

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Napoleon III. has once more succeeded in taking the world by surprise; and his "Liberal concessions" have been curiously scanned and minutely discussed all through the week. The decrees themselves will be found in our news from France; and our Paris correspondent informs us both of the reception that has been given to them, and of the probable reason why they were granted. The motives of Napoleon III. must always be doubtful, but three suggestions have been made to account for his concession:

1st. That he means to strengthen the Anglo-French alliance, and to secure the good will and help of the "disciplined democracy" and Volontaires of France in his quarrels with the Church.

2nd. That he calculates on having war with England before long, and therefore that he desires to share the responsibility with others, and to fortify himself by some appearance of the French nation's concurrence and participation in his policy.

3rd. That the dissatisfaction of the Catholics of France, who are attached to their religion and to the Holy See, has induced him to seek for popularity and for support.—*Tablet.*

PARIS, Nov. 29, 1860.—It is a fortunate circumstance for me to begin my correspondence with the *Tablet* by the Imperial decree, which so deeply modifies the present French Constitution.

Whatever may be the impression it has made upon English minds, I may venture to affirm most positively that this sudden and unexpected influx of freedom into the political system of this country has been had with universal satisfaction. You may take up at random any newspaper, you may talk with any man you may chance to meet—still one invariable feeling beats in every breast, escapes from every lip—and that is delight at the prospects of returning liberty. How far that feeling is justified appears to me quite a different thing, but the fact itself is uncontroversial, irresistible, and, as such, ought to be stated by your new Correspondent.

Akin with this feeling, and parallel to it, arises another equally powerful, equally irrepressible, which might be worded in the following way:—"Will the new system be applied with sincerity? How will it be worked? And if worked properly, what can have been the Emperor's motives for thus granting at this present juncture partial completion of his political edifice?" Before proceeding to enter upon these important alterations, you must allow me, first of all, to answer these questions. It is certainly a remarkable circumstance, that for the last two years France has manifested an intense yearning for free institutions. At first an almost inaudible murmur, this appeal to old times and old liberties has gradually grown into a powerful wind, threatening ere long to heave up the seething waves of the political ocean. Of course this could not long escape the keen eye of our Neptune Napoleon, who felt the coming storm in the very full of the moment:

"Inter a magno misum murmure pontus,
Emissamque hincem sensit Neptunus."

Thus I have not the slightest doubt that the decree of Nov. 24 was purposed to satisfy that craving for more freedom, of which the Religious and Liberal Party in France have become of late the most distinguished exponents. And observe that when I say "Religion and Liberal," I mean but one and the same body, made up of Bishops, Legitimists, Orleanists, and even Imperialists, whose earnestness and honesty are above suspicion. It is they and they alone who have, step by step, day by day, leavened the huge mass, until the very parasites of the Government such as the *Patrie*, *Constitutionnel*, *Opinion*, *Nationale*, &c., &c., have felt themselves uplifted, and rising—nay or will—in a love of freedom.—*Paris Corr. of Tablet.*

The *Siècle* says that a step worthy of notice has been taken to re-establish harmony between the foreign policy of the country and its institutions.—The Siècle will wait the *Scutus-consultum*, which will be shortly published relative to the reproduction of the debates in the Senate and the *corps législatif*. This *Scutus-consultum* will have a direct reference to the rights of the press. The *Siècle* hopes that the improvements in the decree of the 17th of February, 1852, so often demanded, will be the complement of the *Scutus-consultum*, a free press being the necessary consequence of a parliament destined to reflect the lustre promised by the régime. The *Presse* particularly applauds the right to present an address particularly to the Senate and the *corps législatif*.

Lamoriciere, like all great men who achieve greatness in discharge of duty, has modestly absented himself from public homage, and retired to his country residence. The names of 10,000 visitors have been inscribed on his books during his sojourn of but ten days in Paris.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.—The case of M. Leymarie will be tried on Friday. As you may have forgotten the facts, I will state them in a few words. M. Leymarie, who had asked M. Billault's permission (as Minister of the Interior) to become proprietor of a newspaper, was informed by letter that he would never be recognized either as director, editor, or proprietor of the property which he had just purchased. In an interview with the Minister he was informed that

"An Opposition paper, patronized by men of re-spectability, and which should have for contributors writers of acknowledged talent, and without distinction of party, would acquire dangerous influence; and that the more constitutional it was, the more care it took to remain within the law—in a word, the more moderate it was, the more would it be troublesome."

