New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXVI.....No. 8,026. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1866. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

EUROPE.

NEWS BY STEAMER TO DEC. 13.

The Inman steamer City of Boston, which left Liverpool at noon on the 12th and Queenstown on the 13th, arrived here early on Thursday morning.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE FENIAN AGITATION—ARRESTS—THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND THE GOVERNMENT—THE ALLEGED PRIVATEER.

The state of Ireland continues to excite grave interest. All parties agree in repressing rebellion with a strong arm, but the Tories dislike to use, and the Liberals fear to see used, the means necessary to repress the conspiracy. The revolt doubtless exercises an unfavorable influence at the Reform movement, since there is a certain difficulty in opposing a Government by argument which others oppose by arms, and the excitement distracts attention from purely political questions.

DUBLIN, Dec. 12.—A search for arms was this day made by the police in the Ormond Tavern, Ormond-quay, which proved unsuccessful so far as arms were concerned. In the course of their search, however, they found two young men in the house, whom they arrested on suspicion of complicity in Fenianism, and conveyed to Chancery-lane Station House. Their names are Jerome O'Keefe and John O'Connor.

Two men were also arrested this morning at the North Wall, whose names are Peter Kennedy and Edward Toomey. They were also conveyed to Chancery-lane Station.

The Lord Lieutenant's warrant for the above arrests has not yet arrived. They all seem respectable young men; and should the inquiries which are about being made respecting them prove satisfactory, it is stated they will not be detained in custody.

The Dublin correspondent of *The Times* writes:

"A joint Pastoral from the Roman Catholic Bishops against the Fenian conspiracy is expected. There is no doubt that the priests as a body are using their influence and authority to put it down. They believe, and not without reason, that for this service the Legislature and the Government will not be ungrateful, and that an attempt will be made to produce loyalty among the Roman Catholics of Ireland by the policy of conciliation which has been so successful in producing loyalty in Canada. The first stroke of this policy, it is hoped, will be the granting of a Charter for the Catholic University."

The Shipping Gazette says there is no doubt that the Bolivar, seized as an alleged Fenian vessel, will be immediately released, as she is duly commissioned to the United States of Colombia. The representative of the United States of Colombia has placed himself in communication with the Foreign Office in reference to the seizure.

THE CASE OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

In the Court of Admiralty, 11th December, Dr. Lushington gave judgment in the case of the Beatrice, otherwise the Rappahannock. This was a suit against the American Government, who had seized the Beatrice at Liverpool on the ground that it had been used by the Confederates, and was now the property of the United States. While that question was pending the plaintiff made his claim for cordage supplied as an equipment. The American Government denied the jurisdiction of the Court on several grounds, and the plaintiff having answered that the vessel "was the property of certain American citizens," the defendant moved the Court to reject the answer, and the case was argued on a former day. His lordship now gave judgment on the application to reject the plaintiff's answer. It was difficult to decide when cordage was an equipment or a necessary. But there was an allegation of the plaintiff's, "that the vessel was the property of certain American citizens," which was too vague. It was well known what was meant by the expression, but it was necessary that the answer should be amended and particulars given of "the certain American citizens." He would say nothing on the subject of costs. Order accordingly.

THE RUSSELL-GLADSTONE MINISTRY—THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The Morning Herald complains that the last Ministry left everything at sixes and sevens, set bad precedents, and excited unreasonable aspirations. It was, says *The Herald*, lax in the affairs of Naples in 1860, vigorous *against the Confederates* during the American war, and now that the Garibaldians have got up a revolution in Crete, Lord Palmerston's policy is in the way.

The following may be an apology for acts of the ministry not yet made public: "To support the Ottoman Government has become the necessity rather than the policy of England. . . . " The intestine troubles of Turkey are inextricably mixed up with Russian intrigue and French ambition, and if the Turks were left to fight it out with their rebellious subjects, the honors of the struggle and the religious sympathies of Europe would make the public opinion of the North and West too strong for theories of non-intervention, and convert Turkey into a battle-ground whereon interested powers would scramble for the fragments of the Porte's dominions.

OVEREND, GURNEY & Co.

The Committee of Supervision of Overend, Gurney & Co. have issued a circular. It states that the liabilities of the Company, which at the time of the stoppage amounted to £9,000,000, have been reduced to about £5,000,000, and assets amounting to nearly £1,500,000 are now awaiting distribution. The circular deprecates the legal proceedings commenced by some of the shareholders as deeply prejudicial to the realization of the estate, as they multiplied expenses thereby to an enormous amount.

THE CANADIAN DELEGATES.

The delegates in London from the British North American Provinces had organized themselves into a conference, and held daily sittings under the Presidency of the Hon. James McDonald.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF LONDON.

