

SPIRIT OF REVENGE EXEMPLIFIED.—On the evening of the 5th instant as a farmer named Daniel Friley, of Drom, was about returning home from the fair of Templemore, a man named Ryan, a blacksmith, courteously asked him to take a "treat," and after having done so, Ryan, without any provocation, struck him with his fist, knocking him to the ground, when a fellow named Gleeson came in and with a "skull-cracker" struck at Friley, who is 64 years of age, and inflicted some serious injuries on the poor old man's head, which endangered his life. The cause assigned for this disgraceful assault on Friley is, that he withdrew his work from Ryan, and that a cousin of his was accused of having murdered Gleeson's father about thirty-five years ago!—*Nenagh Guardian.*

ITALY.

Accounts from Rome to the 7th January state that Cardinals Feretti and Altieri, two of the most influential members of the Sacred College, had arrived at Rome four days previously, from Gaeta, and were the bearers of proposals from the Pope of a conciliatory nature. Among the proposals was that of an amnesty to all political offenders, with the exception of the murderers of M. Rossi. It was said that the most able and influential leaders of the movement, and among others the minister Starbini, had replied that they had it not in their power to induce the members of the ultra-democratic clubs to accept those conditions, however reasonable they might be, without the assistance of an armed force acting in the name of the Pope. In consequence of the arrivals of the cardinals, Prince Corsini and the whole of the municipality of Rome had given in their resignations.

On the 12th a mob in the forum attempted to pull down the Pontifical arms. They were at once fired on by the civic guard and dispersed. Every attempt at disturbance is at once put down by the authorities.

A conspiracy was discovered on the 13th among the officers of the line, to effect a revolt in favour of the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope. The Minister of War, instead of causing military law to be enforced, according to the regular form, has only exiled these officers from the State and deprived them of their rank.

The *Speranza*, of Rome, of the 12th, announces the return from Gaeta of the Sardinian Envoy Extraordinary to the Pope. It appears, by letters from Gaeta, that his mission had not been successful, that he was received by the Pope only in his private character, and that the Pope had even threatened him to recal his ambassador from Turin, on account of a suspicion that the Sardinian Cabinet was in relation with the Roman Government. The threat of excommunication has produced no effect in the rural districts, and the people are universally determined to vote in the election of the Constituent.

FRANCE.

France makes but very slow progress towards a settled and satisfactory administrative system. The incompatible functions of an absolute Assembly and independent President clog the wheels of good Government.

It is said that never were the hopes of the partisans of the Bourbon higher than at the present moment. They speak openly of the return of Henry V. as a matter of certainty, and the period to which they look forward as that of the restoration is by no means remote. An opposition to the new President has been organised by the very parties who were recently his warmest supporters, and is becoming every day more and more dangerous. It is stated that the partisans of the elder branch of the Bourbons, and those of the house of Orleans, have made up all their differences, and now go heart and hand together for the restoration of Henry V.

Extensive naval and military preparations are being made at Marseilles, Toulon, and other ports, and the object is presumed to be that of interfering in Italy.

INDIA.

The first blow has been struck in the Indian campaign. By the Overland Mail we have dates from Bombay to the 20th December, with advices from Calcutta to the 10th, and Madras to the 12th, together with news from Moulton to the 5th, and from the commander-in-chief's camp at Ramnuggur to the 7th December. Lord Gough joined the army of the Chenab on the 21st November; but the heavy guns did not arrive till the 30th, having been detained to make a detour, to compel the unconditional surrender of a rebel fortress on the road.

A sanguinary skirmish took place at Ramnuggur on the 23d, between the 3d and 14th regiments of light dragoons, supported by three regiments of native cavalry, two field batteries, two troops of horse artillery, and two brigades of infantry, the whole under the command of Lord Gough, and a large force of Sikhs, on the left bank of the Chenab. The first body of the enemy's cavalry who were charged by the British, are described as having stood firm whilst almost under their sabres, and to have then shown a singular degree of strategy and coolness, by managing to open their ranks, in order to tempt the further progress of the troops. The opportunity was but too boldly followed, especially by the 14th dragoons, who charged up to a dry watercourse, where a number of matchlock men were placed in ambush, upon a larger body of Sikhs, who slowly retired, disputing every inch of ground. A numerous fire was opened upon the points where the few men engaged

were enabled only, in the confined space of the attack, to take ground, and especially in the gully, which had been so well covered as to be altogether impregnable. The British troops at length withdrew, (the engagement having lasted about twenty minutes,) having cut down about eighty Sikhs. Unfortunately Major-general Cureton, Colonel Havelock, and Captain Fitzgerald, of the 14th dragoons, were killed, and Captain Cautley, of the 8th light dragoons, was wounded. On the 3rd ultimo the main body of troops crossed the Chenab under the fire of batteries they had erected, and which silenced those of the enemy on the islands in the river.

