

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Just last Wednesday the Assembly discussed the proposition submitted by M. Languiant, the reporter of the committee of the Assembly. M. de Lazié made a very successful attack on the ministry, and one of the members of the committee of management. His great point was the society of the "Dix Décembre," which he described as an organized army, but said that it was not dangerous, and that General Changarnier commanded the army of the "Dix Décembre," and described how all military operations had been defied in the hands of the "Dix Décembre," by the mixture of officers and non-commissioned officers at the same table. He said that the President for this (ironical) laugh) because the President was not a military man, but that the rules of the service, but his chief aide-de-camp, Col. Colard Vaudrey, was present and might have been better. He concluded by alluding to the minister of General Neumayer, which he strongly disapproved.

At the opening of the sitting on Thursday, Col. Colard Vaudrey first ascended the tribune, and declared that the assertions of M. de Lazié were false, and that the "Dix Décembre" was not a society, but a calendar, as far as he was concerned.

M. M. LAMARTINE said that the document read by M. de Lazié touching the organization of the society the "Dix Décembre" had never emanated from that body.

M. M. FLANDIN, member of the minority of the Chamber, attacked the report. He maintained that the President had made proper use of a constitutional right in dismissing General Changarnier, and attacked the chiefs of the majority for their visit to Clamart and Wiesbaden.

M. M. LEO DE CLAMART and M. TAYLOR demanded a vote. The latter insisted on answering immediately, amid cries of "Order." Let the speaker in the tribune go on. "Hinder him," M. FLANDIN, exclaimed, "remarking the presence of three delegates from the court of Wiesbaden in the Committee of Management (M. M. BERRYER, LEO DE CLAMART, and ARACHE-JACQUIN). He justified the suppression of the army of the army of Paris, citing the words of General Cavaignac, and wondering the measure had not been taken long before. Did they want a jaguar of the palace? It would be a bad inauguration of the republic to install a General President, whose success even obtained by the cabinet, owing to the intervention of General Changarnier, was so humiliating as to resemble checks rather than successes. He ended with condemning the resolution of the committee.

After some time M. BERRYER occupied the tribune. He should explain himself on his conduct in particular, and state the motives which determined him to vote against the government. He reminded the house of the sensation caused in the Assembly under the former government, by the dismissal of a chief of division (M. Drouin de Lhuys). He regarded the dismissal of General Changarnier as a change of policy, which might be attended with the most fatal results. He saw great danger in the rupture of the majority, to whose union the return of prosperity had been owing. He considered the position of the country as a transition, and the message itself spoke of it in this light. There were in the Chamber a considerable number of royalists, and he was a royalist himself. (Long interruption). He had been monarchist during fifty-eight years; nor had he changed assuming the mantle of a representative. Nevertheless he had rallied with all his strength to the majority in order to save the country. He demanded that the ties of the majority should now be strengthened by a common resolution. (BERRYER's speech was thought ineffective, and below the mark).

M. LAMARTINE now ascended the tribune. He declared that he would stand by the flag of the Republic. Having blamed the Committee for reviving the disputes of the recess, after a message which was accepted by the most thorough-going republicans, M. de Lamartine was met by an emphatic "No," from M. CHARRAS. M. CHARRAS, having been called to order, was supported by the Mountain en masse, whom M. Dupin called collectively to order. "Give your names (he said) to the 'Monteur,' and the country will judge you." M. Lamartine continued his panegyric of the republic, and maintained that it was the partisans of M. de Remusat's proposition who did their best to crush the parliamentary system. He concluded by an appeal to all the different parties of the Assembly to unite in saving the republic, by rejecting the resolution of the Committee.

General CHANGARNIER then proceeded to occupy the tribune, and spoke amidst the deepest signs of attention. He said that when the government which preceded that of the President of the Republic established its headquarters at the Tuilleries, the parties which still divide France were already in existence. There were the moderate republicans, the monarchists of tradition, the constitutional monarchists, the demagogues who masked themselves under other names, and the men who wanted the imperial dictatorship stripped of the glory and genius of the man whose fame yet fills the world. (Movement). He had refused to be the instrument of any party. He had wished what all honest people wished, the execution of the laws, the revival of commerce, industry, agriculture, the security of Paris—of all France, and he had the proud satisfaction of having contributed a little to the attainment of these benefits. (Prolonged applause). Notwithstanding odious insinuations propagated by ingratitude, he had declined to follow any faction, any conspiracy, any conspirator. (Cheers). The two parties which he had last mentioned (the demagogues and imperialists) had vowed against him a hatred which he had well deserved—(smiles and approbation)—and which, for his honour, survived even his fall. (Cheers). He might have foretold that fall by his resignation, which could have been received. But were those who thought he ought to have given his resignation quite sure that his course had not been useful to them? (Movement). His sword was condemned to a momentary repose, but it was not broken, and if the country ever had need of it, it would find again full of devotion and obedience to a patriot spirit against all trials, of a devoted heart and of a firm mind, which disdained the tinsel of false grandeur. (Prolonged applause).