Mr. Charles Buxton, M. P., presided over a meeting held at St. James's Hall on the night of the 11th, to promote a reform in the local government of London. Mr. Thomas Hughes and other speakers pointed out that London was worse off than any of the large provincial towns, in having no corporate unity and life, and the following resolution in favor of radical reform was agreed to: "That any attempt to amend the existing system would be ineffectual; and that nothing less than the establishment of municipal institutions similar to those enjoyed by other cities and towns in the kingdom, would secure a government calculated to command the confidence of the inhabitants."

REORGANIZATION OF GERMANY.

The journals discuss with a great deal of interest a plan for reorganizing Germany written by Prince Albert in 1848.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW.

The Smithfield Cattle show goes on rather languishingly. The exhibition is rather meager and the visitors not numerous.

FRANCE.

RUMORS OF MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

Rumors of M. Fould's early retirement, and other changes of moment in the French Cabinet, were again in circulation.

THE POPE.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The *Patrie* of this morning expresses very neatly the Imperial idea about the Pope. It says:

"The execution of the September Convention will be a *fait accompli* to-morrow. Despite sinister prophecies and violent excitements; despite counsels more interested than sincere, we firmly hope that the Pope will not abandon the tomb of the Apostles. Pius IX. will remain at Rome protected by the Convention which France has loyally executed, and which Italy will not wish to break.

"Why may we not hope that the Pope, rising by virtue of his great sagacity above the passions which rage around him, and reverting to the first policy of his Pontificate, be willing to give to the Romans an administrative system more in harmony with the spirit of the age, and to take due account of those political necessities to which all sovereigns are subject? "Will his sacred character suffer by his ceasing to attach to human institutions, so changing is their nature, that immobility which characterizes religious things?" "Will the majesty of the Pontiff be compromized by giving more liberal institutions to the Roman people? or will he be less reverenced by them when he shall bestow his benediction upon Rome and the universe in the great Catholic festivities?"

The *Constitutionnel* says that there will not be to-night a single soldier on Papal soil, from which the *Independance Belge* infers that the *Patrie* was ill-informed when it stated that four companies would remain until the end of the month.

It is still reported that M. de Sartiges remains in Paris to accompany the Empress to Rome, while the *Liberté* believes that the journey of the Empress has been indefinitely postponed. It is quite natural that others should infer that the French embassador awaits in Paris the result of the negotiations between Rome and Italy. The Paris correspondent of the *Independance Belge* asserts that M. Persigny has refused invitation to Compiegne, and for the time declines all participation in public affairs.

Another correspondent of the same paper says that Cardinal Bonnechose had written to the Emperor a violent letter, demanding the continuance of the occupation, to which letter the Emperor replied in very mild language, to the effect that while desiring equally with the Cardinal the security of the Holy See, he yet believed that the occupation had become useless now that profound peace reigns in the Peninsula, that he has entire confidence in the loyal execution of the 15th of September, and that this convention affords complete security for the exercise of the mission of the Holy Father. The *Monde* (Catholic) prefaced its publication of Archbishop Dorboy's moderate *Mondement* thus:

"Certain Christians are a sort of chloroformists. The most of these chloroformists love to sleep, to dream happy dreams, and they dislike whatever shakes them out of their luxurious quietude. We hear Catholics say: Why do you disturb yourselves? Everything is arranged. Have confidence; the Church cannot perish and the Pope cannot quit Rome. We hear this every day; meanwhile the chloroformist continues his functions and the fatal day arrives."

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The *Moniteur* publishes advices from the City of Mexico to the 9th ult., which state that the Emperor Maximilian was still at Orizaba, and that nothing had transpired to show what his ulterior intentions might be. "The concentration of our troops," adds the *Moniteur*, "is being effected without the occurrence of any important incident."

The *Constitutionnel* of to-day contradicts a statement that the Custom-House officials at Vera Cruz had refused to submit to the control of the agents of the French Government.

The *Patrie* of last evening states, that as soon as the Emperior Maximilian received notice of the Empress's illness, he at once formed the resolution of proceeding to Miramar. He subsequently, however, altered his intention in consequence of the representations of the leaders of the Conservative party, and determined to return to the City of Mexico, and there formally abdicate. On the 13th of November the Emperor had not yet arrived in the Mexican capital, but it is not known whether any further change has taken place in His Majesty's resolutions.

The *France* announces that letters have been received in Paris from the Emperor Maximilian, dated Orizaba, Nov. 17, but adds that they refer principally to certain arrangements which His Majesty desires should be made in the residence of the Empress Charlotte at Miramar, and to the steps to be taken for that purpose.

La Liberté speculates at length upon the muddle about the Mexican Empire. It points out that this enterprise ends as it began in a world of uncertainties and conjectures. It was in 1864 long uncertain whether Maximilian would go to Mexico, and now we only know that we do not know whether he has started homeward.

