

LETTER FROM PARIS.

Present Aspects of the War—The Battle of Custozza—The German Campaign—The Parliamentary Combinations in England—Amusements in Paris, &c.

Paris, June 29, 1866. Europe is now in flames—fighting on several points has already begun in the north, in the south, in the east, in the west. The great slaughter, however, began on the 24th. More than 60,000 men were sent to their last home.

My task as correspondent is now very much simplified, as I have now but to write you what is told me from Germany and Italy.

The Italian forces, the first who smelt powder, are divided in four parts—100,000 men, commanded by Victor Emmanuel, form the army of the Mincio. Cialdini, at the head of 98,000, is on the banks of the Po. Garibaldi, with 30,000 volunteers, is marching towards the Tyrol. At the same time the Italian fleet, which is very powerful (under the command of Admiral Persano), is cruising in the Adriatic, and will commence operations against Venice. It is the army of the Mincio which has been the first to pay its debt to the country.

THE BATTLE OF CUSTOZZA. Victor Emmanuel, who had crossed the Mincio on the 23d inst., was beaten by the Austrians on the 24th, the anniversary of the battle of Solferino. The battle of Custozza proves that Victor Emmanuel is a poor general, and that the Italian army is not, as it was thought, only good to make tenor singers and macaroni eaters.

I have already said the army of the Mincio was divided into three corps. The 1st Corps, commanded by General Durando, marched towards Peschiera; while the 2d and 3d, under the command of Victor Emmanuel, advanced, the 2d in the direction of Goito, the 3d in that of Mantua. The Austrians, under the command of the Archduke Albert, issued out of Verona to the number of 80,000, and 20,000 attacked the 2d and 3d Corps of the Italian army, Victor Emmanuel thinking he had the whole Austrian army before him. 60,000 Austrians fell upon the corps commanded by Durando, who for more than twelve hours had to contend with the enemy. Durando and three of his generals were wounded, as well as Prince Amadeus, Duke d'Aosta, son of the King.

20,000 Italians hors de combat, 12,000 Austrians ditto—this is the result of the battle of Custozza. This spot is fatal to the House of Savoy, for it was in this place that Victor Emmanuel's father, Charles Albert, was defeated by Radesky a few days before the battle of Novara.

However, the consequences of the battle of Custozza have not been so bad for the army of Victor Emmanuel. He was, it is true, obliged to cross the Mincio, but the Italians have shown the world that they are good soldiers.

The effect produced by the battle of Custozza is more or less singular. In Paris funds went up, more especially the Italian, which had not been so high for a very long time. Our financial men are Austrian inclined. On the arrival of the news of the defeat of the Italians, several of them demanded permission to illuminate to celebrate the event. Monsieur Pietre, however, declined. Do those gentlemen remember that the Italians are our allies, and that fifteen thousand sons of France sleep on the plains of Solferino?

THE CAMPAIGN IN GERMANY has opened favorably for the arms of Austria. It is now pretty certain that the Prince Royal of Prussia has been beaten by General Benedek at Nachod and Neustadt, in Bohemia, about half way between the Prussian town of Glatz and the Austrian fortress of Josephstadt. The battle is said to have lasted two days. Though we have as yet no particulars of the same, there appears to be no doubt but that the Prussians have asked for an armistice, which has been refused by the Austrian General. The tactics of Benedek seem to be to separate the Prussian armies of Silesia and Bohemia; that of the Prussians is evidently to attack Prague, but the Austrian general is doing all he can to prevent this, as the consequences might be dangerous to him. Thus the war has begun in earnest; who can tell when it will end? Will the Emperor be able to maintain an attentive neutrality? I doubt it.

Some fear a coalition against France will be the result of this, should Austria be triumphant. The hatred of France is so great in Germany at the present moment that all internal dissensions would cease were the Teutonic Governments to threaten the existence of France.

