

AUSTRIA.

The following extracts from a correspondent of the *Chronotype*, will be read with interest —
VIENNA, Nov 11, 1848

The state of siege,—that great remedy for revolutions,—was never applied with more rigor than in Vienna. The city is paying dearly for its unquiet propensities. Industry and commerce are dead, and social life is almost suspended. The number of persons who must become paupers is enormous. Several branches of labour which employed large numbers of persons are entirely stopped. For instance, there were about ten thousand workers in ivory who made fancy articles for which there is no longer a market, an equal or greater number who made fancy lamps are also out of work, and the same is true of other similar trades. The city depended for its prosperity not so much on its commercial position as on the fact that some thirty thousand noble and wealthy families spent their incomes here. Now the Emperor and Court are gone never to return, and the nobility are gone with them. In addition to this, the two great markets for Austrian fabrics, Hungary and Italy, are shut up. The consequence is that Vienna is ruined. To remedy the present distress of the laborers the Common Council have undertaken to provide labor for the unemployed, or at any rate to keep them from starving. Men are to receive 15 kreuzers (12½ cents) a day, women that have children to provide for the same, and others 10 kreuzers. On this scanty pittance thousands who have hitherto lived in comparative comfort will drag through the next six months of misery. Hitherto the Vienna workmen have been comparatively well off; they have had better wages than those of other large cities, and been accustomed to better living.

Here in Vienna, as well as every where else, the revolution interfered sadly with the pleasure of the few travellers who wish to see the Art as much as the armies of Europe. The Belvedere has been turned into barracks, the pictures have been covered so as to be safe in this Vandahish use of the galleries and all the private collections are closed; indeed some of them are quite dispersed, their owners having taken every means of getting them out of the dangers of the siege. The houses of the ambassador were chosen as the safest depositories of these treasures, and when they will be restored to their places and again opened to the public is uncertain. One thing however cannot be boxed up or turned into barracks. I mean St. Stephen's church. There the lover of art may satiate himself. It is in all respects one of the finest churches in Europe, but the interior is especially grand and impressive. The stone is nearly black with age, and the mighty pillars mount with an awful heaviness to the high arches of the roof. I never felt fully the "dim religious light," till I stood in the aisles. The doors are open through the day and I hardly ever pass it without going in, there are always worshippers kneeling on the pavement or kissing the lathed door of a chapel where lamps are constantly kept burning before some relics of sanctity. I went in the other evening just after dark. In the body of the church, here and there, lamps were hanging, giving just light enough to render distinct the outlines of objects in their immediate vicinity. The candles on the altar were lighted and a crowd of people were gathered around it. It was a very fine scene, and as I went in I heard the shrill voice of the priest chanting and the hoarse and quick response of the people at regular intervals. The effect of the whole was overwhelming, it was dramatic beyond description.

Correspondence

To the Editors of the Cross.

GENTLEMEN,—

As an old Subscriber and admirer of your valuable little Journal, I read your recent articles on the wanton attack lately made by some old woman here on our great and good Pope, with all the attention they deserve. I hope you will forgive me when I say that it is a pity to waste so much valuable powder and shot on game so contemptible. I also think that you might have commented on the speeches delivered, without introducing the name of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for it is not alleged that he said anything offensive on the occasion.—Parson Unacko's hatred of his native Country and of the Catholic Religion are so well known that I am not surprised at any thing you say against him. But will you be able to convert him by your severe castigations, or make the Round Church Square with true Orthodox principles? I do not believe it. The greater part of those who are attached to the Established Church have too deep an interest in it, to forsake its communion. They are si. cound together by a pecuniary tie which is very difficult to break. What would you think of praying for their conversion, for, in my opinion, Prayer alone can accomplish that very difficult job?

With best wishes for the success of the Cross, I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

AMICUS.

We thank *Amicus* for his candour, and good wishes, and we have inserted his letter with much pleasure. We are always anxious to receive a kind hint from our friends, and if possible to avail ourselves of it. However, with the greatest good humour, we must differ from our Correspondent on this occasion. Mrs Cogswell may indeed be very small game, and far from us be the thought of contradicting so undeniable a proposition. But when she uttered her venomous lies, she was surrounded by some very large game, by officials, Big-wigs, and even—God bless the mark!—by the Queen's own Representative. What would be very insignificant and contemptible as coming from the old Jewess alone, is swelled into importance by the high and mighty presence in which she delivered her bold and stupid oracles. The occasion, too, was one of no inconsiderable moment, and the living and the dead who were so daringly and foully attacked, were personages most endeared to every Catholic heart. It was a singular feature in the late onslaught: on the benevolent and noble-minded Pius IX, that in almost every other part of the world, even in Protestant Countries, the ingratitude which he has experienced, and the sufferings he has endured, have excited both indignation and sympathy, so that it was reserved for Halifax to exhibit a batch of boobies, belching forth in "beastly hollowings" their bigoted bile, and grossly insulting eleven or twelve thousand of their Catholic fellow citizens who had given them no provocation. If all this be done, and in the presence of the Governor too, and with the Kettle-drums and trumpet flourish of "May it please your Excellency," and that a Catholic Journal is to be silent, then we had better have no Catholic Journal at all!

