

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

OUR LOSSES IN THE EAST.

There is some consolation to be drawn from a very melancholy document which has just been issued from the Adjutant-General's office in return to a motion of Mr. Locke King. In this we are presented with a formal account of the numbers of our men killed and wounded in actual conflict with the enemy in the Crimea, from the first landing of the expedition until the 15th of March last. To those who have not been in the habit of considering such subjects, the number will appear infinitely small. It is, however, always so, unless in the case of an army which has been actually routed, and exposed to the action of artillery and cavalry when disorganized and in disorderly flight. It is disease, fatigue, starvation, exposure to the elements which destroy an army, not actual conflict with the foe. How many persons are aware of the comparatively small number which represents the British loss on the field of Waterloo? It appears from the return before us that within the period named, the Russians have only contrived to kill on the field of battle 1360 British soldiers, officers and men. The list of wounded is of course more formidable; but, when it is remembered, that the period comprises three severe and hotly-contested actions, to make no mention of daily and nightly skirmishes of the most murderous character in the trenches, the number will not certainly inspire despair. It amounts to 4546. These figures are exactly taken from the returns, and, if we may venture upon a hypothetical addition of our own, we should be inclined to say, that 1600 killed on the field and 5000 wounded would pretty accurately express the British loss in conflict with the foe from the time the army left our shores until a day or two since. Going back to the return, and again limiting our statements to the date of the 15th of March, we find that of 1,360 killed, 91 were officers and 81 non-commissioned officers—about 13 per cent. of the total loss. Of the 4,546 wounded, 241 were officers and 268 non-commissioned officers—about 9 per cent. of the total wounded. The officers and non-commissioned officers, then, have certainly not shrunk from their share in the death-grapple with the Russian. It would have been most satisfactory if we could have given any account of the number of wounded since dead, how many have recovered and returned to duty; but on these points the Adjutant-General, strangely enough, has received no information. It is, however, most probable that when we state the British loss incurred in actual conflict with the foe from the commencement of hostilities to the present time at 5,000, we over-state the number. This would, of course, include the deaths from wounds and of wounded men, as well as of those who were left dead upon the battle-field. This number of 5,000, however, as is too notorious, represents but a very small portion of the British loss. After a most careful comparison of numbers we cannot place the total British loss at less than 20,000 men—all good and well trained soldiers. The majority of these deaths, however, are referable to mismanagement and neglect, and we hope we may entertain some expectation that the reign of mismanagement and neglect is at an end, in the Crimea at least. Unless some sweeping plague or sickness shall fall upon our camp, there is no reason for despair. Why should not the troops be kept supplied with every necessary and comfort of life as fully as upon any foreign station? If the operations retain their present form, it is perfectly preposterous to speak of the leaguer of Sebastopol as a campaign, as far as the allies are concerned. To the Russians, indeed, it is a campaign, and a campaign of the most deadly kind. Their men and their supplies must be brought up from enormous distances, and it is not too much to say, that for every man produced in Sebastopol or its immediate neighbourhood another man has disappeared from the list of living men. We have every reason to be satisfied when we contrast our own position with that of the Czar, if we look at this question merely as one of patience and obstinacy. It is not possible but that the military drain upon the population of his empire must be severely felt. If troops are to be concentrated by the 100,000 on the western frontier, in the Crimea, and near St. Petersburg, other provinces are left unguarded which eighteen months back required defence, or, if guarded, it must be at the expense of a fearful conscription, which will beget wide-spread discontent, and probably in the end general, as lately partial, insurrection. We can well afford to await results. We have destroyed the foreign commerce of Russia—we retain a lodgment upon her territory—we have swept her flag from the seas. This is a business which France and England can settle perfectly well by themselves, if the Governments act in unison with the real wishes and opinions of the two countries.—*London Times.*

**ABOLITION OF THE FRENCH ARMY.**—The French army is about to be considerably increased. Instead of only 80,000 men being called out next month, as at first intended, there will be raised 400,000 for active service. As no increase of taxes is spoken of, there must

soon be another loan. The sum spoken of is 250 millions. This mode of meeting the war expenditure is considered preferable, at least for the present, to making additions to the taxes, for experience has shown that money can, without difficulty, be obtained, in the shape of an appeal to the country at large, while the enormous dearth of the necessities of life would cause increased taxation to be ill received.