It regrets that while the Atlantic Cable is so lavish of dispatches to M. Bombelles and the Archduchess Sophia, it cannot afford the *Moniteur* a single word, or say anything to encourage the French, who have great interests at stake.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The *Patrie* of this evening states that Porfirio Diaz, who is in command of the Juarists at Oajaca, has issued a proclamation ordering that the lives and property of the French residents be respected, and threatening with severe punishment any persons who may infringe his orders on this subject.

THE LONGEST CABLE DISPATCH.

La Liberté also returns to the subject of the long dispatch sent from Washington to Mr. Bigelow, which it first reported to the public. It says it required ten hours to transmit it at seven words per minute, and cost more than £2,000.

THE NEW ARMY ORGANIZATION.

The journals comment generally in a favorable tone upon the army organization adopted, the substance of which is that it adds 50 per cent to the available force of the empire in an emergency.

PRUSSIA.

The following dispatches have been received in London:

THE PRUSSIAN CHAMBERS.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—In to-day's sitting the Chamber of Deputies sanctioned the permanent as well as the exceptional expenditure for the Bay of Jahde.

The proposal of the committee, relating to the grant of 500,000 thalers for the improvement and fortification of the Prussian naval establishment at Kiel, was almost unanimously agreed to.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—In to-day's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, before the Budget relating to the Government mines was agreed to, the Minister of Commerce declared in the most positive manner that the Government had no intention of selling the coal mines of Saarbrecken to a private company.

NORTH GERMAN CONFERENCE—A WARNING TO HANOVER.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—The ministerial conference, which is to deliberate upon the Constitution of the North German Confederation, will meet in this city on the 15th inst. Prussia will be represented by Count von Bismarck and Herr von Savigny. The semi-official *Provinzial Correspondenz* expresses hopes that the measures which have recently been adopted in Hanover will serve as a warning, and will relieve the Government from the necessity of carrying out to their full extent the severe measures which it has been resolved, if necessary, to adopt.

PRUSSIA AND THE POPE.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—The semi-official *North German Gazette* of this evening says:

"The communications contained in the Berlin correspondence of the *Patrie* relative to the position taken up by Prussia in the Roman question, are only so far true that the Prussian Government, as already announced, has expressed its earnest wishes to the Italian Cabinet that an understanding may be arrived at with the Court of Rome. The expectations which the *Patrie* further gave publicity to are erroneous, and the statement in the Paris correspondence of the *Cologne Gazette*, that the *Patrie* had received its intelligence from the Prussian embassy in Paris, is also without foundation."

PRUSSIA AND SAXONY.

DRESDEN, Dec. 11.—The official *Dresden Journal* of to-day publishes an article exhorting the Saxon press to cultivate a good feeling toward Prussia, as a cordial understanding between the two countries is the earnest wish of the Saxon Government.

HESSE-DARMSTADT.

DARMSTADT, Dec. 11.—The elections in Upper Hesse for deputies to the North German Parliament are fixed to take place in the middle of January.

A PETITION FROM NORTHERN SCHLESWIG.

A deputation of the inhabitants from the town of Hadelsleben had been received by Count Bismarck. In reply to their inquiries the Minister stated that the popular vote in North Schleswig, whether those districts are to belong to Prussia or Denmark, will be taken, but not until after the consolidation of the state of affairs generally in the Elbe Duchies.

AUSTRIA.

THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST BENEDEK.

The Emperor, in a letter to the Minister of War, orders all further judicial proceedings against Marshal Benedek and other generals for their conduct during the late war to be dropped. A deputation from the Lower Austrian Diet had presented to the Emperor the address requesting the convocation of the Reichsrath. His Majesty replied that he would take their request into consideration.

ADDRESS OF THE HUNGARIAN DIET.

PESTH, Dec. 12.—The following is a more complete summary of the draft of the address which will be discussed on Saturday next in the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet. The address states that the last Royal Rescript has not been able to allay the apprehensions entertained by Hungary, notwithstanding the promises and the acknowledgments of the national rights contained therein, since the request of the Diet for an immediate reëstablishment of the constitution has not been complied with.

The address requests the Emperor not to render a satisfactory reconciliation impossible by postponing the reestablishment of the legal basis of public affairs, and continues as follows:

"There are situations in the life of nations which can never be maintained without danger. Such is the case when the internal affairs of a nation have been unsettled for a long period. Always dangerous, such a position of things is in the present day particularly perilous when we are threatened by great European questions calculated to produce serious complications. Our own affairs and those of the Empire generally are not so completely set in order that we could calmly meet all the emergencies that might arise; foreign complications might reach us as by some unforeseen incidents."

The address requests his Majesty to grant means and opportunitities to the Diet for effecting a satisfactory compromise.

"Before all," it continues, "it is necessary to that end that the constitution of Hungary should be completely reëstablished. We ask this in the interest of our own country, of your Majesty, of the dynasty, and of the whole Empire. Our demands are justified by the fundamental laws which form the basis of the mutual legal relations between us and the Imperial dynasty. That portion of the Royal Rescript which refers to the common affairs of Austria and Hungary, and to the draft of the Committee of Fifteen, can only be discussed when the Diet is in a position to consider the whole constitutional scheme, and to pass resolutions in reference thereto."

