 volunteers, all horsemen, under his command, and was on his march to the seat of war. The Kurds, the Albanians, the Druses, are all gathering around the standard of the Prophet, and there is no doubt that the Sultan will in the spring have 600,000 men under arms. The enthusiasm at Constantinople is indescribable, and Damascus, Aleppo and Smyrna vie with each other in offering money, horses, accoutrements and cash to the Sultan.

According to the telegraph an insurrection has taken place in the Crimea in favor of Turkey, among the Mussulman Tartars. The great Russian victory at Akhalzik, of which we now have received the Russian bulletin, is nothing more than a successful sally from the fortress, which continues to be beleaguered. The battle of Kafelat, as mentioned by the Vienna papers, seems to be a hoax, though skirmishes continue regularly on the Danube. Omer Pacha has gone to Rostshuk, on the Danube, and may soon again cross the river. The public in Paris expect the Russian Ambassador to retire at the confirmation of the report that the combined fleet has entered the Black Sea. The *Times* on the other hand plainly indicates that the fleet will not attack Sebastopol or the Russians.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE IRISH PARTY.—The Independent Opposition will go back to Parliament strengthened with renewed popular confidence. There is a banquet to the party by some great constituency every week till the opening of the Session. And each constituency is careful to proclaim, in terms that admit of no mistake, why they do them this honor.—*Nation*.

THE PLEDGE-BREAKERS.—In a Christmas Address to the readers of the *Dundalk Democrat*, the editor ably reviews the political events of the old year. Touching the treason of the Aberdeen pledge-breakers, he justly observes:—"My friends, the year which is about to close has been to Ireland a disastrous one. It opened with hope for the people, giving promise that Amelioration and redress would be found for the injustice we suffer. But treason entered the popular camp; English gold, as usual, tempted its victims, and half of our little national army fled to the enemy. The day is not far distant when the traitors shall meet their reward. There are some persons, unfortunately, who say they acted right in deserting! None of you, I trust, are of that opinion. I, at least, have done my utmost to bring a contrary conviction to your minds.—And why have I done so? I will tell you. English statesmen will never do justice to this country if they can avoid it. They want Ireland for these purposes, and for nothing else. They have need of it in order that they may man their navy and recruit their army with its young men; that they may sell their manufactures in it, collect taxes in it, and get beef, mutton, corn, and other good things from it. Believe me that England wants Ireland for no other purposes than these. And to prevent us from becoming her rival in Manufacturing or in commerce, she will do her utmost to keep a heavy yoke on our necks. And, mark! she will never confer a title on any Irishman, or give power or place to any Irishman only for the purpose of getting him to assist her in fastening that yoke more firmly on Ireland. I believe this to be as true as Gospel; and therefore I call on you, and all who hear my voice, to denounce place hunting; and to strangle that monstrous doctrine now preached with unblushing audacity, and which advocates the debasing iniquity enacted by Keogh and Sadleir."

THE LATE CARLOW ELECTION.—DUBLIN, Saturday, Dec. 24.—The case of "Dowling v. Lawlor," which has been before the Court of Exchequer since Monday last, was brought to a close this evening. It arose out of circumstances connected with the late memorable election for the borough of Carlow, and among the witnesses examined on Wednesday was Mr. John Sadleir, M.P., who denied on oath many allegations and charges made against him, one of which was to the effect that he had caused the imprisonment of Mr. Dowling, for not voting for him. The issues which the jury had to try were these:—"First, whether there was an agreement between Daniel Crotty and John Sadleir, or any person on behalf of John Sadleir, that Daniel Crotty should be released from all liability on two bills of exchange for the respective sums of £150 and £200, mentioned in certain affidavits in this matter; secondly, if so, whether the Carlow branch of the Tipperary Joint Stock Bank, or any persons on that behalf, in pursuance of such agreement, discounted a certain bill of exchange drawn by one Edward Lawlor on and accepted by one William Ling; thirdly, did the bank discount the last mentioned bill of exchange with the bona fide intention of holding Edward Lawlor liable thereon; fourthly, whether or not Daniel Crotty was a bona fide trustee for Edward Lawlor, or for the Tipperary Bank in issuing the execution under which the plaintiff was arrested."

The Chief Baron having delivered his charge, the jury almost immediately brought in a verdict for the plaintiff on all the counts. The effect of this will be the release of Dowling from duance, free from all liability, as far as the two disputed bills are concerned, and the probable institution of an action for false imprisonment and conspiracy to deprive the plaintiff of his right to vote at the Carlow election.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.—According to the *Limerick Chronicle*, no intimation whatever has reached the family or friends of Mr. Smith O'Brien of that gentleman's escape from Van Diemen's Land.

