

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

The following is the letter of *Times* Paris correspondent, dated 14th Oct. "The prospect of a pacific solution with Portugal is brighter since yesterday. I suspect that my anticipation about the 'raggy' nature of the affair will prove true. Ministers, as you are already informed, met in Council yesterday at St. Cloud; and the result was that the offer of mediation was accepted, conditionally. This I sent you last night by telegraph. I sent also this morning another telegram, announcing that the Coligny steamer, lately at Bayonne, was to leave L'Orient on the 15th (to-morrow) for Lisbon, with M. de Pienna, Secretary of the French Legation, and that M. de Paiva, Portuguese Minister at this Court, was to leave Paris this evening for Nantes, and embark to-morrow on board of the steamerpacket also for Lisbon. What are the conditions of accepting the mediation I cannot say; but it is satisfactory to find that the Emperor's presence has moderated the ardour of his Ministers. I have already noticed the insinuation that England had been the prime mover in the Charles-Gorges affair, and that Portugal was but her instrument. It is, I believe, totally untrue. It is hardly probable that at this time England would, *de pure gaieté de cœur*, engage herself in this quarrel; and I much doubt whether the present Cabinet thinks itself sufficiently secure to make such experiments. On the contrary, I am disposed to believe what is said about the earnest advice given by her to Portugal to settle the matter quietly and quickly.

The slave trade is a question which always excites much interest in England; and Ministers probably are of opinion they have enough on their hands without having this also. If M. Walewski fancies that he detects the hand of Lord Malmesbury in the capture of the *Charles-Gorges* he is mistaken. It is true we have treaties with Portugal—for instance, perpetual defensive alliance was concluded at Lisbon on the 16th of May, 1703, between the British and Portuguese Governments, and ratified at Windsor on the 12th of July following.

The French Government has received accounts from Tetuan, in Morocco, announcing that the Spanish Consul in that place and French Vice-Consul had been assassinated. The first was a Moor and the second a Frenchman, who had been for a long time established at Tetuan. It is believed that the two Governments will adopt energetic measures to obtain satisfaction.

Whilst the recent visit of Prince Napoleon to the Emperor Alexander, at Warsaw, is still described, in official circles in France, as one of mere courtesy, some of the organs of the Russian Government maintain that it has a high political significance. The *Nord* asserts that it is a highly important event, particularly when one takes into consideration "the efforts of Austria to bring about a closer connection between the Courts of St. Petersburg and Vienna, or at least to make believe that such a rapprochement is imminent." The same journal also adds that the visit to Alexander II. cannot fail to cement the bonds of esteem and affection which unite the sovereigns of Russia and of France since their interview at Stuttgart.

It is rumoured that the Empress Eugenie has a strong desire to visit Rome, to receive the personal benediction of the Pope, and that the Emperor will accompany Her Majesty.

The anniversary of La Salette, celebrated on the 18th September, forms the subject of an able, an interesting, and, as far as possible, unprejudiced communication from a correspondent of the *Guardian*, who has the candour to admit that however "surprising" and, to a Protestant mind, "inexplicable" the miracle may be, "it would be equally or more wonderful to suppose that direct imposture could have been at the bottom of it and remain undetected." Naturally enough, he endeavours to explain it away; but admits, as "the only reasonable supposition," that "the children did see something extraordinary," adding, "but then the question remains, what was it, and how is it to be explained?"—a question he does not attempt to answer. Of course he has no faith in the miracle; but, unbeliever as he is, he confesses the sublimity of the celebration, and pities the man "who could look on such a scene with only the cold eye of a sceptic."