The address again requests that those persons upon whom sentences have been passed, or who are exiled for political offenses, shall be amnestied.

"The fulfillment of these requests can alone satisfy the Hungarian nation, and give hope for the arrangement of a successful compromise."

In conclusion, the address requests his Majesty not to delay the fulfillment of these demands, and states that the Diet has learned with great satisfaction from the Royal Rescript that the Emperor intends to introduce in his other Provinces also the principle of Ministerial responsibility.

PESTH, Dec. 12—Evening.—The extreme left of the Lower House have resolved to submit to the Diet a separate draft of an address. The sittings of the Committee on Common Affairs commence on Monday next.

ITALY.

FLORENCE, Dec. 11—Evening—A royal decree has been issued approving the convention signed by the Italian Minister of Public Works with the Roman Railway Company.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.

The missive of M. Tonello refers only to religious matters. The Italian Government has already disposed of three of the four points of difference. It has recalled all the Bishops to their dioceses, consented that the new Bishops may be appointed for vacant Sees without an oath of allegiance to the Government, and professes a willingness to compromise on the question of reducing the number of Sees. It has further made a *fait accompli* of the appropriation of conventual property and provided salaries for the members of the religious orders, and it is believed that the Pope may be induced to overlook this altogether. Once having settled the ecclesiastical difference, it is believed that M. Tonello will offer the Pope Italian protection on terms which he cannot safely decline; in short it is the common opinion that once the two Powers begin to talk they will arrange all their outstanding difficulties. Whether the Jesuits, the Garibaldians, the Roman populace or the Roman committee will precipitate matters by violent action has been a question of some moment, but is so no longer to the majority.

THE PAPAL STATES.

ROME, Dec. 12.—The Peter's Pence offerings since September, 1859, amount to 53,000,000 francs.

The *Opinione* of to-day states that the convention for the apportionment of the Pontifical debt arrived here today from Paris for ratification.

Letters received here from Rome assert that at a consistory, to be held on the 15th inst., the Pope will deliver a highly important allocution.

Turin and Florence papers say that the National Committee at Rome has organized a National Guard, and that they are also preparing for a national plebiscite. It is noteworthy that while liberal journals in France profess to believe that Victor Emanuel will go to Rome by arrangement with the Pope, substituting France as a protector, the Italian people say that the King will go to Rome as he went to Naples and Venice, on the invitation of the Roman people.

SPAIN.

VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO PORTUGAL.

LISBON, Dec. 11.—The Queen of Spain and the King Consort arrived here to-day. They were met at the railway station by the King of Portugal, by whom they were escorted to the palace at Belein. The city will be illuminated this evening.

A LETTER FROM VICTOR HUGO ON THE STRUGGLE IN CRETE.

M. Victor Hugo has written a letter, of which the following is a translation, in reference to the revolutionary contest in Candia:

"A cry reaches me from Athens. In the City of Phidias and Æschylus an appeal is made to me—my name is pronounced. What, am I to deserve such an honor? Nothing but a vanquished man. And who are they who call to me? The vanquished. Yes, heroic Candiotes, the fallen of to-day, you are the victors of the future. Persevere. Even if you are prostrated, you will triumph. The protestation of a dying agony is a power. It is an appeal to God, who crushes—what? Kings! Those mighty ones who are now against you, those coalitions of blind force and stubborn prejudice, those armed antique tyrannies, have as their principal attribute a remarkable facility of making shipwreck. The tiara is on the poop, the turban on the prow, the old monarchical ship is leaking. It is at this very hour foundering in Mexico, in Austria, in Spain, in Hanover, in Saxony, at Rome, and elsewhere. Persevere! You vanquished? Impossible! The insurrection suppressed is not a principle destroyed. There are no more *faits accomplis*; there is only Right. Fact is never completed. Its perpetual incompleteness is the opening which is left to Right. Right cannot be submerged. The waves of events pass over it. It reappears. Drowned Poland floats on the surface. For 94 years European policy has torn this corpse, and the world has seen its soul floating above the *faits accomplis*. Greeks of Candia, you have right on your side, and you have also reason. Why a Pasha should exist in Crete is beyond comprehension. That which is true of Italy is true also as regards Greece. Venice cannot be restored to the one without Crete being restored to the other. That which is there a resurrection, cannot be here a sepulchre. But in the mean time blood is flowing, and Europe permits it. She gets accustomed to it. To-day it is the Sultan's turn to exterminate a nationality. Is there a Turkish divine right venerated as the Christian divine right? Murder, robbery, violation, are at this moment sweeping over Candia as, six months ago, they dashed over Germany. That which would not be allowed to Scninderhannes is allowed to policy. To have the sword in hand and quietly to witness these murders, this is called statesmanship. It would seem that religion is interested in what the Turks are quietly doing—the cutting of Candian throats—and that society would be shaken if, between Scarperto and Cytherea, little children were not put to the sword. There the ravaging of crops and the burning of villages is useful. The motive which explains and tolerates these exterminations is beyond our penetration. Alas! one of the humiliations of men whom a long exile has made stupid (I am one of them) is that they cannot comprehend the great reasons of the present assassins. Never mind. The Cretan question is henceforth clear. It will be solved, and solved like all the other questions of this age, in the sense of deliverance. Greece complete, Italy complete—Athens at the head of one, Rome at the head of the other—this is what we—France—owe to our brothers. It is a debt that France will acquit; it is a duty that France will discharge. When? Persevere.