BROTHER JONATHAN AND THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

(From the London Standard of Friday.)  
The following very extraordinary circumstance has been reported to us from a quarter which precludes any doubt as to the truth of the statement:—  
By very late letters received from St. Petersburg, it would appear that a fine American frigate-built ship recently arrived at Port Baltic. It was stated that this vessel had on board 800 bales of cotton, but as her size (800 tons) made this cargo appear ridiculously small, the correspondent of our informant visited the ship, and he found that, in addition to the above, she had on board 50,000 rifles and 5000 revolvers. The Russians laugh at the vigilance displayed by our cruisers, and naturally enough ask if John Bull has been asleep, to have allowed so valuable a prize to have escaped? There is, however, another opportunity offered to Rear Admiral Dundas's fleet to secure this bold breaker of the blockade, as the vessel is now ordered up to Cronstadt to take in a cargo of hemp.

WILL OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

A holograph will of the late Emperor Nicholas, written in 1844, has been published at St. Petersburg. The following are the principal points of the document: The first clause is a kind of address to his family. After enumerating the various kinds of property belonging to the Emperor his wife, the Emperor expresses a wish that her Majesty shall retain for her life the use of her apartments in the different palaces, and the clause concludes as follows:—"The legacy which I bequeath to my children is to love and honour their mother, to do everything to promote her tranquillity, to anticipate all her wishes, and to endeavour to render her old age happy by their devoted attentions. Never must they undertake any thing of importance without first asking her advice and demanding her maternal benedictions." In another clause the testator bequeaths pensions of 15,000 silver roubles a year (the silver rouble is something over four francs), in addition to the pensions they already enjoy, to Adjutant-General d'Adlerberg and his daughter, Julia Baranov, the latter of whom has brought up three of his (the testator's) daughters, and both of whom he calls his most devoted friends. In other clauses the Emperor expresses his thanks to a number of persons whom he names as being his devoted friends and servants; among them he mentions Prince Paskiewitch, Generals Orloff, Tchenicheff, Menschikoff, and M. de Nesselrode, and thanks them all in the warmest manner for the services they have rendered to him and to the State. In one clause, which is particularly addressed to the Emperor Alexander, the will says:—"I am convinced that my son, (the Emperor Alexander), will always remain a tender and affectionate son, as he has always been, to his parents: and this duty will become still more sacred for him when his mother is alone. In his relations with his brothers, my son must unite the indulgence called for by their youth with the necessary firmness of a father of a family. He must never suffer any family quarrels which may be prejudicial to the service or even to the State, and should such circumstances unhappily arise, he must remember that he is Emperor, and that all other members of the family are his subjects." The will concludes by a clause, in which the Emperor begs all those whom he may have unintentionally offended to forgive him, as he forgives all who may have offended him. He expresses his regret, that he has not been able to accomplish all the good that he could have wished, and begs all his friends to offer up their prayers for the repose of his soul.

CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

General Canrobert, in a letter addressed to the Emperor, dated April 28, thus expresses himself:—"It is with pleasure that I announce to your Majesty that the English army, always so firm, has become as fine and healthy as it was in the first days of its arrival in the East. It is receiving reinforcements in infantry, in cavalry, and in means of transport. I continue to live on the most cordial terms with Lord Raglan, and the two armies continue to be closely united, and rely one upon the other."

**THE NEW SHARP GUN-BORDERS.**—It is now determined to increase the number, so that both fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas shall have a squadron of these powerful little "sharpshooters."

The ball which killed General Bisot has been sent to Paris. It is of the same pattern as those recently invented by a French officer.

