

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Bishop of Nancy, Mgr. Menjand, is the Prelate who has been selected for the office of First Almoner of the Emperor; and, as a matter of course, is charged with the organization of the imperial chapel at the Tuilleries. There are to be twelve Chaplains, or *Aumoniers*.

The whole question of the reform of the Constitution, as it is facetiously called, will all be settled during the week; and although the question of the Imperial right to deal with the tariff has been disputed by M. Lebent, of the Bank of France, and a small minority in the Senate, anything like a serious opposition to the Imperial will is out of the question. M. Bethmont, one of the members of Lamartine's Provisional Government in 1848, was the person whom the Emperor invited to the Tuilleries with a view to gain over the republican party.

These liberals have collectively refused to make terms with Napoleon; and whilst the Paris correspondent of the *Times* is silent about these matters, and makes himself obnoxious to the accusation that "his correspondence exhales the inspirations of the French police," the editorial columns of the leading journal courageously disclose "that there is still not a man of independent political opinions in France who would not esteem it a dishonor to assume the livery of the imperial court." The Emperor urges to M. Bethmont "that no Government but the present in France is possible;" every statesman is aware of this fact, and it is this overwhelming consciousness that will not doubt induce the sovereigns of Austria and Prussia, the King of Hanover, and Duke of Brunswick, now all assembled at Berlin, to recognise, however reluctantly, the authority of the French Emperor. The hesitation of the Senate to part with the last vestige of Parliamentary control in the case of the tariff, will be a lesson to Louis Napoleon, that if he deviates from a peace policy, he will rouse vast interests in opposition to him who are at present content to remain in abeyance.

A rumor is current in the political circles that Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, the cousin of the Emperor, has expressed a wish that if he is sent to Algeria as viceroy or lieutenant of the Emperor, an officer of the command of the army should be made to General de Lamoriciere or General Changarnier—and to this proposition it is said the Emperor has acceded. It appears that there is no intention of designating Napoleon Bonaparte as the successor of the Emperor in the event of his having no direct male issue. The friends of the Prince de Canino assert that the choice of the Emperor has fallen on his son Prince Joseph, who is 19 years of age, and is now in Rome. The Princess de Canino and her children are all zealous Catholics, and are in high favor at Rome. One of her sons has been for some time educating for the priesthood.

Notwithstanding the statements put forth by the French press, that the Pope was willing, under certain arrangements, to proceed to Paris to assist at the coronation, his Holiness, it appears, has not consented to anything of the sort; and the Emperor has received another disappointment by the rejection of his hand by the Princess Wasa, who has preferred the quiet, unobtrusive affection of Prince Albert of Saxony to the precarious enjoyment of an imperial crown, which has been so fatal to many of its female possessors. Yesterday was the day appointed for the reception of the ambassadors of Prussia, Austria, and Russia at the Tuilleries to present their credentials, and the Emperor was to return to Paris from Compiègne to receive them. Much stress is laid upon this early recognition prior to the meeting of the sovereigns at Berlin. The new French ambassador accredited to Rome has been most graciously received at the Vatican, we have no doubt his Holiness will speedily follow the example of the other European powers.—The Paris journals put forth a rumor that the modification of the celebrated *Organic Articles*, which are, in fact, the charter of the French church, will be sought by the Pope as the price and condition of his assistance at the coronation. As such a concession would be in fact a new revolution in which the Jesuits would be completely triumphant, we must take leave to doubt the eventuality of such an occurrence. The fortifications at Havre are condemned; they are to be removed forthwith, and detached forts erected in their stead.

The forest of Breteuil, lately belonging to King Louis Philippe, was sold last week by auction for 3,810,000*fr.*, and the fine forest demesne of St. Dizier was sold during the day to a rich capitalist of Rheims. "The demesnes of Arc and Chateaufort, belonging to the Prince de Joinville, and that of Randun, bequeathed by Mme. Adelaide to the Duke de Montpensier, are also," says the *Assemblée Nationale*, "on the point of being sold. A contract has, it is said, been already signed for the former with a company consisting of landowners, woodmerchants, and sportsmen; and for the latter, with a rich foreigner, who already has considerable property in France. By these sales the Orleans family will have submitted to the obligations of the decree of January 22nd, before the expiration of the delay granted them for that purpose."

