

gineers (both English and French) to express a most decided opinion against the proposed scheme, on the ground that though it might easily, as in the last attempt, be captured, it would be utterly impossible to retain possession, but at such a waste of life as the object in view by no means justified. The suggestion, after some delay, was eventually acted on, and the enemy accordingly remain undisturbed. Some of our artillery officers look on this decision with much inquietude, and aver that if the Russians ever do mount guns on it, we shall be compelled to take it, and at twice the loss with which it might be taken now. If once defended with ordnance and properly manned, it will, beyond all doubt, give us serious trouble, when our trenches re-open. Besides this work, the enemy's troops are employed digging constantly, and mounting fresh guns at the angles of the different batteries. The Redan Battery, at the commencement of the siege, mounted about forty-five pieces of heavy ordnance. Now, our artillery officers estimate that with the upper second line of works there are more than 220 guns in all, placed so as to command every conceivable point from which we can approach. This rule, and almost to the same extent, applies to all the other defences. Malakoff Tower, the earthworks round which mounted 25 guns on the 17th of October, now mounts 70; and the Flagstaff Battery, which mounted 40 or 50, now mounts upwards of 150. The Garden Battery, Quarantine Battery, Barrack Battery, and Mud Fort, have all also been strengthened in proportion. There are still no signs of any attempt to cleanse the camp-ground—another month and it will be too late. The weather has again changed for the better; it is cold, with very sharp north east winds, but dry and sunny. Lord Raglan now is frequently seen riding through the different parts of the camp. As much fresh meat and vegetables as can be procured are now served to the men two or three times a week, and the beneficial effects of this change of diet are becoming every day more and more apparent. Scurvy is fast diminishing, though fever is rather more rife than could be wished for at present. General Canrobert, in an order just issued, speaks of the attack made the other night by the French as *un grand succès*. This has rather astonished our camp, where every one knows well that it was anything but that. The courage which the Zouaves showed on that occasion should immortalise their name; but when, in spite of it, the attack was repulsed with heavy loss, it can hardly be called "a grand success." On February the 27th, according to a request to that effect from the French, an armistice for one hour (from one to two o'clock) was agreed upon for the purpose of ascertaining the fate of those left in the advanced work after the attack of the 26th Feb., and also for the purpose of recovering the bodies of those who fell. During this brief truce, Russians, English, and French walked round their earthworks, and showed themselves freely—the sharpshooters interchanging the most polite bows and nods. In reply to the French inquiries the Russian officer who was appointed to meet them said that all the French wounded were in hospital, and well taken care of; five had died since their admission. The bodies of two officers and eighty-five men were given up. The others who were found dead had been already interred. About 300 in prisoners and wounded still remain in the hands of the enemy. One of the officers had his right arm shattered by a musket ball, another through the thigh, and no less than twenty-three bayonet thrusts in different parts of his body. This gallant fellow had his arm broken early in the contest, and when attacked by the enemy, during the retreat, refused to retire any further, but shouting out to his Zouaves to follow him, plunged with his sword in his left hand into the thickest of the enemy. The other officer had received nine bayonet wounds, and many of the bodies of the privates, who were mostly Zouaves, were so hacked and mangled as to be barely recognisable. From this it would appear, beyond doubt, that the Russians still display, in spite of the Emperor's ukase, the same cowardly ferocity which at Inkermann rendered their name odious throughout Europe. Most of the bayonet wounds were given to the poor Zouaves and their brave officers after they had been already wounded and disabled by musket-shots. Our men know this as well as the French, and store up the bitter recollection in their hearts against the day when we shall again meet the enemy in battle. No matter what orders may be issued by the allied generals, I am certain the enemy will now meet with very little quarter from our troops. I mentioned in my last letter that none of the regiments were hurt. I was partly right, and partly wrong. Huts were then preparing for the 39th, though not finished. These are now completed, and occupied by the men. Huts are now also in course of erection for the 38th Regiment, and these two are the only entire corps which are not under canvas. Every one still seems confident as to the results which will attend our re-opened fire. It is intended to concentrate the fire of certain batteries upon one or two weak points in the enemy's defences until the guns in them have been dismounted; and the abattis round them destroyed. To effect this each long gun will fire one hundred rounds of shot and shell per day, and each mortar fifty rounds of shell every twelve hours. The mortars will fire all through the night to prevent the enemy repairing the damages which have been caused during the day's bombardment—the long guns will only fire during the daylight. Field pieces, small howitzers, and coloums will be used in our most advanced works for the destruction of the stockades and abattis. Storming parties will be told off to attack each battery as soon as silenced. With the new batteries lately thrown up the English will open fire with 150 guns, and the French with nearly 200. The 10th or 11th of March are spoken of as the dates on which it is most probable we shall recommence our attack. In spite