FALL OF THE RUSSELL-GLADSTONE CABINET. Those Frenchmen who see further than their noses feel very anxious at the change of Ministry in England, for it is generally believed that they have no very great affection for the Sphinx of the Tuileries, and that their sympathies are with Hapsburg. This sufficiently explains the hesitation of the Emperor, who now is afraid of the ghost he has raised. No advantage can accrue to France from this war. The camp of Chalons is full of troops. The Lyons army is completed. Thirty-five thousand men are ready to leave Algeria. However, nothing is done, as the public opinion is against any war which might be the means of turning our allies into enemies.

It is reported that Prince Napoleon is furious at seeing his father, as he says, left in the lurch, and has several times blamed his cousin in his face for not buckling to and flying to the rescue. Perhaps our Emperor will make up his mind as to what he will do when the members of the Corps Legislatif have closed their sittings. It has been reported in Paris that Napoleon III has informed the Austrian Ambassador that he could not consent to the Austrians re-entering Lombardy, which would be a violation of the treaty of Villafranca. We must, however, remark that it was not the Austrians who struck first. The Austrian bulletins are no more modest in their tone than they were in 1859. Half of Europe in flames, the fields in want of hands for the harvest and burned up, the cholera—this is the result of the policy of the sovereigns of the Continent.

In Italy, for instance, Victor Emmanuel, who is, after all, but a courageous Zouave, but who is unfit to command an army, should he suffer another defeat, will have to abdicate. William of Prussia is no better. He has begun a war contrary to the wishes of his people, and there is no seeing where it will end. A private letter from Elbeuf and Barzen (two great manufacturing towns in the Rhinish provinces) states that everything is at a stand-still. Hundreds have been called away to join the Landwehr, and those who remain at home are out of work.

Spain has again given us a pronouncement. Two regiments of artillery of the barracks called St. Giles, broke out in open mutiny on the 23d inst. There was fighting in the streets of Madrid during the whole of the day. The end of this sad episode was, that the Government had the best of it. Some hundreds have been sent to prison, and there await their trial.

Prim, who, on hearing of the insurrection, left Paris for Catalonia, has returned here. Should he fall into the hands of O'Donnell, he will have every chance of being shot.

O'Donnell is a brave man, but in no way tender hearted. I have another incident to note, and I shall then have done with the political part of my letter. For the last week Le Constitutionnel, La Patrie, and Le Pays, three political papers, have been attacking the Sancho and the Grelot, two Belgian papers, which they say are the apologists of regicide. They complain that our neighbors are too tolerant, and that steps should be taken to prevent the institutions of the French empire from being insulted. Our official papers attach too much importance to what such papers as the Sancho and the Grelot say, for they are read but by a very few persons of respectability in Belgium.

However, our neighbors who enjoy such freedom ought to be on the look-out not to offend, as a *casus belli* is soon trumped up when necessary. The Cabinet of Brussels has, we hear, taken the necessary measures to stop these papers.

Politics, and nothing but politics, so that Parisian life is now uninteresting and monotonous. The greatest pleasure of the day seems to be the perusal of the papers. The only novelty of the season is THE ROMAN HOUSE, which was bought by Prince Napoleon, and is now opened to the public. We have now an opportunity of hearing what Oriental music is like, as a Turkish orchestra adds to the charm of the scene. The cost of admission is only one franc, and the Roman house affords a cool retreat during the present warm weather, the thermometer 84 degrees Fahrenheit.

THE DRAMAS OF THE ASSISE COURTS. As the majority of our sensational drama theatres are now closed, those who cannot live without "emotions" need only frequent our Assise Courts, where they will find ample means of satisfying these "cravings." The affair Philippe has attracted crowded houses of late. Philippe, the hideous "Quasimodo," whose mania it was to throttle poor unfortunate girls, has been condemned to death, and will be guillotined in a few days.

Brest, too, has also had its sensational trial. Eight ruffians who had mutinied on board the *Federica*, and killed captain and mate, were a few days ago tried at the Maritime Tribunal of Brest. Four of them were sentenced to death. The French papers will give you the details of this trial *in extenso*. I will, therefore, no longer dwell on the matter.