The Right Hon. Louis Perrin, second Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, was, on Tuesday, sworn in as one of the commissioners for the custody of the great seal of Ireland.

PROTESTANT LIBERALITY.—LORD ANNESLEY.—A correspondent informs us of a liberal act towards the Catholics of Newcastle, county Down, performed by the Earl of Annesley. The writer states that since the days of Cromwell the Catholics of the district have not been allowed to erect a chapel, and that they have been "obliged to hear Mass either in a stable yard, or as many of them as could crush into a dwelling house, whilst the remainder were obliged to kneel outside, let the weather be fair or foul; nor would they even be permitted the benefit of a national school, for the education of their little ones. On the 30th ult., after the conference with his clergy in Downpatrick, the Right Rev. Dr. Denvir waited on Earl Annesley at the office in Castlewellan, where he was received by both his lordship and his agent, Mr. Shaw, with the greatest kindness and urbanity. The object of the visit being entered into, his lordship expressed a desire to do anything in his power for the accommodation of his Catholic tenants in Newcastle. He then in the most generous manner, at the nominal rent of one shilling a year for ever, gave half an acre of ground in an eligible situation, as well for a burying place as also to build thereon a chapel and school-house." Our correspondent concludes by writing:—"If this should meet the eye of Captain Jermyingham who some years ago was located here, and to whom the Catholics of Newcastle must ever feel grateful for the generous offer to build them a chapel at his own expense if only the ground could be obtained, that gentleman will now be delighted to learn that the poor fishermen of Newcastle will soon have a shelter to cover them when assisting at the tremendous mysteries."—*Dublin Weekly Telegraph*.

Not less than £2,972,000 was remitted from Irish emigrants in America to their friends and relatives at home in 1848, '49, '50, and '51. It is estimated that if the remittances have continued at the same rate, upwards of four millions must have been remitted in the last six years.

The last Australian mail brought to Limerick a number of registered letters covering bank orders for £20, £30, £40, and £50.

SUICIDE OF LIEUT. COL. LAYARD.—Mr. J. E. Hyndman held an inquest on Monday, on the body of Lieutenant Col. Brownlow Villiers Layard, formerly M.P. for the borough of Carlow, who committed suicide at his lodging, Frederick street, Dublin, in a very determined manner. Before he could be overpowered he succeeded in inflicting seven dreadful wounds with a razor upon his throat, one of them penetrating almost to the root of the tongue. It was stated that the unfortunate gentleman sold out his commission some time since, and had recently invested a considerable sum of money in the purchase of a place called Riversdale, near Palmerstown, where he had been residing till Wednesday week. These facts having been submitted to the jury, they returned the usual verdict.

It has been finally determined to reduce the levian standing army at present held in Ireland, and the infantry regiments now under orders for foreign service will be relieved in most instances by depots, or at most a troop of cavalry. The cavalry will, however, be kept up to its present strength, although of consequence they will be more dispersed.

In the Limerick corn market, on Friday week, the highest figure of the year was reached for wheat, oats, and barley. The farmers have made up their minds "for a joyful Christmas." One of the last Belfast reports states that Irish grown oats have been in very great demand in all the English markets; and immense quantities are in course of transit from our several ports to Liverpool, Bristol, and London. High prices have induced large exportation, and at present the quantities of that grain sent across the Channel are in advance of the greatest average from Ireland since 1846.

THE CHOLERA IN CORK.—The *Cork Examiner* of Tuesday says—"The cessation which was observed a few days past in attacks of this disease, appears to have been only temporary, as we learn that since Sunday last four new cases have occurred, and all in the South district of this city, in the neighborhood of the Lough."

It is estimated that the United Kingdom consumes 1,500,000 eggs yearly, of which Ireland produces nearly a third. The North-Western Railway frequently receives a million eggs in a day at Liverpool from Ireland, to be forwarded to manufacturing towns.

"During the terrible gale which raged in the Irish Channel on the 28th ult., a large vessel supposed to be a screw steamer, bound foreign, from one of the Scotch ports, was struck by a heavy sea, and foundered almost immediately. Only six persons were rescued from the deep; and we believe some of these have since died from the sufferings they had to endure."

CANADA.

COMMANDER OF THE FORCES IN CANADA.—It is stated in the English papers that Major General Wetherall will relieve Major General Rowan in the command of the troops in Canada, and will be succeeded as Deputy Adjutant General at head quarters by Col. Torrens, whose place as Assistant Quarter Master General will be filled by Lieut. Col. Cunyng-hame.

The Bazaar lately held by the Catholic ladies of Quebec, realised the sum of £783 11s. 6d.—*Morning Chronicle*.