VICTOR HUGO.

Hauteville House, Dec. 2, 1866.

COREA.

THE MASSACRE OF THE FRENCH MISSIONARIES IN COREA.

The following interesting particulars are extracted from a Toulon letter:

"Important news has been circulating here on the subject of events in the China and Japan seas. The French Government, entirely disapproving of any attempt of an expedition against the kingdom of Corea, directed Rear Admiral Roze to undertake nothing till further orders, as the massacre of the French Missionaries required an exemplary chastisement which would be better deferred to a more opportune moment. Vengeance, though tardy, would only be more terrible on that account. There was an objection to engage in a hazardous operation before obtaining a full knowledge of the approaches and resisting power of that mysterious country. The prudent provisions of the Government are in some sort confirmed by the last dispatches. Admiral Roze having penetrated into the Sea of Corea, abounding in dangerous shoals, was for a moment compromised and threatened with a great disaster; obliged to be continually casting the lead in the waters where the tides are subject to variations of some 30 to 40 feet every 24 hours, he found himself at last stranded on coral reefs with all his little flotilla, consisting of the steam corvette Primauguet and several small gunboats. A catastrophe appeared imminent, when a high tide floated the vessels and enabled them to emerge from their dangerous position. After this escape, the French squadron, trusting entirely to the map of Commander Guerin, as being remarkably correct, made way toward the mouth of a river indicated as one of the principal outlets of the capital of Corea. Ascending the stream very slowly, they reached, at four leagues from the mouth, a large village, where a strong body of armed men were occupied in constructing weirs. After some fruitless attempts at a conference, the Admiral, seeing that his presence caused no cessation of the work, destroyed the stockade by cannon shot, and fired grape into the hostile *corps d'armee*, which took to flight in every direction. During this short engagement it was remarked that the Corean troops marched barefooted, and that the greater part of the soldiers were armed with bows and arrows and carried pikes. The admiral, who only intended to make a hydrographical *reconnaissance* to facilitate ulterior operations, has left these inhospitable shores to join his main squadron in the China seas."

INDIA AND CHINA.

INDIAN FINANCES.

The Times says the reason for the Government having notified so much before the requisite time that India Five per cents will not be paid off in 1870, is said to consist simply in the fact that, looking at the railway and other requirements of the country, it was found there was no probability of its being expedient to exercise the power of redemption at that date, and that it was considered the holders were entitled to this knowledge as soon as it could be conveyed to them.

FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

BOMBAY, Nov. 30.—Cotton rather firmer; week's shipments, 10,800 bales. Exchange 2/ 1d. Freights to Liverpool, 22/ 6d.

CALCUTTA, Nov. 29.—Exchange, 2/ 1d. Freights to England, 40/.

A Hong Kong dispatch says that the pirates who seized the American schooner Gen. Sherman, after tying the crew to the masts, set the vessel on fire, and they all perished, also two English passengers.

MALTA.

THE MALTA AND ALEXANDRIA TELEGRAPH.

VALETTA, Dec. 11.—The Malta and Alexandria Telegraph line is again ruptured. The fault in the cable is 230 miles from Alexandria.

The Hawk, at Alexandria, will proceed to repair the damage as soon as the weather is favorable.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

DUBLIN.

IMPORTANT SEIZURES BY THE GOVERNMENT—DISCOVERY OF A MANUFACTORY OF "GREEK FIRE"—DETENTION OF A SUPPOSED FENIAN PRIVATEER—CAPTURE OF A FENIAN COMMITTEE, &C.

From Our Special Correspondent.

DUBLIN, Dec. 12, 1866.

The Government are now going to their work "with their coats off." Daily, almost hourly, they are snapping up young men in this city and in all parts of the country on the barest suspicion of a connection with Fenianism. They are in no way scrupulous about the business; the critical time is supposed to be at hand, and they think it better to err on the safe side of the line; that is, better to have some hundreds of innocent persons in prison until the time fixed for a "rising" by James Stephens has passed, than to leave any out who would be likely to rally at once at the summons of the Head Center.