NEW WORK BY ALEXANDRE DUMAS. It is a long time since we have had anything from the pen of the son of the great Alexandre, the author of "Monte Christo." Young Dumas, the well-known author of "Le Demi Monde," has just published a new romance, entitled "L'Affaire Clemenceux," which will, I have no doubt, be as popular as his "Dame aux Camellias," &c.

THE HOUSE OF ORLANS IN MOURNING. The Orleans family has just had to deplore the death of the young Duc de Guise, born at Twickendam in 1854. He was the second son of the Duc d'Anjou.

A HORRID CHAPTER OF CRIME.

Twenty-three Persons Murdered Seriatim. From the London Globe.

On the 11th of January last a middle-aged woman, residing in Paris, Madame Mady, by profession a painter, narrowly escaped being murdered. A man who had lately been in her house as a workman in the employment of a frame-maker whom she patronized, was the intended murderer, and he had doubtless been tempted to the deed in some way or other by some small but valuable paintings which had been intrusted to her by a Polish prince. He called under pretense of looking for a tool which he had accidentally left behind. Not finding it, he drew from his pocket a bowie-knife, asking the lady if it did not belong to her, and, as she turned away, annoyed by his questions, he took the opportunity to throw the cloth over her head so as to cover it, at the same time placing one hand on her neck and the other on her mouth, stifling the laceration he had through as to stifling her cries. She had been able to scream a little, however, and her screams, the noise of the scuffle, and the sound of her fall on the floor, brought a brother painter—the *Sieur Vauchet*—who was in an adjoining apartment to her assistance. The murderer's attempt was interrupted, coolly walked away, merely saying that the lady was ill; but he was followed and arrested. The police soon identified him as the man who was "wanted" for a horrid murder committed a few days before, and a little more investigation proved their prisoner, Joseph Philippe by name, to be one of those great criminals of the Dumollard type, who commit murder by wholesale, partly from pure blood-thirstiness of nature, and partly for the plunder and outrage of their victims. His trial has just taken place under one of the most formidable *actes d'accusation* which the ingenuity of French lawyers has constructed. The prisoner's appearance and antecedents are quite correctly stated with last copy of his history.

He is a short, thick-set man, with black hair closely-cut beard and moustache, low forehead, deep-set eyes, thick lips, and generally a ferocious look, although dressed in the garb of a well-to-do workman. Born in 1831, so that he is thirty-five years of age, he was taken for the military service in 1852, conducted in 1856 to a year's imprisonment or misconduct, and enrolled soon after in one of those terrible battalions d'Afrique into which the second-rate of the French army are drafted. He returned to Paris in 1861, and has since been in numerous situations as groom, cook, general servant, and warehouse messenger, but staying long in none on account of his drunken habits. The idea of living by murder and robbery appears to have originated in the necessities of his poverty when out of employment; and his system is novel, as the first attempt to take advantage of a certain feature in our social life. The murderer, two years ago, at Florence, victimized lodging-house keepers, whom he found out as a famous lodger, and whom he was enabled to murder on account of their lonely position. Joseph Philippe selected for his operations the class of unfortunate whose degradation and isolation, and the peculiarities of their miserable trade, expose in a high degree to the danger of assassination. The Waterloo-road murder, and the more recent murder of Emma Jackson, exemplify among ourselves what these dangers amount to. But the prisoner is the first to have seen in the facts the chance of a living. From the evidence obtained, it is certain that he did act on system. More than two years ago he revealed his secret to one of these females in the weakness of intoxication. "I love women well," he said, "and I do for them what I trust their mouths and out their throats. What a bit, and you will hear me talked about." What passed (or grim jest has become a too horrid reality. Several unfortunate have perished in Paris since 1861, strangled, or with threats out, but it is only within the last two years that cases have been found in which there

