

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The announcement of the death of Admiral Bruat gives a painful interest to the details mentioned in the subjoined letter from Constantinople. His death, which took place while the French fleet, which is bringing home the Imperial Guard, was in the waters of Messina, is attributed in the despatch to an attack of gout, but it is stated in some quarters here that he died of cholera."

MARSHAL PELISSIER.—The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says it is reported that Marshal Pelissier is coming home for the winter on sick leave.

The King of Sardinia has met with a most brilliant reception in France.

GERMANY.

The *Times* Paris correspondent writes:—"Some three or four days ago an observation fell from a person who is well-informed on German affairs, that the French Government appeared to be very well satisfied with the conduct of Austria. This has been so often, and I must add, so vainly said, that it attracted little or no attention at the time. Since then, however, not only has the same remark been made, but it is whispered rather mysteriously, that this time at least Austria is on the point of showing more determination than for a long time past. Austria, then, appears to come forward once more, after a long interval of repose, but in what manner? Has she at last determined to take an active part in the war, or is she inclined to offer her mediation between Russia and the allies? This I cannot say; I can only assure you that the move made by Austria will considerably advance the prospects of peace, and bring them nearer to realization than is supposed. I am unwilling to offer any conjectures on the subject, but the action of Austria will soon be felt in a manner not unacceptable to this Government and that of England, and, above all, involving no sacrifices of honor or consistency on the Governments who have taken up arms in a just cause. That she is doing much, cautiously but steadily, with the view of persuading, or, it may be, compelling Russia to come to terms is certain."

ITALY.

POLITICAL ARRESTS IN ROME.—The *Univers* says:—"Our letters from Rome, of the 15th, inform us that the police there have just made a capture of the highest importance. Two days before they arrested in a room in the Strada Laurina two of the most active and most dangerous agents of Mazzini, and chiefs of the demagogical party at Rome—namely, Mancini, of the village of Ariceia, and Lucenti, bell-founder at Rome. Mancini was arrested in 1853 as one of the getters-up of the plot of the 25th of August, and was condemned to several years' hard labor. To escape the punishment, he pretended to be subjected to attacks of madness, and acted so skilfully that he deceived the physicians who were charged to examine him, and he obtained admission to the Lunatic Asylum of the Holy Ghost. In a short time he succeeded in escaping in a boat placed on the Tiber, and all attempts to discover him proved unavailing. Lucenti played a leading part under the repoliating government of that epoch to remove the bells from the churches, he was condemned to several years' hard labor for that and other exploits, but he had the skill to get himself pardoned, and besides, he obtained an order for recasting several of the bells which he had destroyed in 1849. These two men hired, in the Strada Laurina, a chamber which became the centre of democratic conspiracies. On being arrested a number of papers, some of them of great importance, were seized; amongst others is a list of accomplices, containing, it is said, upwards of 2,000 names; also a great number of tickets, which were distributed to men charged to act as spies in different quarters of the town on behalf of Mazzini, and which, it is said, bear the title 'Democratic Army.'"

AUSTRIA AND THE HOLY SEE.—The Emperor of Austria, in order to show his satisfaction at the conclusion of the Concordat, has lately sent to the Pope, as he had some time back promised, the sum of £250,000 towards the construction of the monument of the Immaculate Conception. Several decorations have also been conferred on the high dignitaries who took part in drawing up that document, and among others on Cardinal Santucci and Mgr. Valenziani.

ROME AND PORTUGAL.—The Portuguese government has concluded a concordat with the Holy See, which puts an end to the schism at Goa; and to the differences which the patronage of the Indies had caused between Portugal and Rome.

SWEDEN.

A despatch dated Berlin, Nov. 27th, says:—"It is stated now that the success of General Canrobert's mission to Sweden is limited to having engaged that power to assent to the four points as the basis of any future negotiation."

Sweden's co-operation with the western powers is not to be more active than that of Austria.

RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 17th, in the *Debats*, says:—"It is stated that, in addition to the militia of the empire recently formed, another body, called the rear-ban, or armament of the people, is to be organized. If this latter militia is really to serve any purpose, it must be composed of professions hitherto exempt from military service, such as tradespeople, artists, &c., and they are not very numerous, otherwise it will only be a recruitment under another form. General Tchekine, the new Minister of Public-Works, has left for Moscow, with Prince

Dolgorouki, the Minister of War. They will proceed from Moscow to the southern provinces to give directions for new works which have just been decided on in those parts. General Gortschakoff has sent a despatch, dated the evening of the 14th, in which he states that the enemy has embarked a body of troops near Eupatoria, and that a great part of them have proceeded westward. The defensive works which have been lately raised round Nicholaieff have been constructed with extraordinary care, two of the Grand Dukes taking part in the superintendence, the masonry and earthwork being under the particular direction of the Grand Duke Nicholas, as Inspector-General of Engineers, and the arming under that of the Grand Duke Michael, as Commander-in-Chief of the Artillery. General Todleben has had the immediate supervision of the works. The Emperor has expressed his satisfaction at these works to all the persons employed on them."

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 16th ult., in the *Hamburg News*, contains the following:—"It seems that preparations are being made to equip for next summer the Baltic fleet, as it is found to have remained too long in inaction, and it is intended that at least a portion of it shall take the sea. Besides the reinforcements and improvements which are to be introduced into the navy, it is intended to place at its head younger and more vigorous men. Already has the former Commander of Cronstadt, Lieutenant-General Burmeister, received his dismissal. The Military Governor of Cronstadt has also been removed, as well as the Commander of the Fleet, old Admiral Lutke, who is admitted to a pension in the Council of State. He will be replaced by Admiral Norovskiy, who distinguished himself at Sebastopol."

The myriads that Russia is losing are the very hope, and strength, and wealth of her empire, the growing youths and strong men. She is losing those without whom her territory is useless and her nobles destitute. It is not mere men, but provinces, fields, factories, civilization, improvement, hope itself, she is throwing into the ditch. The fortune of Russia is disappearing in these terrible conscriptions. Yet the waste of life and the cry for fresh levies increase with frightful rapidity. Slowly, but certainly losing ground in the Crimea before the Western Powers, she finds new armies required to meet the Turks in the Caucasus, and apprehends that at one word, one stroke of the pen on our part, she will have to find a hundred thousand men for the defence of her northern frontier. Meanwhile every dockyard in England and France is preparing the means for attacking what has hitherto been deemed impregnable in Russia. We may or may not succeed, but these attacks at many points occupy the armies of Russia and consume them. And while the war proceeds the plot thickens, the mischief festers, and new perils beset Russia. Ominous circumstances indicate something wrong within. The youth and inexperience of the later levies betray a greater drain on the class capable of bearing arms than the mere succession of ukases would lead us to expect; and it is evident that the Russian serf is often tied to the soil in a sense which even an Imperial ukase cannot always overcome. What will be the case when a stronger pressure is applied,—when the Czar has to announce that his territory is attacked on all sides, and that for one army destroyed two new armies must be found? It will then be seen whether there is indeed no opinion in Russia, even when it is a matter of self-preservation.—*Times*.

WAR IN THE EAST.

CONSTANTINOPLE, NOV. 19.—Within the last five days cholera has made its appearance at Scutari with considerable virulence. Among the patients in the hospitals there have been very few cases, but the Germans, the English of the Osmani Horse Artillery, now forming under Colonel Crofton, and the newly arrived Dragoons from the Crimea are suffering a good deal from the disease.

