

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 Voltairians 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*.

PAMS, 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 hailed 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 prospect 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 irrefragable, 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:

"Interes magno missum marmore pontus, Emissaque hiemem 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 "Religious and Liberal," I mean but one and the same body, made up of Bishops, Legitimists, Orléanists, and even Imperialists, whose earnest 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—*nil* or *will*—to 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 *Senatus-consultum* which will be shortly published relative to the reproduction of the debates in the Senate and the *corps législatif*. This *Senatus-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, 1855, so often demanded, will be the complement of the *Senatus-consultum*, a free press being the necessary consequence of a parliament destined to reflect the lustre promised by the *regime*. The *Presse* particularly applauds the right to present an address granted to the Senate and the *corps législatif*.

Lamortiere, like all great men who achieve greatness in discharge of duty, has modestly abstracted himself from public honours, 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 respectability, and which should have for contributors writers of acknowledged talent, and without distinction of party, would acquire a 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 statement 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 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.

Press Trials in France.—The affair of the *Opinion Nationale*, about which so much has been said, came on yesterday before the Tribunal of Correctional Police. M. Guérout, 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 "U 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. Guérout 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. Guérout 1,000fr., and M. Dubuisson 100fr., 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 in *exilium*, has been recognized 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 Hortense, amid the cheering of the population."

The *Moniteur* publishes General Montauban's reports from the French headquarters in China. The General states that the prisoners of the Allied Army, who were carried to Peking, were well treated.

On the side of the French, besides some soldiers of the escort, Colonel Grandchamps, the Abbe Dulac, and M. Billault were made prisoners by the Chinese.

ITALY. Terms, 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 Farini, and of the recall of the *duce* Garibaldi by an order from on high (*dall'alto*). The arrival of regular troops in Palermo, 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 Farini 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 atrocious propensities of the chivalry of Anjou.

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 truly swarms of loafers and blackguards allowed to disgrace that cheap 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 molehills; 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 dismissed; 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 exaltation of a cheery-gone, freedom and a natural enthusiasm in favour of the Liberator saved the Kingdom, or, at least, the capital, from permanent anarchy and political collision, there was an entire absence of public security; murder and robbery stalked unchecked and unpunished abroad. Garibaldi's retirement, however, was the wind; no wonder that his 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 *Gendarmes* or *Gendarmes* is being hastily organized by Farini, 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 so able and intelligent, are few throughout Italy, they are fewer in the Two Sicilies.—*Times* Cor.

ROME.—The *Times* correspondent writes:—"As far as present appearances 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 the 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 *denouement*. 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 disastrous 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 *employes*, who, when the invader occupied first the Romagna, and then the other provinces of the Papal States, refused to serve the new and usurped authority of Cavour'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 them new situations, or to go on providing for them in their difficulty; so that the Treasury has no longer 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 appearances 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 unbelief of the durability of the Revolution, and its "Kingdom of Italy." They call it a "childish kingdom," and both religion and experience root them in the persuasion that all this will burst some day like a bubble, when the Pope shall regain his own again. Only no one can foresee how many victims will be demanded from the Moloch now in the ascendant.

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 eminently 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 settling 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 29,000 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 hear 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 until the bombardment should become too hot, and would then go on board a Spanish ship. The *Gaeta Gazette* of the 29th contains an article which says that although these representatives 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. 23.—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 Syndic. 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.—*Times* Cor.

Letters received from Naples to the 21st inst., state that a Garibaldian demonstration had taken place in the Teatro Nuovo. The same evening stated that the bands infesting the Abruzzi had been increased, partly by disbanded Royal soldiers and partly by former Garibaldians.

The only result of the recent revolution is the withdrawal of such scant respect for the laws as there was under the Bourbons. Both Bourbonists and Garibaldians having now been disbanded, the men make their way as they can, and very much as they please; while the officers are trying to retrieve or to push their fortunes by appeals to interest and favour. Meanwhile, nearly the whole civil population of the towns have taken up the profession of place-hunters. In Sicily a fabulous sum of money has been raised and spent, with nothing to show for it but an exasperated competition for the spoils of office, and a belief that the revolution is to make everybody's fortune. Many distinguished Neapolitans and Sicilians who, on the expulsion of the Bourbons, had been invited back to their homes, have returned in disgust to Northern Italy, and the only consolation come to by all men of sense is that the Two Sicilies can only be ruled by a very strong hand.—*London Times*.