When Dr. Power was arrested last week there was found on him, or in his house—if we may credit the police—a list which implicated a number of persons, and would lead to their capture. Whether in consequence of such a discovery or not, several persons have been taken into custody in Dublin since then. I mentioned in my last letter that while I was writing, on Saturday night, arrests were being made in a tobacconist's shop at the corner of Sackville-st. The proprietors, two respectable young men, brothers, of the name of Kelly, were the persons captured.

On Monday night the police proceeded to a house in Portland-st., the residence of an attorney's clerk named Stack, and took into custody nine persons whom they found enjoying themselves at his table drinking brandy-punch. The men, though taken quite by surprise, had neither maps nor plans nor documents of any kind before them, yet the police have chosen to represent them as a Fenian Committee—on what grounds no one can tell, except that some of their number were known to be sympathizers with "the cause." A search for arms was instituted, but nothing was found beyond a few rifle bullets, which curiously enough, were taken from the pocket of a dress belonging to Mrs. Stack. The names of the arrested are William Stack, John Clune, Eugene O'Sullivan, David Peebles Stilt, John Bennet Walsh, John Healy, James Dowling, Michael Cloney and James Bowes.

On the same day a still more startling seizure was made in a house on Ballybough road, convenient to Kenny's vitriol works. A large quantity of what is called "Greek fire" was there discovered, with all the materials and apparatus for manufacturing it. These articles were immediately carted away to the Castle yard, and the proprietor of the house, a man named John A. Smith, was taken into custody. This discovery has created much alarm in the city, for it is supposed the manufacture of the terrible liquid has been going on for a considerable time, and that the stock seized was merely the last brewing, so to speak. It is plain enough that even supposing the Fenians to be unable to meet the soldiers, they might with this stuff burn down half the city if they so pleased; and it is little wonder that this fact should affright the loyal shopkeepers, especially such of them as are in any way obnoxious to the popular feeling. The Government are at present having the stuff analyzed. So far the reports. But, query: On what authority do the police describe it as the "Greek," or liquid fire? They do not appear to have tested it in any way. However, some of the Fenians themselves do not deny that the stuff was part of their stores, and they blame the arrest of Dr. Power for its discovery. They relied much on the efficacy of that fluid for the working out of their plans. Only desperate men could think of resorting to so fearful an agency to aid them in the conflict. The excuse they offer is that the Government have too many advantages over them, and that the weaker party are free to do all they can to redress the inequality.

But day after day the arm of the Government in Ireland is being made stronger. New accessions of force are arriving, new elements of resistance to the threatened popular outburst are being made ready for the occasion. Troops are still coming in from England. On Monday the screw troop-ship Orontes sailed from Portsmouth for Ireland with the 48th Regiment on board. On yesterday the troop-ship Tamar sailed for Ireland with the 71st Light Infantry. Yesterday an order was received at Chatham garrison directing further detachments from the Royal Artillery to be held in readiness to proceed to Ireland. Are reenforcements arriving to James Stephens in a like manner? Who can believe it? The chances against him have been doubled, aye, quadrupled, during the last few weeks. No wonder it should be so. He gave the Government fair and timely notice of his intention to attack them, as if to prevent any possibility of their being taken unawares. Of course they have taken the hint; they have put their house in order, and however it might have been with him previously, they are now in a position to dispose easily, speedily, and effectually of any force their informant can bring against them.

We had another sensation to-day, caused by a telegram from London announcing that a large three-masted screw steamer, pierced for four guns and having a quantity of arms and ammunition on board, had been captured in the Medway on suspicion of being intended as a Fenian privateer. Her crew, it is said, were found to be mostly Irish. Their representation is that the vessel had been purchased for a war steamer by the Republic of Columbia, and was on her way to South America. A strong party of marines have been placed on board her, and two British war vessels keep her covered with their guns—one of them lying quite close to her to prevent her escape. What the facts regarding her may turn out to be we have at present no means of knowing, but the prevalent opinion here is that the statement made by the crew will be found to be correct.

In reply to the memorial of the Cork magistrates the Government have informed them that the power of calling out special constables in certain emergencies, of which they are to be the judge, is vested by law in the magistracy. If they apprehend tumults or riots, and believe that the regular forces of the Government are insufficient to meet the danger, they are at liberty to take that step. As a consequence of this declaration, the enrollment will probably be commenced very soon in various parts of the country. The popular papers apprehend that evil consequences will result.

James Stephens has not yet shown up. There are yet 19 days before him in which to fulfill his promise by appearing on Irish soil, and starting, or trying to start, a vain and hopeless insurrection.

Cardinal Cullen has issued a pastoral in which the projected insurrection is condemned as a proceeding opposed to the laws of the church. I led the reader to expect as much some time ago. Some of our Tory journals intimate that his language is not at all strong enough for the occasion, and one of them complains of his remark that in heaven "misgovernment and oppression shall be no more," as if it were a sharp cut at the British Government.

FLORENCE.