is proof against the prisoner. There are three distinct cases, one of them a double murder, in which the infant of one of his victims was also killed, and the circumstances are much alike in all. Three days before his apprehension he accepted, at 11 o'clock in the evening, in the Rue de Ville l'Evêque, a girl named Marie Victoire Bodeux; soon afterwards he was seen entering the building on that street in which were her apartments, and a quarter of an hour later he was observed to leave by an old man who lived in the house, and who wanted to see the girl. This man, entering her apartment, discovered her on the floor, with her throat frightfully gashed, and the marks of blood-stained fingers, the drawers, and their contents, which, as well as the mattress on the bed, had been rummaged for valuables. It was found that the murdered woman's purse, containing 53, and several articles of jewelry had been taken from her. There were found in the prisoner's possession sufficient articles to identify him. Before leaving he had had time to wash his hands in a basin which stood upon the dressing-table in the apartment. The two other murders with which he is connected were committed in the spring of 1864. One morning in April that year, an unfortunate, named Julie Roberts, not having appeared since the evening of the day before, was found in her apartment in the Rue St. Joseph with her throat cut in a similar fashion to that of the girl Bodeux—her pockets and the whole apartment bearing marks of hasty rifling, and a handkerchief in like manner marked with blood stains. The prisoner is said to have taken with him a handkerchief which had been identified as the deceased's property, and he is proved to have been spending money freely at the time, although he had but newly entered on an employment after a term of idleness, and had yet received no wages. His strange demeanor and agitation at the time have been noticed and reported against him. The most horrible affair of all was the murder in November following, in the Rue St. Marguerite, of a woman named Mage and her two-year-old. On Sunday morning in that month women passing by their work observed for a moment a woman who was leaning at a window hoarsely crying out and gesticulating strangely; but, thinking she was drunk or mad, they passed on. She was neither drunk nor mad, but in the fatal grasp of a murderer going to her victim. Her first assistance of neighbors. Half an hour later a man resembling the prisoner was seen to descend from the house and depart, leaving the key of the apartment on the landing. There was some suspicion, and on an entrance being made, the body of the woman was found horribly mutilated and bruised—the woman having plainly gone through a tremendous struggle before her antagonist succeeded. There were the same marks of rifling left as in the other cases, showing that the murderer had not been not only identified by the marks of rifling, but another unfortunate whom he had addressed the same evening, had been so frightened at his looks that she would not take him home, and had seen him afterwards going with the deceased. She was not the only woman of her class who testifies to having been saved from probable murder by a similar fear. The strange fact of all remains, and that is the horror of the prisoner at his own crimes. His sleep was disturbed by night terrors. At the time mentioned murder took place in the house where he lodged heard him raising frightful cries, as if some bloody apparition had appeared before him. He plunged into deeper debauches to drown the terrors of his conscience. One would have expected that so wholesale a criminal would have been more hardened. He is one of the most frightful chapters of crime that have lately been recorded. The prisoner, we learn, is not to escape the last penalty of the law, although it is considered that the 1864 cases are not quite so heinous. Even a French jury has found it impossible to give him the benefit of extenuating circumstances.

We must also remark that the affair is by no means creditable to the French police. There are said to have been twenty-three cases since last, but they all failed. The police officers, or rather murderers, since the records all showed a striking similarity of method.

EXTRAORDINARY DECLINE IN WHEAT.—Within the past twenty-four hours the wheat market in this city has experienced the most extraordinary decline of twenty-two cents to twenty-seven cents per bushel. On Tuesday, No. 1 regular spring wheat was sold at \$1.88@1.90, and yesterday it fell to \$1.60—closing at 1.60 and nominal at 1.65. This decline in prices is the result wholly of excessive speculation. A prominent operator some time since purchased the entire stock of wheat, and two or three hundred thousand bushels, beside for future delivery, in order completely to "corner" the market. He adopted the somewhat novel expedient of selling cargoes "free on board" to shippers at ten cents to thirteen cents below the market price, for lots in store. In this way the stock was reduced quite materially, and the buyers were forced to settle at the buyer's own price. This being accomplished, he threw the balance of his wheat upon the market, and broke it down.

