

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

The journal *La Verité* says:—

"For some days the English recruiting agents have enlisted a number of men for the Foreign Legion at Lille and in its neighborhood. The French, who tender their services, are not admitted from a feeling that does honor to our allies. They only accept young Belgians and others, who are very numerous in our country. Yesterday, a detachment of these recruits was sent to Calais."

Another detachment of prisoners taken at Bomarsund have left the Isle of Aix. They were 34 in number, mostly Poles, and are proceeding, under the direction of a Polish officer, to Constantinople, where they are to enter the Foreign Legion. Among them are two martyrs of Russian despotism. One of them was a medical student at the University of Wilna, who, having been compromised in a conspiracy, has been compelled to serve for the last 32 years as a simple soldier in a regiment of infantry. His pay during that period did not exceed 10d. a month. The other bears on his body deep marks of the lashes to which he was sentenced for a slight offence.

STATE OF THE CROPS IN FRANCE.—All the accounts from the departments announce that the corn crops are in the most satisfactory condition, and the same remark may be applied to the potatoes, beet-roots, and colzas. The hay has been everywhere abundant, and has been got in an excellent condition. The vines are now in bloom, under the most favorable circumstances; the plants all appear vigorous, and particularly those which produce the ordinary wines. In the southern departments the appearance of the olive trees is very satisfactory, and the breeding of silk worms is going on in the most satisfactory manner.

Lord John Russell's confessions about the Vienna Conferences are publishing in the French journals of this day. The subject has frequently occupied the French press, and shrewd guesses have been made about M. Buol's clever tricks with the Envoys of France and England. In the political circles of Paris it has always been a matter of surprise that Lord John Russell remained in the British Cabinet after his return from Vienna, that city of fatal diplomatic muddle, where foreign statesmen have traditionally committed huge blunders.

A letter from Marseilles states that, in addition to General Sol's brigade from Lyons, amounting to about 4,000 men, from 15,000 to 20,000 more are expected at that port in the course of the next ten days. These troops are to be encamped close to Marseilles until the order arrives for their embarkation.

Several arrests were made lately in Paris of persons supposed to belong to the secret society of *La Marianne*—a cant name for the guillotine. Arrests were previously made at Nantes from the same cause.

The fine weather and the influx of strangers continue to exercise a beneficial influence on the Parisian trade, and the shopkeepers are now certain of quick sales until the close of the Exhibition. The extraordinary dearth of provisions alone prevents commercial transactions from assuming a greater degree of activity.

## GERMAN POWERS.

Private letters from Vienna, speak not over-encouragingly of the disposition of Austria towards the allied Powers. Among the higher classes generally the utmost exertions are made in favor of Russia, and it is thought that General Hess is deeply concerned in these manoeuvres. An attempt is made to drive M. de Buol from office in consequence of his inclining more to England and France; and this statesman declared very recently to a foreign diplomatist at Vienna, that Austria would not have gone to war if Russia had rejected the last interpretation of the guarantees. The diplomatist I allude to was until a recent period convinced of the rectitude of Austria. The French and English Governments consider it their duty to put the best face on the backsliding of Austria, but I am pretty sure that the private despatches of M. de Bourqueney betray no such confidence.—*Correspondent of Times*.

A CAMPAIGN ON THE DANUBE.—The *Austria Gazette* is informed, from Galatz, that a campaign on the Danube and Pruth is expected there.

## ITALY.

At no period during the last six years has the position of Italy deserved the attention of statesmen, and of the public generally, more than at the present moment. The hopes and fears of opposing parties, which at the commencement of the war in the East were unreasonably exaggerated, are now subsiding into settled convictions, founded on more reasonable calculations. What the despotic Governments fear, and what means they adopt to suppress them, may be seen by the "most secret" instructions to the magistrates of the kingdom of Naples which I forwarded you a few days since; while in the north, Austria is pouring in troops under the excuse of a camp for exercise at Somma, close to the north-eastern frontier of Piedmont. As it is well known that the Cabinet of Vienna infuses the spirit of its policy into all the Councils of the despotic Governments of the Peninsula, it is not unnatural that those who desire to see the allies expose the cause of Italian independence should rejoice to see Austria, who has always been their worst oppressor, thus strengthening herself towards the West, and leaving the road from Warsaw to Vienna undefended.

It is always very difficult to arrive at any precise idea of the Austrian forces in Italy, but not long ago a Vienna paper set them down at 118,000 men, with a fair proportion of guns; and now it appears, both by their own journals and your Vienna correspondent's letters, as well as by private accounts from

Lombardy, that considerable reinforcements are on their way westward.