M. THIERS next spoke, and went into a long explanation of his idea of the Republic. He said that he had accepted the republic without any reserve, and that the first cries of "Vive l'Empire" had broken that truce which had hitherto bound all parties together for the welfare of France. He then alluded to the dismissal of Changarnier, and said that by such conduct the government exposed itself to the reproaches of ingratitude, and to the distrust of the Assembly, and yet in spite of that knowledge it did not hesitate. It was impossible but that the assembly should regard this fact as one of great importance, and it was with that feeling that he ascended the tribune in spite of himself. The government had said that it had no intention against the assembly; he believed it, for the assembly had not resisted it. He concluded by saying: "We shall see when it will do so; until that time I shall retain all my doubts. You make us fear a conspiracy; you wish that the assembly should yield, without which the executive power, according to your account, will be humiliated. It is for the power which commenced the attack on the other to draw back, for if the power attacked were to do so it would be lost. (Applause). There are now two powers in the state, the executive and the legislative; if the assembly now yields there will only be one power—then the form of government will have been changed, the empire will exist. (Imense cheers.)

On Saturday the close of the general debate was put to the vote and adopted. The President of the Assembly then read the several amendments. M. St. Beuve demanded the priority of his amendment. The President said that the pure and simple order of the day was demanded. M. Baroche said that the government opposed this. M. BERRYER declared that the amendment of M. St. Beuve was entitled to the priority. After some remarks from M. Lamartine, priority was granted to the amendment of M. St. Beuve. M. Baroche strongly opposed this proceeding. M. Dufaure declared his adherence to the amendment of M. St. Beuve. M. Baroche observed that as the motives of M. Dufaure and General Cavaignac for adhering to the amendment in question, were different and in part totally opposed to those of M. BERRYER and M. THIERS, it was not regular to bring it to the vote. M. THIERS maintained that the amendment could be very well understood by all notwithstanding the difference of their points of view. It meant, in fact, that in consequence of the facts revealed, no party had confidence in the cabinet. After some further remarks from M. M. Baroche and THIERS, the proposition of M. St. Beuve, expressing want of confidence in the cabinet, was put to the vote, and carried by 415 votes against 295.

There was, therefore, a majority of 129 against ministers.

The amendment of M. St. Beuve is as follows:—The Assembly declares that it has not confidence in the ministry, and passes to the order of the day.

Immediately on the rising of the Assembly, the Ministers went to the Elysee and placed their resignations in the hands of the President of the Republic, which he has accepted, but they will continue to carry on affairs until the formation of a new ministry.

No new ministry has yet been appointed. Of course there are many rumours afloat, which embrace M. O. Barrot as the basis of the new ministry.

The secret societies seem to have taken advantage of the crisis to begin stirring. On Tuesday night, at nine, at the 'Union of Communes,' was assembled with the Association of Cooks, at the Barrière Pigale, several brigades, headed by a commissary of police, visited the house of meeting, and arrested thirty-six individuals. On Wednesday morning twenty were added to the arrested. Several papers of a socialist character were seized.

Since the separation of the National Guard from the chief command of General Changarnier, eighteen officers of the staff have resigned.

SWITZERLAND.

The government of Berne (says a letter from that city of the 14th) having lately determined to take measures respecting the political refugees, called, a few days ago, on a Prussian Jew, named Basswitz, who had been established at St. Imier since 1837, to produce a certificate of his origin, and other papers, but he was not able to do so, and orders were given to him to leave the canton. During many years he had made himself very popular among the poor, by giving them medical advice and assistance gratuitously, he being a physician. In political opinion he is a great Radical, and has not only already laboured to spread his opinions in Switzerland, but has been in constant communication with the chiefs of the party in different countries. On receiving the order to leave, he attempted to induce the authorities of Neuchâtel or Soleure to grant him the rights of citizenship, but they refused. The inhabitants petitioned the grand council against his removal; the council, however, declined to interfere. The inhabitants thereupon made seditious movements, and threatened resistance. They planted two trees of liberty, but they were taken down by the authorities, and they began casting bullets. It is said also that some 'corps francs' have been called to their assistance. In consequence of all this the authorities of Berne have collected some detachments of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and are prepared to march them at once to St. Imier, in case of need. A commissioner of the government has already been sent to that place. The French ambassador has signed a passport to enable Basswitz to proceed to Havre. If he should not leave before the 16th the government will send troops to occupy St. Imier.

BELGIUM.

In the Chamber of Deputies of Belgium, on Thursday last, the members displayed great agitation, and paid little attention to a speech on the budget delivered by the Minister of War. When the Minister had concluded, the President called on M. Dechamps to speak, but that gentleman was in the midst of an animated group. The agitation visibly increased, and at last M. Malou ascended the tribune, and said that it was impossible to deliberate in presence of the agitation of the Chamber, which was caused by a challenge having been sent by one member to another, in consequence of opinions expressed by him in that place. He accordingly demanded that the Chamber should form itself into secret committee. This was agreed to, and the public were expelled. It then became known that Gen. Chazal had sent a challenge to M. Thiercy for having in the course of the debate asserted that certain statements respecting the Sarbanian army made last year by the General, at that time Minister of War, were erroneous. The Chamber remained some time in secret deliberation. M. Thiercy, it is said, refused with much dignity to produce the letter which had been written to him by Gen. Chazal. One member demanded that a prosecution should be commenced against the latter for having violated the law against duelling. Another member recommended that an attempt should be made to conciliate the affair, and to this the Assembly appeared to lean. Eventually it was determined that M. Thiercy and Gen. Chazal should be invited to present themselves before the President in the course of the evening, and that a secret sitting should be held next day to receive a communication from the President on the result of the interview.