CHOLERA-FLESH IN PARIS.—The Prefect of Police in Paris has issued certain regulations under which the sale of horse-flesh is reported to be strictly prohibited in the city. The animals are to be killed in public slaughter houses, in the presence of competent government officials, after a previous examination; the meat is to be stamped before its removal, which is to be effected in close vehicles, and the meat is to be marked for its sale, will be indicated by special signs. Any restaurant selling horse-flesh without clearly announcing the fact, or who shall fraudulently mix it with other meat, will be liable to punishment under the penal code.

CONVICT LIFE IN FRANCE.—A man has just left the walls of Foulon after passing thirty-five years there. He was condemned for homicide to hard labor for life in March, 1831, by the Court of Assize of the Calvados, and entered the walls the same month. Different commutations of punishment which he obtained reduced his captivity to thirty-five years. He is the last convict there that was branded on the shoulder with the letters T. P. (*travaux publics*), as since the Revolution of July that portion of the punishment has been abolished.

"ANOTHER CURIOUS CASE."—A singular case in Baltimore county, Georgia, is reported, under an article so small that no person can enter it. Through this orifice a strong current of air alternately blown out and drawn in without any apparent cause, and regulated by no known law.

The above paragraph is travelling the rounds. Wonder if the orifice referred to is not the hole in the man's face.

A FAMILY REUNION.—A family celebration of great rarity has just been celebrated at Olmutz, Moravia, in honor of M. Wisnizki, a landed proprietor and his wife, whose united ages amount to just two hundred years. The husband being one hundred and three and the wife ninety-seven. They were married on the 26th of May, 1791, and celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of their union.

LADIES DECORATED.—The Countess de Fourcaux has just received from the Dowager Queen of Bavaria the Cross of the Order of Theresa. This order was founded by the Dowager Queen herself in 1827, and the cross has already been conferred upon several French ladies of distinction, among others Madame Drony de Lhuys, wife of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

PROFESSION OF GOOD PREACHERS.—Mr. Spurgeon, in a speech at the recent anniversary of the Baptist Union, London, made the rather astounding statement that "you could get about one good preacher out of every eight students, and that nothing could change the proportion." It is doubtful whether other professions secure a greater proportion of really "good" material.

PERILS OF PHOTOGRAPHY.—Three photographers of Warsaw have been sentenced to a fine of one hundred roubles each for having produced portraits of Komissouff, the peasant who saved the Emperor's life, the shadow of which depicted the head of an ass. M. Dargatz, who sold the said photographs, has been likewise sentenced to a penalty of one hundred roubles.

ONE EFFECT OF A PANIC.—Five hundred bank clerks have been thrown out of employment by the recent bank stoppage in England.

STEAM ENGINE PACKING, LUBRICATIVE PACKING, FOR THE STUFFING BOXES OF STEAM ENGINES.

An article recommended by all Railroad Companies to have thoroughly tested it for general use by over two hundred and fifty Railroads and on trial over five hundred others. ADOPTED BY 20,000 STATIONARY ENGINES. It is a first-class article. Seventy-Five Cents Per Pound.

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MILLER'S STEAM ENGINE PACKING.—This is the most improved and durable stuffing-box packing. SIXTY CENTS PER POUND. For sale by WILLIAM H. MILLER, Sole Manufacturer for the United States, 428 Sp. Philadelphia, Penna.

AUCTION SALES. BY FOWELL & WEST, AUCTIONEERS, No. 28 SOUTH FRONT and No. 12 LITITIA STREETS. LARGE AND DESIRABLE WAREHOUSE, NOS. 129, 131 and 133 SOUTH WATKIN STREET, A1 PUBLIC SALE. On Wednesday, July 18, 1866, at 12 o'clock, on the premises, will be sold all that desirable and well built Warehouse, Nos. 129, 131, and 133 South Water Street, between Chestnut and Walnut Streets, containing in front on Water Street 75 feet, and in depth 38 feet, more or less, on an alley leading by two alleys on Delaware Avenue, and the central portion of the building is a two-story building, arranged to make three valuable stores. The floors are supported by iron pillars and girders; the central floors are brick, and the foundations substantially reliable. There are two falls and the present storage capacity is about 1000 bushels of sugar, which can be increased 600 bushels by an additional floor, for which there is ample room. The improvements having been made with the best view, the building measures 400 feet by 100 feet, and is a permanent investment, is worthy the attention of capitalists. A mortgage of \$12,000 may remain if desired. 714 Sp.