GERMANY.

BERLIN, DEC. 17.—The Emperor of Austria arrived here to-day on a visit to this Court, accompanied by the King, who had gone nearly to the Saxon frontier to meet his Imperial guest. The Emperor Franz Joseph is accompanied by his brother, the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, and a brilliant suite. This is the first time that an Emperor of Austria, or, in fact, an Emperor of Germany, has ever entered Berlin, and cannot fail to be a subject of great self-gratulation to the present King, Frédéric

Wilhelm, as forming a most gratifying contrast to the state of things this time two years, when the armies of the two nations were called out against each other, and almost stood face to face; when the Prussian Cabinet found itself, soon after, compelled on every side to draw in its horns, and to succumb to Austria in the arrangements at Olmutz. The visit of the young Emperor is believed to have reference to the dark cloud rising up over the left bank of the Rhine. The Emperor spent yesterday at Dresden, where he had occasion to congratulate Prince Albert of Saxony on his being the successful suitor for the hand of the Princess Caroline Vasa, whose father seems to have put an energetic and conclusive veto on the courtship of the then Prince President. The entry of the two monarchs side by side through the Brandenburger Thor will be a more significant emblem of German unity than the history of Germany has been able to exhibit for many long years.

BERLIN, DEC. 20.—The King of Hanover and the Duke of Brunswick have arrived at Berlin.

The *Deutsche Volks Halle* from Berlin, of the 17th, says—"A petition has been addressed to the Second Chamber, praying it to vote an address to his Majesty, begging that the decrees of the Ministers of Public Instruction and the Interior of the 22nd May and 16th July last, concerning the restriction of the Catholic missions, as well as the education and establishment of Catholic Ecclesiastics, may be repealed. The conclusions of the petition are—1. That the Catholics of Prussia cannot, without a special authorisation from the government, visit the Germanic college at Rome, placed under the surveillance of the Pope, as well as the establishments directed by the Jesuits, while subjects belonging to other Christian creeds may visit any schools they please both at home and abroad. 2. To menace the Catholics, in case of contravention, with the loss of their political rights, while all the other subjects of his Majesty enjoy absolute liberty. 3. To refuse to entire classes of Catholics the power of establishing themselves in Prussia, so that, in spite of the treaty of peace of Westphalia, the federal compact, and the Prussian constitution, they have less rights than the non-Catholics, or even neo-Catholics."

ROME.

SIR H. BOLWER'S VISIT TO ROME.—The Roman correspondent of the *Times* writes—"It is notorious at Rome that Sir H. Bolwer left very dissatisfied with the result of his mission, and we could repeat expressions which he used, with ill-disguised vexation, to make his friends understand that he had nothing to expect from the persons who at Rome direct the affairs of the Church. How, in fact, could the British diplomatist have obtained the object of his demands or of his 'conversations,' as the English say? He demands favors, great favors, without offering anything in compensation. Very far from that, he seemed to say to the Holy See—Receive our ambassador, but, as for us, we will receive no Nuncio Apostolic in our country; impose silence on Ireland, but, as for us, we will continue to oppress the conscience and the fortune of the Irish Catholics under tyrannical laws; we are going to condemn to fine, and perhaps to imprisonment, one of the most holy and learned Religious in England! In truth, this mission was a mere laughing-stock; the Holy See understood it, and more than once the English agent had to blush for having to play the part which was imposed upon him; a fine mission, indeed, to come to declare his sympathies for an assassin, and to have to make propositions which are known to be unacceptable."

