A CHRISTMAS NIGHT AT ROME.

(FROM ROMAN PAPERS.)

Day Long, or Seven Sorrows.—Stabat! (Pooh, man, why the devil do you push?) Never, reader, meet it, let it be heard. Queen of angels, she's now at rest. There are the shrieking, the wailing, the ruin, Ready to burst in, there's not a doubt. If we or the Matteo draw a bit of a lid, Those Romans think so much of a bit.

II.

Mary, mother! smile now and then On us, the poor Christ-crucified. Star of Heaven, shine gradiously! Way, there's old Matteo's which I see, Sneaking at Beppo's peacock feather, And the hole in his jacket of untanned leather. Th' impertinent thief has such a face,—I wish we were in a quieter place.

III.

Holy Saint Simon! look at him now, For half a yard I give him leave to see See how he's tossing his Rossary, Cooper'd in jolly and in mockery. And there are the younger degli'e Kite Figging away through thick and thin Y' one play on—faster, louder: I wish I'd my gun and a little powder.

IV.

Shent out our hymn to Paul and Peter: Never stop for the special metre. Rarie, the brothers are looking this way; Guccino, didn't I tell you,—Fray, Can't Cheddie people sing, As well as Matteo's underling? Down to the image of Mary, mother! Here come Luigi and his brother.

V.

Now we are strong enough at last. Filippo, the time for the Ave's past. Snatch old Matteo's feather, Luigi, It's sure to make the whole lot mad. Throw it to me. I stamp on it.—There, Let them gibber, we none of us care. Giacomo, now for a good tune! I've got him down on the fountain slab.

VI.

Matteo's grappling with Paolo yonder. Holy Father! what's that, I wonder, Saints be thanked, the old man groans! That's right,—shake his head at the stones. Here, here, that is the dip Y' to let the heart's blood out of the pip. Slip off, fratell, I hear a drum, And quick, before the Zouaves come.

B.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

FRANCE.

Michel Chevalier on Political Economy—Meeting of Persecuted Editors.

(Paris Cor. to Correspondence of the London Times.)

M. Michel Chevalier opened on Tuesday his course of lectures on political economy at the College de France. In his introductory remarks he dwelt particularly on the important subject how wealth has in the defence of States. The progress which military science has made of late years requires a capital even more expensive. The consequence is that the nations that are most skilled in the arts of peace are those which have the greatest chance of gaining military preponderance. For this sort of preponderance, however, a political economy can have but little taste; and, if one may judge by the manner in which his views were received by his audience, consisting for the most part of the student class, he has lost ground in favor of peace he displaced those which some years ago were current among this most ardent part of the population. When the lecturer remarked that nations cannot always dispense with spending their entire military strength, there were protests heard among his audience; but when he declared that military institutions should always be subordinate to the arts of peace and to civil institutions his words were covered with applause. That applause was repeated when he alluded to what he called "*hygiene sociale*" as being absolutely necessary to prevent the abuse of the enjoyments which wealth procures, and when he spoke of the part which public opinion has in that "*hygiene sociale*." Public opinion, M. Chevalier remarked, was the result, and at the same time the safeguard, of liberty; and, therefore, it is well that public opinion should be severe. At the word "severe" the applause was renewed, and it became general and enthusiastic when he concluded by saying that political economy was essentially the science of liberty, and in some sort the application of the principles of 1789.

A meeting at which were present representatives of the seventeen journals judicially prosecuted was held the evening before last at the residence of M. Havin, political director of the *Siecle*. The following are the counsel retained by the various journals for their defence: *Patrie*, M. Dufaure; *Opinion Nationale*, M. Senart; *Union*, M. Berger; *Liberte*, M. Allou; *Pays*, M. Grevy; *Avenir*, Andral; *France*, M. Mathieu; *Avenir National*, M. Jules Favre; *Droit Nationale*, M. Lachaud; *Juriste*, M. Jules Favre; *Pilori*, *Glaneur*, *Cloche-et-Loir*, M. Gatineau; *Presse*, M. Chaix d'Est-Ange; *Siecle*, *Journal de Paris*, and some others, have not yet chosen their counsel. The *Patrie* states that the *gerant*, was summoned to present himself on Tuesday afternoon at the office of the examining magistrate.

THE BRITISH MINISTER.

Mr. Thornton the Right Man for the Place—An Ex-Diplomatist's Experience in Washington.