PANCOAST & WARNOCK, AUCTIONEERS, 518 S. No. 240 MARKET Street. SALE OF 400 LOTS AMERICAN AND IMPORTED DRY GOODS, STOCK OF GOODS, NOTIONS, ETC., ETC. On Wednesday, July 18, commencing at 10 o'clock, comprising a general assortment of desirable goods for present sale. 714 Sp.

B. SCOTT JR., AUCTIONEER, No. 1020 CHESTNUT STREET, 523 Sp. FOR SALE AND TO RENT. A LARGE, WELL LIGHTED AND VENTILATED ROOM, ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE "Evening Telegraph" Building, No. 108 South THIRD Street, TO RENT, With or without steam power. Apply in the office, first floor.

FOR SALE—A DESIRABLE THREE-story Dwelling, with three-story double back building on 17th Street, above Green. All modern improvements, summer kitchen, lawns, etc. Price, \$6000 clear. Apply at this Office, between 9 and 12 A. M. 419

EXCURSIONS. PLEASANT DAILY EXCURSIONS TO THE RIVER, BEACON, BOSTON, AND BRISTOL, touching at Haverford, Torrens, and Andalusia, by the splendid Steamer JOHN A. WARREN, leaving Philadelphia on MONDAY, JUNE 27, P. M., returning on SATURDAY, JULY 1, P. M., stopping at Philadelphia about 6 o'clock. On SUNDAY leaves Chestnut Street wharf at 12 o'clock P. M., stopping at Magrath's wharf, Kensington. Fare for the excursion, 40 cents. 711 m

PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS FOR SALE OF WOOD. HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON, OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, WASHINGTON, D. C., July 14, 1866. Sealed Proposals are invited at this office until 12 o'clock noon, MONDAY, JULY 16, 1866, for the purchase of (18,000) THIRTEEN THOUSAND CORDS OF GOVERNMENT WOOD, located as follows: ONE HUNDRED CORDS at the Kendall Green Wood Yard, on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, about one mile from the depot of said road in this city; the wood consists of about ONE THIRD (1) PINE and TWO THIRDS (2) OAK, and is piled immediately along the track of the railroad. (1,000) ELEVEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED CORDS at the Wood Yard, three-quarters of a mile north of Alexandria, on the line of the Washington, Alexandria, and Georgetown Railroad. This wood consists of about TWO THIRDS (1) PINE and ONE THIRD (2) OAK, is piled along the track, and is distant about one-half of a mile from a wharf on the Potomac river, leading to which there is a direct level road. All of the wood offered for sale is of good or fair quality, and thorough seasoned.

Proposals will be received for quantities from (50) fifty cords and upwards, with privilege of taking all of either or both lots. Payment to be made in Government funds, immediately after the opening of the bids, and upon measurement of the wood. The right is reserved of rejecting any or all proposals deemed disadvantageous to the United States. M. L. LUDINGTON, Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, Department of Washington.

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THE WEST PHILADELPHIA PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY, OFFICE, NORTHWEST CORNER OF FORTY-FIRST AND HAVERFORD STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, July 10, 1866. The Board of Directors have this day declared a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. On the Capital Stock for the last six months, clear of all taxes payable on and after the 30th instant. The Books for the transfer of stock will be closed until that date. SAMUEL P. HUBER, TREASURER. PARASOLS AT \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, AND \$2.00. 518 S. W. Umbrella, 91-92, 93-94, N. DIXON 4 Sp 12m No. 21 S. EIGHTH St.

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