The Italians, pining for independence, rejoice at these demonstrations on the part of Austria, and, without now entertaining wild schemes of inaugurating a millennium by creating a revolution, they hope to be able to fight for what they call the holy cause of Italy under the protecting banners of France and England; believing that if the western Powers should find themselves opposed to Austria they would be glad to avail themselves of this feeling in Italy; because they might easily do so without raising the dreaded monster of Republicanism or anarchy. Such aspirations may be over sanguine, but they seem founded on tolerably solid foundations. The Italians have learnt from very severe experience during the present century that the sentimental sympathy of nations will not save them from an army of occupation and its accompanying horrors; they have found that public opinion must speak through the cannon's mouth to armed despotism to have any effect, and they have given up expecting aid from other Governments except when it may suit the interests of such Governments. With these considerations painfully impressed upon their minds, there is a very general anxiety throughout Italy to take service with the allies, if only to escape from tyranny and starvation at home, though always with the hope that their services may be useful to their own country.—*Times Cor.*

## THE BALTIC.

The health of the fleet still continues to be very satisfactory. Admiral Seymour, who was much injured by the accidental explosion of one of the "infernal machines," is progressing favorably; Captain Louis, R.M., has been removed to the hospital-ship; and Flag-Lieutenant Pearce is so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties.

Fifteen more "infernal machines" have been found, making, in all, a total of 61 discovered during the last fortnight. Two deserters, who came on board the *Exmouth* last Saturday, the 30th, stated that 200 of these "submarine exploders" had been laid down by the Russians on the south side of Cronstadt; and that they were so arranged that 10 should explode at the same moment.

On the 26th ult., the Bulldog, Commander A. C. Gordon, accompanied by the gunboats *Starling* and *Pincher*, were sent up to Doubrovskipoint, situate near the head of the bay of Cronstadt, on the north side of the island, to disperse some troops stationed there to protect the coasting trade. On getting within range the three vessels opened fire and soon succeeded in shelling the enemy out of their position. Not the slightest resistance was made by the Russians; even a steamer and several gunboats, which were lying at no great distance, with "steam up," remained during the whole time passive spectators of the attack.

SMART AFFAIR AT NYSTADT.—The following extract of a letter from an officer serving in the Baltic fleet, throws some light upon this affair:—

"The *Firefly* went to a place called Nystadt, on the coast of Finland, a few days since, and searched very carefully for shipping belonging to the enemy, but could not find any; but the *Harrier* went there a day or two afterwards, and, by chance, went behind an island which is about a mile from the town. Behind this island, which is covered with fir trees, she found about 50 large merchant ships. Their topmasts were struck, and the tops of fir trees lashed on instead; so that it was impossible to see them except when quite close. The *Harrier* dashed in amongst them, and sank or burned all of them save one. Altogether she destroyed twenty thousand tons of shipping. The *Firefly* had previously destroyed two small batteries, intended for five guns each. The whole coast from Christianstadt to Hango is in a strict state of blockade by a squadron of steamers, under the orders of Captain Warden, of Her Majesty's ship *Ajax*."

MONSTER ARTILLERY FOR THE BALTIC.—We learn that the Ordnance are preparing artillery, more especially mortars, upon a prodigious scale, some to carry shells as large as the huge stone balls used by the Turks at the siege of Rhodes. As we are informed, the mortar monster, which, by two discharges, or three at most, reduced the previously impregnable citadel of Antwerp, was a babe to those of which we speak—their range is calculated at five miles. We presume that Cronstadt is to have the benefit of their first experiments.—*Standard*.

## RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 30th gives as positive the discovery of a conspiracy, followed by numerous arrests, in the capital, as well as at Moscow and other places. It is positively asserted that, among the persons arrested, figure four generals on active service, two professors of the university of Kiev. Several cases of incendiarism, attributed to evil-disposed persons, have latterly occurred at St. Petersburg.

A letter from Warsaw of the 5th, in the *Constitutionnel*, says:—

"The Councillor of State de Kotzebue arrived here yesterday from Sebastopol, and immediately had an audience of Prince Paskiewitch, to whom he delivered letters from General Gortschakoff. The picture which M. de Kotzebue draws of the state of the Crimea is far from satisfactory. General Gortschakoff, it is said, complains that the reinforcements both of cavalry and infantry, and supplies of provisions passing through Perekop, were advancing but very slowly, but in consequence of the want of water in the steppes, where the thermometer at times stood at 34 Reaumur (93 Fahrenheit), it was necessary to have the troops followed by an immense number of vehicles carrying water. These reinforcements were decimated by disease on their march, and the remainder, on arriving at Sebastopol, only served to fill the hospitals. Simpheropol and Baksiserai are so full