of these assertions, which are repeated from all points, I still find no reason to alter the conjecture that it would be towards the end of March or beginning of April before our attack commences.

STRENGTH OF THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—The *Morning Post* gives a return of the actual strength of the army in the Crimea on the 7th, 23rd, and 27th of February respectively. On the 7th the total number of effective non-commissioned officers and men was 25,668, and the sick in camp and elsewhere numbered 18,243. On the 23rd of February the number of effectives was 26,193, and the sick, 18,185. In both instances this was exclusive of officers and of the ambulance and Mounted Staff Corps. On the 27th of February the strength of the British army (non-commissioned officers and men), exclusive of marines, ambulance, and Mounted Staff Corps, was 27,067. The actual number of sick was on that day 17,623, of whom 5,309 were in camp, and 12,325 at Scutari, or otherwise absent. The number of horses of cavalry and artillery was on the 7th 1,975, on the 23rd 1,803, and the 27th 1,617. Omer Pasha's army at Eupatoria will eventually be 56,000 strong. Turkish troops continue to be transported thither from Varna. There are 8,000 men at Shumla. The governor of that place is now busy in routing out the numerous robber bands infesting the neighboring country. A reserve force is to be established at Varna, and some French engineers are planning a fortified camp, which is to be constructed on the heights commanding the Derna Lake. The *Militaire Gazette* of Vienna says:—General Niel left Constantinople on the 2nd, and, with 8,000 men, commenced opening fresh trenches. The French are firmly established in the new positions which they had taken up. It is probable that the Piedmontese troops will occupy the plateau situated above the bay of Kamiesch. A number of mules and bathorses for the Piedmontese army have already passed through the Bosphorus, and the camp equipage will be all ready for them before the troops land. Speaking of the condition of the Russian armies in the Crimea, the *Militaire Zeitung* says that Bakshiserai now resembles an enormous lazaretto. Thousands and thousands of sick and wounded soldiers are quartered in the town. The grand highway from Perekop to Bakshiserai is covered with ammunition waggons on their way to Sebastopol. The number of Russian troops in the peninsula is calculated at 170,000 men.

HEALTH OF THE ARMY.—A despatch from Lord Raglan, dated March 3rd, encloses a medical report on the state of the army from Dr. Hall, Inspector-General of Hospitals. Dr. Hall says:—"Out of 442 patients treated in the General Hospital at Balaklava, between the 18th and 24th of February, only three casualties have occurred, which I think may fairly be termed a low rate of mortality, considering the class of patients that are generally sent in there for treatment—men brought down from camp, and found too ill to embark when they arrive at Balaklava. Bowel complaints continue to be the most prevalent class of diseases; but I think they are not so serious as they were a short time ago, nor is scurvy so manifest as it was since the issue of lime juice daily as a portion of the men's ration. Lately I have instructed the medical officers of regiments to inspect the men, for the purpose of detecting this complaint—skin diseases, and seeing that the men are clean in their persons, and change their shirts and flannels at stated periods. The last weekly report is favorable. In the 4th division, which is the only report I have at hand in my hut, only 138, out of 2,596 men inspected, bore any traces of scurvy; and this is one of the divisions which was as much or more affected with it than any division in the army a short time ago.