Touching, indeed, was the sight of the long continuous streams of pilgrims wending their way up to *The Holy Mountain*, pausing at the chapels oratories which line the pathway to purify themselves by prayer, or with longing eyes fixed on the crosses, "twinkling on the mountain verge," which mark the site of the Sanctuary, and where those who have already gained the ascent are performing the "Way of the Cross," or drinking from the stream which flowed at Our Lady's feet when she made her miraculous communication. Touching, the sight of such devotion as English eyes look for in vain in their own land; of the Holy Sacrifice offered up throughout the night; the "preachings, instructions, confessions," the blessing of *objets de piete*; and the still arriving trains of men and women thronging from all quarters, and raising "the universal song of praise, and its burden of 'Marie, Marie, priez pour nous!'" Young and old, the halt, the lame, and the blind, fared gladly towards a sanctuary 4,000 feet in elevation; and all appealing to you "as coming to, or going from the Holy Mountain, in the name of 'Our Lady, the Reconciler.'" Touching and sublime, the Procession, when the whole body of the Clergy, with Cross and Banner, issued from the Church, and marched round the Enclosure and up the Sacred Way, the people with lighted tapers lining the hills in groups "echoing back the responses to the deep chant of the choir." And sublime, too, that Solemn High Mass in the open air, the assembled thousands uncovered and on their knees, the snow-clad peaks of the mountains rising all round them, and the Statute of our Lady standing where she herself had stood, attended thither by a procession in which nearly a thousand Priests took part, Crosses and Banners entwined with flowers carried by females in white, and long lines of men and women following separately behind. We do not quarrel with

the correspondent of the *Guardian* for not looking upon this with the eye of Faith. Allowing for this, want, he has dealt with the subject in a spirit as creditable as it is rare. *Tablet*.  
 PRISON: ENGLISH.—From a book just published in Paris, entitled *The New Guide of the Conversation in Portuguese and English*, and purporting to present the reader with a "choice of familiar dialogues clear of Gallicisms," the *Athenaeum* of last week makes some amusing extracts. Of such a work, the writers say, "it was missing yet to studios Portuguese and Brazilian youth," and they add, "we sought all we may do to correct that want."  
 We did not put a great variety new expressions to English and Portuguese idioms: without to attach ourselves (as make some others) almost at a literal translation increasing this second edition with a phraseology in the first part, and to second a Coin's index. etc. The works which we were conferring for this labor, found use for nothing; but those which were publishing to Portugal, or out, they were almost all composed for some foreign, or for some national little acquainted with the spirit of both languages. It was resulting from that carelessness to rest those works fill of imperfections, etc. We expect then, who the little book, (for the care what we wrote him, and for her typographical correction) that may be worth the acceptance of the studios persons, and especially of the youth, at which we dedicate him particularly."

We subjoin some other amusing instances of good English.  
 "Look a hare who run! do let him to pursue for the hounds! it go one's self in the ploughed land.—Here that it rouse. Let aim it! let make fire him!—Me! I have failed it: my gun have miss fire."  
 "That pond it seems me many multiplied of fishes. Silence! there is a superb perch. Give me quick the rod." You mistake you, it is a frog, etc."  
 "It delay me to eat some walnuts; take care not leave to pass the season."—"Be tranquil. I shall throw you any nuts during the shell is green yet." "The artichokes grow it?" I have a particular care of its, because I know you like the bottoms."  
 This is the advice he gives a friend who is suffering from toothache:—"I shall you next also your mouth, and you could care entertain it clean, for to preserve the mangel of the teeth."

Of French he says, "the french language becomes us all days too much necessary." And he favors us with a specimen of the "familiar letters of French writers."—"Racine to M. Vitart:—My uncle what will to treat her beshop in a great sumptuousness, he was go Avignon for to buy what one not should find there, and he had leave me the charge to provide all things, etc." "Fleicher at Mme. of the Rouré.—Moei was impatient, madam, at do you my compliment on your wedding; more pleasure I have to do you to day. The heaven seems, since several years, to go for on to prepare you a husband who might be worthy you. It was give you at him, the happiness it is like of one and another pars. Think which benedictions shall be followed the union of two hearts well matched!"

He enlivens his conversation at times with "English proverbs." He tells us that—"He has a part in the Coke," that "The difference is the mother to security," and that "He turns as a wealth tucel" for "who is alike, to meet one's."

But his chief pleasure appears to be derived from anecdotes, and we will allow him before he takes leave of us to narrate a few of them.—"Two friends who from long they not were seen meet one's selves for hazard."—"How do is thou" told one of the two "No very well," told the other "and I am married from that I saw thee." "Good news!" "Not quite, because I had married with a bad woman." "So much worse!" "Not so much deal worse: because her dower was from two thousand levis." "Well that comfort." "Not absolutely; why I had employed this sum for to buy some muttons, which are all dead of the rot." "That is indeed very sorry." "Not so sorry, because the selling of hers hide have bring me above the price of the muttons." "So you are then indemnified?" "Not quite, because my house where I was deposed my money, finish to be consumed of the flames." "Oh! here is a great misfortune." "Not so great nor I either, because my wife and my house are burned together."

