

will be to his own or the English people, we cannot compute. It is said that he has done a large business with BARON DE REUTER, who, by a series of companies, is to give Persia railways, canals, telegraphs, peace, plenty and civilization. The Baron and those under him will be great men in Persia for the next seventy years, as they alone will be permitted to construct any of those works on which the material prosperity of the country is based. With the exception of mines of gold, silver and precious stones, the great contractor is to be allowed to work all government mines, on paying fifteen per cent. of the profits to the state. He may require the owners of private mines to hand them over to him unless they have worked them within five years. If he discovers a mine he is to pay nothing for it but the mere price of the surface. Forests and canals are handed over to him on similar terms. The government guarantees to him six millions sterling to help on his various enterprises, and for twenty-five years he is to receive all customs dues of the kingdom, giving to the Shah a progressive bonus on his present revenue. No other is to set up a bank or credit establishment until the Baron has considered whether he would not like to take the business into his own hands. The Sultan also is to provide the necessary labour of all these works at current prices. At present, Persia is poor, but she is to be made rich by DE REUTER. She would need it by all accounts. Whether it will really pay to make canals and railways in a country where population is poor and scant, is a question for the capitalist with his associates to consider. There are, no doubt, many important works which will pay the contractor and benefit the country. We may therefore congratulate Persia that she is to become to some extent a partaker of the wealth and civilization of the age.

THE Khan of Khiva having been thoroughly beaten in the appeal to arms has been glad to make peace with Russia by paying a large indemnity. Probably we should have less interest in this war save for the ultimate designs which Russia is supposed to have in pursuing it. Great Britain thinks she sees, in every movement of Russia towards Khiva and Persia, a step in the direction of India. England's true policy is, without doubt, to sustain and build up both these powers as a barrier against the possible designs of Russia on the Indian Territories. Anything which tends to weaken these nations cannot be looked on without some anxiety. As far as the capacity for fighting is concerned the Khivans are weak enough. They made no resistance worth notice during the campaign, and even behind the walls of their city the shew of fighting was poor. We hear of five men killed and thirty or forty wounded in the Russian army by the Khivans, whose valour is magnified by the victors as though they were of desperate courage. The present war is concluded, and Khiva will be permitted to have peace till the indemnity is paid, when some cause of quarrel will