

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

Since the *canard* of Saturday about the definitive signing of the preliminaries of peace, no bird of the species—hardly the smallest duckling—has been on the wing, and the public seem for the present so disposed to incredulity that truth itself would hardly be believed until it stood the test of two or three days' undisputed existence. The fact is, the secret of the Conference is extremely well kept, better than has ever been known in a case where 12 or 14 people participate; and they who profess to give exact details of the sittings do so entirely on conjecture founded on a few words let drop in general conversation. The absence of any allusion in the French speech from the Throne to so important an act as that alluded to might be considered as a proof that nothing more than what I mentioned the day immediately after the first meeting of the Congress had taken place. All that can now be safely said of the Conference held last Tuesday is that its proceedings were said to be of a more satisfactory nature than the previous ones, and that England and France continue united more closely, if possible, than before. From that fact it may be fairly inferred that the Russian Plenipotentiaries begin to see all hope of disuniting them vanish, and are gradually abandoning the ground they may have taken up, and are disposed to make concessions on vital points which they hitherto may have contested. But that those points relate to Nicolaieff, Kars, Bomarsund, the neutralization of the Black Sea, the Transcaucasian fortresses, or the Principalities, we cannot say. The 12 Burleighs who are deciding in secret council on the peace of Europe do not speak of what they do; and, in this complete silence, it is hazardous to interpret their occasional shakes of the head in any very precise manner.—*Times*.

The *Moniteur* of the 7th inst., contains an imperial decree calling out, for active service, 140,000 young soldiers of the class 1855.

MARSEILLES.—Orders have been received for conveying 10,000 infantry and a battery of artillery to the Crimea, to replace troops that have returned home.

The *Globe* correspondent makes the following remarks on the Emperor's speech:—

“PARIS, March 3.—It will not cause much surprise to those who are acquainted with the state of opinion in France, that the impression created by the Emperor's speech has been a feeling of general disappointment. This was inevitable—such has been the infatuation of the public here on the peace question, that the wildest and most unreasonable expectations were entertained regarding the imperial address to the Legislature. Forgetful of the usage of diplomacy, and of all the precedents which might have assisted them in arriving at a sound opinion, the public would have it that his Majesty would either announce at least the signature of the preliminaries of peace or would express a hope of the conclusion of the war, in terms as warm and as confident as their own feeling on the subject. But to all who take a calm and unpassioned view of the state of affairs the speech will give unmixed satisfaction. To Englishmen in particular it will be gratifying to remark the close resemblance it bears to the speech delivered by the Queen, on the great question of the day. Though wishing—as who must not?—for a conclusion of the war, the Emperor avows his readiness once more to draw the sword from the scabbard—thus proving how entirely devoid of foundation has been the rumor of his being less determined than our government to resume the war with renewed vigor, should the conferences not lead to the result which is everywhere so much desired.”

According to reports very generally current today, the accouchement of the Empress may be looked for almost immediately, instead of from the 15th to the 20th instant, which was the period originally spoken of. It appears certain that the Pope will be the godfather of the Imperial infant. The Queen of Sweden the godmother.

Count Orloff, encountering Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers in the salons of Tuileries, is said to have observed smilingly, “Ah! M. le Marshal, it is you, I think, who have lately visited our country.” “Yes, Count,” replied the Marshal, “it is I who had the pleasure of leaving my card at Bomarsund.”

## GERMANY.

The *Messenger du Midi* relates the following:—“A short time since M. Cohen, a young Prussian engineer, whom the English company charged with the construction of a section of a railway had placed at the head of their works, was at a night *fete* given at Berlin. Among the guests invited was a nephew of General Todtleben the celebrated Russian engineer. Towards the close of the evening politics came on the tapis, when M. Cohen supported the cause of the Allies, and particularly that of France and M. Todtleben naturally that of Russia. The discussion at last became so violent that young Todtleben, completely losing his temper, exclaimed, ‘You are nothing but a vile Frenchman!’ ‘And you a vile Cossack!’ was the reply. ‘I defy you to support your opinions sword in hand,’ said the nephew of the general. ‘I accept for life and death,’ replied M. Cohen. Seconds were chosen, and a meeting arranged for the following morning, and it took place accordingly. Pistols were the weapons chosen, and at the second shot M. Todtleben was struck in the heart and expired instantly. M. Cohen had his right arm broken. He was carried to the house of his brother, where he remains a prisoner *sur parole* until his trial.”