## ITALY.

A letter from Rome says:—"General Count de Goyon, Commander-in-Chief of the French troops in this city, arrived here on the 1st, and resumed his functions. From a sentiment of propriety, the General refused, in consequence of the residence of the Holy Father in the city, to receive any of the honors due to his grade and position. This decision was made known to the troops beforehand by General Count de Noue. The next day the Commander-in-Chief held a grand reception, at which the principal French and Pontifical officers were present."

THE VATICAN GREEK TESTAMENT.—At last this long expected work, which has for the last twenty years sorely tried the patience of the Biblical scholars of Europe and America, has made its appearance.—The Vatican codex—the queen of MSS.—to inspect which Bentley, Tischendorf, Tregelles, and many others have made journeys to Rome—is no longer a sealed book, an unknown volume. Here are its whole contents given to the world, and available to all who can afford to pay the goodly price at which the work is published. As the title-page announces, the MS. is edited by Cardinal Mai, to whose laborious industry we are indebted for many other valuable works. Although but recently published, it has been long known that this edition of the Greek Scriptures had been printed some years. The Cardinal showed Tischendorf the whole five volumes ready for publication in 1843. And from the work itself we learn that it was printed as far back as the year 1838.—Various reasons have been suggested to explain this unaccountable delay. Dr. Tregelles says that when Rome was in the hands of the Republican Government, and the authority of the Pope could no longer hinder the appearance of useful works, Cardinal Mai offered the impression for sale to Mr. Asher, the publisher, at Berlin; but the terms named by the Cardinal were deemed too high, and thus the negotiation came to nothing. The French occupation of Rome, and the restoration of the Papal Government soon prevented Cardinal Mai from publishing his edition; and thus Biblical scholars have been doomed to wait another ten years for this precious boon. Now that it is in our hands, it is melancholy to reflect that the learned editor did not live to see the consummation of his labours, and that the work was finally sent forth to the world, under the superintendence of another. The work is well and handsomely got up. The type is very good, and the paper very stout, and capable of being written on. The text of the MS. is comprised in five stout quarto volumes, of which four contain the Old Testament, the fifth the New. The Old Testament—the Septuagint translation—is, of course, valuable, having never before been correctly published; but the New Testament is, beyond all comparison, that which renders this work so especially important. On this account it is much to be regretted that the one cannot be separated from the other. The Old and New Testaments must be bought together. As the cost of the work is rather considerable—nine pounds—this is a serious matter to scholars, a race not usually burdened with wealth. It is true an edition of the New Testament alone, in smaller size, is announced as to follow hereafter; but the editor adds, some considerable time will probably first elapse. The Vatican codex thus at length given to the world—we need scarcely say—is generally regarded as the most ancient copy of the Greek Scriptures in existence.—*British Quarterly Review* for October.

Mutual suspicion and consequently increasing armaments, on the part of Austria on the one hand, and of Russia and France and Sardinia on the other seem to threaten the peace in Italy. Sardinia hates Austria and foolishly thinks that she might gain advantages over her foe by a general European conflagration. Her journals speak of an alliance between Russia, France,

and herself to humble Austria, and the appearance of Russian ships of war on the Italian coast; and the perfection of the French army corps in Rome, certainly have increased the insane hopes of the Italian party. Austria replies by increasing her military forces at the annual review near the Lago Maggiore.—*Tablet*.

## SPAIN.

According to the *Epoch*, the Government will recognise the rights of the Church to possess and acquire property.

## RUSSIA.

The *Universal German Gazette* says:—"The presence of the Emperor Alexander at Warsaw forms a new phase in the political state of affairs, as far as regards the relation of the Court of Vienna and St. Petersburg. It can be no longer concealed that all the hopes which had been formed of a reconciliation between Russian and Austria have completely vanished. It is certain that Austria had manifested her desire to be on a friendly footing with Russia; but those conciliatory advances have been received with so much coolness and reserve that all idea of fresh ones has been given up, and it has been decided to only observe in a political point of view the relations of two nations who are at peace. It is in this sense that the mission of General Schaffgotsch to Vienna must be regarded. It is only an insignificant act of conventional courtesy, while if the Archduke William had gone to Warsaw it would have been an event of great political importance."