To the Editor of the London Times:—Sir: I have read with regret the leading article in the *Times* of Friday last upon the appointment of Mr. Thornton as Her Majesty's Envoy to the United States. It is, of course, strictly within the province of the public press to comment in any terms, however severe, upon all official appointments; but it is, on the other hand, as much the characteristic of enlightened and generous journalism to give equal publicity to the arguments which may be adduced on both sides of any subject which may be matter of controversy. I trust, therefore, that you will permit me to say a few words in this sense in reply to your article, and, with great submission, I entirely dissent from your views.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* has already pointed out the fallacy of supposing that the appointment of Parliamentary Peers to diplomatic posts has ever yet been justified by the result. The duties of an ambassador or minister at a foreign court are now-a-days of a very onerous nature. They require not only continuous mental attention, but actual daily drudgery. The merely political part of the business constitutes but a tithe of the whole of the work which has to be done, and the bulk of that work, consisting, as it does in most cases, in the giving effect to British subjects, and in the supervision of and correspondence with the British consular agents in this country, is the most irksome and unattractive. Such work is especially distasteful to a nobleman's habits, and yet it is imperative that due attention should be paid to it. Twenty or twenty-five years of the routine of the professional tasks in even the most ambitious diplomatist, he will take to the collar and grind away without flinching. But you cannot expect as much from a brilliant and successful peer, who finds his correspondence with his lawyers and his stewards quite as much as he cares to attend to in the way of ordinary business.

So much for the general question. To take the case of Washington in particular, I venture to say that the appointment of a living a prominent statesman as our Minister there is fraught with no little danger to our politics generally. The British representative in the United States is, and must always be, the most important member of the diplomatic corps resident at Washington, and, as such, is always the object of jealousy—at times amounting almost to hostility—on the part of others. Moreover, by the peculiarity of the American Constitution, there is a species of Japanese duality in the direction of the foreign affairs of the country, and the result is invariably that the relations between the Secretary of State and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations are by no means of the most amicable description. Suppose you sent the Duke of Argyle to Washington, what would be his position towards Mr. Seward and Mr. Sumner respectively? The advent of such a personage would be the signal for an amount of intriguing among the diplomatists, the officials, and the members of Congress which would lead to disastrous results.

I shall probably lay myself open to violent attacks by adding that, after some years residence in America, I am firmly of opinion that diplomacy can effect but little in keeping the peace between the two countries. It is, of course, an advantage to have a wise and popular Minister like Lord Lyons or Sir Frederick Bruce as our representative, on the other hand, I believe that if his influence with the American Government will always be influential, it will be only in private, nothing. The little that can be done will, doubtless, be as well done by Mr. Thornton with the aid of his experience among the "semi-civilized" South Americans as it would have been by Sir Frederick Bruce, whose previous diplomatic experience had been gathered among the equally "semi-civilized" Chinese. Thornton is, no doubt, an amiable and well-intentioned man, but his reputation before he was despatched to the United States was certainly not as great as Mr. Thornton's is now, and there is every reason to believe that the new Minister will prove that Lord Stanley is right in saying that he has chosen the best possible man for the post.

I enclose my card, and remain,

Your obedient servant,

Brooks' Club, Jan. 14. EX-DIPLOMATIST.

POSITIVISM IN PARIS.

Meeting of the Disciples of Comte on New Year's Day.

The Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:

"On New Year's Day, as my o'clock, the disciples of Auguste Comte in Paris met in a gloomy little apartment, which their master inhabited and sanctified, on the second floor of No. 10 Rue Monsieur le Prince, near the Luxembourg Gardens, to celebrate in common the annual ceremony of the worship of Abstract Humanity.

"I had never been able to obtain from my Comtist friends at home any clear and satisfactory reply to my questions concerning the ceremonies or the ritual with which humanity in the abstract is worshipped in the Positivist Pantheon. They agree to my very like the Voltairean defenders of the Pope's temporal power during the recent debates, who were all careful to limit their defence to the assertion, no believers in his spiritual power. Thus the Comtists I am acquainted with are all anxious to explain that, though the worship of humanity in the abstract will be necessary for the masses when the Christian religion shall have been finally removed, they themselves have attained to such high a degree of refinement to require any religious forms. I therefore readily availed myself of so welcome an opportunity of gratifying my curiosity, which had been stimulated by Mr. Congreve's Sunday lectures in London last summer; and, on Wednesday last, I attended human service.

