

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

PARIS, July 10.—The public here, it is now seen, is somewhat hazy in concluding that the cessation of hostilities to the Emperor Napoleon implied the immediate cessation of hostilities and the restoration of peace. Every morning the *Moniteur* is most anxiously looked at for the news which is still to complete the memorable note of Thursday last. The delay is borne with impatience by the public, who long for the war to cease in Germany, and who are painfully apprehensive lest France may somehow or other be dragged into it; and the responsibility is thrown upon Italy. It is true that the offer of mediation and the armistice has not been accepted unconditionally by the King of Prussia, but the King of Prussia lost no time in reply to the Emperor. For his part, he said, he should accept, provided the conditions of the armistice did not interfere with the supplies of his army and the maintenance of the positions which its military successes had given it; but before anything was done he was obliged to concert with his ally the King of Italy. The answer of the King of Italy was much colder and still more reserved; before giving his assent he must consult his ministers. Hence the murmurs of impatience, complaints of ingratitude, and even words of anger.

On the other hand, the over zealous friends of Italy here are against Italy accepting Venetia from the hands of France. An article in the new journal *Le Liberte*, said to be inspired by Prince Napoleon himself, if it has not actually proceeded from his pen, contends that Prussia and Italy cannot accept the tardy proposition of Austria. Had France been a third belligerent she indeed might, as she did at Villafranca, impose her will; but as she has preferred the position of a neutral, she has no right to dictate to either Prussia or Italy. The appeal of the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor of the French is nothing more than a cry of distress, which should pass unheeded. If Italy accepted with gratitude Lombardy from France, it was because Italy owed her acquisition to the Emperor Napoleon, who was a belligerent. The case is far otherwise in 1866; and she cannot, either with gratitude or with honor, accept Venetia from one who is not a victorious belligerent, though he may be a generous neutral. It is not to France that Italy is now indebted, but to Prussia. She is not free to accept a gift from France. Prussia is her ally, and it is to her she owes it that the defeat of Custoza has been avenged by the victory of Sadowa; and if she accept what is thus offered her she could not do so without dishonor.

The Emperor is harassed and vexed by all these difficulties, which he had not anticipated from Prussia and Italy. Prussia shows no signs of abating her pretensions. Elated by her victories, she seems to care little for the anger of France, of whom she no longer stands in awe, and is not disposed to spare her prostrate enemy a single humiliation. On one point especially she is said to be inexorable—the exclusion of Austria from the Confederation; and this is precisely the point in which France refuses to yield. A bitter disappointment also is that which comes from Italy, for we cannot credit the rumour that the passage of the Po by Cialdini, just announced by telegraph, has been either with the approval or the cognizance of the Emperor. Venetia, since its cession, belongs to France, and the Italians must have unbounded confidence in their new strength, or in the power of their ally, to invade French territory. It is said that a French Commissioner has been sent to Venice, and even a French division is spoken of to occupy it in the name of the Emperor. The passage of the Po is equivalent to the rejection of the armistice, and is likely to be the forerunner of fresh and serious complications.—*Cor. of Times.*

A Parisian paper states that as soon as the Emperor's note in *Le Moniteur* announcing the cession of Venetia to France became public the Parisians hastened to hoist their flags, and in the evening the town was illuminated. The rejoicings extended to the Departments.

Louis Blanc, in a letter to the *Paris Temps*, says that public opinion in England has experienced a great revolution since the recent Prussian successes in Bohemia, many leading politicians now believing that Prussia will found a great Teutonic empire which will be able to control and repress the ambition of France.