DEFEAT OF THE SIKHS BY THE BRITISH.

The *Delhi Gazette*, of the 8th Dec., gives the following account of the skirmish at Ramnuggur:—"The enemy, who had been reported in force at the several places indicated, but who had always evacuated them before they were occupied by us, were at length ascertained to have determined on making a stand at Ramnuggur, and General Cureton was directed to halt until more troops came up. Brigadier-General Campbell joined his camp on the 12th, taking command as senior officer, and bringing up another brigade. A further advance was made shortly afterwards, and on the 17th the camp was near Akalghur (commonly written Alleepoor in the letters from camp). General Cureton went on with a small party to look at the village in the afternoon, and was fired upon; some of the rebel cavalry were also seen on the occasion; but not a man after that on the 17th or 18th, though a report was then still rife that Shere Singh had on the 17th strengthened his force on the left bank of the Chenab. If he did so on that day, he certainly withdrew all the troops to the right bank on the 18th, as a party that went close up to Ramnuggur could hear nothing of them, and it was previously ascertained that Alleepoor had been evacuated during the night of the 17th of November. On the morning of the 18th the whole force was turned out about four o'clock in the morning, but why is not stated, and remained on their parade till sunrise, when they were dismissed, and the tents ordered to be repitched. Her Majesty's 61st Foot reached the camp of Brigadier-General Campbell on the morning of the 19th, 850 strong, and were attached to the brigade commanded by Brigadier Hoggan, who had assumed charge. Authentic information had been received in the camp of Brigadier-General Campbell on the 21st, then pitched at Saharun, nine miles S.S. W. of Ramnuggur, and consequently, considerably to the left of Deedar Singh ka Killah, (and a short distance from the camp near Akalghur), that Shere Singh had, on the 17th of that month, been joined by the Bunto troops under Ram Singh, and that he was, on the morning of the same day (the 21st), encamped on the right bank of the Chenab, with a picket of three regiments and four guns on the left bank. It was then surmised that, in consequence of the proximity of the head-quarters' camp, accompanied by Generals Thackwall and Gilbert, operations would commence on the 22nd, especially as Lieutenant Nicolson's Patans having seized 12 boats at Wuzerabad on the first advance of General Cureton to Goojranwallah about the 7th of November, it was considered that these would, with the assistance of the pontoon train, afford all the necessary facilities for crossing the Chenab. The commander-in-chief having also considered that the time had arrived for the commencement of operations, orders were issued late on the night of the 21st of November, in the camp of Brigadier-General Campbell at Saharun (with the sanction of his Excellency, who rode over to the camp of Brigadier-General Campbell on the afternoon of the 21st), for the following troops to parade on the ensuing morning, at three o'clock, in the front of the centre of the camp, without sound of bugle, trumpet, or drum:—The whole of the cavalry (her Majesty's 3d and 14th regiments of Light Cavalry Dragoons, the 5th and 8th regiments of Light Cavalry, and 12th Irregular Cavalry); two troops of Horse Artillery (Duncan's and Warner's); two field batteries (Austin's and Dawe's); and two brigades of infantry (those of Brigadiers Godeby, 2nd European Regiment and 70th Native Infantry; and Hoggan, her Majesty's 61st Foot, 36th and 46th Native Infantry). The cavalry to be formed on the right, artillery on the left of the cavalry, and the infantry on the left of the whole. The cavalry and the infantry to be formed in column of troops and companies at quarter distance, left in front. The camp was to continue standing, Brigadier Eckford's brigade, with Captain Duncan's troop of Horse Artillery, remaining as a guard for the camp. The 12th Irregular Cavalry to cover the rear of the whole column. In this order this strong detachment marched under the personal command of the Commander-in-Chief (who had come up from the head quarters' camp to superintend the proceedings of the morning), at the appointed time, and reached the left bank of the Chenab, near Ramnuggur, at an early hour, in the hope of surprising the detachment of the enemy who were known to be on the same side. It would appear, however, that these had early intimation of the movement of the British troops, and had all retired across, except a few stragglers and a picket, who fled, leaving their tents pitched. The object of the movement on our side was, however, mainly to ascertain the real strength and position of the enemy, and this was in some degree effected on clearing Ramnuggur, towards the left bank of the river. Then it became apparent that their camp was seen to be crowded by thousands of men, whose white