**OUR INDIAN ARMY.**—There is now in India an army of nearly half a million of men at the disposal of this country. In that army, there are about 30,000 Europeans belonging to the Queen's service including cavalry and infantry of the line; and 40,000 European troops in the Company's service, of every arm except cavalry. The aggregate which Sir Erskine Perry has made out is 457,000 men, with 12,000 officers, and maintained at an expense of £20,596,000. Large and costly as this army may be, it sits lightly on the population and resources of India, and might easily be increased, especially from the warlike tribes lately added to our dominion. Here, then, is a reserve, and an ample reserve well organized, officered, and generally with some experience of war. How could it be said that we had no reserve? Of this immense force 70,000 are British soldiers. Of the rest the irregular native cavalry is just the force we most require in the war, and cannot supply from home. Here, then, is everything that we want for our present necessity—numbers, organization, discipline, European courage and talent in all its developments, practical experience in all its forms,—in fact, the substance of all that we have been accustomed to ascribe to Russia, and to reckon as her superiority over the Western Powers. When such is the fact, and such the prejudices, and when, too, we practically disregard the fact, and realize the prejudice. Sir Erskine Perry has taken, as it appears to us, a very reasonable course in moving for a committee "to consider how the army in India may be made most available for the war in Europe, and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken if it should be deemed expedient to constitute the army of the East Indian Company a Royal Army." We must confess to a great regret, though perhaps no great surprise, that such a motion, in the present state of this country and the present prospects of the war, should be thrown out by a decisive majority.—*London Times.*

**FRANCE AND AUSTRIA.**—From Vienna we learn that in the letter of the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor of the French, congratulating him on his escape from assassination, he refers to the attempt on his own life, and adds that "a close alliance between France and Austria can alone put a stop to such revolutionary attempts."

**THE POPE AND THE GOLDEN ROSE.**—A letter from Rome states that the Golden Rose, which the Pope blesses every year, and presents to some female sovereign, is this year to be given to the Empress of Austria.

**A RAY OF HOPE FOR POLAND.**—Count Walcowski, Minister of Foreign Affairs.—M. de Persigny, Ambassador at the Court of St. James's—these appointments appear to throw some light on the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys. M. de Persigny has been understood to be friendly to the resuscitation of the Kingdom of Poland, as a bulwark against Russian encroachments.

**THE MONITEUR DE LA FLOTTE** announces that the Baltic naval division, under the command of Rear-Admiral Pinaud, sailed from Cherbourg for its destination on May 1.

**TROOPS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND.**—The ship *Creamore* arrived in the Mersey on Sunday, with a number of the Newfoundland companies on board. She left St. John's on the 5th ult.

THE ASSASSIN PIANORI.

It is thought that the assassin Pianori, who, since his condemnation, has been removed to the prison of the Roquette, where prisoners under sentence of death or hard labour for life are kept, will not undergo his punishment as soon as was expected. Three days are allowed for appeal, but it does not appear that he has used his right. If no delay takes place in the execution—the opinion being all but unanimous, both on the part of the judges and of the public, against a mitigation of punishment—it will be owing probably to the information recently received of the existence of a revolutionary plot with ramifications in most of the countries of Europe. It appears that the day the Emperor was fired at, the chiefs of the secret societies received accounts that the Emperor was killed, and that Paris was in insurrection. The hope is not yet entirely given up that Pianori, with the prospect of death before him, may make some important disclosures.

**FRUIT CONSUMED IN PARIS.**—The first strawberries in Paris come from Bordeaux. This sort bears the name of "Fraises Ananas," but the finest kind, called "Anglaises," come from Brest. Angers also furnishes a quantity of this fruit; the amount of them altogether sold is more than 30,000f. Cherries seldom appear before the middle of end of May; the first seen in Paris come from Marseilles, Lyons, and Bordeaux; about 200,000f. worth of this early fruit is sold. Plums from Lorraine and other parts are sold to the amount of more than 100,000f., and peaches from the south for 10,000f.; apricots are supplied from Marseilles, Avignon, Bordeaux, and also from Burgundy and Auvergne; the consumption amounts to about 230,000f. Grapes from Montauban, Bordeaux, Saint Peray and Moissac, figure in the above estimate for 140,000f., and pears for 30,000f.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

**INUNDATION IN HUNGARY.**—The *Pesti Naplo* gives fresh particulars respecting the inundation of Hungary. It appears that 250 square miles were entirely under water, and the consequent loss in hay, straw, stable, &c., is reckoned at 1½ million florins; the loss in houses at two millions florins; and the loss in provisions and such like at 1½ million florins.