THE ABBESS MAKINA.—We read in the *Univers* that an interesting discourse assembled on Sunday, Dec. 5th. The Poles residing at Rome in the church of the monastery, where the Mother Makina, of whose long sufferings our readers are aware, have established, with the sanction of the Holy Father, a community of Basilian Nuns. The church of this establishment, perfectly restored by the care, and at the expense of the Princess Odescalchi, one of those noble Polish ladies who are ready to make any sacrifice which may conduce to the glory of Catholicity, received a Solemn Benediction, and was consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, under the title *Mater Admirabilis*, and to St. Basil. On the Festival of the Immaculate Conception this new sanctuary was in a manner inaugurated by twenty Masses, and by the preaching of the Rev. Father Angelo, whose talent is highly appreciated in Italy. The title *Mater Admirabilis* reminds one of the chapel of that name erected in the Convent of the Ladies of the Sacré-Cœur at *Trinité-de-Mont*, in consequence of signal favors obtained by the prayers of the Rev. Mother Makina during her sojourn in this house.

GREECE.

THE REV. MR. PALMER AND THE GREEK SCHISMATICS.—The Athens correspondent of the *Chronicle*, under date December 7th, communicates the following very singular intelligence:—

"A question has arisen lately in the Eastern Church which may have most important results, both Ecclesiastical and political, as it involves nothing less than a schism between the Churches of Constantinople and Russia, provoked by the Rev. W. Palmer, of Oxford. Mr. Palmer had addressed himself in turn to the Synods of Russia, Constantinople, and Greece, in order to obtain admission into the Eastern communion. The Church of Russia declared herself ready to receive him on the simple administration of the Holy Christ or Confirmation, whereas, both at Constantinople and in Greece, a new baptism was required, and the Synod of Russia has now written to demand of the Patriarch of Constantinople the reason of this difference of opinion, maintaining that her own practice in these cases, which are of very frequent occurrence in Russia, is founded on a decision of the Mother Church herself.

"Out of the whole Clergy of Constantinople, only one Bishop has declared himself on the side of Russia. And the question now is, to determine what was the ancient practice of the Church, to which, of course, both parties will adhere. But we believe it to be a fact, that until 1760 the Church of Constantinople did not require a second baptism, and the circumstance which caused the decision to the contrary is singular enough.

"There lived at that time at Constantinople an impostor of a Monk, who, having become acquainted with the properties of phosphorus, at that time little known in the East, used it to impose upon the credulity of the people by rubbing his clothes, beard, and hands with it, writing in characters of fire, &c., and giving himself out for a Saint, who was predestined to convert the Sultan, while in fact he was intriguing to overthrow the Patriarch of the time, whom he accused of receiving heretics into the Church without baptism, and to place on his throne a friend of his own. The Sultan, seeing that this man was followed by an immense concourse of people, and might become dangerous, declared that he wished to see him, sent for him, and had him secretly thrown into the Bosphorus. The infuriated populace attributed this murder to the Patriarch, whom they absolutely tore in pieces, and who expired, having only time to declare that he resigned the Patriarchate in order not to leave on the people the crime of having killed the Head of the Church. The crowd then proclaimed the new Patriarch, the friend of the impostor, whose first act was to publish a decision of the Synod, forbidding the Eastern Church in any case to recognise the baptism of another communion. But it seems that this decision had not been communicated to Russia, who always has continued the ancient practice. A definitive answer has not yet been given on this subject."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

All we know is, that we are still at war, under circumstances very similar to those which have prevailed during the last two years at the Cape, and that we have the same general assurances, that all is going well, to which we have been so long accustomed, checked and chastised by the same narrative of fruitless successes and sanguinary losses. On the side of success we may mention that we have burnt Lithaelder's laager or lair without loss to our troops. This operation was achieved by the 73d Regiment, three companies of the 60th, Armstrong's horse, Campbell's Rifles, the Kat River Levy, two brigades of Rockets, and a proportion of the Cape Mounted Rifles. That such an army was required for such a service seems no very cogent proof that the war is drawing to a termination, nor is it an exception to our fortune in South Africa that the notion of so large a force should be attended with no better result than the destruction by fire of a den which the thieves who inhabited it had left to its fate. We do not hear of a single Caffre being taken or slain, or a single cow rewarding the enterprise and valor of the victors. Our next success is not more conclusive. We have not taken Sandilli prisoner, though the feat has been boldly attempted by Lieutenant Whitmore. Indeed, the negative catalogue of our successes, as Dr. Johnson said of the diary of the Highland im, is very copious. We have not been able to induce the rebel chiefs to surrender. We have offered an amnesty to the Hottentots, which they have not accepted, and we have not driven Mocomo and Sandilli from the neighborhood of the Amatolas. On the other hand, our loss is clear and precise. Captain Hearn, two soldiers, and a civilian have been killed by the Caffres while out on escort duty. Such are the latest annals of the Caffre war.