The Rogier ministry, desirous of reducing the present army expenditure of Belgium to 25,000,000 francs, lately entrusted the ministry of war to Gen. Brilmont, on the understanding that he was to act up to the view of the rest of the Cabinet in plans for reduction. Gen. Brilmont accepted the appointment, but instead of carrying out the views of his colleagues, announced in the Chamber, on Monday, that he could not realise any of the reductions proposed. Hereupon a scandal took place in the Chamber, and the ministry is said to be on the eve of dissolution.

GERMANY.

The Dresden conferences have ended in a return to the old Bundesrat and the superannuated Diet at Frankfurt. The differences between the executive council (engendered) as it is in future to be constituted as it stood before, are slight. The votes are to be 9 instead of 17, as heretofore, and are divided as follows:—Austria, including the German states—Saxony and Prussia, 2; Prussia, 2; Bavaria, 1; Hanover and Saxony, 1; Württemberg and Baden, 1; the grand duchy of the electorate of Hesse, 1; and the remaining states, 1—in all, 9 votes.

The new apportionment of votes in the revived executive council of the diet at Frankfurt, is raising such a cloud of protests and such a storm of discontent, that nothing but confusion seems likely to be the result of the Dresden conferences. Luxembourg and Holstein, that is, the Netherlands and Denmark, have protested against the new federal constitution. They—important places—have by this constitution only a fraction of a vote at the Diet, whilst Württemberg, an insignificant place compared with these, has an entire vote. From Baden and the 'free cities,' a similar protest is expected; and all the small states are likely to follow these examples. The second committee of the conferences have not been able to come to any agreement with respect to the boundaries between the competency of the Plenum and that of the States Councils. Austria wishes to refer all to the States Councils, but Prussia feels herself safer in the Plenum, and the middle states are, on this point, with Prussia. Discussion, it is thought, may possibly spring up between Austria and Prussia out of this question.

PRUSSIA.

On the 18th inst., the 150th anniversary of the erection of the Electorate of Brandenburg into the Kingdom of Prussia took place. The Elector, Frederick the Third, was invested with the Royal dignity with great pomp and solemnity on the 17th, and established on the 18th the Prussian order of the Black Eagle, still the highest order of the State, as the Chapter only admits thirty-six members.

There was a grand banquet, at which the King was present, and proposed three toasts, one to the 'Past, second to the Present, and the third to the Future,' and on this toast he said, 'Few of us will outlive the next fifty years, but we all desire that they may be years of pure blessing for this royal house and this brave people. Once again, gentlemen, 'The Past, the Present, and the Future.'

SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

Count Beventlow has been appointed Commissioner on behalf of the Duchies to confer with the Austrian and Prussian Commissioners. The Stadtholder has been dissolved, and it is said that public opinion approves the course which has been adopted. Austrian troops still continue marching, so it is said, but not without contradictions, towards Holstein. General Horst has sent a favourable address to the troops.

SPAIN.

The following is the constitution of the new ministry:—M. Bravo Murillo—Finances and President of Council; M. Firmín Ariza—Interior; M. Bertran de Lis—Foreign Affairs; General de Negrete—War; Admiral Basco—Marine; M. Negrete—Justice; M. Gonzales Romero—Public Works. With respect to the real causes of the late change, they are chiefly personal ones. General Narvaez had made many enemies, and they have lately increased greatly, and are supposed to have received encouragement from a quarter that had hitherto befriended him. His preparations for departure had been made for a fortnight, during which period his resignation was presented

several times, but as often withdrawn. With respect to the Queen's feelings on the subject, her Majesty is a true daughter of Ferdinand VII., and a great adept in dissimulation. It is said that when Senor Pidal and the other Ministers asked her Majesty what she intended to do (after the resignation of General Narvaez had been accepted), her reply was, that she intended to go to bed, and should consider the subject the next day.

Bravo Murillo has read to the two chambers his programme of government, which is summed up in respect for the law, and impartiality and economy in the administration. He promises to present a plan for settling the debt without, however, giving any details.

ROME.

A letter from Rome, of the 11th, states that the Roman police has made some more domiciliary visits with a view to discover the authors of certain clandestine publications. Count Belmont, an old French officer, is now at Rome; it is generally believed he has been sent by the French Cabinet in order to organise a pontifical army by ordinary conscription. Five dragoons posted at Caprarola (Romagna) have deserted with their arms and horses, and gone over to the banditti of Il Passatore.

Foreign Miscellany.