LORETTO CONVENT.—PROFESSION OF A NUN.—Of all the solemn ceremonies of the Catholic Church, none is more impressive than the Reception of a young lady into a Religious Order. It was our happy lot, some days since, to witness one of these touching spectacles which none but the Catholic Church can exhibit. It was the Solemn Profession of Miss Hannah Donovan into the Religious Order of our Lady of Loretto, at St. Mary's Church, in this city. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. M. Bruyere, attended by the Rev. A. Charest, and Rev. J. O'Neill. It opened with a short address by the Officiating Clergyman on the nature and the superior excellency of a Religious life; then followed the blessing of the young Novice and the presentation of the insignia appropriate to the holy state of life she had chosen.—During part of the performance the young lady lay prostrate on the floor as a token of her spiritual death to the world and its empty shadows. This was the heroic sacrifice accomplished: a solemn act, very little known to and appreciated by sensual and carnal men. They alone who have heard and meditated upon the evangelical counsel of the Saviour: "Go, if thou wilt be perfect, sell what thou hast, give to the poor, and come and follow me"—can understand the hidden pleasure of a Religious life. It is granted only to those favored and privileged souls who, forsaking all for God's sake, seek first the Kingdom of Heaven, and choose the better part, by placing themselves, like Mary in the Gospel, at the feet of Our Lord.—Such a favor was granted to the young Novice who, on that day, made her Solemn Profession. At the close of the ceremony we heard her exclaim, "This is the happiest day of my life!"—*Toronto Mirror*.

ELECTION OF SEPARATE SCHOOL TRUSTEES, TORONTO.—The election of Catholic Separate School Trustees took place on Wednesday, 12th instant, when the following gentlemen were returned:—St. James' Ward—Dr. King. St. Lawrence Ward—John O'Donohue. St. George's Ward—Wm. Hawkins. St. Andrew's Ward—J. Flanagan. St. Patrick's Ward—J. Lennon. St. David's Ward—Thos. Barry.—*Catholic Citizen*.

FORGERY ON THE BANK OF MONTREAL.—We yesterday saw an extremely well executed forgery of one of the above bank's \$4 bills. It was found, with the plate from which it had been printed, engraver's tool, and a large amount of prepared paper, in the possession of a man named Nathan Adams, residing near Cowanville, in the County of Mississquoi, who has been arrested and committed to our jail, for trial, by Levi Stephens, Esq., J.P., of Dunham, in the same County. It is not believed that any of these forged bills have been circulated, but they are so perfect an imitation of the original that we must recommend caution in receiving these notes from strangers.—*Herald*.

EFFECTS OF INTemperance.—COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS, MONTREAL.—On Friday last, Emile Charpentier, wife of Charles Quintal, was tried and found guilty on the following charge:—"The charge against the prisoner was for having at the Parish of St. Ours, on the 17th May last, committed the offence charged, on the person of Marie Quintal, her own child, aged eight years. The atrocity under which this offence was committed, exhibits a degree of depravity and cruelty almost unknown in the annals of any Criminal Court. It appeared in evidence, given by most respectable witnesses, that the prisoner and her husband were vagrants and vagabonds who perambulated the country with their children, sleeping in the fields, begging, and most of the time under the influence of liquor; that on the day before that on which the crime is charged to have been committed, they had slept in a house where, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather they had received admittance; that the prisoner maltreated her three children without the slightest cause, and threatened that she would cut the throat of the said Marie Quintal, and put an end to her existence. On the following morning they took refuge in a field, when the father and his daughter went to the village and procured a bottle of rum. The father drank himself asleep, and then it appeared that the prisoner, also laboring under the influence of liquor, had tied her child (the said Marie Quintal) to a fence, and then commenced torturing her, having previously stripped her of her clothes, by lighting matches and burning them upon the body and arms of the child, until the matches were so far consumed as to burn the prisoner's fingers. This was repeated for a long time. The witnesses declared that they had found upon the ground two handfuls of matches so burnt. The cries of the child at last awoke the drunken father, who rescued his child from the hands of the mother. The child at last contrived to make her escape, and ran to the first house, where on arriving she fainted. When she had recovered her senses, she declared all that is above narrated, and was taken under the care of the people of the house. The prisoner and her husband then came up, and being unbridled for their brutal conduct, the prisoner began to swear and abuse the people, and threatened to burn their house and barn.—After the prisoner had recovered herself from the effects of liquor and regained her senses, she was heard to say to her suffering child, "Now don't say that it was I who burnt you," and this she repeated twice. The little child who was lying in a bed and suffering the most excruciating pains, shuddered at the sight of her mother and would call her father and tell him, "Do take care of my little sister, or mamma will burn her also." The child's body from her knees upwards was almost entirely burnt. She has since lost several of her fingers, and her head is now inclined to one side, from the effects of the brutalities exercised upon her by her mother."