

learned from his engineering survey of Constantinople and the surrounding country. Sir Baldwin Walker left also on Saturday for Paris for the purpose of holding a consultation with the naval authorities of the French Government to ensure uniformity of action between the allied fleets.

The 1st battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards marched out of the Wellington barracks on Tuesday morning last for Portsmouth. The Queen having expressed a wish to see this fine corps before their departure, at seven o'clock they marched to Buckingham Palace and formed in front of the main entrance. At this time there could not have been less than 10,000 or 15,000 persons assembled in Birdcage-walk and in front of the palace. On the entrance of the troops, Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and Princess Alice, appeared on the balcony in the centre of the palace, and was received with loud and repeated cheering. As soon as the centre battalion had entered the enclosure, they formed in line and presented arms, the band playing "God save the Queen," amidst loud and continued cheering; his Royal Highness and the young princes being uncovered, Her Majesty repeatedly bowed in acknowledgment. At the various stations along the road the gallant fellows met with additional greetings. On their arrival at Portsmouth at one o'clock, the 23rd and 79th regiments turned out voluntarily to escort them to the place of embarkation; and, cheered to the last by thousands of spectators, embarked on board the *Sirena*. The vessel remained in harbour all night and started next morning for Malta.

The *Himalaya*, owing to her immenso size, touched the mud in endeavouring to get out of dock, and her departure from Southampton was delayed till Saturday morning, when she started with high tide for Plymouth, where she arrived, after a brisk run, on Sunday, and took in the 93rd Regiment of Sutherland Highlanders. She sailed for Malta on Monday morning at nine o'clock. The march of the Rifles from the barracks in Portsmouth, to the Dock-yard for embarkation, was the scene of one universal and repeated ovation. A crowd of many thousands lined their march, and handkerchiefs and fair hands were waved from every open window. An interesting incident is in connection with their departure. One of the officer's wives, a young woman not long married, being determined to "follow him to the wars," put on some necessaries which he had left at home, and, having had her hair cut short, so far passed muster, it is said, with the others, that she marched through the streets to the dockyard, and embarked on board the *Vulcan* before her desperate ruse was discovered. It is said that she was allowed to remain. Her husband embarked with the other company in the *Himalaya*. The 4th Regiment will embark from Leith in the *Golden Fleece*, and the 77th on the Clyde in the *Atrato*. The 50th embarked in the *Cambria* at Dublin on Friday.

The *Cambria*, carrying the 50th, was met on Saturday at sea by the *Scotia*. A passenger on board the *Scotia* writes:—"When we came alongside the *Kish* light we passed directly under the stern of the vessel, and a more heart-stirring and thrilling scene I never beheld—every man (passengers, sailors, stokers, and all) came on deck, and, with hats off, we gave such a cheer as I never heard but on our side of the channel." A new battery is nearly completed at the north end of the Huskisson Dock, Liverpool, the front of which will cross that of the Rock Battery on the Chelsea side, and expose vessels entering the river to a fire of thirty guns.

**PROBABLE SEA FIGHT.**—A Bristol correspondent of the *Shipping Gazette* writes:—"One of our pilots reports that there is a Turkish barque and a Russian brig in the Penarth-roads, ready loaded, and each bound to their respective countries; that the captain of the latter fears to proceed to sea, as his antagonist has six guns ready to play upon his enemy as soon as he can catch him clear of the roadstead."

**THE WAR MINISTER.**—It is not generally known, says the *Times*, that the Colonial Minister for the West Indies has the chief control and direction of military affairs in matters relating to service abroad, and that the authorities of the Horse Guards are, in all essential respects, subordinate to him. The Duke of Devonshire is, therefore, the present "Secretary of War," and is not, under that title, to be confounded with the "Secretary at War," who presides over the operations of the army.

## FRANCE.

An article of foreign news just arrived is one which we think will be received with peculiar pleasure. It

is as follows:—"The *Moniteur* of Sunday publishes a circular addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the representatives of France at Foreign Courts, informing them of the alliance which has been contracted between England and France in view of the common danger. This alliance will have the effect of protecting all interests that war may endanger; and therefore, French agents are directed everywhere to protect and assist English vessels and English subjects in the same manner, and as if they possessed the same rights, as French vessels and French subjects." *Esto perpetua*. The union of England and France is the guarantee for universal national independence and for the peace of the world. The *Moniteur* further publishes a letter from Prince Napoleon to the emperor, in which the prince requests permission to form part of the expedition which is being prepared. A despatch from Vienna received at Paris on Saturday fully confirms the adhesion of the Government of Austria to the policy of England and France.

## OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

Yesterday (Thursday) the Emperor Napoleon opened the Chambers in person. After having spoken at length on the insufficiency of last harvest, and the Free Trade means taken to provide for its deficiency, the Emperor said—

"Last year, in my opening discourse, I promised to use every effort in my power to maintain peace and to re-assure Europe. I have kept my word. In order to avoid a struggle, I have deferred it as long as was permitted by honour. Europe will know now, beyond doubt, that if France has drawn the sword, it is only because she has been constrained to do so. She will know that France has no idea of aggrandisement. She wishes only to resist dangerous pretensions. Thus I love to proclaim aloud that the time for conquest is passed, never to return, for it is not by reducing boundaries that a nation can henceforth be honoured and powerful; it is by placing herself at the head of a generous idea, in causing the empire of law and justice to prevail; in this you will perceive the results of a policy without egotism and without *arrière pensée*. It is thus that England, our ancient rival, forms with us an alliance from day to day more strict and more intimate, because the ideas which we defend are the same as those of the English people.