The 'Osservatore Dalmato' quotes correspondence from Herzegovine and the adjoining provinces, from which we glean the following intelligence. On the 27th ult., a party of 100 insurgents arrived at Duvno, and committed several acts of violence, besides attempting to gain over the inhabitants to their party. The band afterwards left Duvno, and marched in the direction of Zupnagatz, but has not since been heard of. The insurgents still keep a strong detachment at the bridge of Kogniza, to oppose the march of the Seraskier. The latter had sent a body of 1,600 men to take possession of the bridge, but no tidings of their success had been received. Monsignor Raffaele Barisic, Bishop of Herzegovine, who resides at Scutaria, Duvno, has received several messages from Kavas Pacha, the insurgent chief, in one of which he advises the reverend prelate to make up his mind to be cut in pieces shortly. It is even stated that about twenty insurgents had twice attempted to put the threat into execution. A letter from Fort Opus, dated the 2nd, announces the arrival at that place of the Benbasba (Major) of the Ottoman troops, who landed lately at Satorin. All Pacha, Visir of Herzegovine, has removed from Buna to Stoles, so that the insurgents of Mostar have a wider field for their operations. The Austrian merchants—Senefelds, Andre, and Klokli—have left their establishments, and taken refuge at Fort Opus. The fortified village of Pociel is under the command of Rustan Beg.

From Buenos Ayres there is no political news of importance. Preparations for war continued to be pushed forward as expeditiously as possible, and the government sought, by all possible means, to cast the odium of the rupture upon Brazil, denouncing, in terms the most violent, its policies and internal and external, and its Europeanizing tendencies. The commercial crisis at Buenos Ayres had neither passed away nor in any way mitigated. The number of failures had been increased by several important additions, and severe distress was experienced by many who still contrived to struggle against the pressure which the enormous and sudden fluctuations in specie and exchanges, and the numerous stoppages had occasioned. The general opinion was, that the worst was yet to come, and all confidence was destroyed.

The 'Roman Observer,' of the 11th inst., announces the arrival at Rome of Prince Pavskitch of Russia, Prince Poniatowski, and the Archbishop Wladika of Montenegro. The same journal publishes a list of twenty individuals condemned for highway robbery and murder, on the 27th ult., by the Council of War of Bologna; sixteen, capitally convicted, had been executed, and the four others were sentenced to four, six, and twelve years' hard labour.

A decree of the Council of Administration of the Kingdom of Poland prohibits the introduction from abroad, or the publishing within the realm, of any print, picture, or lithograph representing any subject from Scripture history, or referring to Christian rites of worship, or to religion generally, unless it is first examined and approved by the officials of the diocese. The same prohibition extends to casts, sculptures, medals, rings, or carved work. Without this previous permission such objects cannot be prepared, imported, or sold. By an ukase of the 16th of May, 1849, the Polish nobles were forbidden to wear their beards; as it has not been strictly observed, it has been again brought to the notice of the ukase and magistrates. The ground of this singular ukase is the Russian law, that every one wearing an uniform, or having the right to wear one, is forbidden to wear a beard. As the Polish nobility have the right to wear an uniform, and to be called into the military service of the State, they are included in the prohibition.

A curious fact has just transpired with reference to the golden crown which certain nameless citizens of Leipzig presented to Manteuffel a fortnight ago. This splendid present turns out to have been a stock piece in the window of one of the Leipzig goldsmiths, and to have been originally made for Robert Blum, the Leipzig patriot, whose untimely end at Vienna prevented it from being presented to him. The remembrance which thus attach to the article must be highly gratifying to its present possessor.

In New York at an entertainment given to Captain Matthews by the mayor and corporation, Captain Matthews stated the following facts:—'I happen to be, said Captain Matthews, "the oldest steam-ship captain across the Atlantic, having come over in the Sirius. I have now made ninety-nine steam voyages between the two countries, fifty to America and forty-nine from it, and if I live to return, I shall have crossed the Atlantic by steam one hundred times. (Great cheering, and three cheers for the pioneer of ocean steam trips). During the whole time I have met with no mishap, if I except the loss of one man in this voyage, who was washed overboard during a heavy gale, an event which, though unavoidable, I deeply deplore.'

Accounts from Malta state that there is a threatening of fresh disturbances of a serious nature at Cephalonia, given rise by the return to his constituents of the representative for that island, whose motion for the annexation of the Ionian Islands to Greece has recently led to the dissolution by the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Parliament. The Radicals of Cephalonia have thought proper to get up meetings on the occasion, and make speeches hostile to the British protectorate. Her Majesty's steam-ship Spithead was immediately ordered off from Malta to Cephalonia. She left on the evening of the 11th, and the Scourge, war-steam, and one of the ships of the line, under the command of Sir William Parker, are preparing to follow, to support the Lord High Commissioner in any measure he may deem it fitting to adopt.

The Greek government has announced its intention of presenting a new bill on the subject of elections, and as a preparation for the measure it has addressed a circular to the prefects, directing them to collect all the information they can obtain on the subject.

In the United States railroad riots between the Comaught men and the Far-downers (Irish labourers) have been quite the rage of late. The other day there was a terrible fight on the Hudson River Railway, between New York and Albany. Two or three were killed, and several houses were burned; and a recent Poughkeepsie paper says:—'Our goal is nearly full—there are sixty Irish labourers in it from the late riot near Newburgh.' On the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad several have been shot in a similar riot; two killed. The contractors have very justly discharged all their so-called 'Comaught' labourers, as they were the aggressors. Ditto, a riot on the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad—four wounded dangerously, and one killed. The ringleaders are in Pittsburgh jail. Ditto, on the railroad at Alfred, New York—two killed, and three dangerously wounded. Why is it that wherever a large number is employed together, riot and bloodshed seem to be the inevitable result?

The militia of the United States numbers 2,008,068 men.

The value of real and personal estate in New York city is \$26,217,099 dollars.