The following letter has been received from Constantinople, dated the 19th ult.:—"The destruction of Sebastopol having been resolved on, as you are aware, each corps has received its portion to work upon. The city presents consequently the most animated aspect. It is a demolition *en règle*, and in which the four armies take part. The houses and public buildings are attacked at the base, and on all sides are heard the blows of the hammer, and the crash of the rafters and timbers of the houses, which fall down amid clouds of dust. The soldiers at once proceed to the selection of all the materials capable of being employed advantageously for their use during the winter. Each man loads himself with objects the most varied. Some carry off planks, windows, doors, presses, fire-irons, kitchen utensils, even to old chairs, and old pots. Indeed, it may be said that soon not a nail, nor a piece of wood, nor a tile, will remain in Sebastopol. Of course the houses occupied by the troops of occupation are respected, but this respect has to be enforced by detachments of soldiers stationed in the court-yard—so ardent is the desire for demolition. On the other hand, the engineers have resumed their mining works, in order to blow up the military and maritime establishments of Sebastopol. The cannon balls and shells found are collected in huge pyramids, and it is ascertained that a great number are fit for use."

The following is an extract from a letter from Kamiesch, published in the *Gazette du Midi*:—"By next spring Sebastopol will have shared the same fate as Tyre, Persepolis, and other great towns of antiquity, of which not a stone remains standing. The loss will be great for the Russians, and almost nothing for the allies. The traders who intended establishing themselves in the conquered town will be disappointed, and we must now bid farewell to all ideas of cafés, restaurants, balls, and theatres. Meanwhile the firing from one side to the other still

continues, but is of the most ridiculous description. Our fleet in Kamiesch and Kasatch has been tried by a novel epidemic, which attacks not the men but the vessels. Their keels are attacked by large worms, which gnaw the wood, and menace the ships far more than have done the Russians. It seems that these worms are peculiar to these shores, and this eighth plague of Egypt extends all along the Crimea as far as Nicholaieff."

It is stated that the floating batteries, whose efficiency and invulnerability was so effectually tested at Kinburn, will take a prominent part in attacking the northern forts of Sebastopol, while 26 batteries, armed with mortars of the heaviest calibre, will deluge them from the southern shore. Eighteen of these batteries will be manned by French and Sardinian troops, and eight by the English army.

THE ALLIES BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(From the *Times* Correspondent.)

CAMP ON THE TCHERNAYA, NOV. 13.—The nightmare of a Russian attack is still hanging over us; but although, if anything of the kind was really contemplated by the Russians, this part of our line would probably be chosen by them in preference, the idea of an attack haunts the imagination less here than, perhaps, in any other part of the allied camp. The reason of this is obvious. By the late movements of the French troops at Baidar, and by the arrangements made to defend the positions at the fords of Tchorgoun and of Alsa, our position has become stronger than ever. When the Battle of the Tchernaya was fought nearly all the troops who had to guard the positions were in one line, without any reserves. These had to be brought down from the plateau. To our extreme right we had only a small detachment of French—in fact, a foraging party, encumbered by waggons and arabas—who would have been obliged to retire had the Russians pushed forward on that side. Their retreat would have left open to the Russians not only all the roads from Baidar, but likewise the flank of our position at Aleu, which was only feebly guarded by two battalions.—The Sardinians were at the time decimated by sickness, and the French had not more than three weak divisions on Fedukhine Heights. And with all these advantages the Russians could not make the slightest impression. How can they flatter themselves with the idea of success now, when a strong body of French protects our right and guards the passes leading from Kamara to Baidar; when the Sardinians are double the strength they were then; when the whole Highland Division is close by to act as a reserve; and when, finally, the three French divisions of the Fedukhine are supported by a second line encamped on the Turkish redoubt hills? And one must not imagine that the Russians are not aware of this circumstance, for they have an excellent panoramic view of our whole position from the heights which they occupy, so that with good glasses they can see every man who passes and every tent or hut which is erected, and the continual activity of their telegraphs by day and night must convince every one that they keep a good look-out.