AUSTRALIA.

By the arrival of the Overland Mail, advices have been received from the Australian colonies to the 29th September last. From Sydney the accounts report that a measure was before the Legislative Council with the view to alleviate the difficulties to which the shipping interest is exposed by the desertion of seamen, &c. Sydney having been declared a free port, all harbor, light-house, and water police dues, and entry and clearance fees, were therefore abolished; vessels were consequently liable to no charges whatever, except a fee of 10*s.* per foot for pilotage. The proposition to establish a branch of the Royal Mint was under favorable consideration. The Bank of New South Wales would increase its capital from £200,000 to £300,000, and establish a branch at Geelong. The gold fields in the district were yielding satisfactorily, but a great number of persons were emigrating to the Victoria diggings. The price of gold had varied from 6*7s.* to 6*8s.* per oz. Wheat was selling at 7*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per bushel, and flour from £21 to £23 per ton. The rates of wages were higher. Shepherds obtained from £40 to £52 per annum, with rations, and could only be induced to engage themselves week by week, even on these terms. Bricklayers' laborers were earning 7*s.* per day, and other kinds of labor had advanced 40 and 50 per cent. The latest dates from Melbourne, Port Phillip (Victoria), are of the 1st of September. The gold fields in this district are represented to be yielding as abundantly as ever, and the production is now estimated at from £15,000,000 to £20,000,000 per annum. One party of six diggers are reported to have obtained 260 lbs. of pure gold in the space of five weeks. The banks had temporarily suspended their advances upon the deposit of gold, but would resume doing so on the receipt of further supplies of specie from England. Gold was selling at 6*6s.* to 6*7s.* per oz., but was expected to be much lower in price until coin became more plentiful. Land was selling at very high rates. Lots on the Salt Water river fetched £60 per acre; on the Yarra £200 per acre; and Melbourne suburban lots, £300 per acre. The ordinary

prices of building allotments were from 20*s.* up to 10*s.* per foot. Flour was selling at the diggings at £100 per ton, and at Melbourne at from £25 to £27 per ton. Wheat, 8*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per bushel. A new bank on a large scale had been proposed to be established. The quarterly statement of the revenue and expenditure for the period ending the 30th June shows the general revenue to have been £98,457 12*s.* and the Crown revenue £186,579 16*s.*, making a total of £285,036, against £128,868 for the corresponding period of 1851, being an increase of £161,158, or 231 per cent.; but in addition to the former amount there was a sum of £83,114 due on account of Government licenses for the quarter.

GREAT BRITAIN.

ALTERATIONS OF UNIFORM.—It is rumored that the military authorities have it in contemplation to make an alteration in the uniform of the army.—*United Service Gazette*.

NEW STANDARD FOR RECRUITS.—Orders have been issued for the standard of recruits enlisting for infantry regiments to be reduced from five feet seven to five feet six inches, and those under the age of eighteen to five feet five and a half inches. The standard for the cavalry is to remain at its present height.—*Ibid*.

DEFICIENCY IN THE MILITIA.—A parliamentary return respecting the new militia has just been printed. Out of the 50,000 men to be raised in the several counties of England and Wales, the return shows that only 33,674 volunteers have been enrolled, leaving a deficiency for the present year of 16,326.