## ITALY.

MILAN, July 6.—A monster shell falling from the sky and exploding in the Piazza del Duomo would not have caused more astonishment, and scarcely could have occasioned greater consternation, than did the extract from the *Moniteur* published here yesterday afternoon. At first there was a tendency to incredulity; persons who were told of it thought they were hoaxed, and demanded to see the news in print. I was in Milan in 1859 when the news of the Treaty of Villafranca came, and certainly the surprise and shock were by no means so great as on the present occasion. The predominant sentiment is one of profound discontent. In the numerous groups that yesterday formed in the streets and squares so soon as the intelligence transpired, on 'Change in the afternoon, at night in the *cafes* and in the crowds that assembled outside them, discussing the event, not a single pleased or contented countenance was to be seen. Gloom overspread every face; all looked either angry or dejected. When war was declared, Milan dressed itself up in flags in sign of joy; notwithstanding the reverse of the 24th of June a great many of those flags still remained, giving the city a festive air; yesterday, as by magic, every one of them disappeared. The present case seems to be considered much worse than that of 1859. Then Italy was dependent on France, into whose arms she had thrown herself, and at whose discretion she lay. It was not her 50,000 Sardinian troops, or her volunteers, then far less numerous than now when Garibaldi's exploits have given them a head and a rallying point, that could make her free. She was fain to submit, with an ill grace, to what she could not avoid, and to accept at once the favors and the exactions of the conqueror on whom was her sole reliance. But now the case is very different. Italy has gone to war not only for Venetia, but for the military reputation that has hitherto been denied her and for a high place among nations. It was her pride to stand alone, at least on this side of the Alps, against the armies of Austria, and she was confident of emerging from the strife not only as an aggrandized State, but as a great power. Venetia was not to be bought or ceded; Italy owed it to herself to assert her right on the battle-field, and to wrest by the force of her unaided arms her lost province from the usurper. To this effect wrote the *Florence Nazionale* yesterday morning, and, as that paper is believed to be Ricasoli's special organ, the words were much quoted last night—quoted hopefully, as if there was a chance of this Government's rejecting the proposed armistice. 'Are we always to be indebted to Paris?' ask some. 'Is Italy never to be allowed to *far da se*? inquire others. 'What is to be got for the transfer to us of the province which Austria gives up to him?' But in answer to this last question it is generally declared that whatever Napoleon is to take for his brokerage must be taken elsewhere than in Italy. Opinion here would mean revolution. The Government will have enough to do, as it is, to keep things quiet if the war is to be considered as really at an end. No one here admits that the proposed armistice can be accepted without stipulations more advantageous to Italy than the only one at present announced. The direct transfer of Venetia from Austria to Italy is demanded, the Italian Tyrol to be included, all claim to indemnity to be renounced by Austria—except, perhaps, the transfer of the part of the Austrian debt correspond-

ing to Venetia. Such basis agreed to, the armistice could not be refused. Worse terms may have to be accepted if Prussia agrees to the armistice. 'Something depends on the terms of the treaty of agreement existing between Italy and Prussia,' said the latter Power's desire to win hearts here; she will decline the French proposal. Much depends on Russia. Has she an understanding with France? Will she be disposed to save a grateful Austria, or prefer to see her despoiled by Prussia? Another and a greater war might yet spring out of this attempt at peace.

Letters from Florence show that there, as here, yesterday's news is most unwelcome. After a victory, it is said, the proposal would have been acceptable, but it is looked upon as a mere snare and delusion at the moment when Italy is proposing to revenge an unfortunate battle. The *Perseveranza* says:—

'Every one feels that in this war Italy had two ends in view, the one territorial and political, the other moral. The attainment of the first does not compensate the failure of the other.'

This is certainly the general feeling here as well as at Florence, and doubtless we soon shall here of its existing throughout Italy. It is perhaps with the view of pacifying the popular irritation that the Government this morning published Bulletin No. 8, which says, 'Considering it advisable to deprive the Austrians of the advantage of the *laissez-passer* at Borgoforte, on the right of the Po, operations of attack were to-day commenced.' To-day meaning the 5th inst. This is but a small sop for an angry nation. 'Operations of attack' is a very vague expression. It may mean that guns are being brought up or that the engineers are breaking grounds for batteries; we have not heard of any fighting having taken place.