CONVERSION OF RUSSIA TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH.—This glorious dream is well calculated to inspire with feelings of joy all true Catholics who have learnt to know and love the Russian people. The Russian nation is most interesting, and it is singular that schismatics, civilised by the 18th century, should have preserved so many precious qualities. But God alone can transform into reality the dream of the conversion of Russia. Let us not forget that in her actual state she is given up to error, and hostile to our faith as to our greatness. The unheard of extension of her power forbids us to second its increase. We have checked her progress in the Black Sea, but she has since then seized on vast tracts in Northern Asia. Let us not forget the disasters we have experienced since two and a-half centuries from our devotion to the Protestant alliance, an error which led to the creation of German Pantheism, the father of the French revolution, and to the preponderance of England, that is, of the European revolution. As long as Russia remains schismatical she will prove dangerously hostile to the interests of France.—*Univers*.

## PRUSSIA.

The Prince of Prussia is lately installed as Regent, and he has inaugurated his government by the dismissal of Herr Von Westphalen, Minister of the Interior, who has been replaced provisionally by Baron Von Flottwell, a change which seems to have created some satisfaction. The Prince Regent has hitherto been a well abused personage, but now that he has assumed the government of the country, his enemies as well as friends are discovering that he is a man of ability, and likely to govern sensibly and liberally.—*Weekly Register*.

The present excitement in Prussia has a deeper cause than the inevitable disarrangement which a change in the person and in the immediate entourage of a ruler causes in every State, and which is the greater according as the Sovereign's share in the Government is larger and more direct. Frederick William the 4th we had almost called him the late King, of whose recovery all hopes are now abandoned, came to the Throne under most favourable auspices. The patience of a large portion of his subjects had been sorely tried by his predecessors. They had looked forward to his accession as the beginning of a new order of things. To a great extent he fulfilled their expectations. But the years 1848-9, were fatal to his reputation. Tempted by his ambition, he became unfaithful to the cause of the Kings; overpowered by his timidity, he deserted the cause of the Revolution. The energy of the Count de Brandenburg, and the fidelity of his troops, saved his Crown, but his career was closed. Prussia has since been governed in his name by a party which is understood to have none of the sympathies of the new ruler. Once, indeed, the Prince of Prussia was considered the chief of the anti-popular faction, and his enforced absence from Prussia was a concession to the mob; but, somehow or other, the chief of the aristocratic party is considered to have changed his views, and has obtained the good word of all the enemies of religion and authority, who expect that he will surround himself with "Liberal" advisers.—*Tablet*.

## SWEDEN.

The most repulsive manifestations of superstition, which, as a thousand historical examples teach, have in all times distinguished the soil of Scandinavia, are again appearing in horrible prominence. During last summer pilgrims from every quarter have journeyed to Upsala to hear their fortunes told by a miraculous child, a Clairvoyante, and a pamphlet published in Stockholm about this prophetic has been spread over the country in innumerable copies. But the gloomiest accounts of all come from the Dales of Sweden (Dalarne). The last accounts say:—

"The Provost, Dr. Hyasser, in Leksand, has been authorised by his Chapter to institute an inquiry concerning abuses of superstition and witchcraft in Gagnef and the borders of Mokjard." The pamphlet alluded to says:—"The old journeys to Blakulla have set in again, after a hundred years' intermission, and have revived in the Dales. The magic horn is grasped once more, and the flight to the top of the church steeple is winged with lightning speed, and thence to a sacred spot, where a bond is made with the Prince of Darkness, with a pen dipped in blood, which is taken from the little finger of the victim, writ—'the latter's name in his book. It is just as in the days of old, when, in order to be hurried alive, it was only necessary to be a light-weight. But there is some difference. Blackulla is not talked about, but instead, we have Joseph's Dale, which is said to be in the vicinity of Stockholm. The journey thither is so managed that the child who undertakes it is first changed into a worm inside a room; it then creeps out of a hole in the window; assumes the form of a magpie, and at last becomes a child again. It then rides on the skin of a cow or a calf to the top of the church steeple, taking meal with it, which accompanies it to Joseph's Dale, and is there made into 'Wellings,' and devoured at the banquet."