A SHREWD PROFESSOR.—Professor Ehrenberg's microscope, which did such good service in procuring undeniable proof of the *Siganoides* fraud, has been made use of again to detect the thief that stole a

barrel of specie, which had been purloined on one of the railways. One of a number of barrels, that should all have contained coin, was found on arrival at its destination to have been emptied of its precious contents, and refilled with sand. On Professor Ehrenberg being consulted he sent for samples of sand from all the stations along the different lines of railway that the specie had passed, and by means of his microscope, identified the station from which the interpolated sand must have been taken. The station once fixed upon, it was not difficult to hit upon the culprit in the small number of the *employes* on duty there.—Vienna correspondent of the *Times*.

## BAL TIC.

The Russians are sending troops in considerable numbers to Finland, concentrating a large force about St. Petersburg, and strengthening the barracks near Cronstadt.

## ITALY.

Among persons connected with public affairs here, and informed as to what passes at the Vatican, is reported the intention said to be formed by his Holiness of sending an Apostolic Delegate in extraordinary mission to Constantinople.—*Correspondent of the Telegraph*.

TREATMENT OF CONVICTS IN ROME.—With great pleasure must be announced a proceeding that still remains officially secret—a measure, namely, beneficently ordered by the Pontiff with a view to the improvement of those punished by the law. Pius IX., directing his care to convicts of minor age (*minores natu*) dismissed from prison, after having suffered the legal punishment for any misdemeanor, has nominated for their protection a Committee of Patronage (*Patronato*) composed of four Prelates—Consolini (Vice President of the Council of State), Negroni (Auditor of the Rota), De Merode (Private Chamberlain to his Holiness), and Stefano Bruti, with, moreover, two Counsellors of State and a Roman patrician, the Duke Scipione Salviati. It frequently happens that this class of convicts, owing either to the stain upon their character from the misdeeds they have suffered for, or to the legal condemnation which has marked them as offenders, are unable to find service under any master-artisan, or with any respectable family as domestics. And thus have many been left to languish in idleness and misery; exposed to the temptation of relapse into every sort of evil. The object, therefore, of the *Patronato*, now instituted by his Holiness, is to provide labor and sustenance for these unfortunate youths; and to employ all the means that prudence or charity can suggest for restoring them to a career of respectability and to the confidence of society. The regulations of this committee, prepared under the direction of the Pontiff, will be as soon as possible carried into effect.

## TURKEY.

The text of the decree, which was promulgated at Constantinople on the 21st February, states that Christians will have a right to possess landed property, and that as regards civil rights there will be a complete equality between Mussulman and Christian denominations. Language of a nature to express the superiority of one race over another, is expressly forbidden both in documents and private conversations. The patriarchs are to be named for life. The clergy will receive a fixed stipend, and the church property will be managed by an assembly composed of persons of that religion. They will be mixed tribunals. Education will be free, under the surveillance of mixed commissions. Other reforms are announced—as, for instance, the right granted to provincial and commercial councils to take the initiative in grants for public works, as also the establishment of banks in order to regularize the monetary system of the empire. A million copies of the decree of the Sultan have been distributed.

## CRIMEA.

“On the 29th of February, at a conference held at Traktir-bridge, between the Chiefs of the Staff of the allied armies and General Tuchimeff, delegated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army, it was decided that there should be a complete suspension of hostilities.”

## AUSTRALIA.

THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD FIELDS.—Official reports relative to the condition of the gold regions in Australia have just been issued by the government. Statistics are given of the quantities of gold discovered from January to June, 1855, which show a gradual decrease, as compared with the yield of previous half years. The following statistics exhibit the simultaneous falling off in the amount of gold discovered, and the great increase in the population:—Value of all gold exported in 1852, £14,866,799; in 1853, £11,588,782; in 1854, £8,770,796. Population on the gold fields of the whole colony in 1852, 35,000; in 1853, 73,000; in 1854, 100,000.

## THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

(From the *London Times* Correspondent.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Friday, Feb. 22.—Days more uneventful than those that have elapsed since my last despatch have assuredly never been known in the Crimea since first the allied armies enlisted it by their presence. We have been daily expecting the review of the whole English army, which was ordered for Monday last, but, although the cold has departed, and the temperature is now mild and the ground in good order, it has not yet come off. Meanwhile the various divisions are frequently turned out for exercise and manoeuvres—all but the Fourth Division, which has not been out since the half-yearly inspections were concluded. Yesterday the 3rd Division was reviewed by Sir William Eyre, and very well indeed it looked. It is one of the divisions that has been least exposed during the war, and still comprises a considerable number of old soldiers. A brigade of the Light Division was out yesterday, and another to-day. The 1st Division had a long field day this morning. There surely never was an army in finer condition, as regards the health, robustness, and good spirits of the soldiers, than this one now in the Crimea. It is quite a pity it should be balked of another

campaign. Notwithstanding we are so confidently assured that peace is as good as made, reinforcements continue to arrive. 1,700 men are coming from Malta to the Fourth Division alone. About 200 of them have already landed. The war party lives in hopes that there yet may be a fight.

After the review of the Third Division yesterday I rode round by Inkermann. The water in the valley of the Tchernaya was thickly frozen, but there were patches of green in various sheltered places, and some parts of the ground were thickly sprinkled with the hardy small yellow crocus.—The Russians were pretty quiet—as, indeed, they have been for the last two or three days—only occasionally sending a shot in the direction of the bridge across the Tchernaya. A man of the Land Transport Corps had a narrow escape the day before yesterday. He was riding one mule and leading another outside the dockyard wall, when a shell struck the one he rode upon the head, and exploded 20 yards off.

The Zouave camp at Inkermann looks beautifully neat and clean. Nothing is allowed to lie about. Some of the huts are models of camp architecture. There is one little house, inhabited by a superior officer, which would be a pretty rustic cottage anywhere. It is whitewashed, has turrets at the angles, two windows with outside shutters in front, and a circular awning over the door. It stands in its own garden neatly fenced in, and in which evergreen shrubs pleasantly relieve the eye wearied by the monotonous brown of the plateau. The Zouaves begin to busy themselves with their gardens, and in another month or two, if they remain where they are, their camp will doubtless be one of the few sights worth seeing in the corner of the Crimea occupied by the allies.

General Martimprey was expected by the mail-boat which came in yesterday evening. I have not yet heard whether he arrived.

A large box of interesting books has been received by the principal chaplain for the use of the army, from Lady Rolle. As many of the books received in this manner are of a class not adapted for the men nor cared for by them, it is proposed to form a library for the use of the officers.

There is a strong breeze blowing from the south to-day, and advantage is taken of it to burn the heaps of manure and rubbish that have accumulated about the camp. The frost is disappearing, but as the ground was pretty dry when it set in there is not much mud. At one o'clock to-day the thermometer, in a sheltered situation, stood at 57 deg. On Tuesday morning last it stood at 8 deg., and probably lower still before it was observed.

During the whole of last week there were only six deaths in the army. The doctors tell you, in reply to questions concerning the sanitary state of the camp, that it is ‘ridiculously healthy.’

It has been singularly mild, almost warm, this evening, and, but for the comfortable look of the thing, fires are really unnecessary. A regular gale blows from the south, making the huts rock and tremble. There is not much danger, however, of their being blown away, for by this time the army is expert in making its dwellings fast and firm. It is rather gusty work in the tents, but these are comparatively few in the English camp. By divisional orders, 100 men of each regiment are directed to parade to-morrow morning, at 7 o'clock, in front of the Light Division, to see the sentence of a general court-martial carried into effect. It is understood that Day, the murderer, is to be hung.