Florence, July 10.—The Florence journals of this evening announce that the Prussians Government has officially declared to the Italian Cabinet that Italy cannot accept an armistice which, being based upon the cession of Venetia, would be tantamount to a separately concluded peace, and would disengage, to the detriment of Prussia and to the advantage of Austria, the 150,000 men stationed in Venetia.

## AUSTRIA.

Vienna, July 10.—The *Abendpost* (Evening Edition of the official *Wiener Zeitung*) says:—

The Emperor of the French has taken fresh steps of an energetic character to effect the conclusion of an armistice.

The French fleet is on its way to Venice, and General Lebon, the French Commissioner, had been ordered to occupy Venetia. Gen. Frossard had been sent to the Prussian head-quarters to announce the armed mediation of the Emperor of the French.

It is pronounced the will of the Emperor of the French that Austria should not be weakened in her position as a great Power.

The Army of the South is evacuating Venetia, and has commenced the march northwards.

The War.—The Emperor has issued a proclamation from Pesth to the Hungarian people, announcing that the conscription is suspended for the present, and calling upon them to enter the army as volunteers.

The Emperor of Austria left Pesth on Thursday, but is expected to return, accompanied by the Imperial children in a few days.

ZWITTAU, July 12.—M. Benedetti, the French Ambassador at Berlin, arrived here last night. The whole Prussian army continues its march towards the south.

MUNICH, July 12.—According to advices received from the Bavarian head-quarters the engagement near Kissenegg had no decisive result. The Bavarian army is concentrating near Schweinfurt, in readiness to give battle.

## ENGAGEMENT ON THE STELVIO.

Florence, July 12.—Yesterday the flying columns of the National Guard had an engagement with the Austrians at La Prese, on the Stelvio, which lasted the whole day. The National Guard occupied the first Cantoniers, and took 65 Austrian prisoners. They had some wounded, but none killed, and leaves this evening for the camp of General Cialdini, at Rovigo.

Florence, July 13.—Advices from Chiavenna, of yesterday's date, state that the flying columns of the National Guard, with the aid of the Custom officers, have repulsed the Austrians beyond the second cantoniers of the Stelvio Pass, making 100 prisoners.

The Italian loss was six wounded.

Several of the Paris journals of yesterday (Friday) evening state [what is probably false] that France, Prussia, and Italy have come to an understanding upon the proposals to be made to Austria. They add that the three Powers have agreed that Austria shall be excluded from the Germanic Confederation.

Italian papers assert officially that Prussia has declined the armistice requested by France on behalf of Austria.

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF THE GREAT BATTLE OF SADOWA.—The military correspondent of the *London Times* at Prussian headquarters gives the fullest and clearest account of the great battle of Sadowa that has yet been published. This account makes it clear that the greatest battle of the present age was won by the superior powers of the victors, and was not the consequence of a merely mechanical advantage. The *Times* remarks that the needle-gun added, no doubt, to the completeness of the victory, but if the Prussians had possessed no such weapon, the spirit of their onset, and their skillful arrangement, by which a part of their army was brought on to the flank and rear of the Austrians, would have effectually dislodged the latter from their position. We copy the principal passages of the account.

OPENING OF THE BATTLE.—The first shot was fired about half-past seven. The Prussian Horse Artillery, close down to the river, replied to the Austrian guns, but neither side fired heavily and for half an hour the cannonade consisted of but little more than single shots at a quarter before eight the King of Prussia arrived on the field, and very soon after the Horse Artillery were reinforced by other field batteries, and the Prussian gunners began firing their shells quickly into the Austrian position. But as soon as the Prussian fire actively commenced, Austrian guns seemed to appear, as if by magic from every point of the position; from every road, from every village, from the orchard of Mokrowens on the Prussian right, to the orchard of Benatek on their left, came flashes of fire and whizzing rifle shells, with, bursting with a sharp crack, sent their splinters rattling among the guns, gunners, carriages and horses, sometimes killing a man or horse, dismounting a gun, but always plunging up the earth and scattering the mud in the men's faces. But the Austrians did not confine themselves to firing on the artillery alone, for they threw themselves up the slope opposite to them toward Ben, and one shell came slap into a squadron of Uhlans who were close beside the King; burying itself with a heavy thud in the ground, it blew up columns of mud some twenty feet in the air, and, bursting a moment after reduced the squadron by four files.