In olden times, meal was scraped off the church bells, with the dread sentence: 'May my soul never enter the Kingdom of God till this meal is again a bell!'

Satan is called Nors, or Norsgubbe (Gubbe means the Old man). In the dance he is said to wear hairy boots, which he occasionally flings off his legs when the speed is "fast and furious."

With the exception of a few women, only children talk of the journey to Josephdale, and the bond called Norsgubbe. The greater part of the children in Mokjard's border parish (50 to 100) are more or less a prey to these delusions, and some of them narrate circumstantially a quantity of extravagances about the journey to the banquet. But they do not appear to suffer from these hideous fancies, but to be well and cheerful. On the other hand, a deep despair has seized the parents to see their children thus falling into the hands of the Prince of Darkness, and making themselves over to him body and soul.—Those parents, whose children know nothing of the flight through the air, but are named by others as their companions, plague and horribly torment the little ones to extract admissions. Thus a little boy, Grabo Pehr, who has been several times in Joseph's Dale, said he had seen there a girl whose mother met him, and to prove the truth of his assertion, he said that at the banquet in Joseph's Dale the girl had spurted some "Wellings" in her face, and this was the reason why her wound did not heal. The little girl really had a bad sore close to her eye, and it was

constantly swelling and would not heal. Pehr's story made a deep impression on the superstitious mother, who was beside herself with fear. The little girl herself knew nothing of a journey to Joseph's Dale, or any "wellings," and could not be got by her mother to acknowledge anything. The excitement among the children has now (end of June) fortunately abated "considerably," and will probably die out. On the other hand, symptoms of physical disease are said to have appeared in the neighboring parishes. The elder portion of the population were still in exceedingly depressed spirits, and calm and composure are not likely to be soon restored. It was from 1668 to 1673 that the magic and witchcraft trials in Dalarne (Dalecarlia) convulsed the land. People then believed that they had been taken by old women to Blakulla (a mystic spot like the German 'Blockberg'), that they had conversed with Satan, and inscribed themselves in his book with their blood. A fanatic rage seemed to seize the whole nation; the most solemn steps were taken; commissions were appointed; the witches were tried and judged, beheaded and burned alive (15 women were burned at once at Mora in Dalecarlia). Even Stjernhook and Lundin, the greatest jurists of the day, saw Satan enter the room through the shut door and present himself to them with a smell of brimstone. The delusion invested several provinces. Mr. Thomas Carlyle, who is so fond of contrasting the countries which embraced, with those which rejected the Reformation, or, as he would say, preferred God's truth to the Devil's lie, has great reason to be proud of Sweden.

## TURKEY.

From the East, the Telegram brings word that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has been instructed to express the regret of the English Government for the bombardment of Jeddah; an act of simple justice, to be followed, it is said, by an indemnity, as far as indemnity can be given, to those who suffered by it to use the mildest term, that horrible mistake. If this telegram is confirmed, it will be much to the honour of Lord Derby's Government that it has dared to be just—a rare policy in British dealings in the East.

## INDIA.

It appears that large numbers of the European troops in India have become Catholics. The correspondent of the *Morning Post* not unnaturally expresses his regret at this, whilst other papers speak with satisfaction of the profession of any form of Christianity by the soldiers. We shall not be expected to regret this, and still less do we feel any occasion for surprise. Such results follow wherever the Gospel is preached, and the courage and self-devotion of the Catholic Chaplain is so much better, or at least more signally illustrated in the camp, amid the privations of a campaign, and the perils of a field of battle, than amongst more peaceful scenes, that his life and ministrations declare his mission, and the sheep gather round the true shepherd.—*Tablet*.