THE TURKS AT EUPATORIA.—Since the affair of the 17th the Russians have not disturbed us. It is, of course, impossible to say whether they are waiting for further reinforcements to recommence their operations, or whether, having found the works too strong to be carried by a *coup de main*, they have determined to assume the defensive, leaving only a *corps d'observation* in the neighborhood, which latter plan would have the advantage for them that they could more or less choose their own battle-ground. Accounts from Odessa lead to the belief that Prince Gortschakoff is preparing for a grand attack on Omer Pasha's position at Eupatoria. Orders have been sent from St. Petersburg to take the place at any cost. Pawloff's corps, standing between Eupatoria and Simpheropol, has been reinforced by an entire cavalry division, sent by way of Perekop; a park of artillery has followed it, and heavy convoys of provisions arrive daily along the same route. General Read, lately acting as Commander-in-Chief at Georgia, is to take the command of this special army.

THE EXPECTED ATTACK.—If any reliance is to be placed on the last intelligence which has reached us from Sebastopol, and on the expectations, which were undoubtedly entertained by officers of all ranks in both the allied camps at the departure of the last mail, we shall be strongly confirmed in our belief that the whole line of batteries which encompass the south side of the town must have re-opened their fire about a week ago, and that after this bombardment had sufficiently destroyed the works, and dismounted the guns of the enemy the final attack would be made on the place. We say that these expectations were confidently entertained in the camp at the commencement of the present month of March, but it is beyond our power to assert that they have already been realized. Several circumstances, however, concur to prove that this attack would not be delayed many days after the preparations were completed. The transport of ammunition from Balaklava to the trenches and batteries, had already been considerably facilitated by that portion of the railroad which had been laid down. The Russians, who throughout the siege have shown equal originality of resource and perseverance of execution in their defence of the

place, had taken up positions and begun counter approaches, which would effectually besiege the entrenched camp of the allied armies, if this system of operations could be pursued. The time was more over approaching when the possibility of moving fresh reinforcements into the Crimea rendered it imperative necessary to bring the siege to an issue, either by field operations or by an assault. We had hoped that field operations against the relieving army of the Russians under Liprandi and Osten-Sacken might have enabled the allied commanders to complete the investment and reduction of the place without the risk and carnage of an immediate attack. It appears, however, by the last accounts that the purpose of the Generals is still fixed on the prosecution of the siege by means of a bombardment, followed by an assault. We can only earnestly hope that the result will be proportioned to the matchless perseverance which has been displayed in this extraordinary siege, and to the heroism which will no doubt be exhibited in the final struggle.—*Times*.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE ASSIZES.—The following extracts from the Irish papers afford satisfactory proofs of the condition of Ireland, and form a singular contrast with the criminal statistics of Protestant England and Scotland:

Co. ROSCOMMON.—Sergeant Howley opened the commission at Carrick-on-Shannon, on Monday. On the Grand Jury being sworn he said—The calendar is light, the cases for trial are few, and of a trivial nature, which altogether justifies me in congratulating you on the satisfactory state of the county.

Co. LIMERICK.—H. Martley, Esq., Q. C., as *locum tenens*, took his seat upon the Bench on Friday, and the Commission having been read, and the grand jury re-sworn. His Lordship's address was to the following effect:—The state of the calendar was such as would render their labors very light as far as concerned the criminal business. There were only eighteen names for trial, and none of them were for offences of a heinous character. He rejoiced that in other places the judges had the pleasure of congratulating the respective grand juries on the state of their counties, and he thought that the same meed of congratulation should be given to the grand jury of Limerick. The present state of the county redounded very much to the credit of the magistracy, clergy, gentry, and people of the county.

Co. WEXFORD.—Mr. Baron Greene having charged the Grand Jury on Friday, congratulated them on the peaceable terms of the country, and having taken the presentments proceeded with the trial of prisoners.

QUEEN'S CO.—The commission was opened at Maryborough, on Wednesday, by Chief Justice Monaghan. In addressing the Grand Jury, he said the state of the calendar enabled him to offer them his congratulations on the state of the county as evidence of the few cases which appeared for trial and the trivial nature of the offences charged.

KING'S CO.—The commission was opened in this town by the Lord Chief Justice, on Monday. The calendar was very light, containing not more than 11 cases, of which one for murder, and two Whiteboy cases, were the only ones of any importance. The trial of the murder case was, on the application of Mr. Curran, the prisoner's counsel, directed to stand over till next assizes.