The Hamilton Cloth Mills, at Southbridge, destroyed by fire a few nights ago; loss, 200,000 dollars. The Maine state prison, at Thomaston, was burnt down last week; no lives lost.

Three persons recently went on an alligator hunt in Louisiana, United States, and killed fifty-three of those lizard monsters in the course of a day; they are useful for oil.

An immense cavern has just been discovered near Carydon, Indiana, United States, which has already been explored for five miles.

The number of vessels belonging to the United States wrecked during the year ending June, 1848, as shown by official documents, was 585, valued at 2,021,495 dollars. The value of their cargoes was 2,501,771 dollars. Total, 4,523,266 dollars. The total number of lives lost in connection with the above 477. The amount of losses paid by underwriters on vessels and cargoes was 2,802,519 dollars.

A California company of about forty men, under the guidance of Captain French, recently quarrelled and fought while passing through Texas, when two men were killed and four wounded.

On the 16th October ult., in Aleppo, a serious disturbance took place in the streets. The object of the mob, which is stated at about 5,000, was to destroy all the Christian churches, which they did, and many persons were killed and plundered. At last a new Pasha was appointed, and he entered the city with 4,000 troops, and very speedily put an end to the matter. It is not known how many have been killed—some say 500, others 1,500. One man, the other day, was hanged dead most dreadfully, to make him bring back more of the stolen goods, and he had brought a large quantity. At last he said, 'Let me go to my house and I will bring more.' He went with some soldiers, and when they let go of him he ran and threw himself into the well, and was taken out a corpse. The soldiers then took his wife to prison. The losses of the Christians are estimated by bills received by the Pasha at 15,000,000 piastres. This the Pasha has promised to pay back. He gave notice that in so many days all the property must be returned. Much has been brought, but the gold, diamonds, and pearls are mostly missing. This is the last day of grace. Afterwards there is to be an auction of the goods to pay back as far as it will. The remainder is to be collected by a tax, levied upon the Moslems, it is said.

One of the largest importations of gold dust ever received at American ports has lately taken place. The amount is calculated at four million dollars.

The cholera up to the 1st Dec., had ceased throughout California, and the mining districts were reported healthy.

Some later intelligence from Jamaica states that cholera was still raging in the island, and the crops were in great danger of being lost through scarcity of labour.

In Vienna the anxiously-awaited general meeting of Bank shareholders took place on January 13th. The whole of the Bank directors were, notwithstanding their abdication, re-elected. Violent expressions against the press issued from this convocation of our money aristocracy—against the press in general, and Lloyd in particular.

In Trinidad the Colonial Secretary gave notice of a motion, at a sitting of the Board of Council on the 17th of December, for a vote of £100 for providing specimens of the various productions of the colony, to be forwarded to the Exhibition of 1851.

DEATH AND BURIAL OF GENERAL BEN.

A letter dated Aleppo, December 10th, gives the following painfully interesting particulars of the end of this brave soldier:—

A higher power has intervened to determine the duration of his mortal agonies in this place. I have returned from his funeral. You know I have spent very little upon ceremonies, yet there is a melancholy pleasure in observing the rites paid to a fellow exile by foreigners in a strange land. Ben's sickness was neither very long nor painful; a month before his death he was riding out. Some slight attacks of fever gave him no anxiety; and he could not be persuaded to take any medicine until three or four days before his death. His dwelling lay very low between gardens, near the banks of a river. According to the custom of the country, his body was exposed to the sun, and several persons were engaged in washing and dressing the corpse, while mullahs were praying around. The washings ended, the body was wound in a sheet and placed in a coffin, at the foot of which hung his fez. A coloured shawl was spread over the coffin. A military interment is a thing unknown in Turkey; however, on this occasion, Kerim Pasha, the commandant, the French and English consuls, many officers, and an immense crowd of soldiers, assembled. The procession moved on without much order. From twenty to thirty mullahs, in white robes, and began a monotonous and painful flapping of their hands, and a low, wailing cry, and would have gone further to his place of rest, but Turkish etiquette forbade. A great rush took place, and every one was anxious to catch a last glimpse of the coffin. Strong divisions of military were posted on the line of procession, many of the soldiers of which pressed forward to carry the coffin, even old Kerim Pasha would insist upon bearing a hand. Near Erichofe the coffin was deposited in the grave of a saint, where prayers were said. Arrived at the grave the body was taken out of the coffin and deposited in a grave five or six feet deep, the head lying towards Mecca. The shroud by which the winding sheet was secured were then cut, and the grave was filled up with large flat stones. The promise, which Ben had often repeated of late to relate to us the entire history of his life, has not been fulfilled. It is stated that he was only fifty-six years of age, although he appeared much older. His body was uncommonly weakened, but his restless spirit retained its force and vivacity to the last. From the moment of his transition to Islamism, all his efforts were directed to win his kindred to the religion of his new fatherland, and the Sultan, whom he greatly esteemed. I can say very little of his political belief; it is certain that he was anything but a democrat, and hated Socialism. He was heart and soul a soldier. The aims which he set before himself he followed up with great perseverance. His conversation was lively and intellectual; he was especially lively when speaking in the French language, of which he was completely master. He bore his detention with great resignation, and was quite resolved to close his tumultuous life here. He had laid the foundations of a sulphate manufactory here, and had some specimens of the mineral in his pocket, whence he was empowered to proceed with his works on a great scale, at the cost of the government. He was also requested by the government to give his superintendence to a large manufactory of arms.

