

tianity, but to deprive Russia of her powerful position in Europe. Besides warlike preparations, which are made on the vastest scale that Russian finances will admit of, the arts of negotiation are not wanting, and Austria, Prussia, Denmark and Sweden have been in turns assailed, at one time by promises, at the next by threats. So far it is difficult to determine what the ultimate decision of these powers may be. Greece has not been lost sight of by the crafty Nicholas, and there is but too much reason to fear that the weak Otho, instigated by his wife, has become a tool in the hands of the Czar.

In the Baltic the Russians have lost a great many of their merchantmen, and the latest accounts represent the Russian fleet as having left Helsingfors, and the allied as in pursuit of them.

NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

We may almost augur from the action taken by the King of Sweden, that he is personally inclined to make common cause with Russia; this line of conduct, however, in the present excited state of feeling which pervades the Swedes, he will find it difficult to pursue. The old act which forbids more than four vessels of war to enter, at one time, his harbours, has been revived. Seven line of battle ships have been fitted out, and two camps have been formed, one at Carlskrona and the other at Stockholm.

DENMARK.

Placed between two fires, it is difficult to define the course which will be adopted by this nation. To preserve a neutrality will be difficult, and a junction with either will be almost equally fatal. There is, however, little doubt but that an adhesion to the western powers will be adopted, meanwhile great preparations for defence are being made at Copenhagen, Keningsberg, and elsewhere. A fleet which will mount upwards of three hundred guns will also be shortly ready, either for home defences, or for sea.

AUSTRIA.

With her Italian provinces ripe for revolt—with Hungary in the same state of ferment, and with Poland still cherishing the hope of independence, this unfortunate Emperor is in a most pitiable situation. As we have shewn in the secret correspondence, Nicholas in

speaking for himself, considered that he also spoke for Austria, fettered then in this way, whatever course adopted would almost appear to be suicidal. The latest accounts, however, announce that proposals have been made to Russia, and that the rejection of them will determine their neutrality. In the mean time the troops in Italy, are being gradually drawn to the North and concentrated.

PRUSSIA.

Prussia in the contest has comparatively little interest. Russia is no favorite of the King's, and the old grudge against France will prevent a hearty co operation with the western powers. Meantime by neutrality the country has every thing to gain. There is then very little doubt but that this line of action will be strictly followed.

PORTUGAL.

In consequence of the Queen of Portugal's death, in child bed, and of her son Don Pedro (only 16 years old) not being capable until 18 years of age of assuming the reins of government, his father Ferdinand was declared Regent. The deceased Queen was 34 years of age.

Space forbids our commenting on the position of other European powers, or of entering into the differences that have arisen between Spain and the United States. Suffice it to observe that the most hearty understanding exists between France and England, with respect to these differences, and that the former country is in a high state of prosperity, contented with the new order of things. It is a striking proof of the enthusiasm which animates France in the present conflict, and may be mentioned the fact that the loan necessary for carrying on the war has been raised in a great measure from small sums of from one to ten pounds. A gigantic National saving bank has thus been formed, and the war popularised.

The differences between Spain and America are likely to lead to serious results, as the Americans seem desirous to avail themselves of France and England being engaged in the Eastern war, to press their designs on Cuba. The annexation of Cuba, however, as a slave State, is not likely to be permitted by either country. Its annexation as a free state, Great Britain, considering her present relations with the Court of Spain, would most probably agree to.