TIPPERARY SOUTH.—We are happy to say that the calendar is the lightest ever presented since the division of the county. Up to yesterday there were only forty-five persons for trial, with one exception (a charge of felonious assault), the offences are of the most trivial description. When it is considered that eight months have elapsed since the last assizes, the lightness of the calendar speaks well for the tranquil state of the South Riding of Tipperary.—*Tipperary Free Press*.

WATERFORD.—The approaching assizes for Waterford, county and city, will be the lightest, so far as the criminal business is concerned, that have taken place here for at least some years.—*Waterford Mail*.

COUNTY KERRY.—Judge Perrin opened the Assizes at Tralee. Addressing the Grand Jury he observed that the calendar was very light both as to the number of the prisoners to be tried, and the nature of the offences imputed to them—so much so—that he would not be justified in detaining gentlemen of much experience with any lengthened observations; if, however, any difficulty arose in the course of their inquiries he would be most happy to render all the assistance in his power. There were but 28 names on the calendar, and the majority of the charges were of a most ordinary description.

Co. ANTRIM.—In his opening address to the grand jury on Wednesday, the Rt. Hon. Judge Moore commented upon "the satisfactory state of their county, as indicated by the lightness of the calendar, the number of persons charged on the face of it being only thirty-three—very few indeed in proportion to the large population of the county, and when the trade and wealth of such an extensive community were taken into consideration. The offences charged, with two melancholy exceptions of a very ordinary class, being larcenies and such others as were likely to occur in a commercial community like theirs. Those two classes which he had alluded to as exceptions arose from the violence of human passion, and were such as might occur in any county or place however peaceable."

Co. OF THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS.—When Judge Jackson took his seat in the Court-house on Wednesday, the High Sheriff mentioned to his lordship the gratifying fact that there was not a single person charged in the calendar for trial at the present assizes. This was the third time in succession that such a calendar had been presented to the going Judge of Assize. He had much pleasure in presenting his lordship, with a pair of white gloves.—His lordship having accepted them, said that he was very happy to learn that there resided at Carrickfergus such an orderly and well-regulated population. This was the second time that he had the honor to preside in this magnificent court, as Judge of Assize. On the former occasion he had the pleasure of receiving a gift similar to that which their sheriff had just presented him with. He hoped that Carrickfergus would long remain free from crime. Not only on this circuit, at the close of which the judges had now arrived, but on every other circuit in Ireland at the present assizes, the lightness of the calendar, and the trivial nature of the cases for trial had been matter for congratulation, and it was much to be hoped that the happy state of affairs might continue to exist.

THE TRILICK TRAGEDY.—As we stated last week, the parties accused of criminal connection with the railway disaster at Trillick, will not be tried till the next assizes. An application to have the persons admitted to bail was refused. We understand, says a contemporary, that in a part of the prisoner's affidavit, which was not read by counsel, there was a statement that the prisoners had been informed and believed that the jury panel consisted of "one hundred and forty-three names, that only one of those—namely, the hundred and first name—was of the Catholic persuasion.—*Nation*.