The information gathered of the movements of the Russian army can scarcely be said to justify an apprehension of an attack either. The only thing which seems to be certain is that the hospitals at Simphéropol have been inspected, and the sick and wounded removed northward in carts which had come down on purpose. But this means probably nothing more than that the Russians see no use in keeping and feeding a large number of inefficient men during the winter, when they will have enough to do to keep the soul and body together of those who can be of some use in the defence of their position.

There is another puzzling piece of news which a Cossack deserter, who came over to the Piedmontese, brought with him. He spoke rather vaguely of an attack—that is to say, when asked whether he had heard of anything, he answered he thought so, but when asked whether he had seen any preparations, such as bridges, &c., he said that the Russians were constructing large boats covered with skins. All the Russian pontoons are of this description, and they used them on the Danube; but apparently they would not make such preparations to cross the Tchernaya, which now is only a tiny little stream, and in winter more of a marsh than a river, where, therefore, pontoons would be of very little use. The simplest and most natural explanation is, perhaps, that they are only repairing the losses which they have suffered during the last campaign.

The little which can be seen of the Russian position just near the edge of the plateau shows rather an intention of the Russians to follow our example, and make themselves comfortable, than to attack us. You can see them continually burning the brushwood, and several white lines which can be observed some days after in the wake of their fires prove that they are just as busy with their roads of communication as we are ourselves, and the series of molehill-like huts which are crowning the edges of the cliffs show that they are more advanced with their hutting—at any rate on the more exposed part of the plateau—than we are.

But, certainly, if one has made up one's mind that there should be a Russian grand attack on our lines, followed, if unsuccessful, by the evacuation of the Crimea, all these signs may be construed into so many proofs of the contrary of what they must appear at first sight, supported as they are, moreover, by the relative positions of the allies and the Russians.

The question is simple enough—What ought to be the object of operations for a General of the allied armies, superior, as they have proved themselves without one single exception, to the Russians in the open field? Naturally, to force them to accept a battle. To suppose, therefore, a Russian attack is to suppose that the Russians are fools enough to play out their own game. If their lines of communication were seriously threatened it would be another thing; but this is not the case. Not only the Perekop and Tchorgoun roads are open to them for the winter, but likewise that over the Spit will be so when the ice begins to form on its shores and gun-boats will no longer be able to prevent the traffic on it. The expedition to Kaffa seems to be countermanded; at least the troops which had returned from Kinburn landed two days ago; consequently the idea of taking Arabak, which would have been the only way to shut up the road over the Spit during the winter, is given up. Thus the Russians have just as much facility for getting supplies as they had last year; they have nothing to fear

from an attack until next year. Why should they, then, risk everything on the poor chance which they have against our lines?

DRUNKENNESS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

(From the *Times*.)

Time was when it could excite no wonder and little regret to hear of a drunken army and to imagine every soldier a bottle imp. The bottle, in fact, formed part of the national idea of a soldier as much as his bayonet and his musket. He was the type of a good fellow that would stand not only fire but fire-water, until he fell on that inglorious field of battle under the table. The sergeant drank, and the young recruit took the King's shilling in the glorious fellowship of the alehouse. His health was drunk twenty times a-day by admiring comrades; the farmer's wife quashed his thirst, as he passed her cottage, with a draught of homebrewed; gin he enjoyed, his ambition was cognac, and he was happy as a king when he sat nightly in the bar of the Swan-with-Two-Necks, a pipe in one hand, a pot in the other, and his mouth full of smoke, mild ale, and blarney.—Every song-writer asked the question, why should he not drink? "A soldier's a man, life's but a span, why, then, let a soldier drink." If he went to the picture gallery he saw a pretty *rivandiere* serving out liquor to the defenders of her country. If he went to the play he saw the model soldier tipping like a fish and every man, woman and child belonging to that laith and canvass village thinking it an honor to bring him brimmer on brimmer. He read a novel, and either some Major Galbraith was found throughout the volume hiccupping "God save the King," or the first chapter required a drunken quare of redcoats to set the story going. Who ever heard of sober soldiers?—Cromwell's Ironsides were not soldiers; they were militant parsons, who could not drink because they were always holding forth—because the devil of talk had cast out the devil of drink.