Feb. 23. A gray and gusty morning, a brown hill, a black gallows, with a grave dug beneath it, and a criminal led up with pined arms to the dismal music of the Dead March in Saul, compose the not very cheerful combination of circumstances and objects witnessed this morning in front of the Light Division Camp. Before 7 o'clock 100 men from each infantry regiment, 20 from each battery of artillery, and 20 from each division of Land Transport Corps were formed up in a vast hollow square on Picket-house-hill. There had been a driving shower half-an-hour before, and the troops were in their black waterproofs, which added to the lugubrious aspect of the whole scene. The wretched criminal walked steadily up to his punishment, ascended the steps without assistance, and stood firm and upright while the executioner adjusted the rope round his neck and the white cap over his face. The wind was so high as to impede the latter operation and occasion a little delay. At last, all preliminaries were completed; the executioner descended and drew away the plank. The drop looked rather short, but nevertheless the man appeared to die very quickly, and with scarcely a struggle.

A DAY IN SEBASTOPOL.—Grass now begins to shoot, where, but a few months ago, the busy crowd frequented. Not one house throughout the immense extent of this once fine city is habitable. Gates that opened into spacious court-yards are thrown open, or torn away for the purpose of hut building.—Broken picture frames, and scraps of music, are strewn about the crumbling chambers. Before us, in the fine drawing-room, converted into a temporary Café, where we drank our Bordeaux, the ceiling was shattered by a shell that came from the French batteries, piercing the floor obliquely into the cellars beneath; and behind us was the round hole through which an English 32-pounder had come, from the direction, and which 32-pounder was actually still there sitting in the hole it had singed out for itself in the board flooring. The neat flower-garden is a disordered jumble of ashes and withered shrubs. Enough soldiers saunter among the wide streets to add to the desolation, and there is no sound but the echo of their footsteps, as they tramp along to change the guard. The very air is silent—the birds not yet daring to come back to the place where raged so long the “fire infernal.” In the annals of war there never was such a wreck. What other instance where, in so short a time, out of a population of some 50,000 or 60,000, not one was left? It is folly to call the north side Sebastopol. Sebastopol has been taken—the whole of it. There are merely the forts and a connecting line of new made batteries on the north side. The water that divides them is from one to two miles wide and it is evident that, except for military purposes, there never was any intercourse between the South and what came to be called the North Sebastopol.

## THINGS IN DUBUQUE.

To the Editor of the *Boston Pilot*.

DEAR SIR,—It has become my duty to communicate to you the following proceedings of a meeting held in the Cathedral, in this city, on Thursday evening last, to hear the report of the delegates from this place to the Buffalo Convention, and to organize a society for the purpose of aiding and encouraging Catholic settlements in Iowa. The Right Rev. Bishop Loras kindly tendered the use of the Cathedral for holding the meeting, and cheerfully volunteered his co-operation to further the object in view. After the meeting was called to order, Judge Corkery was chosen temporary chairman, and M. B. Mulken, Secretary. The chairman gave a very interesting account of the doings and proceedings of the Buffalo Convention. The feeling which pervaded the whole Convention, was truly commendable, every delegate with whom he came in contact, appeared to be actuated, more by a desire to relieve his less fortunate neighbors from the social restrictions they endure, than to acquire any personal advantage.

Men of capital in the eastern States expressed their willingness to emigrate to the West, if some provision could be made for the masses, but not otherwise; he stated the plan of action proposed, and also that his meeting was in accordance with the course recommended by that convention. At the close of Judge Corkery's remarks, on motion of the Rev. J. Farvey, a committee of three, consisting of J. D. Jennings, Rev. F. McCabe, and Doctor N. B. Mathews, were appointed to nominate permanent officers for the meeting, who would also continue officers of the contemplated organization. The committee made the following nomination, for President, Right Rev. Bishop Loras, Vice Presidents, James Mullin, and Doctor Mathews; Treasurer, Charles Corkery; Secretary, M. B. Mulken; Agent, M. McLaughlin; Directors, Rev. F. McCabe, P. Quigly, F. Doyle, Doctor W. R. McMahon, and Owen Keenan. On motion of the Rev. J. F. Farvey, Doctor Mathews was appointed to conduct Bishop Loras to the chair. As for taking his place as president of the meeting, he said, that he felt very great pleasure in presiding over a meeting convened for so worthy an object, and composed of so many good and worthy citizens. He spoke of his own labors in this mission for the last nineteen years, and the affectionate manner, in which he had been treated by the Irish Catholics with whom his spiritual labors brought him in contact; of this kindness, he was glad to have an opportunity to evince by appreciation, and he knew of no better way to do it, than to co-operate with those who were laboring to rescue their Catholic brethren from oppression and persecution, and bring them to a country rich in resources, and congenial to liberty-loving men. The Bishop's address was very touching, and his words were spoken with an earnestness that showed the fatherly solicitude with which he entered upon this great movement. On motion of the Rev. J. F. Farvey, seconded by the Rev. P. McCabe, Judge Corkery, J. D. Jennings and Hugh V. Gidde, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions. While the committee were preparing their report, the Rev. Father Tracey, addressed the meeting, at considerable length.

