

## CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

Opinions of M. de Laveleye.—Belgium Forts.—Italy's Weakness.—French Affairs.—Netherlands Cabs.—Statuemanila.—Cassignac's Duels.—Denmark's Jubilee.—Empress Frederick, etc.

Within a stone's throw of the ever winding Meuse, within the grim old walls of the University of Leige, resides that remarkable man, M. Emile Laveleye. As one of the most learned men in Europe, a profound philosopher, an eminent geographer, and one of the greatest of living political economists—M. Laveleye has been the man to whom the king of the Belgians has looked for wisdom and counsel these many years. To him more than any one else belongs the honor of preserving the little kingdom of Belgium in its present neutral and independent position. A glance at the map of Europe is sufficient to show that Belgium is, in some respects, the gateway of the continent. Hence the ardent desire of both France and Germany to control the pocket kingdom.

M. Laveleye does not expect everlasting peace, nor does he consider the present distribution of power in Europe as definite. The eminent Belgian believes that an anti-Russian and anti-French alliance is forming which will probably involve England as well as Italy. He says: "It will not be a mere repetition of the same Crimean struggle, but a war to the knife with immense spoils for the victor. Germany will attempt to restore Finland to Sweden and thereby reward her for her alliance, but will take Russia's Baltic provinces, where the German language already prevails and annex them to herself. Three hundred thousand Russian soldiers are now necessary to hold Poland in subjection. This vast slice of Muscovite territory will be cut away and formed into a separate state, under Austrian control, and serve as a kind of buffer state between strengthened Austria and Russia then thrown back beyond the banks of the Dnieper. Further east Bessarabia will be restored to Roumania which will form another bulwark against the bear and dash its last hopes of ever reaching Constantinople. Concerning the Balkan peninsula, Austria really aims at nothing less than the conquest of the entire country for herself. Her aim is to dominate the whole from the shores of the Adriatic to the Black Sea, not by territorial conquest, but by the triumph of her political and industrial influence, already increased by the new eastern railways which run through Pest, and by encouraging the home rule of the Balkan States, as opposed to Russia's greedy policy."

That Belgium is preparing herself for a conflict in accordance with this outline is evident from the correspondence that has been going on during the past few months in the pages of the *Nouvelle Revue* as well as from the extent and character of her fortifications. These forts—if such they may be called—resemble anti-hills and are built of concrete. In length they are about one hundred and fifty feet, and in width from ninety to one hundred and twenty. These forts extend thirty or forty feet below the surface of the earth, they are always built on elevated ground, but never extend more than a few feet above the surrounding surface. Each one presents the appearance of a huge depressed ant hill surmounted by a cap of artificial stone placed flat upon the ground and at a short distance scarcely visible. Near the centre of this cap are three armored revolving turrets, each with two heavy guns. These turrets can be raised or lowered rapidly at pleasure. Even in time of action they can be kept out of sight except at the moment of firing. At suitable places there are armored points of observation from which electric light may flash if necessary to watch the movements of the enemy. Below the surface the earth is hollowed out in the form of a huge cistern with armored sides, which is divided up into sections, one part for provisions, one for ammunition and another for machinery, which includes the dynamo for the lighting of the whole fort, and engines for the moving of the turrets. Communication with the outer world is made by a subterranean gallery and this in turn is fortified by armored doors and mitrailleuses. Only thirty or forty men are necessary for the working of each fort. The cost of each fort is nearly a million dollars.

That Germany does not feel very confident concerning her Italian alliance may be learned from the following extract which lately appeared in the official journal *Nord Allgemeine Zeitung*: "The good relations which exist between Germany and Italy has been a theme of much congratulation, but in details little has been actually known. The late visit of the Emperor to Italy was the occasion of an interchange of opinions, as well as an opportunity of observing the capabilities of the Italian army. The utter confusion in the working of Italian railways caused by the transport of thirty thousand men for the military review shows their total inefficiency in case of war. A sudden mobilization of the army would paralyze the entire system of upper Italian railways, for they are single lines, in poor condition, and with badly worn rolling stock. The French lines are in good condition, with double tracks up to the Italian frontier. The Italian coast is the weak point, the very weak point of Italy; because the indolent

ger of descent on some unknown portion of the Italian coast, would paralyze the entire Italian army, that could be spared from the local defense of the Alps. Italy has an enormous seaboard; it is a country with length without breadth; is dependent on the islands of Sicily and Sardinia for a large portion of her forces, and is divided throughout its length by a great mountain chain. A small French army, together with the French navy acting from Tunis, or Corsica, or Nice, could easily prevent Italy from assisting Austria, or troubling France. True, Italy has lately added fourteen million dollars to her war budget, but in all well-informed circles, that is known to be but a drop in the bucket, compared with what will be required to put her army on a war-footing. If war should break out at this juncture, we might look for a probable French occupation of Italian Territory.