From a letter in a London paper we take the following:—"Before I left Naples the Legion was completely disorganized; many of the officers had resigned in disgust, and the men were leaving in dozens, I might almost say in hundreds; and by this time I dare say there is no Legion left. And not without cause. From the first day the men landed at Naples up to the hour I left they were badly treated, and all the affairs of the corps were mismanaged in the grossest manner. You may remember that, although a few roughs had got amongst them, the great majority of the men in the Legion were gentlemen. Many of the men in the ranks had borne Her Majesty's commission in England, and had seen active service in India and the Crimea, who, animated by a love of adventure or of liberty, had come to Italy to fight for Garibaldi. Such men were severe critics of their commanding officer's acts, and to manage them required more than usual prudence, tact, and judgment. The first thing which shook their faith in Colonel Peard's ability to lead them was this. On the night of the 24th of October he ordered the men under arms at midnight for the purpose of making an attack on Capua. When they had assembled he harangued them on the glory they should win if they succeeded. Major Styles and the other officers refused to obey his orders, but two companies actually followed the colonel, who led them up to the very bastions of Capua. Fortunately, in the darkness of the night, they were not discovered by the Neapolitan sentinels, or every man of them must have been sacrificed. I marched with the Legion from St. Angelo to Teano. The men complained to me that they had received no pay. Many of them were without shoes, and I saw more than one poor fellow trudging along with his feet tied up in rags. There was no commissariat, although it was said that Colonel

Peard had been offered one, and had refused it. There were no ambulances for the sick; no medical stores. Many of the men were dying from diarrhoea, and Dr. Fairly, the surgeon of the regiment, had not one ounce of medicine of any kind, and bitterly complained to me that he could not get any. On the march back from Teano to St. Angelo, five Englishmen were found looting a farm-house by some members of Garibaldi's staff, who sent them under an escort to be dealt with as Colonel Peard should direct. He at once, without inquiry or trial of any kind, ordered the men to be shot; the picket told off for the purpose refused to obey orders, and would not fire. The Colonel sent to Garibaldi for a detachment of Italians to shoot the condemned men, as his own regiment was in a state of mutiny. Garibaldi replied that it would be a disgrace to the English if he were to do so, and asked Colonel Peard to pardon them. I do not for a moment justify the men for looting; but when they had no food and were obliged to forage for themselves, they surely deserved some kind of trial. On the same march I saw Captain Hampton guilty of an act of cruelty to one of the sergeants of his company, for which Colonel Peard should have been drummed out of the regiment, and he was not even reprimanded. Now sir, these are a few facts which came under my own observation.

A Naples correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, writing on the 17th instant, says:—"The fate of the English regiment has been decided. An order was received last Wednesday evening at Casserta, requiring that a return of the names of the soldiers who wished to return to England and the ports at which they wished to be landed, should be sent in without delay. There are not many who will not avail themselves of the opportunity. The expense of fitting out this regiment was very large, not less than £20,000, a very small part of which was subscribed in England, leaving the government of this country to pay the balance of £15,000.

MORAL CONDITION OF ITALY.—Honest, disinterested, stern, loyal men are incredibly rare in these Southern Kingdoms. "There is not one man in the whole staff of the Post Office," said a man to me (a Neapolitan), who had too good a ground for what he said, "who is not a thief." And your correspondent from Naples informs you that there are none but thieves in the service of the Neapolitan hospitals. The whole population seems to vibrate between thieving and beggary. The old leaven of ancient tyranny has penetrated into the very core of society; and we should look in vain into all Christian and European communities for a state of corruption and demoralization bearing any comparison, however remote, with that which is now rampant in the Neapolitan and Sicilian Kingdoms, as the issue from the long years of Bourbon misrule. Yet the unfortunate wretches, stirred up by Mazzinian and other unprincipled demagogues, cry out that they are being invaded, that all public offices, all the good things of their country, are falling to the lot of "foreigners," that by annexation they never meant *Piedmontization*; that the Sub-Alpine and other Northern people cannot cope with their Southern brethren in the gifts of high intelligence and brilliant faculties; and that it is too hard a fate that the Ionians and the Athenians of Italy should have to be overruled and dominated by its mere Bootians and Macedonians. This outcry against Piedmontese inroad and Piedmontese monopoly is eagerly taken up by the Tuscans and Lombards, upon whom the worst blow among the disbanded Garibaldians are now blowing hot and cold, and the good understanding and harmony of Italian patriotism are everywhere seriously compromised.

A remedy might be found, and it would seem a desperate 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 *Amilia*, and especially in Romagna. 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 for a long time required at Bologna. The state of that town in what concerns public security is becoming more and more intolerable. Robberies take place mostly in full daylight in the main streets, with hardly any interference on the part of the police.—"It is," says our informant, an undoubted partisan of the present order of things, "a downright shame that so conspicuous a town of the Kingdom should be brought to such a condition. If the measures which are found sufficient for other towns are of no avail for Bologna, let exceptional means be resorted to; even in open violation of common police regulations; let there be one or two police agents stationed at the corner of every street; let any amount of money be spent for this object, and Government may rely on the support and approbation of the people." They manage these matters much better in these old provinces; roads and streets are as safe in Piedmont and Liguria as in any civilized community. A miserable wretch, just released from gaol, after expiating his offence, was driven by want the other day to coast a priest at the corner of Via della Rocca, in Turin, under pretence of begging; he had barely ventured on a threat of violence when he was pounced upon by the *gendarmes* and made all safe again.