He spoke of the proceedings of the Buffalo Convention with great satisfaction. Rarely or never had he seen a body of men, possessed of higher talent, or animated with a nobler feeling. In their zeal for the general good, delegates carefully avoided introducing any question of a local character, hence, the action of the Convention was marked with the strictest unanimity of feelings and harmony. He was truly glad that the apathy of former years had given way to a spirit of active enterprise, and that a disposition was spreading on the part of Irishmen to submit no longer to a state of drudgery in the East. The movement, he was confident, would result in giving thousands of our poor countrymen a home—a home thought not blessed by the foot-prints of a St. Patrick, yet one in which they could enjoy the blessings of freedom in all things temporal and spiritual.

Here Judge Corkery, on behalf of the committee on resolutions, reported the following:

Resolved—“That we heartily approve of the action of the Catholic Convention, recently held at Buffalo, New York, for the formation of Catholic settlements in the interior.”

Resolved—“That Catholic societies be formed throughout the State of Iowa, for the promotion of the above object, subject to the directions of the Supreme Directory created by the Buffalo Convention.”

Resolved—“That the Catholics of Dubuque, now form themselves into a Society of the character named above and that all similar Societies, that may hereafter be organized throughout the State, are recommended to recognize this, and co-operate with it, as the parent Society of the Diocese.”

Resolved—“That an initiation fee of \$1.00, and a monthly subscription of twenty-five cents, be the full sum necessary to constitute a membership; but \$3.00 a year, if paid in advance, will be deemed an equivalent.”

Resolved—“That this Society hold its regular meetings on the first Monday of every month, and at such other times as the Directors or majority of them may deem necessary; but applicants for membership, may be enrolled as members by filing their application with the Treasurer, and paying their initiation fee.”

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted, after which the Secretary proceeded to take the names of those present, who desired to become members of the Society. The Bishop, as a farther proof of the interest he felt in the object for whose furtherance the Society was organized, enrolled himself as a member, and paid in twenty-five dollars. Father Tracey paid ten dollars, but the giving instances of generosity on the part of those present would occupy too much of your space. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, and afforded a cheering indication of the success that awaits the efforts that are now being put forth, East and West, North and South, on behalf of the poor Catholic immigrant.

It was moved by Father Tracey and seconded by Capt. M. M. Hoyden, that the Secretary furnish an account of the proceedings of the meeting to the *American Celt* and *Boston Pilot*, for publication. This motion was unanimously adopted. At the close of the business of the meeting, the venerable Chairman vacated the chair, and Judge Corkery, was called thereto, when a vote of thanks was tendered to the Rt. Rev. Bishop, not only for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which he presided over the meeting, but for the deep interest he has manifested in this cause, since it was first agitated. After going through some few other unimportant matters, the meeting adjourned to the first Monday in April, unless called together by the President.

You will pardon this intrusion upon your space, and believe me, to remain, very truly and respectfully yours,

M. B. MULKEN, Secretary.

The *German Reformed Messenger*, after quoting the recent remarks of the N. Y. *Freeman*, on the recantation of Leahy, goes on to say:—“This will be unwelcome news to some, who were more or less implicated in the operations of him to whom it relates.—The terms in which it is communicated, are also severe, and characteristic of the source from which it emanates. They are, however, to some extent, justly merited, and it is hoped, the whole circumstances of the case, will serve to teach many, a salutary lesson, which they seem slow to learn. There is abroad in this country, a disposition to take specially by the hand every professed convert from Roman Catholicism, and to force him into prominence, who evinces a particular penchant for exposing the abominations of