A question was asked in the Legislative Corps as to whether the Minister of the Interior really made so strange a statement. M. Baroche, President of the Council of State, and Government orator for the day, replied that it was not true, and that no Minister, much less M. Billault, could have given utterance to such nonsense.

The truth is, M. Baroche, not aware the question was to be put, had not got his brief from M. Billault, who might have smothered the matter without actually committing himself to a formal denial.

M. Leymarie, seeing the report in the *Moniteur* of what passed in the Chamber, wrote a letter to the official, as well as other papers, repeating his statement, defying contradiction, from M. Billault himself (for clearly M. Baroche knew nothing of the matter), and summoning the *Moniteur* in due legal form to publish it. The Minister of the Interior prohibited the papers from inserting the letter, and it is for this refusal to publish the contradiction to M. Baroche's misstatement that M. Leymarie has taken proceedings against the *Moniteur*. I should not be surprised; however, if the case were

stopped. M. Billault is no longer in office—that is, he is no longer the acting but only the talking Minister. The prohibition may have been withdrawn, and the gentleman who is usually sent on this sort of mission from the Bureau de la Presse may, for aught I know, have already made his rounds to the papers, authorizing them to insert M. Leymarie's letter. If not, the case will come on, as I have said, on Friday.

PARIS TRIALS IN FRANCE.—The affair of the *Optimiste National*, about which so much has been said, came on yesterday before the Tribunal of Correctional Police. M. Guerout, the editor, and M. Dubuisson, the printer of that journal, were proceeded against for having published in the number of the 27th of last month, an article entitled "Le Casus Belli" affirming that "a warlike note had been or was to be presented by the Austrian Embassy to the French Government;" that statement being erroneous, and consequently constituting what the French law calls "publication of false news." M. Guerout and M. Dubuisson, who were both present, were defended by M. Marie and M. Lachaud. No report of the proceedings can be given, the law prohibiting journals from producing detailed accounts of such matters. The judgment of the tribunal was to the effect that "it results from the circumstances of the case that the news contained in the article was false; that it also results that the article was of a character to disturb the public peace, but that it was not proved that it had been published with bad faith." The tribunal, in virtue of Art. 15 of the decree of the 17th Feb., 1852, and of certain articles of the Penal Code, fined M. Guerout 1,000f. and M. Dubuisson 100f., and ordered them jointly to pay the costs.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.—The *Moniteur* of Monday publishes the following:

"We are happy to be able to announce a marked improvement in the health of the Empress. Her Majesty despite her great wish to remain *incognito*, has been recognised everywhere, and welcomed with sentiments of the most respectful sympathy. At Edinburgh the Provost presented an address to Her Majesty, and a Scotch regiment marched past the hotel where she was staying, its band playing the air of Queen Victoria, amid the cheering of the populace."

The *Moniteur* publishes General Montebello's reports from the French head-quarters in China. The General states that the prisoners of the Allied Army, who were carried to Pekin, were well treated.

On the side of the French, besides some soldiers of the escort, Colonel Grandchamps, the Abbé Dulac, and M. D'Alairac were made prisoners by the Chinese.

ITALY.

TURIN, Nov. 24.—Whether the South is to sink the North, or the North is to tow the South into harbor, is the great question of the present moment: a question which causes all Italian patriots the most painful anxiety.

Already the lovers of mischief revel in the prospect of a "retirement" of the Lieutenant Fauni, and of the recall of the hero Garibaldi by an order from high (*dall'alto*). The arrival of regular troops in Piacenza, they eagerly inform us, has

already given rise to bloody collisions between these latter and the so-called Garibaldians, because "the soldiers of the Minister Fanti show no proper respect to red-shirted officers," and a Piedmontese sergeant who made some advances to a woman of the people, was instantly stabbed on the spot by that people who have not forgotten how their forefathers of the Sicilian Vespers checked the amorous propensities of the chirality of Aragon.