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 a delicate question was taken in very ill part. According to the Vienna correspondent of the *Pesth Lloyd*, the Marquis de Montsurieux was told by Count Rechberg that Austria had the same reasons for keeping Venetia that France had for appropriating to herself Savoy and Nice. It is known here, or 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 enjole the parties con-

cerned, so as to gain time, she harbours not the remotest intention actually to give up her last Italian province for any consideration, and is in her stubbornness backed by the secret advice and 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 Rome. It is added that Count Morny addressed to the Pope a speech all wrapped up in diplomatic phrases, conveying to His Holiness this meaning—that, as the Emperor was moved by the remonstrances of friendly Powers, objecting to his interference in the Patrimony of St. Peter at the present juncture, he had come to the resolution of withdrawing his troops. Lest, however, revolution should dare to outrage the venerable person of the Pontiff, the Emperor advised him to retire from Rome, and offered to screen him by his protection, to whatever quarter of the Globe he might wish to betake himself. The Pope answered, it is said, with that serenity and trust in Providence which is habitual with him—that "in supreme moments he only consulted God and his conscience; that as yet he had come to no decision; that he thanked the Emperor for his good very good will towards him, but that in this world he feared God and his conscience, and had no other fear."—*Times* Cor.

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin of the 23d says:—"The King of Naples some time since solicited a loan of money from certain courts. Several Governments have accorded him their sympathies on account of the tenacity of his resistance. The King of Saxony sent decorations to Gaeta—others offered prayers for him, but nobody has given money. Who would give money when even the Catholics cannot find sufficient for the Pope, and when the Cardinals are forced to diminish their style of living? The French Government wishes to delay the fall of Gaeta in order to perform an act of courtesy to the Emperor Alexander of Russia, and to make Victor Emmanuel feel that he cannot dispense with its powerful protection; but the Emperor Napoleon will not give money to Francis II., and neither Russia nor Prussia can give him any. The days of Francis II. are consequently numbered. The Italian question is reduced to the simple question, "Shall the new King be acknowledged by the Great Powers?" England will acknowledge him at once. France will shortly follow that example, and induce Russia to do the same. As for Prussia, she will hesitate for a time, and then bend in presence of accomplished facts. The sole danger which menaces Prussia and Germany is an attack by Victor Emmanuel on Venetia with the support of France. The English Government is using every exertion to induce the Emperor of Austria to sell Venetia. Francis Joseph and the Grand Dukes reject these proposals with indignation; but there are Austrian statesmen who would very much desire to see the Emperor accept such an offer. Among others of this opinion are said to be the Baron de Hubner and M. Schimmling.

RUSSIA. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* expressed itself very strongly against Lord J. Russell's Italian Despatch of Oct. 27th, and asks what would be the consequence if his doctrines of public law were put in practice by the inhabitants of Ireland and the Ionian Islands.

SPAIN.

The sword presented on the 19th Nov., by the Queen of Spain, was to Marshal O'Donnell.

CHINA.

The London mail of the 27th of August arrives here on the 9th inst.

The news which we have to convey by this mail is of very great importance. Hostilities have been resumed in the north. Mr. Harry Parkes, Mr. Loch, Lord Elgin's private secretary; Mr. de Norman, attaché to Mr. Bruce; Captain Brabazon, Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General, and Captain Anderson, of Fane's Horse, 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 Peking; and negotiations have again been opened up by the Chinese.

In our last Overland we mentioned that negotiations had been broken off at Tientsin, and that the 1st division of the force was marching upon Peking. The Imperial Commissioners are puzzled by the demands for a permanent residence at Peking, and for an immediate and large instalment of indemnity money. Their counter-demand for debt was met by the advance of Lord Elgin with a great portion of the allied force. Soon the terms 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 15th 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-chungang. 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 Peking, 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-chang from being looted. The latest news we have is by verbal communication with a French steamer which entered the Yang-tse 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 Peking, and two or three from Tung-chang. 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.

A REPORTING MACHINE IN PROSPECT.—The Abbe Laborde has invented an apparatus for registering sounds much less costly than a hitherto made. The invention is interesting, since it is a step toward the invention of machines which shall gradually advance from registering sounds to registering syllables and words. As soon as the wit of man has invented a machine as delicate as the human ear, we shall have reporting machines. The idea is certainly far less astonishing than that of the daguer-type before its invention. If the vibrations of light, so much finer than those of sound, are made to register themselves with such wonderful accuracy, why may not the vibrations of sound be made to do the same?