On the other hand France seems to be determined that she will not give the provocation. M. de Morsy, the former French ambassador to Italy has been removed, and M. de Mariani has been appointed in his place. *La Liberte* says: "The two great Latin races were made to be friendly to each other. Let us hope that M. Mariani will be equal to his task and that his instructions are to clear away the misunderstandings that have arisen between France and Italy." *La Justice* says: "We wish peace, and we wish it frankly—we desire to quarrel with no one, and we are not disposed to break a lance for the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope."

M. Spuller, one of the foremost of French educators in making a report on education, the other day, gave utterance to some remarkable statements which show that France is waking up to the necessity of a higher grade of education for her people. He said: "The Third Republic is founded on the dignity of man, and its work has been principally to reform the human conscience. Whatever may be its fate, its zeal for education is its best title to the gratitude of French citizens. We have succeeded at last in placing universal instruction by the side of universal suffrage."

The Hansom cabs of London are now being introduced in the gay French capital, and will no doubt prove formidable rivals to those one is accustomed to see in Paris. Notwithstanding the enormous traffic in London and the comparative narrowness of its streets, it is an undeniable fact that it is possible to travel through the most crowded parts of London and its environs with much greater facility, speed and safety than can be obtained in Paris under its present service. The increasing number of English and American visitors to Paris, and the enormous influx of strangers expected at the approaching Universal Exhibition of 1889, make this a suitable time for introducing this kind of conveyance. The use of rubber tires on these carriages will add much to the quiet of the city and the comfort of passengers.

"Statuomania" as it has been called, or the tendency to erect statues still rages in Paris. All sorts of people, mostly political, have been statued amid the streets and squares of the French capital. The statue of Balzac will soon adorn the Jardin d'Elisee. Statues are of no great utility, one is free to admit; still they cannot do any harm and if any Frenchmen have a right to take up a certain number of square feet on the public grounds with their monuments certainly the great poet is one of their number. But what about Musset and Victor Hugo, when will they appear in marble?

The three embryonic deities that sprouted in the Chamber of Deputies during a whirlwind of debate on the 15th instant have all been nipped in the bud. The twelve persons appointed as seconds have been sitting about between M. M. Paul de Cassagnac, Bouvier, Cales and Germaine and have come to the conclusion that nothing personal was intended by the epithets that then flew around so lively.

Of all the pleasing events of the present year, none is more so than the jubilee accorded to good old King Christian at Copenhagen. It is a curious fact that he and his son, King George of Greece, celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of their accession in the same year. Two more conscientious monarchs never did honor to royalty. Estrup, the prime minister of Denmark (a small Bismarck in his way), is also receiving honor for his faithful service. Some factions of the Parliament may be hostile but the mass of the people are loyal to their king. They remember how he rode through the trenches at Duppel when gallant little Denmark in 1864 stood nobly up to face such fearful odds.

On Monday the 19th of November the Empress Frederick of Germany, Crown Princess of England, once more set foot on her native land to make a long visit after the melancholy vicissitudes which have darkened her life and made her widowed and sorrow-stricken. The period of her prolonged anxiety dates from the time when the late Emperor Frederick, then Crown Prince of Germany, rode in the jubilee procession of London wearing the white uniform of the Prussian Carassers, the stateliest and most soldierly figure of all that pageant. The whisper of the sad fate destined for him was then just beginning to be heard; its shadow seemed already to fall upon the kindly, friendly face; and from that day until the tragic 15th of June of the passing year, the Imperial lady never again had one hour of undimmed joy or assured hope. Her great-hearted husband survived indeed long enough

to succeed to the German throne, and thereby to link the eldest daughter of England with the imperial purple of the Hohenzollerns. But his reign endured only three months—months of cruel suffering and saint-like endurance for him, and months of such trials of mind and soul for his empress as few, very few among, her sex are called upon to endure. Let us read carefully the following words:

"Those in humbler walks of life, who are denied many of the blessings enjoyed by the rich, are often apt to imagine that their burden is the hardest to bear, that struggles and pain are only for them. These, perhaps will think differently when they read of sufferings borne with such patience, and of duty so cheerfully performed while sickness was undermining the strength of the strong man. They will be able to enter in some degree into the depths of regret and disappointment felt by a ruler who loved his people, at being unable to carry out the long-cherished plans for their welfare that he had so much at heart. They will gaze with admiration at the courage with which, when the shades of death were hanging over his path, he strode steadfastly along to the end; broken hearts are to be found in palaces as well as in cottages; and the bond of brotherhood seems strongest where love and pity unite all hearts and reverence for what is good lifts up our souls."

Who is it that has penned these true and moving sentences? It is the Empress Frederick herself, in a preface to a small volume entitled "Frederick—Crown Prince and Emperor," which has appeared most fitly at the moment when she herself comes back to sojourn with her mother's people.

J. H. WARD.

Europe, Nov. 28, 1883.

## CHICAGO LETTER.

Junius Exceeds Himself.—Everybody Should Read this Correspondence.—The Closing Paragraph a Gem for Latter-day Saints.

At the present time the question of education is largely engrossing the attention of the leaders and directors of opinion in Chicago. The Illinois legislature passed a

## COMPULSORY EDUCATION LAW

some five or six years ago. This required all children, between 8 and 14 years of age to attend school, at least during 12 weeks in every year. The law was not absolute inasmuch as exemption could be granted a child by a school director or board of education under certain conditions.

In Chicago this law is in a worse condition than that of innocuous denude; it is literally as dead as a door nail. No attempt has ever been made to enforce it either in Chicago or anywhere else in Illinois.

In July last (1888) the

## SCHOOL CENSUS

of Chicago showed 142,294 children between 6 and 16 years of age in the city. The public school enrollment is 81,000, the private and parochial schools 47,279, leaving a balance of 13,000 children entirely unaccounted for in an educational sense.

According to these figures the public school system of Chicago is in a fair way to become a failure. The private and parochial schools are crowding it to the wall. The Catholic church is blamed a good deal for this hostility to the public school. It is all nonsense to blame one sect, because every sect and church in Chicago has its parochial or private school just as well as Catholics. The result is that the public school has fallen into the hands of mercenary politicians who don't care whether school keeps or not, provided there is a little boodle in it.

If, as it has been said, the child is father to the man, then the future manhood of Illinois is likely to be of a deplorable type. With 13,000 gutter rats growing up, there will be plenty of raw material for anarchy and socialism. The children who attend school are not much better than those who do not. During the recent strike of street car drivers and conductors, the children of the public schools caused more trouble to the police than the strikers did. The greatest disorder invariably prevailed in the vicinity of the schools. Whatever damage took place it was through school children it occurred.

## THE ANARCHISTS

are now establishing a system of Sunday schools in which will be taught "the destruction of the existing society, by all means, by energetic, relentless, revolutionary and international action." Perhaps a question from one of the leaders themselves will best illustrate what the anarchist Sunday schools are. Here it is:

Mr. Christensen, editor of the *Arbeiter-Zeitung*, made a speech. He said: "We will not teach religion in our Sunday schools because religion is an institution of the rich to suppress the poor. The rich are not religious. There is Frederick the Great openly and publicly insulting God. There is no Prince nor Emperor who believes in God. The rich tell the people, 'Yong to Heaven if you enter on this earth.' Nobody ever proved that there is a heaven, and nobody ever will. But it has been proved that there is no God, no heaven. Why does not Mayor Roche send his children to work? Why does not he go to work himself if he can secure heaven by so doing? Religion does not elevate the mind; it stupefies it. We will have nothing to do with religion. In our Sunday schools we

will teach history and natural sciences. The rich teach the children of the poor the history of kings, but we will teach them the history of the people. Poems about freedom are taught in Germany, yet the citizens cannot approach their Emperor without being watched by spies."