MORE ABOUT PROFESSOR VILLARI'S PAMPHLET—LECTURES ON FLORENTINE HISTORY—A COLORED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES IN FLORENCE—ADMIRAL PERSANO'S TRIAL—THE ELECTIONS IN VENETIA—NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE POPE.

From Our Special Correspondent.

FLORENCE, Dec. 1, 1866.

In my letter of the 17th November I gave a brief summary of the contents of a pamphlet by Professor Pasquale Villari, entitled "*A Chi è la Colpa.*" It has already gone through several editions, but I now allude to it again to relate a fact, illustrative of the good spirit animating so many Italians at this present time. A Milanese apothecary, named Erba, has, at his own expense, distributed a edition through all the cities of Italy, and is now doing the same good work for the cities of Venetia. Another Italian citizen, Salvagnoli, has proposed, in order to improve industrial skill, that a certain number of young artisans should be sent to Paris next year to take a lesson from the examples of foreign manufacture at the great Exhibition. An amendment has been, however, moved by the Provincial Deputation of this city, by which it has been suggested that instead of being sent to Paris, these young men should be maintained for a year or more at various seats of manufacture abroad. Great credit is, however, given to Salvagnoli for his first idea. As another means to promote and encourage the industry of the country and to create an assurance of future wealth and prosperity, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has issued a circular, calling on the Syndics and authorities in every Province of the kingdom to collect specimens of the natural products, in order to illustrate the various resources of Italy in the approaching Exhibition. It has been supposed that Italian wines will not bear export like those of France and Spain; but this appears to be an error, fostered by France, who does not desire a rival in commerce more than in political power south of the Alps, and confirmed by the condition of the wines themselves, caused by neglect in the manufacture. It has been proved on examination that the Italian wines, if properly made, are quite as capable of export as the French and Spanish, and they are expected to form a fruitful branch of commerce.

Last Wednesday, the 28th of November, Professor Villari began his Winter course of lectures at the Institute. His subject is Florentine History. The inference drawn from this lecture, is that one of the principal causes why a Republic as flourishing as that of Florence in the sixteenth century, and as superior in civilisation and wealth, (considering its size) to the monarchical States of that period, fell so easy a prey to foreign and and domestic tyrants, was the narrow spirit which confined the privileges of freedom within the limits of the city walls. The commercial Guilds, which took the lead in Florence, were those whose traffic led them beyond their city, and they promoted the extension of territory on all sides, under the jurisdiction of the municipality; but the peasantry and the citizens of the conquered towns, were alike subjects of Florence, not free men. Their numbers, therefore, weakened rather than strengthened the power of the Republic. Thus it has always been; the short-sighted selfishness, which sacrifices the interest of any one class, or race, or order, to what, at the time, is supposed to be the interest of the dominant class, or race, or order, is, sooner or later, sure to meet with its just reward. It is to the enlarged spirit of liberality, induced by a common desire to rid themselves of petty tyrants supported by foreign usurpers, as well as of the High Priests of Catholic Christendom, which has given power to the revolution from whence has sprung union, with an Italian Nation and Government.

There is here, at present, a colored lady from the States. Some years ago she was refused a passport to travel on the European continent by Mr. Buchanan, at that time American Minister to England; he used the plea that she was no citizen of the United States, and had no country. She accordingly caused herself to be naturalized an Englishwoman, then a necessary and wise step, though, happily for the progress of civilization, as well as for the growth, prosperity and moral influence of the United States, she might now enjoy the privileges she then coveted in her native land. During her residence in England this lady has been trained as a sick-nurse in the London hospitals, and has the highest credentials from the surgeons there. A philanthropic desire to aid the wounded in the late war brought her to Florence a few months ago; but her services were no longer needed, and she is now therefore occupied pursuing her studies under the most celebrated surgeons here, and has obtained admittance as a nurse into the hospitals. Her color, far from proving a disadvantage, has been the means of opening every thing to her; for the Italians, with the usual absence of narrow prejudice which distinguishes them, are delighted to discover an equal amount of intelligence, though under a skin some shades darker than their own.

The trial of Admiral Persano is to be reopened this day, the 1st of December. He does not appear to shrink from the investigation, but proposes to undertake his own defense, and his friends believe that the chief blame of the naval defeat at Lissa will rest on those officers who refused to obey the orders of their chief. An article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* of November, entitled *Lissa*, points out the errors of Admiral Persano's tactics, which are excused on the plea of ignorance of the new method of naval warfare required since steamers and iron-clads have been substituted for sailing vessels.