and light-coloured garments strongly contrasted (says this narrative) with the bodies of the British troops, to which the eyes of our officers had been for some time past accustomed. In drawing out their fire to ascertain their real strength in guns, and pressing perhaps rather too zealously in pursuit of those of the fugitives who appeared to be within reach, while crossing at the ford, with the water to the waist, Lieut.-Colonel Lan's troop of Horse Artillery (2nd of the 3rd Brigade) got into heavy sand before they were aware of it, and a leading horse having been shot, it was found, when the order came to limber up and retire, that one of the guns could not be moved. The Sikhs were not slow at perceiving this most inopportune embarrassment, and directed so hot a fire upon the spot, that it was found necessary to abandon the gun, although a light field battery was brought up to cover it, (more than one account says that one or two tumbrils were abandoned at the same time, and others that two wagons were left with the gun, but we are somewhat inclined to believe that this is a mistake). But the fire of the enemy from an open plain, was so heavy that nothing could be done beyond scattering a few of the nearest groups of the enemy, and then retiring. The cavalry were ordered to do the same, and take shelter from the enemy's round shot behind a slope of trees to the left, where they remained quietly for a time, the infantry being, during that interim, drawn up on the right. Some of the enemy being subsequently (it does not exactly appear at what precise time this was the case, but it must have been some time after the artillery retired,) discovered on the left bank of the river, further down to the left, a large number of our cavalry, amongst whom were the 3rd and 14th Light Dragoons, moved down by order to dislodge them. On approaching a body of Sikh cavalry, drawn up as if to receive them, these broke and separated to the right and left, when the dragoons charging on were brought up by a nullah, or ravine, full of matchlockmen, who opened a most galling fire on the European cavalry, who were comparatively helpless, being unable to descend into the nullah. Here fell Brigadier-General Cureton, who was shot through the heart; Lieut.-Colonel Havelock, dangerously wounded; and Capt. Holmes, severely; and it was with some difficulty that the men were extricated from the trap into which they had been intentionally drawn by the enemy. Having, as represented in our letter, effected their purpose, though we do not exactly see how, the cavalry returned, but, in the mean time, the Sikhs had come across, and taking the six-pounder horse artillery gun (which had, however, been previously spiked by the gunners) off the carriage, bore it in triumph to their own side of the river. At about one p.m. the troops, who had up to that time continued under arms, received orders to move to their new encamping ground, forming line facing the enemy about a mile and a half distant, at Ramnuggur in their rear, and there they remained during the 23rd. The enemy's fire was, however, renewed at irregular intervals until the afternoon. They also fired in the same manner during the 23rd. The following is, we have every reason to believe, a nearly correct list of casualties, of which no official return has been published:—Brigadier-general Cureton, C. B., killed (shot through the heart).—Her Majesty's 14th Light Dragoons: Colonel Havelock, killed; or, at least, his body had not been found up to the 1st inst. Capt. Fitzgerald, wounded in five places by sword cuts, chiefly about the head and neck (since dead). Captain Gall, wounded. Captain M'Mahon, wounded in the neck.—Captain Scudamore, wounded. 27 men killed or missing; 22 men wounded.—Her Majesty's 3rd Dragoons: Captain Cautley, wounded. Seven men wounded.—5th Light Cavalry: Lieutenant-colonel Alexander, right arm so much injured as to render amputation necessary.—Was saved by the gallantry of Sergeant-major Drinkwater. Captain Ryley, wounded; hit by a spent ball in the leg. 27 rank and file killed and wounded.—8th Light Cavalry: 35 men killed and wounded.—Her Majesty's 61st Foot: One man killed.—Artillery: Two men killed, and several wounded.—45th Native Infantry:—Ensign Hardinge, A. D. C., wounded severely, shot through the shoulder.—12th Irregular Cavalry: Captain Holmes wounded, whilst trying to carry off the body of General Cureton, shot through the chest.

Our latest intelligence from the camp at Ramnuggur is to the 26th of November. We regret to say, that as far as we can learn from the varying statements that have reached us, both Lieutenant-colonel Havelock, her Majesty's 14th Light Dragoons, and Captain Fitzgerald of the same corps, had died of the wounds they received during the action of the 22nd ult. The last-named officer was doing well up to the evening of the 25th, when he became suddenly worse, and expired during the night. The other sufferers from wounds are said to be doing well. Amongst those mentioned as wounded, but whose names have not previously appeared, are Brigadier J. Hoggan, Captain Barnes, 3rd Dragoons; Captain Newbolt, Commissariat; and Cornet Chetwynd.

MR. M'GREGOR'S PLAN OF FINANCIAL REFORM.
Mr. J. M'Gregor has published, in a letter to his Glasgow constituents, a detailed exposition of the retrenchments which he thinks may immediately be made in public expenditure, and of the way in which he would avail himself of the saving thus effected to relieve the taxpayers. His statement is obscured by a multiplicity of historical and autobiographical details interwoven with