What the private and parochial school of this class will be can be better imagined than described. But the anarchists can hardly be blamed for speaking disrespectfully of religion, when the religionists themselves have not a charitable or kind word for each other. Here is what one preacher said yesterday in his sermon:

"The Roman Catholic Church," said Mr. Nickerson, "has always been an enemy to the institutions of this free Republic. It has never been in harmony with its spirit of progress, it does not believe in liberty, and does nothing to aid the country. It is an enemy of the public schools."

"But our school system proving too powerful for the Romanists, what do they purpose doing? First, establish parochial schools where all the children will be gathered; second, get on school boards such persons as are in sympathy with Catholicism; third, get teachers in the schools who believe in that faith. Their ultimate purpose is to destroy the system."

The property of the Catholic Church in Chicago is worth millions; what a splendid field it would be for an Edmund's-Tucker confiscation law; and what a

## HARVEST FOR LAWYERS, JUDGES AND POLITICIANS.

The Catholics laugh at the Rev. Mr. Anderson, and say they will own his little church in a few years more.

Even among the preachers themselves education and religion are looked upon as mere

## THUMBS FOR LAUGHTER.

No better way of illustrating what I here assert can be here adopted than by giving a clipping from the published sermon of one preacher who criticizes another of the different denominations. Here it is:

"In the *Tribune* article I have mentioned the number of men and of women attending the different churches was given. In many of them the men were scarce, and in some there were not many of either. [Laughter.] The answer of the Rev. Mr. Bristol to the question, 'Do you believe in Hell?' I read with particular interest. 'If by Hell you mean Leger's lake, of fire, said Brother Bristol, I do not believe in it, and it is not a doctrine of the church. Leger's lake is simply making fools of people when he makes them believe that this is the Hell that is preached. I never heard such a Hell preached.'

"I wonder," said Dr. Thomas, "if Brother Bristol ever read anywhere about such a hell? [Laughter.] John Wesley is an authority in the Methodist Church. He, in describing hell, imagined a finger held in the flame of a candle for years; then the hand thrust into the flame, then the arm, and then the entire body plunged for all eternity into flames of fire. 'People will ask,' says Wesley, 'if this is material fire. There is no other fire,' he answers. 'To say that fire is not material is to cast the lie on the teachings of Christ!'

"John Wesley, my friends, is an authority in the Methodist Church. He teaches eternal torment in hell fire, and what he teaches the Methodist Church accepts as truth. And yet Brother Bristol says that Ingersoll is making fools of people by saying that this is the orthodox hell—this hell that Wesley described 100 years ago. It would seem that one has need of an almanac to distinguish between orthodox and heresy. [Laughter.] Because the religion of the past has come down to us heavy and dark, does not prove that there is nothing in religion but for women and children. Let reason drive out the error and the truth will appear."

All this may seem bad enough for religion, but there is worse to come. We may blame the anarchist for his strictures on Christianity, but we certainly cannot commend the Christianity which has for its corner-stone card-playing, Yes, card-playing; that is the latest development in church society. Church socials and church entertainments now bingle on the

## JACK OF KNIVES.

who is generally the pastor himself. In yesterday's sermon Bishop Fallows spoke feelingly on the subject. As a religious and church recreation he condemned it. Of it morally and physically he said:

"While approving of all virtuous forms of recreation which leave the body and mind refreshed, I can find nothing to approve in progressive euchre. It is played in warm close rooms. The players keep a sedentary position. The muscles are under tension from the mental excitement. When it is over every player feels tired. The wear and tear are much greater than in other forms of social cards, because of the crowd and intense rivalries. I am told that things are even carried so far that ladies lose their temper sometimes.

The game is now impossible without prizes. This helps to foster the chief vice of the age and to give many young men their first taste for gambling."

These clippings taken from the sermons and discourses of the most prominent religionists of the day, will suffice to show that both education and religion are in a very poor condition. Of course these people call themselves Christians, and fancy that the jealousies, rivalries, squabbles and bickerings which they indulge in are a part of Christianity. At stated times they all unite in a fine outburst of indignation at Mormonism, and then facilitate themselves on the good work they are doing.