The elections in Venice and Venetia for the approaching session of Parliament excite considerable attention. Here are a people whose fathers for 14 centuries enjoyed the privilege of an independent State, whose freedom and constitutional government presented a model for those of the most civilized nations in early days, but who, by allowing too much power to fall into the hands of an aristocracy, gradually sunk into decay. Neither their wealth, their refinement, nor their art could save them from falling a prey to foreign invaders, who handed them over to others, as it suited their convenience. Now they have recovered their liberty to form a Province of the great Italian kingdom, and, what once might have seemed a humiliation is now their glory and their pride. Lendinom, a town on the Venetian frontier near where the Po branches off to its several mouths, has chosen Gen. Garibaldi for its deputy. The *Diritto*, a liberal paper, here remarks that she has done well and made amends for the choice Venice has made of La Marmora while omitting "the greatest captain of the people, who, on the Tyrolese mountains, maintained unsullied the valor of Italy, and kept alive the fame of her achievements." The *Nazione*, the fashionable paper of Florence, and which generally contains more news, as it probably has more sources open to it, condemns the nomination of Garibaldi, as he has been already elected a deputy elsewhere, and still more severely comments on that of Count Pier Luigi Bembo by one of the Electoral colleges of Venice. It seems that Bembo is well known for having advocated a Lombardo-Venetian kingdom in 1848-1850, under the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, and that he afterward accepted an Austrian appointment,—his liberalism, in short, dates from this year, 1866.

Commendatore Vegezzi is again to be sent to Rome to renew his negotiations with the Pope, begun last year. Among the pamphlets published on this topic, that signed Stefano Porcaro has most reputation. The real Stefano Porcaro lived and died by the hand of the hangman in the middle of the fifteenth century, under one of the most humane of the Roman Pontiffs. As the historian relates, Porcaro was by birth "noble, his reputation spotless;" but inspired by a famous poem to liberty by the celebrated Italian poet, Petrach, a man of learning, with noble aspirations, he attempted to free Rome from priestly domination, and perished accordingly. "The Romans," proceeds Gibbon, "pitied and almost applauded these martyrs of their country, but their applause was mute, their pity ineffectual and their liberty forever extinct."

The author of this pamphlet, who has assumed the name of Porcaro, begins by reviewing the state of parties in Rome at this moment, when the speedy approach of the end of a foreign occupation will afford a favorable opportunity for each to come forward in the struggle for independence. He declares the right of Romans to govern themselves, and that Rome belongs to her own people; he describes the Senate as a magistracy which outlived Kings, Republic, and Emperors, and that the constant antagonism between the Popes and the German Emperors for supremacy in Italy had served to maintain the semblance, at least, of independence and universal rights for those to whom each looked for support. The election of the Popes, even until a comparatively late period, was attended with popular forms, and he was generally chosen from among the patricians of Rome. The authority of the Senate, however, was in a continual struggle with that of the Pope, and it was thus that men like Rienzo and Porcaro found adherents who had not forgotten Rome had once called herself free, and who chafed under the worst tyranny, that of those who not only *could kill the body, but the soul*. The Roman Senate, even at this late period, had its flags and banners carried by the chiefs of the people, the "*Capi popolo*," of each of the 14 districts into which the city was divided; the standard borne before the Senate itself was similar to that in ancient Rome—red and gold, with a satin motto, signifying "The Senate of the Roman people." The Senate possessed fiefs, and had the right of jurisdiction over commoners and walled villages of the Duchy of Rome. The police were under their orders, and they claimed a kind of sovereign authority, coining money, and, during the interim between the death of one Pope and the choice of his successor, ruling the city. Their President, called by preëminence "The Senator," received royal honors, and derived his authority from the people, the militia, and the barons. This civil government, in an ecclesiastical State, existed in form, though not in power, until 1847, when the Roman Senate was transformed into a municipal administrative body, and a political representation or parliament of the people was elected, as more conformable with modern ideas of civilization. This was done by a voluntary act on the part of Pius the Ninth; and in March, 1848, the statute which established a constitutional government in Rome was discussed in a full consistory of Cardinals and published. The Senate was thus abolished for the freer institutions of a municipality and parliament; but when these again were abolished on the return of the Pope by French arms, the Roman Senate was not restored, and thus every vestige of liberty, even in name, has disappeared. It is vain for the Pope to protest against the invasion of rights he has received from his predecessors and which he considers it his duty to transmit to his successor. The right of absolute rule over the Roman people neither he nor any other Pope ever did possess, whatever they might claim, and illegally exercise. The pamphlet concludes by declaring, that as soon as the French troops have evacuated the soil, the Roman people will become again their own masters, and may dispose of themselves as they please, and make use of rights first instituted by a Roman Senate and now extended to all the civilized people of Europe, that of the "*Plebiscite*." The author expects that while inviting Victor Emanuel to be their King, the Roman people will request the Pope to remain as Primate of the Italian Kingdom, and, under the protection of the laws and the shadow of a banner on which will be inscribed "Liberty for the Church and the State," exercise his hired ministry, "revered by his *sons*, no longer his *subjects*."

But in what do the Roman people of this day consist? For upward of 2,000 years Rome has maintained her right to the capital of Italy, the metropolis of the world, and the views on her forum, and not the Vatican or St. Peter