PRUSSIAN CANNONADE.—As soon as the cannonade in front became serious, the guns of the Seventh Division began to bombard the village of Benatek, on the Austrian right. The Austrians returned shot for shot, and neither side either gained or lost ground. In the centre, too, the battle was very even; the Prussians pushed battery after battery into the action, and kept on a tremendous fire on the Austrian guns, but these returned it, and sometimes with interest, for the Austrian artillery officers knew their ground, and every shell fell true; many officers and men fell, and many horses were killed or wounded.

Gradually the Prussian cannonade appeared to get stronger, and the Austrian batteries between Benatek and Dohelnitz retired higher up the hill; but the guns at Mokrowens still held fast; and the Prussians had not crossed the Blatitz; but many guns were now turned on Mokrowens; and at 10 o'clock the battery there was also obliged to retire a little.

FIGHTING AROUND THE VILLAGES.—While the cannonade had been going on, some of the infantry had been moved down towards the river, where they took shelter from the fire under a convenient undulation of ground. The Eighth Division came down on the left hand side of the causeway, and, under the cover of the rising in the ground, formed in columns for the attack of the village of Sadowa; while the Third and Fourth Divisions, on the right hand side of the road, prepared to storm Dohelnitz and Mokrowens. But a little before their preparations were complete, the village of Benatek, on the Austrians' right, caught fire, and the Seventh Division made a dash to secure it, but the Austrians were not driven out by the flames, and here, for the first time in the battle, was there hand to hand fighting. The 27th Regiment led the attack, and rushed into the orchards of the village; the burning houses separated the combatants; they poured volley after volley at each other through the flames, but the Prussians found means to get round the burning houses, and taking the defenders in reverse, forced them to retire with the loss of many prisoners.

It was ten o'clock when Prince Frederick Charles sent General Sinnaul to order the attack on Sadowa, Dohelnitz, and Mokrowens. The columns advanced, covered by skirmishers, and reached the river bank without much loss, but from there they had to fight every inch of their way. The Austrian infantry held the bridges and villages in force, and fired fast upon them as they approached. The Prussians could advance but slowly along the narrow way, and against the defences of the houses, and the volleys sweeping through the ranks seemed to tear the soldiers down. The Prussians fired much more quickly than their opponents, but they could not see to take their aim; the houses, trees, and smoke from the Austrian discharges surrounded the village. Sheltered by this, the Austrian Jagers fired blindly where they could tell, by hearing, that the attacking columns were, and the shots told tremendously on the Prussians in their close formations; but the latter improved their positions, although slowly, and by dint of sheer courage and perseverance, for they lost men at every yard of their advance, and in some places almost parted their way with wounded. Then to help the infantry, the Prussian artillery turned its fire, regardless of the enemy's batteries, on the villages, and made tremendous havoc among the houses. Mokrowens and Dohelnitz both caught fire, and the shells fell quickly and with fearful effect among the defenders of the flaming hamlets; the Austrian guns also played upon the attacking infantry, but at this time these were sheltered from their fire by the houses and trees between.

THE AUSTRIANS FLANKED.—In and around the villages the fighting continued for nearly an hour; then the Austrian infantry, who had been there driven out by a rush of the Prussians, retired, but only a little way up the slope, into a line with their batteries.

The woods above Sadowa were strongly held, and that between Sadowa and Benatek, teeming with riflemen, stood to bar the way of the Seventh Division. But General Franksy, who commands this division, was not to be easily stopped, and he sent his infantry at the wood, and turned his artillery on the Austrian batteries. The Seventh Division began firing into the trees, but found they could not make any impression, for the defenders were concealed; and musketry fire was useless against them. Then Franksy let them go, and they dashed in with the bayonet. The Austrians would not retire, but waited for the struggle; and in the wood above Benatek was fought out one of the fiercest combats which the war has seen. The 27th Prussian Regiment went in nearly 3,000 strong, with 80 officers, and came out on the further side with only 2 officers, and between 300 and 400 men standing; all the rest were killed or wounded. The other regiments of the division also suffered much, but not in the same proportion; but the wood was carried. The Austrian line was now driven in on both flanks, but its commander formed a new line of battle a little higher up the hill, round Lissa, still holding the wood which lies above Sadowa.