I spoke of the so-called Garibaldians, because I can bear witness to the fact that a red shirt and a "wide awake" hat were within the reach of every man in the two Southern Kingdoms who had a fancy to them; and there were too many swarms of loungers and blackguards allowed to disgrace that chear uniform who never had a share in the Garibaldian exploits, and are now the most exorbitant in their pretensions, and the loudest in the tale of their grievances. As to the anecdote of the sergeant, without denying the possibility of the event, I do not believe a single instance can be quoted as an argument against the Piedmontese troops, who have always been and are the best disciplined, best behaved, most inoffensive soldiery in the world.

These are mere trifles, and I should be sorry to be thought a man inclined to make mountains of mole-hills; but there is no doubt that other matters—indeed, all affairs in these southern Kingdoms—bear an ominous look. "Difficulties," I read in a Ministerial paper, "increase as we advance in Naples, and that country is a prey to feverish agitation." These evils cannot be disengaged; they cannot, by any flourish of language, be exaggerated. But it would be glaring injustice to say that all these disorders are owing to Garibaldi's retirement, or that "when Garibaldi ruled an admirable and unbroken order prevailed." During my stay in Naples, from the 9th to the 25th of September, no Government at all existed in the country; and although the exultation of a cheaply-gotten freedom and a natural enthusiasm in favour of the Liberator saved the Kingdom, or, at least, the capital, from pure anarchy and political collision, there was an entire civic security: murder and robbery stalked unreined and unpunished abroad. Garibaldi's departure sowed the wind; no wonder their successors have to reap the whirlwind. Anarchy in Naples has deep roots, and it is questionable whether even the Gendarme's sword will be sharp enough to reach them, for we hear that a regiment of Carabiniers or Gendarmes is being hastily organized by Fanti, simply for the protection of public order in the capital. Gendarmes, however, can crush or terrorize; they do not reform or educate the people. For this latter purpose, a good Government is required, and a good Government must rely on the co-operation of good men. Now good men, if also able and intelligent, are few throughout Italy; they are fewer in the Two Sicilies.—*Times Cor.*

ROUEN.—The *Times* correspondent writes:—As far present appearance may be accepted as a guide, there is as little chance of the Pope's leaving Rome now as there was two years ago. One frequently hears it said that "it is state of things cannot last; that it must have an end; that the Pope must go, &c." Such remarks seem to proceed chiefly from impatience at the present uncertain and unsettled position of affairs. We have this week had a persistent rumour of an approaching departure of the French from Rome. They are to withdraw, it is said, and to be replaced by the Sardinians. This would certainly simplify the question, and bring about a speedy *dénouement*. Unfortunately, it is too good to be true; and, on the other hand, we are told that more French troops are coming to make up the full strength of the battalions already here. Several thousand men would be required to do that. Any fresh arrivals would have a most disheartening effect upon the Italian party here, which justly looks upon the French occupation as the sole obstacle to the incorporation of Rome and its surrounding territory with the Kingdom of Naples.

It is even said that Cardinal Antonelli is of opinion that, though the French were to go and the Sardinians to come, the Pontiff should still remain in Rome, and suffer, under protest, his temporal power to be taken from him.

The collecting for the Peter's Pence goes on actively in Rome, and many of the Romans also give large sums besides. The Holy Father is said to have received a considerable offering lately from Mexico. One of the embarrassments of the Government is caused by the fidelity of its *employés*, who, when the invaders occupied first the Romagna, and then the other provinces of the Papal States, refused to serve the new and usurped authority of Gavoty's concoction, and withdrew from their posts to Rome. Of course the government cannot discard those who have proved faithful, and so it is obliged to find their men situations, or to go on providing for them in their difficulty; so that the Treasury has to bear much of the expenses of provinces which no longer

yield it any revenue. The attachment of the Pope's subjects to their Master has also its human side. They have seen from time to time many upheavings and convulsions caused by the under-currents of the Secret Societies, and have come to think that the temporal power of the Pope, like the Church herself, though often doomed to death is fated not to die. There is throughout all society here the most utter disbelief of the durability of the Revolution, and its "Kingdom of Italy." They call it a "childish kingdom," and both religion and experience root in the persuasion that all this will burst some day like a bubble, when the Pope shall regain his own agata. Only no one can foresee how many victims will be demanded from the Moloch now in the ascendancy.