We thought, and we still think, that silence under such circumstances would be both base and cowardly, and that we would deserve a repetition of those calumnious reproaches at the next meeting of the old women so often alluded to, if we allowed the present audacious attempt to escape the chastisement which it so richly deserves. When the Catholic public and our religious superiors tell us that a Catholic Newspaper is not wanted, we will instantly throw down our pen. But as long as we can wield a pen, we will chastise as it deserves such insolence as that exhibited at the late Church Colonial Meeting. The *Established Church*, as our worthy Correspondent improperly terms it (for we say that there is any *Established Church* here)—this skeleton of a Church, now numerically the weakest in the Province, ought to have an especial horror of *the Cross*. We have been compelled, before now, to tell them some bitter and home truths, and we think they had better let the poor unoffending Papists alone. They are deeply in our debt, and we owe them nothing, except a vast amount of forgiveness. They should be the last to attack the Catholic Church, for they are the first to beg from us. They meanly beg their Ordinations from us, though we tell the sturdy beggars that they are a parcel of impostors, and that there is not one validly ordained Priest or Bishop in the whole Church of England—nay, that that very holy and scriptural man, so bespattered at the late Meeting—we mean the so-called Archbishop of Canterbury—is a mere layman (Mrs. Cogswell, get your scent bottle!) like ourselves. The best proof of the above is, that if a Catholic Priest apostatizes to the Church of England, he is permitted to officiate as a Priest without any new Ordination, whereas, on the contrary, if a Church of England Parson renounces his heresy, becomes a Member of the one true Church, and aspires to the Ecclesiastical state, he is ordained anew, from the rite of Tonsure upwards, he receives all the Orders, minor and holy; so that his Ordination by the Anglican Bishops is not reckoned worth *one brass farthing*, by confessedly the oldest Church in Christendom.

Out of respect to our Gracious Sovereign, we wish to speak as reverently as possible of Her Majesty's Representative. But we do not think we have said too much, on his perhaps accidental and innocent connection with the anti-Catholic calumnies at the late Meeting. We do not deny His Excellency the legal right (God forbid!) of entertaining his own religious and political opinions. In his own household, amongst his private friends, he may indulge any opinions he pleases. When he assists at the ordinary Sabbath or other services of his Church, we cannot, do not

blame him, if, for instance, the preacher, instead of enforcing some moral or Christian duty, or proving some tenet of his creed, has the bad taste to abuse his absent neighbors, and to thunder out all manner of anathemas against us poor Papists. Of all this, we say, we could not complain. But we are of opinion—of course we are open to correction—that Sir John Harvey was sent to Nova Scotia to discharge, in the name, and as the Representative of the Sovereign, functions far different from those of presiding or assisting at invidious Religious Meetings of an extraordinary kind, where thousands of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, under his Government, are wantonly abused in their absence, the venerable Head of their Church colored with the foul slime of calumny, and the fundamental tenets of their Religion falsely represented. Of this we complain, and shall complain again, if necessary, and we do not believe there is a single Member of the Cabinet at home, from Lord Grey to Lord John Russell, who would not admit that our complaint was well founded.

What would we think of her Majesty herself if she assisted at a Public Meeting where the millions of her Catholic subjects were foully abused as in the speech of Mrs Cogswell? Our correspondent's suggestion about Parson Unacko is well worthy of attention. His conversation is indeed "a difficult job," but nothing is impossible to God. Though we require prayers for ourselves very badly, we cannot refuse the invitation to pray for him, and we call upon our readers to do the same. We hope he has many Catholic ancestors in heaven who will pray for his return to the Church of his forefathers.

THE POPE.

[Translated for the "Cross" from the "Ami de la Religion."

We have received news from Gaeta of the 10th of December. As we had expected, His Holiness held a Consistory on the 11th, on which occasion several Bishops of different nations were appointed. Three Churches in our country were proposed. The Metropolitan Church of Avignon, and the Episcopal Churches of Noyes and Digne. The information concerning Mgr. Jaquet, as Bishop of Nantes, had not at that time arrived. The acts of the Consistory had not been printed, up to the time of the departure of the Courier.

The health of the Holy Father continues excellent. Notwithstanding the trials which afflict him, the serenity of his soul was never greater, and the serene expression of his countenance is most touching. He recently was pleased to visit three ships of war—French, Spanish and Neapolitan. He gave his benediction to the crew of the *Vauban* with a kindness which profoundly affected our countrymen. It is impossible to express the devotedness and respect with which the august Chief of Catholicity is surrounded in his retreat. The Royal Family of Naples are almost every day with him. The Cardinals (who at Naples and Gaeta amount to the number of twenty), the Foreign Ministers, and the Roman Princes, rival each other in showing their eagerness to express their veneration towards his august person.