The following is the letter of the *Times* Calcutta correspondent:—

"CALCUTTA, SEPT. 9.—There is nothing to arouse it in the history of the war. Your Bombay correspondent will have informed you a fortnight since of General Roberts' tardy victory, and the different stages reached by the rebels in their flight from the Banas are of little interest to the English public.—The general position may be thus described. The rebels, some 5,000 strong, chiefly cavalry, and commanded by Tantia Toppe, have crossed the Chumbul in their retreat, and seized Thakra Patun, a little town to the extreme south of the Kotah district. They are trying to force their way back to Central India, but the distance is great. General Roberts is close behind, and they will be met at all points. There are no more fortresses to be seized, and the army of Gwalior must either dissolve or melt into the crowd of half armed, half-disciplined, aimless ruffians, who are disturbing the Saugor territory. These latter are said to have reoccupied Garraoota, a statement not officially confirmed, and which even if confirmed, is of little importance. The anarchy will last till the Commander-in-Chief can send troops, and then it will disappear as if it had never existed. A band, some 1,500 strong, recently robbed a mail near Saugor, and tried to steal some commissariat carts.—Captain Finch, with 200 of the 31st Native Infantry, 80 sowars, and a few policemen, attacked them, took 72 prisoners, and saved the carts. In any other country, and even in India at any other time, dacoities of this kind would be put down by the police.—So again you will doubtless receive accounts of disturbances in Etawah, Gorumuckpo, and the Doab generally. They are much to be regretted, as indicating the utter disorganisation of our regular machinery but politically they have not half the importance of an Orange riot in Belfast. The war, as a war, is confined to Northern Oude, the Gouda district, the route between Oude and Shahabad, and Shahabad itself. The former is to be settled in the forthcoming campaign, and the latter at once. Meanwhile Central Oude is settling down, and I have seen letters from Mr. Montgomery stating that the country, the moment our troops have passed through it, becomes as tranquil as if no rebellion had occurred. Maun Singh however, is giving a great deal of trouble. He professes warm friendship, but will obey no order, take no advice, and, above all, will not go to Lucknow.—He is playing a game which is too fine for his intellect, and I suspect has nearly worn out the patience of the Governor-General. In Shahabad affairs do not improve. The Camel Corps, under Colonel Turner, on the 20th of August, cut up a party at Balleah, and Brigadier Douglas, on the 21st, hunted another body, who had seized a European officer at Russarah, into the Gogra. The centre of the guerilla warfare, however, the wedge-shaped territory between the Ganges and the Soane is still unapproachable. The Commander-in-Chief, however, has at last issued orders for the collection of a force adequate to the work.—Three European regiments will be posted, so as to prohibit flight across the base line of the triangle, while two regiments of Sikh Irregulars are sent to hunt the rebels through the jungle. This plan, it carried out must succeed in the end, but Shahabad and Behar have been for 11 months practically in the hands of the rebels. One reason of our failures, doubtless has been the insufficiency of the force employed, not to beat the enemy but to cover the extent of country; but it must not be forgotten that Col. Eyre last year did effect most thoroughly the ends we now fail to secure. It is a General that is required rather than more men, and red tape is still powerful. Colonel Eyre has been appointed agent for the powder manufactory at Ishapore, 16 miles from Calcutta. Mr. Grant, President in Council, knowing the factory might be entrusted to far superior hands, proposed, I believe, officially to send Colonel Eyre to clear Behar, but the proposal was rejected, and the man who has actually once cleared the province is kept at his desk checking accounts of powder. Do not imagine that Colonel Eyre is badly treated. The Agency is exceedingly coveted, being worth as much as a regimental command. It is the State, not the individual, which suffers from a waste of power, caused (the critics say) chiefly by dislike of Company's officers."

I mentioned in my last letter that Mr. Montgomery was endeavoring to improve Lucknow. I have since received a more minute account of the reforms by which he is restoring the most beautiful city in India to more than its ancient splendor. The earthworks constructed by the enemy are being removed, and the trenches filled up. All houses shattered by our artillery are pulled down, and new broad roads traverse the city from end to end. A broad esplanade has been built on each side of the Goomtee, and no inhabitant is allowed to throw anything into the river. The fortifications, which are very extensive, are built on the plan suggested by Colonel Napier; they commence at the iron bridge, which is protected by two guns, and defended by a detachment of Europeans, who are housed in the neighboring barracks, just erected. Between the iron and stone bridges a great wall has been thrown up, so that, in the event of an *ennemi*, the garrison would be protected from