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one in eleven of those living at that period of time.

IRELAND.

DECLINE OF PAUPERISM IN THE WEST.—Another, and by no means insignificant, symptom of the slow but steady improvement that has set in, even in the worst circumstanced parts of the west of Ireland, is elucidated by the official returns of the number of paupers chargeable to the Bellina Union on the 1st of January, 1850, and on the corresponding day in the present year. At the former period the gross total of the twenty-two electoral divisions amounted to 2,300, while at the latter this formidable mass of pauperism had declined very nearly one half—the number on the books being but 1,214.

GALLANT CONDUCT.—A few nights since, as James Haggerty was returning from Killuckan to his residence at Knockshebawn, he was attacked by a armed party of gypsies, who assailed him. Haggerty, however, was armed with a cut-throat knife from his pocket, with which he cut and lopped away at his opponents so vigorously, that they were compelled to retreat. The struggle was a severe one, and it is supposed that the majority of the ruffians were severely wounded. Haggerty had upwards of £200 on his person at the time, and there can be no doubt that robbery was the object of his assailants. *Westmeath Guardian.*

PAPAL AGGRESSION.—Preparations are in progress in an anti-papal movement in the county of Donegal. The circumstance of Lord Castlereagh having affixed his name, along with certain other members—to a document protesting against the enactment of any penal measures to curb the authority of the Holy See in England, appears to have given the impulse to the movement contemplated by his local ship's constituents. The local papers team with accounts of the movement, and the "backsliding" of the

ENDEMBERRED ESTATES COURT.—Twelve new petitions have been placed upon the file from parties seeking relief from debt, through the medium of the court in Henrietta-street. In the last batch there are some large and well circumstanced estates that are the notice of the speculative, but the incumbrances upon many of them are so fearfully disproportionate to the estimated value of the rentals, as to leave the tail creditors—if there be such—but scant hope of their demands being satisfied out of the proceeds of the sales, supposing even that the most extravagant rates of purchase were obtained.

EVICTIONS IN THE COUNTY OF DOWN.—The *Down* and *Democrat* publishes a formidable list of landlords who are preparing to take out ejection decrees at the Newry Quarter Sessions now sitting. Among the applicants are Lord Bangor, the trustees of Lord Kilmorey, General Meade, who obtained decrees against eight of his Marquis's tenants, and Lord Clancawilly, who has obtained a decree against one of his tenants. The value of the land varied from £10 to £30 a year. Lord Bangor's tenants are to be ejected at the rate of £100 a year. "Here," says the *Democrat*, "are preparations for wholesale ejection, in the county of Down, by marquises, earls, lords, parsons, and squires; and averaging the family of each person to be ejected at five persons, about 600 human beings may prepare very soon to walk forth from their homes in the county of Down, before the force of those landlords whom we have named."

REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY OF DOWNS.—The movement has commenced in this extensive county, and amongst the Anti-Protestant and Orange party, to get up a formidable opposition to Lord Castlereagh's plan on account of his having signed the declaration of rights by members, deprecating the enactment of any penal laws against the Roman Catholics, in connexion with the appointment of Roman Catholic Bishops in England. It is stated that Mr. D. S. Ker, or Mr. Stuart, as well of Finnecroge, will be called upon to start in

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.—The registration for the borough of Newry has been completed, and the numbers placed on the poll amount to 541 electors, or about half the number of those composing the constituency at the first registration under the Reform Act, and even less than the number of those who voted at the last election. With respect to religious denominations, the votes stand thus:—Protestants, 204; Roman Catholics, 220.

ADVANCE.—With reference to the resignation of Mr. Ashurst, the *Post* says of Mr. Ashurst, "Christian, Q. C., finding that the duties of law adviser to the Chief Secretary were incompatible with his constant attendance in the Court of Chancery, he resigned that office. We understand that the government have determined on placing the office upon its original footing, by the appointment of a gentleman from the outer bar to the vacant situation, thereby making it no longer an immediate step to the place of an officer of the Crown." The same journal announces the appointment of Mr. Cairn, son of John Cairn, Esq., to succeed Mr. Ashurst, as law adviser.

THE CIVIC BANQUET.—The Lord Mayor gave a

inaugural banquet on Tuesday evening, in the Mansions House. The dinner was laid in the King's Room, a temporary wooden building, erected on the occasion of George IV.'s visit to Ireland, nearly thirty years ago, and capable of accommodating six hundred persons. The guests were seated in a long hall, with red velvet and elmwood room from 400 to 500 guests. His Excellency, the Lord-Lieutenant, and all the leading officials, nobility and gentry at present in London, were among the guests. The banquet commenced at half past seven, and terminated at eight o'clock. After dinner the usual loyal and formal toasts were given, and then the company broke up shortly after twelve o'clock. Some disappointment was felt that no allusion was made in any of the speeches to the subject of "centralisation"; but this could scarcely have been done without interfering with the general urbanity and character of the proceedings, and its omission was regarded as a mark of good taste. The *Freeman's Journal* is referring in its civic banquet, says:—There was one feature in the civic banquet, says—There was

omit to notice, from the consistory, affords to the
rent display at Guildhall. At Guildhall the Chan-
cellor of England, who is heretofore to try Irish
Catholic causes if the policy succeeds—offered to kiss
the Cardinal's hat for the amusement of the Prime
Minister, and the rest of his auditory. At the pri-
vate banquet in Dublin, the health of Illis Grace, the
Catholic Archbishop of this diocese, was given by Sir
Lord Mayor, cheered by the mixed audience of which
the assembly was composed, and responded to with
plaudits. The Catholic priest, in the presence of the
Queen's representative. The contrast is instructive
and encouraging."