## NEW AUSTRIAN POSITION.

Then the Prussian artillery was sent across the Blatitz, and began to fire upon the new Austrian position. At the same time the smoke of General Herwarth's advance was gradually seen moving towards the Austrian left, for he had at Nechanitz, a village about seven miles lower down the Blatitz than Sadowa, found a brigade of Saxon troops, with some Austrian cavalry, and was driving them towards the position of Lissa, himself following in such a direction that it appeared he would turn the Austrian left flank. But the Austrian commander seemed determined to hold his position, and heavy masses of infantry and cavalry could be seen on the upper part of the slope.

## IN THE WOODS.

The Prussian infantry, which had taken the villages of Sadowa and Dohelnitz, was now sent against the wood which, above these places, runs along the side of the Sadowa and Lissa road. They advanced against it, but did not at first make much impression, for the Austrians being here again concealed, the fire of the needle-gun did not tell, and a whole battery placed at the far end of the woods, fired through trees, and told on the Prussian ranks with awful effect. But the assailants fought on at last broke down the obstacles at the entrance, and then dashed in. The fighting continued from tree to tree, and the Austrians made many a rush to recover the lost position of the wood, but in this close fighting their boyish troops went down like nipepins before the strong men of the Eighth division; and when the defenders drew back a little and their artillery played into the trees, the Prussians suffered fearfully, and about half-way up in the wood the fight became stationary.

At this time the Austrian artillery were making splendid practice, and about 1 o'clock the whole battle line of the Prussians could gain no more ground, and was obliged to fight hard to retain the position it had won. At one time it seemed as if it would be lost, for guns had been dismounted by the Austrian fire, and in the wooded ground the needle-gun had no fair field, and the infantry fight was very equal.

Then Prince Frederick Charles sent the Fifth and Sixth divisions forward. They laid down their helmets and knapsacks on the ground, and advanced to the river. The King was now near to Blatitz, and the troops chased him loudly as they marched into the battle. They went over the Sadowa bridge, disappeared into the wood, and soon the increased noise of musketry told they had begun to fight; but the Austrian gunners sent salvo after salvo among them, and they did not push the battle forwards more than a few hundred yards, for they fell back themselves, and they could not reach the enemy. Not only did the fragments of the shells fly about among them, scattering death and awful gashes among their ranks, but the portions of the trees, torn by the artillery fire, few thickly about—huge, ragged splinters, that causes even more frightful wounds.

## ADVANCE OF THE CROWN PRINCE.

Herwarth, too, seemed crouched upon the right. The smoke of his musketry and artillery, which had hitherto been pushing forward steadily stood still for a time. Frank's men, cut to pieces could not be sent forward to attack the Sadowa wood, for they would have exposed themselves to be taken in the rear by the artillery on the right of the Austrian line.

formed in front of Lissa. All the artillery was engaged except eight batteries, and these were retained in case of a reverse; for at one time the firing in the Sadowa wood, and of the Prussian artillery on the slope, seemed almost as if drawing back towards Blatitz. The first army was certainly checked in its advance, if not actually being pushed back. Then the Prussian commanders began to look anxiously to the left for the coming of the Crown Prince. Some Austrian guns near Lissa were seen to be firing toward the Prussian left, and it was hoped they might be directed against the advanced guard of the Second army, but at three o'clock there were no signs of Prussian columns against Lissa. The generals became manifestly uneasy, and they drew the infantry out of the battle; cavalry was also formed up, so that it would be available either for the pursuit of the Austrians, or for retarding their pursuit, and Genl von Rheitz himself went off to look for the Second Army. But he soon returned and brought the intelligence that the Crown Prince was forming his attack on Lissa and that the guns on the Austrian right had been fired against his troops.