The official *Prussian Gazette* says, we learn the foreign Ambassadors who followed King Francis to Gaeta have left the place and proceeded to Rome at the express desire of the King, who would not expose the diplomatic corps to the inconvenience of residing in a besieged city.—*Cor. of Catholic Telegraph.*

M. de Courcelles, formerly Ambassador of the French Republic at the Holy See, and since so well known to the Catholic world for his devotion to its interests, has lately undertaken a mission from the Sovereign Pontiff to the Cabinet of Turin, in which he has been eminently successful. The Sardinian Government, with that bad faith which so evidently characterizes all its acts, has been regardless of the terms of the capitulation contracted with the Papal troops, and especially with the Italian Regiments, which it made every effort to incorporate with its own service. These efforts signally failed; yet in spite of repeated remonstrances, the men were detained in wretched prisons, and a state of semi-starvation.

M. de Courcelles at last proceeded to Turin and succeeded not only in obtaining the liberation of the soldiers, but also in setting aside the several capitulations which had been violated, and abridging the term under which the Pope's army was bound not to bear arms. We believe the term is now for all the soldiers, who capitulated, limited to three months.

NAPLES.—Recent accounts from Gaeta state the garrison of that place to consist of 22,000 men, the remains of the 55,000 which it appears the King of Naples at first had with him. Since he could make no head against the Garibaldians with the larger number, it can hardly be expected that he will long resist the Piedmontese with the smaller. Nevertheless, it seems that all confidence is not lost; and that General Bosco and an Austrian General, who are with the King, give him hopes of a successful resistance, and talk of the damage they will inflict on the enemy by sorties. Meanwhile, the Sardinians are pushing on their works, and we may expect soon to bear of a bombardment. The garrison is represented as tolerably well supplied with provisions, which are received in Spanish vessels from Civita Vecchia and other ports. Forage running short, the horses were being killed, and to a certain extent, consumed as food. The Queen proposed remaining at Gaeta and the town the bombardment should become too hot, and would then go on board a Spanish ship. The *Gaeta Gazette* of the 20th contains an article which says that although those representative of foreign Powers who had followed the King to Gaeta had constantly declared their intention of remaining at their post no matter what should occur, His Majesty, considering the dangers attendant on their longer sojourn in the fortress, had formally requested them to retire to Rome, where they could continue to be considered as accredited to His Court.

NAPLES, Nov. 25.—Victor Emmanuel has not made that impression on the minds or the hearts of the Neapolitans which might have been desired. A rough soldier, and, perhaps, too honest a man to resort to those obsequious forms by which the Bourbons concealed the chains they threw around their subjects, he shows but little, and when he does he bows but slightly, and manifests but little anxiety to court the good opinion of the people. An instance of this was his omitting to pass through the city on Tuesday last, when the whole population were waiting for him, an offence for which His Majesty has since offered his excuses through the Sydnic. As, too, it is a great misfortune to some men to have been born after their fathers—though I shall not stop to ask whether they could by any possibility have been born before them—so it is much to be lamented that Victor Emmanuel followed immediately after such a man as Garibaldi; for, without comparing the men, the fact is undeniable that the latter had so completely taken hold of the national soul that no other place remained in which to set up another idol. What, therefore, the Sovereign has received is nothing more than the surplus of the adoration which has been offered to the subject, and it is a misfortune that it should be so in a man who presents himself in the new character of the King of Italy.

A remedy might be found, and it would seem a desiderium one, but it is precisely the extreme remedy which is often found inevitable in extreme evils; this would be a declaration of the state of siege in both Southern Kingdoms, placing the reins of Government in the hands of a strong and popular military chief like Cialdini, who should be charged with establishing public order and security at any price, until such time as the fortresses of Gaeta and Messina are rescued from the Bourbon's hands, the war with foreign Powers would be brought to an end, and the civil Government of the new provinces could be established with the sanction of the national Parliament.

These are dreary prospects for a country which aims at self-organization on liberal, popular principles. But, as the North has undertaken to meddle with the affairs of the South, care must be taken that the former be not involved in the disorders and disturbances of the latter.

The disbanding of so many troops at the close of a war which partook to a certain degree of the character of a civil contest, could not fail to be attended with its wonted results—robbery and brigandage. Again we bear serious complaints of the want of public security in the Amalfi, and especially in Ravello.

