PARIS DAY BY DAY.

[BY SPECIAL WIRE.]

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The official beginning of Spring is fixed for next Sunday, according to the almanack, and there has already taken place a change of temperature which has caused the inconvenience and annoyance felt by the poor in days. The greatest sufferers are the poor, who have not protest against such weather which prevents them from earning bread. But we are still in the month of February, and there were no snowfalls, and a mild Parisian rain succeeded the cold weather. The Parisian rain is felt by people of all ages and conditions who left their walls during the last few days, and it has the same climatic circumstances as the fog on land of the day, Paris and London. The Grand Prix de Paris, the Prix Fitzjames, was fairly appropriate, and sobriquet Achteuil was highly patronized by the public during the afternoon.

Presented by Mr. Phipps, Secretary and Chargé d'Affaires of the British Embassy, the Marquis of Dufferin paid his first visit to M. Rémy yesterday afternoon. His Excellency is a frequent visitor at Rouen, where he will have his residence of the Queen. It is not till after his return to Paris that he will present his credentials to the Chief of the Republic with the usual ceremonial and will formally enter upon his new duties.

Owing to the fact that Lord Dufferin is not yet officially installed there was no ball at the Embassy last night to the members of the Corps diplomatique at the Quai d'Orsay. It was a reception, and was followed by a reception, which was numerously attended. Countess Dufferin and Lady Hermione Blackwood were present at the night and left of their Parisian hotel being supported by the Papal Nuncio and the Ottoman Ambassador. Among the guests at the dinner were the Austrian, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish, Danish, Belgian, Monaco, the United States Minister and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, Mr. Phipps, the Secretary of the Embassy, and the Minister of Portugal and Mdlle. de Freycinet. The Russian Ambassador was not present, the Prince of Orange being absent. The fine salons of the Embassy were profusely decorated with choice flowers and plants.

Proof of the arbitrary and illegal arrest of M. Turlin and his young brother, who were taken into custody on Saturday night and released the day after, was given on the Bourse yesterday. The two young men were released on simple intervention. I may mention that this is by no means an isolated instance of such. Cases of this kind are not infrequent. During the past few weeks public opinion has been roused to various complaints against the police. We have had the "Affair of the Deputy," who was dragged out of his carriage by a detention under peculiarly aggravating circumstances. The wife of a high functionary only recently had cause to complain of the almost brutal treatment to which she was subjected at a clinic. A young respectable man was recently arrested on a thoroughly unfounded charge, was moved about from place to place and finally released after a period of confinement. Then there was the case of a young businessman, who, when he was released—he was one of the part of the judicial authorities—he imprisoned for thirteen days, at the expiration of which period he was liberated, the prisoners having been conclusively demonstrated. It cannot be said that in these matters there "order is better in France," but the Commissary of Police is an all-powerful official, and responsible for arbitrary arrest is to be cleared at the head of the rules to which residents and visitors here are subjected. The mishaps which have befallen the people who had inquisitively crowded some antiquated fort too nearly have been the talk of the city for days.

In the case of Mr. Purdie and his brother it appears that the elder gentleman is not probably to the accomplishment of the duties of interpreter in French, while the younger is practically ignorant of the language. This, of course, does not excuse the blunder committed by the police officials, as they might easily have found the services of an interpreter in the exposition; but the very disagreeable expressions through which they have passed might serve as a warning to the authorities, that the attempt not to undertake any exposition which implies the employment of a translator interested in the event of any unpleasant situation occurring. Mr. Purdie and his brother may much deserve our sympathy, but the blunders they have only passed through an ordeal to which many fully respectable Frenchmen have been subjected on the "sins of the soil." So far, the adventure of the Salonique appears to have only attracted the attention of one or two French journals, and that only, by contemporaries contesting themselves with a brief mention of the fact that Mr. Purdie having obtained the notice of the police, I may add that "probably the official version" of the affair gives that evening by the Prefecture. It was on the formal accusation of a woman, who had lost her purse, to various other individuals on the concourse, and had been robbed of her purse, containing thirteen francs, that Mr. Purdie and his brother were arrested. As their replies to the questions put to them were "embarrassed," they were detained in custody. They also said they had stated that they were accompanied by an interpreter, who had disappeared in the crowd; but the immediate search made on at the Grand Palais showed that they had started on their way to the Salonique without one. The "embarrassment" alluded to was probably owing to their delicacy in the use of colloquial French. The average Parisian would also be "embarrassed" at a London police-court, but he could not possibly be left in custody four days at the pleasure of an inquiry.

An explosion of dynamite in the Faubourg Saint-Germain, followed so closely on that which occurred last week in the Rue Saint-Dominique, took place on Friday night, and has caused widespread consternation in the inhabitants of the capital. The scene of the outrage is the Rue de Grenelle, No. 120, Boulevard Saint-Germain, belonging to the Comte de Montesquiou-Fezensac, and let in *appartements* to a number of tenants of good means. Madame de Trappes, a widow lady, and her son, occupy the second floor of the house, as an Judge of the Tribunal of Commerce, resides on the first floor, while the rest is inhabited by M. Benoit, a barrister of the Court of Appeal, and the third by M. Ferrin, an inspector of high rank. Opinions differ as to the exact hour when the explosion occurred, but it is generally stated that it was about half-past eight. The concierge, Pinot, was reading a newspaper in his room, which overlooks the entrance, when he was suddenly hurled with great violence against the wall, and at the same moment he heard a tremendous report, followed immediately by the noise of broken glass and debris. So great was the force of the explosion that it was heard quite distinctly a mile off, a mile of the site of the intervening traffic. Pinot, as soon as he was able to rise, rushed out, shouting that a gas explosion had taken place, and, on reaching the first floor, found, owing to the darkness, to notice a light in the floor of the landing, and fell through it to the *entresol* beneath. Fortunately he sustained no injuries, but only slight. Scarcely a pane of glass or a piece of woodwork left unbroken in the whole house, and the staircase was in a state of utter ruin. Not a door was