"The congregation consisted of about forty to fifty persons, including five ladies, seated in two small rooms, on several rows of chairs. The High Priest, the learned and eloquent Monsieur Laffite, Director du Positivisme, took his seat behind a small table placed, below a bust of Auguste Comte, which stood between the windows. Like Mr. Congreve, he is a tall man, with a face very like that of Voltaire, with a long nose, and a mouth of some very peculiar character, in the name of humanity, that we met for the eleventh time since the death of the master to celebrate the Worship of Humanity in a spot sacred to the Comtist disciples, and from which the light of positivist truth (or, to speak more correctly, of positivist truth) had radiated upon the world. He congratulated his friends on the progress the good cause had made he reminded them of their missionary duties, he urged them to persevere, and he treated of them not to be faint-hearted or to fear the numerous opponents of the positivist philosophy. Positivist societies, he said, in glorious phrase, he maintained, were absolutely necessary, the human mind having awakened by the stimulating effects of combined action; like Mr. Congreve, he spoke of the time when the Positivist religious ceremonies would be celebrated in suitable edifices, with all the necessary accompaniments of every worship—music, painting and sculpture. My hope of witnessing these ceremonies on Wednesday last, therefore, was doomed to disappointment; but I recollect that Mr. Congreve, in his first sermon in London, had exhorted us to patience, and reminded us that Christianity, which began in an upper chamber at Jerusalem, had, in the course of a very few centuries, covered the world with splendid cathedrals.

"But the Good Positivist, M. Laffite continued, did not neglect morning and evening his private devotions. He read a periodical elevation of the soul at fixed hours to higher thoughts, the daily cares of material existence would overwhelm and extinguish our spiritual life. The Positive doctrine, he explained, did not reject prayer; it borrowed prayer from Christianity, but only after having purified and transformed that practice.'

"Already St. Augustine had taught that prayer did not consist in the mere utterance of begging, but in grateful effusion and devout meditation. M. Laffite dwelt at great length on the bagology of Positivism, on the Positivist calendar, and on the devotion to festivities which will be devoted to marriage, paternity, filiation, domesticity, labor, &c.

"The Worship of Humanity was nothing else but '*réhabilitation systématique de la nature humaine*.' It was, in fact, to take our Comtist apostles, even though they be as able as Mr. Frederic Harrison, or even as Professor Beesly, as earnest as Mr. Congreve, or as learned as Dr. Bridges, to induce the Commons of England to adopt the quite systematic idealization of final sociability, time alone can show.

"Although the Indian people had been more degraded by the poison of English *mercantilism*, and by their Manchester masters, M. Laffite hoped that India would be ultimately converted by missionary efforts, and enabled to enter at once into the Positive creed without passing through the preliminary phases which the old nations of Europe had been obliged to go through—Monotheism, Christianity, Deism, &c., &c.

"Of the Germans he entertained a very low opinion. They did not enjoy the same advantages as the French. They had resisted too long the beneficent effects of the Roman conquest. While the French had rid themselves of the Bible altogether before the end of last century, the Germans were still busily applying that Bible with great critical method to the study of their scriptures. Some persons doubted the Germans because they all know how to read. But what was the good of reading if they only read nonsense?

"England, on the other hand, presented to us the encouraging spectacle of a nation that did not hold the Positive creed, and yet cooperated with the Comtist party to promote the cause of justice and truth.

"The English Comtists had fearlessly come forward to defend the trade unions against calumny. While the British aristocracy were cunningly availing themselves of the excesses of some trade unions to work upon the fears of the middle classes, those same trade unions had employed their powerful organization to bring the tyrant Eyre to justice. Mr. Bright had taken charge in Parliament of the petition of the English Comtists, recommending justice to Ireland and fairness to the Fenians. The preacher exhorted to toleration. There were many, he said, who believed in God, and who were yet better Positivists than others who prided themselves on that name. There were many who found hope and comfort in belief in a spiritual world and a future life; let us not, he undily severe upon them. In conclusion, he appealed to us to join in spiritual communion with all our brethren in the faith, and especially with Mr. Congreve in London and Dr. Brydges at Bradford, who were celebrating with us at the same hour the Worship of Humanity.

"I need not say that the Director of Positivism enjoyed the privilege of all prophets of being secure from interruption or contradiction. After this sermon, which lasted an hour, the congregation dispersed in silence."

Grand Army of the Republic.