Then the first army took heart again. The Sadowa wood was carried, and the battery beyond it was stormed by the Jagers. At half-past three the Crown Prince's columns were seen moving across the slope against Lissa, for his artillery had silenced the Austrian guns, and Herwarth was again pressing pressing forward against the Austrian left. In a quarter of an hour the Crown Prince's Infantry was engaged at Lissa, and their quick volleys of musketry rapidly advancing, told that the Austrians were in full retreat. The first army pushed forward at once, the artillery limbered up and galloped up the slope, coming into action on every opportunity to send its shells against the retreating battalions; the infantry emerging from the woods, formed and pressed forward at the double. Prince Frederick Charles put himself at the head of his regiment, and dashed over Sadowa bridge and up the road, followed by all his light cavalry.

## THE SOUT.

On gaining the top of the Lissa slopes, the retreating battalions of the Austrians were seen running across a hollow in the ground which lies between Lissa and the village of Strelitz, which lies about two miles further south. The Prussian artillery halted on the summit of the Lissa hill and fired shells rapidly, which burst with terrible precision over the head of the fugitives. The cavalry flew forward in hot pursuit, but the Prince, after leading a short way, had to go to superintend the general movement for the Austrian batteries had taken post in the Strelitz ridge, and were firing heavily against the pursuing Prussians. Then the cavalry got out of hand, and by small detachments rushed on the Austrian battalions, but these, though retreating fast were not routed, and in many instances beat off the cavalry, who also suffered much from the Austrian artillery, for the shells burst repeatedly among the squadrons, and killed many men and horses. But the Austrian guns were driven off their ridge by the heavier fire of the more numerous Prussian batteries and then the pursuit was renewed.

## THE PURSUIT.

Some of the retreating Austrians made for the fortress of Konigsgratz, others for Pardubitz, and troops were sent in pursuit along both roads. The wounded, who were lying on the ground, shrieked with fear when they saw the cavalry galloping down towards them, but Prince Frederick Charles took care that they should be avoided, and at one time checked the pursuit, in order to move his squadrons around, and not go through a patch of standing corn where several wounded Austrians had taken refuge. The e, when they saw the Lancers coming, thought they were going to be massacred, and cried piteously waving white handkerchiefs as a sign of truce; but they had no cause to fear. Large numbers of prisoners were taken, for the pursuit was continued to the Elbe, and it was not till nine o'clock that all the firing had ceased, but the main body of the army halted about seven.

## RESULTS.

The battle of Sadowa has been a great victory for the Prussians army; the troops fought with the most determined courage, they stayed four hours under a terrible fire, for there are supposed to have been nearly one thousand five hundred guns in action of which seven hundred and fifty were Prussian. The immediate cause of the victory was the Crown Prince's attack on the Austrian left flank, which turned the position, but the attack in front had a great effect on the issue, as unless it had been steadily maintained the Austrians might have repulsed the attack in flank.

The number of troops engaged on the Prussian side was about two hundred and fifty thousand. The Austrians are supposed to have had almost an equal number. No details have yet been received of the number of killed, wounded or prisoners.

## THE POSITION OF RUSSIA.

A letter from Milan, dated July 6, to the *London Times*, says:—Much depends on Russia. Has she an understanding with France? Will she be disposed to save ungrateful Austria, or prefer to see her despoiled by Prussia? Another and a greater war might yet spring out of this attempt at peace.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 7th July says: We think that the armistice might effect a reconciliation if there were not a monarchy in Europe which believes itself to be sufficiently strong to compel the assent of Europe to its conquest in Germany, forgetting that there still exists strong and United Powers in Europe to whom the European balance of power is not a mere empty word.

## THE NEEDLE-GUN.

PARIS, July 7.—The famous needle-gun was today exhibited in an Armourer's window in the Rue Richelieu. It attracted groups of people, soldiers and civilians, to the spot, examining, criticising, and admiring.