the fire from the city as they passed from post to post. The stone bridge is the *Maché*. Bhawanee magazine having been blown up, on the 1st of July, 1857. The old fort is enlarged and improved, and will be mounted with a battery sufficient to destroy the town. From the fort, to the Chaurahga Bridge on the *Cawnpore* side, two broad straight roads are being cut, which will be commanded by our guns from end to end, thus securing communication with the Grand Trunk Road. The great Imambara of Asoph Ood Dowlah and adjoining mosques have been taken into the fortification, but improved and rendered healthy by the destruction of the hovels which interrupted the view of the city. The Kaiserbagh and all the palaces are carefully preserved, but they have been irreparably injured, and the great hall of audience, into which no European was allowed to enter, is now crowded twice a week by some 500 soldiers, who are amused by theatrical entertainments, very fairly performed. The city is intensely quiet, and Mr. Montgomery has introduced a regular patrolling police, on the London model, with a European superintendent and a native Christian inspector to each division. Strict rules, too, have been introduced for cleanliness, and necessities—things totally unknown in India, where the people are still primitive—have been planted all over the city, and fines inflicted for any refusal to use them. In short, Mr. Montgomery is using absolute power wisely, and in another year will have turned the Indian Sodom into the most European of Asiatic cities. His achievement is the more remarkable, because we have as yet sadly neglected our Indian cities. Even Calcutta has not a wharf, a jetty, a crane, an avenue, a pavement, a gutter, or a system of drainage. We have only just introduced gas, and still drink water brought up in goatskins from ponds in which every body bathes, and which are usually covered with slime.

"The last telegram from Allahabad announces that the 69th Native Infantry and 62d Native Infantry, disarmed at Mooltan, had risen, murdered the Adjutant of the Bombay Fusiliers and four artillerymen, and made off. These men were mentioned in the evidence given on the trial of the mutineers in the 10th Punjabees at Dhera Ismael Khan. They can do little harm without allies, but the movement justifies Sir J. Lawrence's determination to dissolve the disarmed regiments in the Punjab. They are to be discharged at the rate of 20 a day, and marched to their homes under police surveillance. They are busy, it is said, corrupting the Sikhs, and the Chief Commissioner will bear the anxiety no longer. One or two regiments, supposed to be faithful, are to be re-armed—a dangerous expedient, and one which will probably be abandoned on the news of the outbreak at Mooltan. Discharge is perhaps hard upon the men if they are faithful, but it is certain that they knew of the conspiracy going on, and equally certain that they would not march against their comrades. Their discharge will release four European regiments greatly wanted for other work. Some slight steps have also been taken towards reorganisation, but they are ludicrously inadequate. The system of promotion to command by seniority has been abolished. No colonel will be appointed who is not thoroughly qualified by ability, tact, and knowledge of and regard for the natives. Unfortunately, as the regiments have mutilated before, the order for improving their colonels come a little late in the day. It is, however, applicable to the smaller presidencies, where it will create some sensation. Hitherto the command of a regiment, though not in theory a right of the senior, has in practice been as much his own as his private property. Mr. Peacock has also introduced a bill giving colonels the power to degrade or dismiss any native officers or Sepoy, to order unlimited extra drill, with a pack or without, and to inflict seven days' solitary confinement. The bill is laughably inadequate to the emergency, but Mr. Peacock promises a revision of the native articles of war at some future period. Meanwhile the Bengal army is extinct, and not one of these rules apply to the miscellaneous crowd of 'levies,' 'horse,' 'Sikhs,' 'Punjabees,' and 'hill men,' who have supplanted it. The only use of the act is to prove that the Government is determined not to adopt the policy which *The Times*, in common with all not connected by personal interests or prejudices with the Bengal army, has advocated—that of dispensing with the Sepoy army altogether."

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"Another unpleasant affair of a different kind has also ended. Since the arrival of the forces in Oct. last it has been customary to place the women and children in depot at Dumdund, the Artillery station five miles from Calcutta. In March Colonel Reid remonstrated that he was overcrowded, but still there was great difficulty in providing for the women, and they were sent in till at one time the number rose to 1,800 women and children. The station is too near Calcutta, recruits were carelessly located in the station, arrack cost about 13 a bottle, and what with vice among the bad, and drinking among the depressed, the station was soon in a fit state for an epidemic. The hot weather came, the rains bringing almost universal dysentery among the children, for whom no space was allowed—and in overcrowded barracks, filled with stench such as a fortnight ago drove out orderly officers sick to fainting, 500 women and children died. The action of Government was far from creditable. The moment the facts were known, Mr. Henry Ricketts, Member of Council, drove to the station, inspected the barracks, and on his return wrote a minute which produced an instant official Commission of Inquiry. The women are to be scattered, but the mischief has already been accomplished."

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