GENERAL LOGAN'S order assuming command of the Grand Army of the Republic is as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 21, 1868.—General ORDERS No. 1.—*Commrades*: In accepting the position of commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, to which your representative assembled in convention at Philadelphia on the 19th instant, elevated me, I assure you of my profound appreciation of the high honor conferred. It shall be a duty subordinate to no other to so administer the trusts thus reposed that our Order shall attain the pre-eminence to which its objects and mission entitle it. The rules and regulations you have adopted as your guide contain a declaration of principles which may be well so notice as setting forth the purposes and objects of the Grand Army of the Republic. You have said in your fundamental law that the results designed to be accomplished are: *First*—The preservation of those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together with the strong cords of love and affection the soldiers, sailors and marines who were stood together in many battles, sieges, engagements and marches. *Second*—To make those ties available to work out results of kindness of love and material aid to those in need of assistance. *Third*—To make provision, where it is not already done, for the support, care and education of the orphans of soldiers, sailors and marines, and for the maintenance of the widows of the deceased soldiers, sailors and marines. *Fourth*—For the protection and assistance of disabled soldiers, sailors and marines, whether crippled by wounds, sickness, old age, or misfortune. *Fifth*—For the establishment and defence of the rights of the late soldiers, sailors and marines of the United States, morally, socially and politically, with a view to inculcate a proper appreciation of their service to the country and to a recognition of such services and claims by the American people. *Sixth*—The maintenance of true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and laws, manifested by the discountenancing of whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any manner impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions. Together with a defence of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men. Governed by these objects and principles, our Order has in the past year increased to an extent unexampled in history, and is rapidly spreading over the whole country, wherever comrades are to be found in numbers sufficient to establish posts. It is my earnest hope that the progress made thus far will prove a auspicious precursor of the future. The plan of our organization is similar to that of the army in which you recently served. The analogies are apparent from the time you enter until you leave your post. The ceremonies through which you pass are not empty forms, but have a deep meaning. All those qualifications, which made you good soldiers in the war, must follow you into the Grand Army of the Republic, to distinguish you there as they did in the camp or on the battlefield. Every comrade should properly estimate his own influence in carrying out the high aims of our order, and none can be excused from a proper discharge of his duty under the false impression that his value or his hand is not needed. You never could have put down the rebellion, except by individual efforts united, and you cannot now secure the results you seek on any other principle. Trusting in your hearty cooperation, I hereby assume command of the Grand Army of the Republic.

"Adjutant-General Delfelt is hereby assigned to the business pertaining to the organization, I have established headquarters for the Grand Army in Washington City, D. C. All official communications will be addressed to Gen. N. H. Delfelt, Adjutant-General. The staff will be announced in future orders, and such suggestions made as may lead to the more complete working of our organization. Department commanders will communicate this order to their respective commands in orders, with all the necessary accompanying calculations and ritual will be forwarded to department commanders for distribution at an early day. Full and complete returns will be sent to the Adjutant-General by Department Commanders within thirty days after the receipt of this order.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commander-in-Chief.

{ Official N. H. DELFELT, Adjutant-General.

CARPETINGS, &c.

ENGLISH CARPETINGS.

New Goods of our own importation just arrived.

A choice selection of ALSO,

AMERICAN CARPETINGS,

OIL CLOTHS, &c.

English Druggettings, from half-yard to four yards wide

Matting, Rugs, Mats.

Our entire stock, including new goods daily coming, will be offered at LOW PRICES. Store Rent Reduced, in January next, to New Store, now building, 1107 Chestnut street.

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JAMES & LEE ARE NOW RECEIVING THEIR FALL and Winter Stock, comprising every variety of Goods adapted to Men's and Boys' Wear.

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Duffell Beaver, Coatings, Cassimeres, Black and Colored Doeskins, Black and Fancy Cloth, Black and Blue Pilots.

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Black French Cloth, Colored French Cloth, Tricot, of colors.

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Black French Doeskins, Fancy Cassimeres, Mixed and Striped Cassimeres, Fields, Ribbed and silk-mixed.

Also, a large assortment of Goods, Beaverteens, Satin Cords and Goods adapted to Boys' wear, for Sale by the Piece and Retail, by

JAMES & LEE,
No. 16 North Second st., Sign of the Golden Lamb.

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M. K. PEARSON'S HARMONY CLASSES COMMENCE on January 20. Parties desiring apply at the Music Store, 1103 Arch street.