**FISH PROPAGATION.**—Upwards of 50,000 young fish (salmon trout from the Swiss lakes, and ordinary trout), have, within the last few days been placed in the lake in the Bois de Boulogne. They were hatched in the College de France, by the new system of artificial production, and though only about three months old are perfectly formed, nearly three-quarters of an-inch long on an average, and are capable of providing for themselves.

A professor in the Russian Agricultural Institute, Bollman by name, has published a pamphlet on the potato rot, and he announces to the world that mere drying, if conducted at a sufficiently high temperature, and continued long enough, is a complete antidote to the disease. He ascertained that the vitality of the potatoe is not affected even if the rind is charred.

It turns out, as was to be expected, that in addition to the skeleton of Saint Felix the Martyr, sent to the Queen of Spain by the Pope, and to that of the same saint which previously existed in a church Andalusia, there is also one in the Hermitage of the Virgin, near Manzuarez. In presence of these three sets of relics of one and the same saint, the Pope will be respectfully entreated to say which is to be considered the real one.

The new planet lately discovered at Dusseldorf has received the name of *Leukothea*. Its distinctive sign will be an ancient light tower.

Fifty-five young Abyssinians and Negroes, selected by Austrian priests, have left Egypt for Italy, where they are to be educated as Roman Catholic missionaries.

An extraordinary marriage ceremony was celebrated a few days ago in the church at St. Hilaire de la Noaille (Gironde), that of a man named Lapiere, aged 107, to a woman whose maiden name was Neuville, aged 86.

The Dordogne journals announce, that in the departments the wheat crops are very fine; and promise an abundant harvest; also that vegetables, potatoes, and fruit trees, in general, are all in excellent condition.

**GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.**—This line, the pioneer of the Railway system in Australia, is, we understand, in course of rapid construction, and the opening of the harbour branch and a portion of the line was expected to take place early in June.

The *Journal of the Academy of Medicine*, at Turin, contains some curious statistics on human life, among others, the statement that married men live longer than bachelors, and great men longer than those of small stature. The two months of the twelve in which most marriages are celebrated are June and December.

It is said in the foreign journals that Queen Victoria is likely to visit Paris in July.

The *Doncaster Gazette* says that a person living near Silkstone, a few days ago, brought a fighting cock in front of a large swing glass. The fowl made a plunge at his supposed antagonist, and shattered the glass to atoms.

**DREADFUL CATASTROPHE IN SPAIN.**—A letter from Barcelona states, that in the course of a violent tempest, which burst on the 24th ult. over the valley of Arran, in Catalonia, near the French frontier, some enormous masses of snow fell from the Pyrenees, and completely buried three large villages, named Una, Vaquerque, and Labely, each containing from 500 to 700 inhabitants. The authorities of the district immediately caused labourers to be employed to remove the snow, and though the operation was far from complete when the letter left, not fewer than 47 dead bodies had been discovered.

Five Russian prizes were sold by auction, at Lloyd's Russian captains' room, London, on the 4th. The vessels realised £2730.

There are seven noblemen, as well as several officers just returned from the Crimea, now in the Queen's Bench.

The wife of a commercial traveller, residing in Sheffield, has become quite insane, in consequence of an infatuated belief in spirit rappings.

Of wooden vessels there are but three building on the Clyde at the present moment, while of iron ships there are no fewer than thirty-five.

Several large chests of seeds were shipped at Southampton; a few days since, on board the transport *Medway*, for the Crimea. The seeds consist of carrot, parsnip, onion, &c., besides clover, of the different varieties, and a large weight of "permanent" grass seeds, of which it is intended to lay down several acres.

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