ARMS FOR THE CAFFRES.—It has been often asked how the Caffres get supplied with arms and ammunition; will the following account throw any light on the matter? A large French bark was driven ashore at Fleet, on the Chesil bank, on the night of Wednesday last, laden with muskets and gunpowder; out of fifteen souls who composed the crew only six were saved; upon being asked where the vessel was bound, it was answered, "The Cape of Good Hope."

DISTRUSTS FOR CHURCH-RATES have lately been extensively made on members of the Society of Friends at North Shields; but it has been remarked that the only Quaker who voted for the Derbyite candidate at the last election has not been distrusted upon, while every one who voted for the Liberal has.—*Spectator*.

THE FRAIL CASE.—What, in point of fact, have the members of the select committee admitted in that report which was fudged up with as much mystery as though they had been engaged in an offence against the excise laws? In the first place they recognise the existence of an organised system of bribery during the late election in the borough of Derby. Secondly, they have ascertained the authenticity of the "W. B." letter which was written to one John Frail, of Shrewsbury. Next—and here we must copy the very words of the report—"that, in consequence of such letter, one Thomas Morgan, jun., was sent to Derby by the said John Frail, and, acting on the instructions therein contained, was subsequently detected and apprehended in Derby while engaged in carrying out the plan of the organised system of bribery proved before your committee to have existed." Now, let us see what has been accepted as proved, simply reversing the order of the facts. Thomas Morgan, jun., was detected and apprehended in Derby while in the act of bribing the electors; he had been sent to Derby by one John Frail, of Shrewsbury, who had been commanded by Major Beresford to send such a man to that place. To fix Major Beresford more tightly with the guilt of criminal complicity in the bribery, the committee are careful to remark that when Morgan was apprehended "he was acting on the instructions contained in Major Beresford's letter." This letter was in his pocket all the time, and had been delivered by Frail to him as his credentials, and as his warrant for the receipt of money from the house of Cox, Brothers, and Co., which money was the money actually employed in the bribery operation. What then? Why the committee are not satisfied that "there is sufficient evidence to satisfy their minds that the arrangement, scheme, and object referred to in the petition were known to and concurred in by the Right Hon. Wm. Beresford." The major desired his own paid agent—who had received £300 per annum from him in return for his services—to send "a good and safe man" to Derby. Frail sends Morgan. Morgan receives two parcels of money from the house of Cox and Co., which house is referred to in Major Beresford's letter as the one to which the "good and safe man" should send his card immediately on his arrival in Derby. No sooner has he received the money than he begins to administer bribes at the rate of £2 per voter, and is caught by the police in the very act.—With all this evidence before them, the committee have come to the conclusion that Major Beresford knew nothing of, and did not concur in, "the arrangement, scheme, and object referred to in the petition." No sooner have the committee placed this notable sentence upon record than, as if ashamed of so palpable a discord between their premises and their conclusion, they visit Major Beresford with the severest censure—for what?—for "reckless indifference and disregard of consequences." "The equivocal expressions of that letter ought, at least, to have suggested to him an idea of the improper use to which it might have been, and, in point of fact, was applied." And so strike up, tabors, and let us all go to supper.—*Times*.

GAROTTE ROBBERIES.—Offences of this class appear to be increasing in number. Glasgow has lately been the scene of several of them, and the police of that city have seven or eight persons in custody on suspicion of being concerned in some of them.

LEEDS is becoming notorious for highway robberies committed with brutal circumstances. Many persons have suffered from thieves adopting the "garotte" system of overpowering them; and now two cases are reported of men being pounced upon by a number of ruffians, knocked down, beaten and kicked, and then robbed.

SLAVERY (IRISH) IN ENGLAND.—Under this head a correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes as follows:—"A young lady (a member of an ancient and highly connected family,) through as sad a reverse of fortune as ever drew tears from the romance-reading portion of the English public, was compelled to seek the situation of assistant teacher at a public school in England, for the purpose of enabling her to earn her bread. A situation offered; the young lady produced references of the highest and most satisfactory nature, all bearing witness to an excellence and amiability of character which had stood alike the test of prosperity