All is now changed; or, rather, the facts still remain what they were, but our ideas of what ought to be have been considerably modified. It is no longer a point of honor with gentlemen to drink so many bottles of wine per diem. The modern reader is rather startled to find Boswell, after announcing that his physician has put him on the shortest possible allowance of wine, taking great credit to himself that for six weeks he actually has not exceeded one bottle of sherry at dinner. Without any Maine Liquor Law or teetotal pledges the educated classes of society have become extremely temperate, and it may almost be said that drunkenness is unknown among them. We do not despair of soon seeing this good example influence all classes of the community, and without the aid of those physical restraints which the more violent advocates of temperance in this country and in America seek to legalize; but it cannot be denied that in the masses, and in that section of them from which our army is recruited, the vice is as prevalent as ever, and appears, indeed, to be worse because we of a different class have become better. Let it not be supposed for one moment that we have any desire to palliate irregularities in the British army which, with shame and sorrow, it has been our duty to record: There is the sad fact still staring us in the face that in our Crimean army sobriety is the exception, intoxication the rule; and that a remedy may be applied; we wish to ascertain clearly how the case stands, and where the blame lies. Let us therefore say, in passing, that we are measuring the British standard not one hair's breadth higher than it ought to be, but considerably higher than he is accustomed to. The bluejackets get drunk the moment they get on shore. The redcoats spend in drink every fraction they can spare. The French are not a whit better; the Zouaves are as hard drinkers as any of our Highland or Irish regiments. Our soldiers are doing what has been the immemorial usage of soldiers, and we conceive that the blame lies far less with them than with the authorities.

THE POPE AND THE EMPEROR.—Few men have, in a shorter time, been subjected to greater changes of fortune than the present successor of St. Peter, Pope Pius IX. Within the brief term of ten years he has been subjected to the extremes of popularity and obloquy; hopes of prosperity for his people unprecedented in temporal relations, in the history of modern Italy, followed by the blakest disappointments. He has suffered exile, and run imminent risks in his own person, and has seen the bright prospects of his dominions go down in war, disease, and scarcity. On the other hand, Providence has made him the instrument of great blessings to mankind. It was his presence and influence which tended, in a great degree, to restore peace between the Prince, who sheltered him in his dominions, and his infuriated subjects. If he met with disappointment in his own people, his involuntary separation from them roused the generous hearts of Europe to the real position of the Father of the Faithful. His escape alone, and in the disguise of a simple Priest, in the night, carrying for his sole consolation, what the consent of the Church concedes to him alone the privilege of carrying for himself, the Lord and Sign of the Church, hidden under the sacramental species, in his bosom, roused the sympathies, and elicited the written responses of the "Orbe Catholicus." What private individual, what monarch of Europe, can be visited with reverses so great, for who stands so high in the real esteem of men, or reigns so wide in their affections and sympathies? What Pontiff, at any former period of history, could have struck a chord which should have vibrated so quickly, and over a field of space so wide, scattered as the Catholic body now is over the entire circle of the globe? Here, indeed, in the outward splendour of Hierarchies and visible institution; there, gathered under the rough shed of the Missionary confined to the few converted savages whom his Apostolic zeal has snatched from the gloom of the present and the perils of eternity; but the Catholic Church still, wherever she has wandered on her heavenly errand. It is in these last days, of the modern world alone that Jews can travel so wide or circulate so rapidly, thanks to the world-wide selfishness of him in their search of wealth, and that written testimonials of such sympathy as the Order of St. Peter has experienced could be circulated.

Not to speak of these personal matters, which have reacted on the Catholic world, and even on the unanimity of men wherever it has been found, in favor of the successor of St. Peter, while the painful and humiliating side of them has fallen to the lot of the individual only, who represents that character, there are other blessings which Pius IX. has been