A highway robbery was lately committed at Modena by a band of ruffians who had come over by a railway train from Bologna, and belonged to the latter city. Strong measures have been taken for long time required at Bologna, but with little success. The bandits have been taken prisoners. Two engagements or skirmishes have been fought with the Tartar cavalry, who surrounded our force but had to retire with great loss. The allied army is waiting in a hostile attitude within sight of the walls of Pekin; and negotiations have again been opened up by the Chinese.

In our last Overland we mentioned that negotiations had been broken off at Tien-tsin, and that the 1st division of the force was marching upon Pekin. The Imperial Commissioners are puzzled by the demands for a permanent residence at Pekin, and for an immediate and large instalment of indemnity money. Their counter-demand for delay was met by the advance of Lord Elgin with a great portion of the allied force. Soon the town upon the march were found to be in a great part deserted, and supplies had to be taken by force.

One large town, Ho-si-wu, was completely looted by the force, and it became evident that there must be another appeal to arms. On the morning of the 18th of September Mr. Parkes and his party fell into the hands of the Chinese, and it was found that the army was surrounded by Tartar troops at the village of Ho-ko-chung. An engagement immediately took place, which caused the Tartars to retire with some loss. A second engagement took place on the 21st of September, when about 25 of our force and several hundreds of the enemy were placed at *hors de combat*. The next day a flag of truce was sent in from Pekin, and proposals were made to re-open negotiations. On the following day supplies were sent in by the Chinese for the use of the Allied army, which saved Tung-chau from being looted.

The latest news we have is by verbal communication with a French steamer which entered the Yang-tze as the mail from Shanghai was leaving. It brought intelligence from the seat of war up to the 27th or 28th of September, when the allied army was still in its position, seven or eight miles from Pekin, and two or three from Tung-chau. The statement was confirmed that the prisoners were well treated.

The rebels still continue to absent themselves from the immediate neighborhood of Shanghai. Their object in coming to that place was to be at a port where they could be in contact with foreigners and obtain foreign ammunition and arms. Having been driven from Shanghai, it is likely they will try to effect their object by advancing on one or the other ports where foreigners reside.

In the south of China there is nothing stirring, and but for the news from the north, Hongkong would have been quite dull during the past fortnight.

Count Cavour's Government are straining every nerve to raise both the army and navy to the highest degree of efficiency. Twenty new regiments of infantry, eight of Grenadiers, and 16 battalions of Bersaglieri are to be added to the force at present under arms. Two other steam frigates on the model of the *Duca di Genova*, lately launched, are to be constructed in these docks; a screw corvette is in progress at Leghorn; from England another large steam frigate is expected; and from France two iron-sheeted ones—one of 36 guns, the other smaller. There is something very like disappointment among those who built their hopes on the maritime forces likely to accrue to the national cause by the easy acquisition of the Neapolitan navy.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Nov. 24.—It is said that the French Government has recently touched on the question of the cession of Venetia, and also that its meddling in such delicate question was taken in very ill part.

According to the Vienna correspondent of the *Post-Lloyd*, the Marquis de Monistier was told by Count Rochberg that Austria had the same reasons for keeping Venetia that France had for appropriating to herself Savoy and Nice.

It is known here, and surmised, that negotiations are, and have been for some time, pending between Austria and the Western Powers with a view to induce the former to part with Venice by treaty; upon the strength of this report the maddest conjectures circulate as to the terms of the sale and the pretensions of the alleged seller. Coolheaded people, however, think that however Austria may for weeks and months daily with and enrage the parties con-

cerned, so as to gain time, she harbours not the

remorseless intention actually to give up her last Italian province for any consideration, and is in her stubbornness backed by the secret advice and encouragement of Prussia and most other German Powers, so that Italy is in that quarter looking forward for inevitable war in early spring.

An immense amount of nonsensical talk is also going on as to the prospects of a speedy solution of the other great puzzle in the matter of Italian nationality—the Roman question. It is taken for granted, of course, that the object of M. Morny's mission to Rome can be, and is, nothing else than an announcement to the Pope, on the part of the Emperor Napoleon, of his intention to withdraw the French army of occupation from