We find in the third of some bulletins issued, the following touching incident, which we hasten to republish. The Holy Father being troubled and hesitating between his love for his people, which inclined him to remain in Rome, and the sacredness of the Pontificate and dignity of the Sovereign, which he could not reconcile with a longer sojourn there, received a letter from the Bishop of Valence, encouraging him to remain firm in adversity and to prepare himself for new trials which seemed to threaten him. With this letter the Bishop sent him a holy Ciborium—the same which the Sovereign Pontiff Pius VI had carried with him in his painful travels. On receiving this letter, and at the sight of the Ciborium, the Holy Father thought he received an order from Heaven to quit Rome and follow in the footsteps of his Predecessor. No longer hesitating, and having formed his resolution, he yielded to the entreaties of the Foreign Ambassadors, which they had been making for many days. What recollections does not the mention of Pius VI. call up in France!

The *Tempo*, of Naples, gives details of much interest, on the sojourn of His Holiness at Gaeta. The 6th December there was a meeting of the Cardinals who are with the Holy Father. After the meeting, the three Cardinals Macchi,

* Pius VI. died at Valence.

Cassano Serra, and Gazzoli, representing the three chief orders, waited on His Majesty the King of Naples, to thank him for all he had done for the Holy Father, and for the hospitality which he had extended to all the Cardinals and Prelates of His Holiness's suite.

His Holiness desired that a sum of money should be given to the Hotel-keeper of the *Jardinet*—who, on refusing it, said he felt already more than recompensed, since he could count as the happiest day of his life, that on which His Holiness had deigned to take shelter unknown in his humble Hotel. The Holy Father has sent this good man a morocco case, with his arms, containing two gold medals and three silver ones. On one side, is represented our Saviour washing his Apostles' feet, and on the other the effigy of the Sovereign Pontiff.

The 8th December—the Feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin—a salvo from all the batteries of the Fort, and all the Italian and foreign vessels in port, announced the solemnity. His Holiness went to the Cathedral. In the carriage with him, were their Eminences the Cardinals Macchi, Dean of the Sacred College, and Antonelli, pro-Secretary of State. He was received at the entrance of the Church by the Bishop of Gaeta and his Chapter. The Holy Father celebrated Mass at the Grand Altar, assisted by the Cardinals Antonelli and Macchi. The King, Queen, the Royal Family, and all the Court, assisted at it. His Holiness gave Communion to the King, Queen, Princes, Princesses, several members of the Diplomatic Body, and a great number of the Faithful. After Mass, His Holiness heard a second Mass, he then ascended the balcony of the Episcopal Palace, where he gave his benediction to his august hosts, and to the Neapolitan troops, with whom were assembled the crews of the French and Spanish steamers, and to an immense number of persons who knelt on the road and in the vessels which were decorated. On the same day His Holiness received a deputation from Pontecorvo, and on the following day one from the *Civita* Guard of Beneventum. These two deputations expressed the greatest devotedness and submission. Beneventum and Pontecorvo are on the boundaries of the Kingdom of Naples, but belong to the States of the Church.

To the Editors of the Cross.

Gentlemen,—Having some time since, through the medium of your Journal, called the attention of our community to the fact of their being in the rear of others in a knowledge of Music's ennobling influence—with a view of creating a desire amongst them for its acquisition, and the establishment of a Class by which the musical resources we possessed would be developed,—I am much delighted to perceive that the subject has been taken up in good earnest by our respected Organist Mr Hagarty, who has, with most laudable zeal, and much expenditure of valuable time, succeeded in founding a Class—viz, the St. Mary's Singing Class—which will in time be productive of the many advantages which on that occasion I endeavored to show would be derivable therefrom.

On the two last nights of practice, I had the pleasure of witnessing the exercises of the class. They consisted of exercises in the arrangement and harmonized for four voices—chanting one of our fine old Psalms—the "Laudate" and "Magnificat"—and singing a part song; all of which were executed with much taste and precision, evincing considerable progress made since the formation of the Class.

I must confess, however, that my disappointment was considerable, at witnessing the comparative fewness of the numbers attending the Class, seeing the trouble taken and expense incurred—a Piano forte having been placed in the Class Room, and every other means taken to render the teaching complete and efficient.

I hope, for our own sakes, this will be no longer the case, and that a greater disposition will be shown on the part of our worthy seniors, to extend the sphere of its usefulness, by encouraging their youthful charges to come forward and avail themselves of the opportunity now afforded them—which if not embraced may not be offered again—of acquiring a knowledge of this beautiful, humanizing, and among the "Arts Music the divinest"—is the hope of one who wishes well to their advancement.

ADESTA.

[We regret that the above communication was accidentally mislaid for some days, or it would have appeared sooner.]—Editors.