PARIS, July 9.—The great topic of the day is the needle-gun. It is talked of everywhere—in the streets, in the theatres, in the cafes, in the eating-houses, in every social meeting; and you hardly meet an acquaintance who does not stop to explain to you the mechanism of this now famous weapon. The side ways are thronged by groups looking at the specimens exhibited in the armourers' shops, and the inconvenience is sometimes so great that *sergents de ville* have frequently to 'invite' the gazers to move on.

The Paris correspondent of *The Liverpool Journal* narrates the trials and disappointments of the inventor of the needle-gun: The needle gun is the produce of the long study and perseverance of an English officer who, while stationed at a solitary outpost in Canada, amused his leisure hours with experiments in the rough construction of a substitute for his rifle, which he had damaged by letting it drop down a precipice while in the pursuit of a bear. It was almost by accident that the discovery became palpable to the solitary hunter in the Woods. But no sooner did it become manifest to his senses than he resigned his commission in the army, returned to Europe, and as a matter of course, hurried to the War-Office with his invention. For more than a year was the inventor kept in suspense. He was bandied about from one official to another during all this time, merely to be told at last that Government did not feel disposed to alter the principle of the arms employed.

It was then that in disgust he brought his invention to Paris, and obtained an interview with the Emperor, who listened with the greatest apparent interest to the description of the gun, examined the plans and sections brought by the officer, questioned the superiority of the invention over the others which had been laid before him, declared it seemed to him liable to the great objection of being too delicate for field use, and abruptly sounded the little gong which

stands upon his bureau, and slightly rising when the usher entered at his summons, dismissed the visitor to admit other importunate. It was then that he bethought himself, armed with his needle-gun, to Holland. But when arrived at the Hague he found that his resources had dwindled away, to such an extent that he was compelled to delay his presentation to the King for want of proper costume to appear in. Meanwhile he became accidentally acquainted with one of the gentlemen attached to the Prussian Legation at the Hague, and to whom he recounted his bitter grievances.

This time, he was listened to with interest. The brother-in-law of his new friend held some appointment at the Court of Berlin, and he lost no time in repairing with the Englishman to Berlin. The needle gun was tried, examined, and accepted in the shortest possible space of time, the inventor handsomely rewarded, and encouraged to establish himself in Prussia. The *Birmingham Post*, on the other hand says: The Prussian needle-gun resembles, in all essential respects, an arm invented by two Englishmen, Messrs Hansom and Golden, of Huddersfield, and patented by them in this country on the 2d of November, 1841. It is said that Mr. Golden received an order from the King of Prussia for two of his guns, and from these models the so-called Prussian needle gun, with trifling modifications, was made.

## THE ADVANCE ON VIENNA—AFTER THE BATTLE OF SADOWA—A "FORWARD" AGAIN.

PRZELAUTSCH, July 5.—The Prussian army are everywhere successful, intelligence has just been received here that the Bavarians have been defeated by General von Falkenstein; and to-day the armies in Bohemia have passed the Elbe without opposition—a sure sign that the Austrian defeat at Konigsgratz has been severely felt in their army.

Last night the armies broke up from the bivouac they had occupied near the field of battle of Konigsgratz and advanced towards the Elbe.