THE POPE AND THE QUEEN'S COLLEGES.—The
Tam Herald (published in the town where the
Archbishop M'Hale resides) asserts that letters re-
cently been received from Rome, which leave no
doubt that "all the decrees of the Synod of Thur-
low will be ratified by the Roman authorities, and the
survival in Ireland may be shortly expected."
The same paper declares that, "The book of
Professor de Vercurio (the College) has been con-
demned by the highest ecclesiastical authority
and put upon the Index."

THE KILBURN UNION.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Saturday, in the case of "The Queen v. the prosecution of Colonel C. M. Vandeleur, v. Captain E. Kennedy," after hearing Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, Q. C., for plaintiff, and Mr. Whitteside, Q. C., for defendant, the Chief Justice delivered judgment making the conditional order for a criminal information against Captain Kennedy absolute.

WINTER EMIGRATION.—The *Baltimore Star* says:—
"Immense numbers are leaving this country every day for America. We are not under the amount when we state that 200 people—men, women and children—have passed through this town during the past fortnight. From the severity of the weather

cur, and the great flood in the Shannon, the passengers were unable, on Thursday morning, to go farther than Shannon-harbour, and were obliged to wait there for the passengers from this were conveyed by cable to Athlone. There were about twenty-five conveyed on their way to Liverpool, to take shipping in America."

PLAYING WITH FIRE-ARMS.—The Cork Reporter contains the following:—"A very unfortunate occurrence took place at Cahireiveen on Saturday evening last, which, it is feared, must terminate fatally. Mr. Maurice O'Connell, M.P., a Mr. Twiss, and some other gentlemen dined together at the hotel—Bitzgerald's. Some discussion arose between Mr. Twiss and another gentleman present, and the latter left the party. The person with whom Mr. Twiss had had a discussion left the room. When he had gone, the latter observed that he had never seen a day upon which Mr. O'Connell said he would show off the way, and got a pair of pistols that had been seven months in Dublin. They took one each presented at each other, and pulled the trigger, when unfortunately the pistol which Mr. O'Connell had, happened to be loaded, the ball passed through the right shoulder of Mr. Twiss, and fell into the other, causing the most frightful suffering and inflicting, it is greatly feared, a mortal wound. Dr. Crump was called in at once, and the young man sent for Mr. Dillon, M.P., and made a declaration that the transaction was purely accidental, stating that he would not die in peace if he did not make a declaration to that effect."

AUTHORISED BLOODSHED ON RAILWAYS.

(From the Spectator.)

We have written in vain the report of the "full investigation" that was to take place into the collision of the 4th inst. at the Boxmoor station of the North Western Railway; but the Coroner's inquest into the accident at Ponder's End Station of the Eastern Counties Railway fully shows that it must be classed among those which might have been foreseen.

The guard of the special train which slaughtered Lodwick, the night inspector at Ponder's End, has been committed to Newgate for heedless driving; but the verdict of manslaughter against him was accompanied with an expression of censure on the imperfect arrangements and irregular practice of the Company. To us, indeed, it appears that the "accident" is less fairly ascribable to reckless driving than to the despatch of the special train without adequate precautions.

The evidence shows that the arrangements at the station where the collision occurred were not sufficient to secure the safety which they professed to maintain, and that a rigid calculation would have demonstrated their inadequacy beforehand; that the arrangements at the station from which the special train was sent were not sufficient to secure safety in the despatch of that special train; and also that the arrangements, inadequate as they were in their nature, were not completed even in form by the officer who sent the special train.

The arrangements at the London station were not sufficient to guarantee safe despatch of the special train. A Hertford goods train had left London twenty minutes too late; the night inspector of the telegraph department in Shoreditch telegraphed down the line to keep clear; but it appears that the arrangements for drawing attention at the telegraphic stations are so incomplete that there is frequently great delay in obtaining a response, and consequently no response at all. The telegraph offices of some intermediate stations—Lea Bridge, Watlington, Marshland, and Chessington—are supposed to be shut up after dark.* Here, then, we find gross uncertainty in the despatch of an ordinary train; and the delayed train is a slow train preceding a faster train; the telegraph means for clearing the line are imperfect in their nature and in regularity of attendance.

Such as they were, the precautionary arrangements were not completed in form. The imperfect working of those means were manifest at the London station; whether the telegraph night inspector knew it or not, it must have been known to somebody that the Hertford goods train had started late. The telegraph inspector received instructions to "speak" with all the stations between London and Cambridge at only five minutes before six o'clock. "I first spoke with Tottenham; ten minutes elapsed, however, before I could attract their attention." The next station I communicated with was Ponder's End. It was then about four minutes past six o'clock; I continued calling for ten minutes, and finding no attention was paid, I called at Waltham, and there also no reply was given for some time.