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EDWARD FERRIS,

No. 36 South Eleventh Street,

UP STAIRS,

Offers a very desirable stock of

WHITE GOODS,

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LINENS,

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At a discount of 33 1-3 per cent:

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LINEN STORE,

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We are opening the business of the new year with

A THOROUGH REDUCTION

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The Largest Linen Stock in the City

At Less than Jobbers' Prices.

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E. M. NEEDLES & CO.

Will be prepared to offer for

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Splendid assortments of

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At Prices to Insure Sales.

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GOOD MUSLINS BY THE PIECE.
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LARGE BLANKETS AND QUILTS.
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BROCHE AND WOOLEN SHAWLS, CLOSING OUT.

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In VEILS QUOTE their world-renowned attention to sale of

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Spring Mountain, Lehigh and Locust Mountain Coal, for family use, prepared and screened by us, we think, most conveniently for the consumer.
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CORDIAL NOTICE.
FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS FOR 1867.
Mrs. M. J. SHEPHERD, 914 CHESTNUT STREET, Importer and Manufacturer of Ladies' Trimmings in Fringes, Battle Trimmings, Tassels, Gimps, Braids, Silk Laces, Gilt Galoons, Head Laces, Crape Trimmings, Fancy Jet Gilt and Beads.
Also, Ladies' Hosiery, in choice shades.
Best Lisle Thread Gloves, 50 cents.
Black Velvets, all widths, at low prices.
Ladies' Dress Making in connection with the Department's Trimmings, on the same roof. Wedding dresses made up on the shortest notice. Ladies' Cloaks, Sacques and Dresses made to order in the most elegant manner and at reasonable prices. Call and see.
Suits of mourning at short notice.
Ladies' Cloaks and Paper Patterns for Sale.
Grove Dresses.
Sets of Patterns for Merchants and Dressmakers now ready.
Patterns sent by mail or express to all parts of the country.
Mrs. Hutter's and Madame Demorest's charts for sale, and system of Dress Cutting taught.

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TO-DAY BRING GOODS, WHOLESALE.—WHOLESALE BUYERS IN THE BEAUTIFUL AND FASHIONABLE STYLES OF

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No. 1216 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia,
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These different medicines represent the most recent medical discoveries. Long experience has proved their efficacy and therapeutic. They must not be confounded with secret or quack medicines, all the names and directly indicative of composition, a circumstance which recommends them to the medical faculty. Demand from the faculty in the whole world. They differ from other medicines in no one particular, as they are prepared with the same care as pharmaceutical preparations, and only those which have undergone a strict examination by the *Academie de Medecine*, and have been proved to be perfectly in the conditions of purity, and of the exactness of dosage, are admitted into the Grimault laboratory. This fact is a guarantee for the excellence of Messrs. Grimault and Co.'s medicines.

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LIQUID PHOSPHATE OF IRON.

The proved and unequaled efficacy of this preparation in CHLOROSIS, PAINS IN THE STOMACH, DIFFICULT DIGESTION, NERVOUSNESS, LOSS OF APPETITE, GENERAL DEBILITY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DISORDER, recommends it to the medical faculty as the most tonic, as well as to persons desirous of a good appetite and a healthy circulation.

Grimault's Syrup of Iodized Horse-Radish.

This medicine has been administered with the utmost success in the treatment of all those affections of the cutaneous and lymphatic tissue, such as Scrofula, Lymphatic Disorders, Green Sickness, Sterility, Loss of Appetite, Wasting, &c. It regenerates the constitution by purifying the blood, by bringing back the appetite, and by giving back the lost strength to the feeble and emaciated. It is recommended in the treatment of Scrofula, as well as to persons suffering under every kind of debility, whatever may be the cause of it. *Health for Ever Before, in all warm and relaxing climates.*

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This new medicine is considered to be a remedy for Consumption, Scrofulous affections, Rickets, Rickets, Lungs. It is most energetically recommended by our physicians. The cough is relieved, night perspiration cease, and the patient regains flesh and strength.

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Dr. C. Meyer, the inventor, has used it on his own face for years ago; he has since that time given it a perfect trial among his personal friends and the admiring circles of Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Louisville, Chicago, and Paris. They unanimously pronounce it the most perfect article which would consider the toilet imperfect without this delightful article, which is warranted to be free from all injurious ingredients, and to be the most delicate and perfect article ever offered to the public. It is the only article which will not injure the most delicate skin, and is warranted to give satisfaction or the money refunded.

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Ladies who have once used it will use no other.

Ladies who have once used it will use no other