To-day they crossed the river, the First Army, under Prince Frederick Charles, at Przelautsch, the Second, under the Crown Prince, at Pardubitz. The march was begun last evening. After going a short way the troops halted for the night, and slept by the side of the road. Early this morning they again set forward and reached the Elbe late in the afternoon. The villages along the road had been mostly deserted, for the inhabitants had fled south with the retreating Austrian army. The houses looked desolate, with their doors and windows wide open, and shutters flapping mournfully in the wind, while there still remained in the street in front vestiges of the hasty packing up of such articles as could be carried away. A stray dog or two were seen here and there, which still stood on the threshold and barked at the soldiers as they marched by; but even these were rare, and often the poultry had invaded the dwelling rooms, and were roosting among the furniture. For 25 miles the army marched through a luxuriantly fertile country, but almost entirely deserted; sometimes one or two peasants stood by the side of the road staring vacantly at the passing troops, or a few women might be seen in a village who, half frightened by the sight of the soldiers, supplied them with the drinking water which they everywhere requested. But the people had no cause to fear; they would have done better to remain, for some of the troops had to be billeted in the houses along the road, and when the inhabitants were not present the soldiers took what they required, and there was no one to receive payment for what they consumed. The children did not seem so timid, they were present along the roads in large numbers, for the cherries are just ripening, and they took advantage of the panic among their elders to make raid on trees which grew in long strips by the side of the way. With them the soldiers soon became great friends. The boys ran along the battalions with their caps full of the fruit, and got coppers in exchange for handfuls of it; the sellers, exulting in the pocketful of coin they soon collected, seemed to have no scruples as to whose property it rightfully was, but laughed with delight at this unexpected result of the war.

But for the most part the country in front of the army was still and silent. No church clocks sounded, for their guardians had fled. There was no one to wind them up, and the hands stood motionless on the dial. No herds neighed, for they had all been taken to carry away the flying inhabitants, or perhaps to aid in dragging off the retreating Austrian guns. The flowers before the wayside shrines of the Madonna were dried up and withered, for the votaries who were wont to renew them had fled, fearful of the invading army. The cattle had been driven away, and the pastures were vacant. Broad belts of corn, trodden flat to the ground, showed the lines along which the Austrian battalions had hurried, and here and there lay a knapsack or ammunition pouch which some fatigued fugitive had cast away as an impediment to his flight. But where the army marched all was bustle and noise; the infantry tramped monotonously along the roads, while the cavalry spread in bending lines through the fields, and behind the combatants toiled long trains of waggons, which carried the stores of this large army. Along every road and every lane foot soldiers marched, and cavalry occupied the intervals between the heads of the columns—all pointing southwards, towards the Elbe. For miles on either side could be seen the clouds of dust raised by the marching troops; in some places it rose from trees and woods, in others from among houses, or from the hard straight roads leading through the wide corn land, where the July sun poured its rays straight down upon the soldiers' heads, and made them suffer much from heat and thirst.

As the foremost troops neared the Elbe all ears listened eagerly for the sound of cannon, for it was thought that if the Austrians could bring their troops under fire again they would oppose the passage of the river, and whether they did so or not would be accepted as a criterion of how much they had suffered by Tuesday's defeat. The heads of the columns steadily advanced nearer and nearer to the line of willows which marked the course of the stream, and no cannon sounded, no rifle even was discharged, and it seemed that the advanced guard must have passed unopposed. At last the news came back that the passage was secured, and that there were no signs of the enemy on the opposite bank and soon the troops closed down to the river and fled across the wooden bridge which, with four arches, spans the muddy stream; and the black and yellow stripes on its parapets were the only visible signs that we were in Austria.

Prince Frederick Charles occupied Przelautsch about six this evening, and almost at the same time the Crown Prince entered Pardubitz. The line of the Elbe is now secured as a basis for future operations, and the Austrian railway communication between Vienna and Prague is cut. At the latter town there are said to be only four Austrian battalions, and it is expected to be evacuated by them and occupied by the Prussians within a few days.

As we left the rising ground of the battle-field this morning the fortress of Konigsgratz lay about five miles to the left below us, surrounded by wide sheets of water. Its high church towers and the tops of the houses peered up above the grass-green evenly ruled mounds which form the fortifications, and a high pole with a flag waving from it in the centre of the town, showed where the hospital was. There did not seem to be any preparations made for its defence; no guns could be seen in the embrasures, no working parties were strengthening the batteries or cutting down the trees to hew them into palisades. On the contrary, the garrison seemed employed in packing up large quantities of baggage, as if a march was contemplated, and the fortress was to be evacuated. It seems incredible that the Austrians should give up a fortress, even though a small one, without a blow, but it looked to-day very much like it.—*Times Military Cor.*