The following appears in the Paris correspondence of the *Times*:—"A private letter from Rome gives some particulars respecting the proceedings of the Irish Catholic prelates lately assembled in that city. After the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception had been disposed of, their attention was particularly directed to these points—the composition of the superior council of the Irish Catholic University—the political conduct of the Irish Priests, the Legatine authority and title of Archbishop Cullen, and other matters of minor public interest, such as the discipline of the College of Maynooth, the doctrines of some of its professors, and the Statutes and rules of some other colleges, including the Irish College at Paris. Each and all these matters were brought under the notice of the Propaganda in different ways. Touching the question as to whether the Supreme Council of the Catholic University should consist of the four archbishops, or of all the Irish prelates, or a committee chosen by them, Archbishop Cullen was decidedly of opinion that the exclusive management should be vested in the hands of the metropolitans; and before the arrival of Archbishop McHale his opinion was shared by the Propaganda. I have reason to believe, however, that the management will be left to the whole Irish episcopacy. With regard to the political conduct of the Irish priests, it is alleged that since his translation to Dublin, Dr. Cullen has completely adopted those opinions which secured for his venerable predecessor, Dr. Murray, the esteem of the most respectable portion of the Catholics of Great Britain and Ireland, and the approbation and confidence of the English Government and Irish Executive. He is said to be opposed to clerical agitation, and would wish to see the political conduct of the priests in Ireland regulated on the model of the French and Belgian clergy. Archbishop McHale, as is well known, advocated different views, and, according to him, religion and patriotism necessitated agitation on the part of the Irish Priesthood. The feeling in Rome is said, however, to be favorable to Dr. Cullen; but if the bishops and priests in Ireland were known at Rome to be of an opposite opinion, there is reason to fear that the Propaganda would not follow the judicious advice and recommendation of Dr. Cullen. With respect to the Legatine powers, it was urged against their continuance that the mission of a Legate Apostolic to an ancient Church, like that of Ireland, implied the prevalence of abuses with which the national episcopacy was not able, or was unwilling to cope. Moreover, it is considered that Archbishop Cullen had interfered too much, and the brief regarding the postulation for the appointment of Irish bishops was set aside through his influence. It was alleged that Dr. Cullen had been appointed Legate in order to facilitate the working of the Catholic University, and that there was no supposition or wish that he should interfere. The issue regarding the continuance of the name or title will depend on the Irish Bishops if they agree with Dr. McHale, and it is anticipated that he will lose an authority which he is said to have exercised with much discretion, and in a manner to give satisfaction to the English Government. Regarding the seminaries, something of the spirit of the English constitution, has, it is said, infused itself into the rules and statutes of these establishments, but Dr. Cullen is of opinion that they should be entirely Roman. This matter, however, is left to the Irish bishops themselves. It is thought that the Irish prelates and priests may regard Dr. Cullen's conduct in all these matters as too much encroaching on the authority and national independence of the Catholic Church in Ireland, and that he may consequently become very unpopular and so lose the influence which would be necessary for his retaining a vestige of authority at Rome. But, whatever be the private views of Rome on such matters as these, Dr. Cullen will not be supported against the well-known desire of the Irish Church. His fall would be a loss to English interests and views, and would be unfortunate just now, as Cardinal Wiseman has, since the Papal aggression agitation, changed so much in politics. It appears that the Cardinal spoke in the highest terms to the Pope and others of Mr. Lucas. When this gentleman had an audience with his Holiness, he expressed his determination of leaving Ireland, should his mission to Rome fail. The Pope entreated him not to think of withdrawing his 'powerful advocacy' from Ireland, whatever the decision may be. Mr. Lucas has been well received by all the authorities, and if he had not, Dr. Cullen would now be in Dublin. Dr. Cullen is not satisfied with the Cardinal, and attempts are made to lessen the support the latter has given to Mr. Lucas by clearly demonstrating that the Cardinal did not, some years since, by any means, approve the political conduct of that fiery convert."

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The London correspondent of the *Cork Examiner* writing on Wednesday week, respecting the new Irish appointments, describes a memorable scene in the House of Commons the preceding night:—"No doubt, the country remembers the emphatic, solemn, awful declarations which the then leader of the brigade delivered at a dinner in the West of Ireland, at which the illustrious Archbishop of Tuam and other members of the Connaught hierarchy were present. Is it not one of those curious things, which now and then happen, that the same illustrious prelate, whose heart throbbled with pardonable confidence as he listened to the glowing words and fervid promises of the new tribune of the people, on last evening, had an opportunity of beholding, from a seat beneath the gallery, how that confidence was justified, how those promises were redeemed? Dr. McHale has just returned from Rome, on his way to his beloved home, and being anxious to visit the houses of Parliament, and witness a debate, he sat for the greater part of the night in the place I have indicated, and from which he saw the fiery brigadier of the Connaught banquet tranquilly sitting on the Treasury Benches, wearing the livery of the detested and denounced Whigs, the author of the odious and accursed Titles Act. Dr. McHale, as his letters and speeches have assured the world, was neither ignorant of, nor insensible to the change of policy—pitifully termed treason—of the leader of the brigade, but, perhaps,