"Germany, which the remembrance of former wars still renders suspicious, and which for that reason perhaps has given for the last forty years too many proofs of deference to the policy of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, has already recovered her independence from its allurement, and freely regards in what quarter her interests are to be found. Austria, above all, which cannot see with indifference the events which are preparing, enters into our alliance; and thus will confirm the character of morality and justice which marks the war which we undertake. This is, indeed, the reason why she engages in it. Europe, engaged in intestine struggles for forty years, re-assured also by the moderation of the Emperor Alexander in 1815, as by that of his successor until this day, seemed not to dread the danger which might menace her from the colossal power which, by her successive encroachments, embraces the north and the south—which possesses almost exclusively the two interior seas from which she can dart forth upon our civilisation. It sufficed, by the advance of an ill-founded pretension at Constantinople, to awaken sleeping Europe.

"We have seen, in effect, in the East, amidst profound peace, a Sovereign exact from his feeble neighbour new advantages, and because they were not obtained invading two of her provinces. This fact ought to make those who revolt against iniquity take up arms; but we have other reasons for supporting Turkey. France has as much and perhaps more interest than England that the influence of Russia should not extend infinitely in Constantinople; for to reign over Constantinople is to reign over the Mediterranean, and not one of you, gentlemen, I think, will say that England alone has great interests in that sea which washes three hundred leagues of our coasts. Besides this, that policy does not date from yesterday. For ages every national government in France has supported it, and I will not desert it. Let it no longer be said that we have leagued together to go to Constantinople with England only to defend the cause of the Sultan, and with it the rights of the Christians. We go there to defend the liberty of the seas and our just influence in the Mediterranean; we go with Germany to aid her to preserve the rank from which it seemed to be desired to make her descend—to guard her frontiers against the preponderance of too powerful a neighbour—we go, in fine, with all those who desire the triumph of good, of law, of justice, and of civilisation.

"In these solemn circumstances, gentlemen, as in all those in which I shall be obliged to appeal to the country, I am sure of your support; for I have always found in you the generous sentiments which animate the nation. Thus, strong in this support, in the noble-

ness of the cause, and in the sincerity of our alliances; and confiding, above all, in the protection of God, I hope soon to obtain a peace which it will not be in the power of any one to disturb with impunity."

**THE LAST RESORT.**—The French and English Cabinets have adopted the resolution, conjointly with Austria and Prussia, to summon the Emperor of Russia to evacuate the Danubian Principalities before the 1st of May next, and his refusal to comply with the summons will be followed by a formal declaration of war. To prevent the possibility of eluding the demand or of wasting time on frivolous pretexts, a delay not exceeding a week will be allowed for an answer. If no answer be received at the end of that period, it will be considered as tantamount to a refusal to evacuate, and measures will be taken forthwith to compel that evacuation.

## RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

**THE ALLIANCE BROKE UP.**—Nicholas has, by a public decree, cashiered the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, who had condescended to accept the command of regiments in his service as colonels. "Russian officials, military and civil, are forbidden to wear any insignia which they may have received from the sovereigns of either Austria or Prussia." A silly outbreak of ill-temper! Letters from Moscow state that the war is not popular there. The levy of nine men to every thousand of the population weighs heavily on the proprietors. Prince Paskowitch is appointed to the supreme command over the Danubian army. Orders have been forwarded to the Russian fleet neither to seek or to avoid a collision with the allied fleets.

The Emperor of Russia is making propositions for an arrangement. These propositions made through Austria for the other Powers, are not however considered serious, notwithstanding that his majesty must now see if he has not seen before, that his position both at home and abroad is of the most dangerous kind imaginable. But whether they be serious or not—whether it be as is most probable, to gain time in order to strike the blow which has been long meditated, and to crush the Ottoman army at Kalafat, there is not the slightest chance that any proposals of his will be accepted by the Powers which are not based on the immediate evacuation of the Principalities; and these propositions will be met or anticipated by others in the name of the four Powers, to which the Czar must make a categorical answer within a given time.

The *Cronstadt Gazette* states that there took place on the 10th a sanguinary contest near Olonitz. The combat broke out near the quarantine building. The Turks withdrew to the island. The Russians have had some officers badly wounded and 20 men killed. The news of the combat having reached the Russian headquarters, Gen. de Kotzebue proceeded to the field of battle. The same journal also states that fighting was going on on the 9th at Braila, and that on the 10th the combat had not ceased.

The long expected encounter at Kalafat had not come off at the date of our latest advices from that place, namely the 16th, and it is now considered probable that the Russians will endeavour to avoid the heavy loss and consequent enfeeblement of their force which would be the inevitable result of any attempt to take that place, by a passage through Servia.

## GREECE.

**ATHENS, FEB 16.**—The Greek Government is very much harassed, and it is feared that the desertion of Greek soldiers to the insurgents will greatly increase. Those regiments, whose fidelity can be depended on, have been ordered to the frontiers, in order to prevent deserters crossing the boundary. The Pacha of Janina has attacked and defeated the Greek insurgents concentrated at Arta. The rebels kept their ground but a short time, and then fled. The Pacha could not pursue them effectually on account of the limited number of his troops, which was only just sufficient to check the spread of the insurrection towards Janina.

The French and English ambassadors have sent two steamers to the assistance of the Turks, and probably the Gulfs of Contessa and Salonica and the coast of Albania, will be declared in a state of siege.

The British minister at Athens has informed the Greek Government that England will interfere if necessary to restore order in the insurgent districts. If King Otho cannot control his subjects England will do it for him. The Greeks in Epirus pull down all the crescents from the mosques and perform divine service in them. There is some reason to apprehend that the fermentation which has been artificially got up among the Greek Christian subjects of the Porte in Albania, will spread to the north.