The inspector was to announce at these stations that the special train for Cambridge had started; it had started at ten minutes before six o'clock. The precautions to secure the safe despatch of the faster train were not commenced till after the train had started; and they were no sooner commenced than their total incompetency in the working made itself appear.

The arrangements at the station where the accident occurred were in their nature insufficient to secure safety. Now observe what happened at this station. In reading the evidence, the

monstrated their inadequacy beforehand; that the arrangements at the station from which the special

train was sent were not sufficient to secure safety in the despatch of that special train; and also that the arrangements, inadequate as they were in their nature, were not completed even in form by the officer who sent the special train.

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The arrangements at the station where the accident occurred were in their nature insufficient to secure safety. Now, however, it happened to be at this station. In reading the evidence, the fact first in point of time is, that the Haverhill goods train reached Ponder's End about six o'clock; stopped to leave a truck in the siding ("which would take three minutes), and departed "about five minutes past six."—so says the guard, but he had sent his watch to London for repairs.

The guard of the Norwich up goods train states that he arrived at his destination at 11.15 a.m.

At six o'clock, the Hertford train was then partly on the siding and partly on the main down line. As the train arrived at the crossing, the men of the Norwich up train began their, which was to detach a truck and "shunt" it across the down line on to the siding; it is said to take ten minutes to shunt a truck across the line. The Hertford train had departed about three minutes when the special train came up, dashed against the truck, which was not yet got clear of the line, and inflicted those frightful gashes of which Lodwick died. Lodwick evidently knew nothing of the special train; and, as the driver of the Hertford goods train knew nothing about it until he reached Waltham, it is very probable that if the truck of the Norwich train had escaped, the special train would have overtaken the Hertford train.

Such are the facts as they happened; now what were the standing arrangements at the station? At four stations on the line there is a level crossing, but of those four Ponder's End is the only one where it is necessary to shunt from the up-line to across the down line to a siding: "it takes not more than ten minutes" to effect that particular crossing of shunting. During the night there is only the night inspector at the station; but as soon as the train arrives the men belonging to it are under the orders of the night inspector. It is his business to attend to the trains, their shunting, the signals, the telegraph, and the gates of the level crossing. It is a rule that when there is an obstruction on the line, a man is to run back six hundred yards behind the obstruction, and to put down a percussion signal; but as that manœuvre would take about twenty minutes, and as the stoppages at Ponder's End are very short—say five or ten minutes—it is his standing practice to disregard that rule. The rule is said to be observed at other stations, but not at Ponder's End—the only station where there is a level crossing conjointly with the necessity for a transverse shunting.

From the facts it appears, that while the telegraph inspector at Shoreditch was engaged in trying to draw the attention of Lodwick, Lodwick was engaged in shunting the truck. It would also appear, that between the commencement of the telegraphing to Ponder's End station and the actual arrival of the

special train at that station, no sufficient time was allowed for a man to be sent back six hundred yards

along the line; therefore, even if Lodwick's attention had been attracted at the moment when the telegraphing began, it would have been too late to stop the special train.

The simple facts recorded in evidence irresistably establish these conclusions—that the precautions to prevent accidents at Ponder's End were incomplete, and in their nature unworkable; that the precautions available at the Shorefield station were in their nature imperfect; that they were not taken before the special train started, which made it impossible to repair omissions; and that they were begun absolutely too late to allow time for obeying the orders at Ponder's End, and therefore too late to prevent that very disaster which was confessedly unforeseen when the precautions were colourably begun. To state the case more simply, the Norwich goods train arrived at Ponder's End in the due course of duty, and its arrival about that time should have been foreseen; the shunting was an operation in the regular course of duty, and should have been provided for; into the truck crossing the line the special train was sent to dash without forewarning; the simplest device of correctness would have sufficed to prevent the disaster, by ascertaining that the line was not free, and keeping back the special train until it had been made free.

We are justified therefore in reckoning the Ponder's End slaughter among those which are performed by authority.

A MONSTER SHIP.—We learn that Jabez Williams and Son, shipbuilders, of Williamsburg, are to commence early next spring a clipper ship for a merchantable house in this city, engaged in the Liverpool trade, of an enormous size of 2,800 tons. Her length will be 230 feet, or seven feet longer than that of the United States ship of the line, *Pennsylvania*. In this respect, however, her dimensions did not exceed those of the great ship which has just been commenced by William H. Webb for N. L. and G. Griswold; but, in consequence of an increasing depth and breadth of beam, she will be some two hundred tons larger. No merchant vessel has ever been built at all approaching her in point of magnitude. She is to have three decks, and will be enabled to carry a vast number of passengers. — *New York Journal of Commerce.*

REPRESENTATION OF GLAMORGANSHIRE.—A rumour is abroad to the effect that Mr. Henry Thomas, who for many years has been vice-chairman of the quarter sessions of the county of Glamorgan, will be put forward in the Liberal interest as a candidate for Glamorganshire, on the vacancy occasioned by Earl Dunraven accepting the Chiltern Hundreds.

The Emperor of Austria has raised Charles and Joseph Poniatowski, sons of the Polish Stanislas Poniatowski, to the dignity of princes of the Austrian empire.