Without education and without religion what can the

## POLITICAL CONDITION

of a country be? Judge Gresham, a gentleman who was a candidate for the presidency last July, answers my question. He says:

"There ought to be a reform in our state electoral system, and unless the state takes

steps to stop the corruption at the polls a condition of affairs will be produced to which the rebellion will not be a circumstance.

"It is the Pharisees who are doing this. It is men of prominence and respectability who raise large sums of money, knowing the use they will be put to, men who deal openly in corruption one day, and go to church the next."

"It is these men who bring disgrace upon the State. You may convict a hundred—yes even a thousand—obscure voters for bribery, but the effect upon a community would be as nothing compared to that which would follow the conviction of one prominent man."

In the State of Indiana there are at election times 25,000 votes for sale in open market. It is in reference to this that Judge Gresham made the above remarks. Is it any wonder the order of "White Caps" flourishes in that State? Is it any wonder that we have anarchists and rioters in Illinois?

In national politics the situation is not at all reassuring. Here is what

SENATOR INGALLS SAYS

Of the Southern question:

"The race question at the South remains, as it has always been, and for the next generation at least it will continue to be, the most important and formidable in our politics. The change from slavery to freedom, from subordination to legal equality, has complicated instead of simplified the situation; so far from solving the fatal problem, it has added new elements of difficulty and danger. Unless history is a false teacher it is not possible for two distinct races not homogeneous, that is, which cannot assimilate by intermarriage and the mingling of blood, to exist upon terms of practical political equality under the same government. One or the other must go to the wall. The time will come when the negroes, aware of their strength and numbers, will insist upon their equality under the law, and then there will be a crisis which may become a catastrophe."

Then there is the split in the G. A. R. and the split in the Knights of Labor. The news from Europe is such that railroad stocks are very inactive indeed. Should trouble arise there holders of American securities would have financial excitement enough at home, and the result would be for America a glutted Wall Street. Labor troubles are by no means over.

The incoming Administration will be one based on the idea of a strong

## CENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT.

and supported by a following which believes in a solid imperialism. The labor riots of the future will not be left to Pinkerton and Capt. Foley. The southern question must be approached in some way. The administration of Benjamin Harrison promises to be the most eventful in American history, possibly one which will inaugurate a new era in the political and social life of the United States.

In the meanwhile

## WHAT IS UTAH DOING

all this time? Are her children falling into the ways of the heathen and a publican with their eyes open? Can't they read the signs of the times? Are the meeting houses, tabernacles and temples left to the women and a solitary male exhorter as are our Christian churches? Are the Latter-day Saints allowing the sacred literature of their religion to lie idle on the shelves to be eaten with moth and dust? Now is the time for them to realize that their earthly mission has just commenced. Now it is that the spirit of their religion begins to take material form. Now it is that the accomplishment of their grand ideal is at hand. In the midst of all this chaos both in the old and new worlds on the children of Utah alone depends the perpetuation of modern civilization and the conservatism of law, order and religion. Yes, men of Utah, now is your time, come closer together, live your religion, educate your children, leave no corner in your household or in your heart for the anarchist and alleged Christian. Spurn the booms of the shark adventurer, the enterprise of the financial lunatic, the ethics of the rum-seller, and the religion of the mercenary hypocrite who calls himself Christian misology. By doing this, in the page of history yours will be the most heroic chapter, in the roll of song yours the most sublime epic; and in the armament of religion yours the coronal star, the brilliant Venus of heaven's galaxy.

JENIUS.

## Northern Notes.

On Monday, a three-year old son of John Godfrey, of Meadon, while playing with some children, fell from a chair and dislocated an elbow and caused a fracture near the joint.

Gustav Bernston, a resident of Logan, who has been here but a short time, was working on a barn in Benson Ward yesterday, when a hatchet that he was using slipped and cut his right knee in the joint, making quite a gash.

On last Tuesday night a son of Wm. Willis, of Paradise, while hauling wood from the cañon, was thrown from the load. A wheel of the wagon passed over both his legs, causing a double fracture in the right leg above the ankle.

On Thursday Peter Anderson appeared before the commissioner and pleaded guilty to the charge of unlawful cohabitation. He was bound over to appear before the grand jury. L. R. Martineau and James Quayle signed the bonds. They also signed the bond for the appearance of Doretha J. Guldbraesen.—*Logan Journal*.