of sick that it has been found necessary to establish ambulances under tents. The mortality, owing to the extreme heat, is described as frightful. The town of Sebastopol is said to be in a desperate state,—not a house but has suffered from the shot and shell of the allies. The Russian army at Sebastopol has been weakened by 10,000 men by the affairs of the 7th and 18th of June, without reckoning those who have died from cholera and other diseases. The allies have rendered their position between Balaklava and Inkermann impregnable, so that, in case of an assault, General Gortschakoff cannot assist the garrison by making any diversion on that side. It is supposed that the garrison will blow up all the public buildings, and only leave to the assailants a heap of ruins. All the articles of value belonging to the Crown have been removed to Perekop. The account of the death of Lord Raglan has been given to-day in the official journal. Another journal points out the losses of the Russian army. Its best Generals—Kornileff, Gotomir, Timofieff, Simonoff, Schilder, Orbellian, and several others—have been killed; and Woronzoff, Menschikoff, and Dannenberg have retired. More than 500 officers of all ranks have been already lost by this war. It is said that General Gortschakoff is urgent for officers, and that he has written on this subject to Prince Paskiewitch. The object of the visit of the Grand Duke Michael to this city is the subject of general conversation. He was, it is said, charged to sound the feelings of Prince Paskiewitch as to his taking the command of the army of the Crimea; but the Prince is said to have refused, on the plea of his health and the promise of repose made to him by the late Emperor."

The Vienna correspondence of the *Manchester Guardian* writes as follows:—

"Nearly every letter received from St. Petersburg mentions the efforts which Russia is making, through the length and breadth of her enormous Empire, to fill up the gaps which the sword and disease have opened in the ranks of her army. Restrictions without end have been removed, and all classes of men, who, from age, infirmity or social ties have been hitherto wisely exempted from the toils of military service, are being marched pell-mell to take up arms beneath the Russian standard. The Empire of Russia is surrounded with foes, the mouth of whose cannon she dare not brave, and whose chains she finds it impossible to break. Her ports are blockaded, her commerce destroyed, and her flag is unseen on the surface of the ocean; while that of her enemies is displayed unmolested in every portion of the globe. Her soldiers must, night and day, be upon the alert against a wary and an active foe, who is ready to dart upon any part of her coasts which is left for an hour unguarded."

"These are the cankers which are destined to eat into the heart of Russia. Sebastopol may be strong, Cronstadt impregnable, Revel and Swaborg unapproachable, yet the weary, laborious, and anxious watching, the insidious attacks of plague and pestilence, and the ruinous stagnation of trade, are evils which cannot be escaped. The hopes of England and France are not to be considered as resting upon the successful termination of the siege of Sebastopol, or destruction of seaport towns, but upon the maintenance of a hearty and cordial alliance, which shall enable them, as long as the war shall last, to confine the Russians to the limits of their empire. The effect of this policy has been already felt in the innermost districts of Russia; and every year will serve to impress them yet more deeply still. The capture of a town, or the destruction of a fortress, might add to the glory of their arms, but it would not be found to be attended with any great results as far as concerns the end and object of the present war. Russia requires to be taught a lesson which length of time will probably be found to teach her best."

## GREAT BRITAIN.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, July.—Many newspapers for British colonies and foreign countries having been posted unpaid, contrary to the printed instructions No. 45, 1855, recently issued upon the subject, the Postmaster-General thinks it necessary to repeat the intimation that a postage (the amount of which can be ascertained by an inspection of the notice No. 45 at any post-office) is now required to be prepaid, in addition to the newspaper stamp, upon all newspapers sent to British colonies, and upon those sent to all foreign countries except the following—namely, France or Algeria, Belgium, Prussia, via Belgium, and any foreign country (except Turkey) via Belgium and Prussia, New Granada, and Peru. Any newspapers which may be posted without the requisite prepayment cannot be forwarded to their destination.—ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

THE POST-OFFICE AND THE PRESS.—The new law is fulfilling our worst anticipations. The scheme is so complicated that the public and the Post-office are bewildered. Papers are posted with no stamp visible, and the question then arises—Are they to be taxed as stamped newspapers with the stamp folded inwards, or as papers bearing no stamp at all? The papers must be opened to discover the fact. If the former be the case, a penny is to be charged; if the latter, the paper is liable to the ordinary postal charge in such circumstances—that is, to double the rate of book postage. Then again, a newspaper, taken from the unstamped portion of the impression of a stamped newspaper, is posted for foreign or colonial countries, with a penny postage label attached, and it cannot be despatched because the sheet should be stamped also. In a variety of instances the plan is working vexatiously—is, in fact, a great nuisance; and Government, or we are much mistaken, will be driven to the adoption of some more uniform scheme—such as substituting a halfpenny postage stamp on all printed matter under a certain weight. To throw so burdensome an amount of newspaper examination and obliteration on poor postmasters, as is now done, is intolerable.—*Gateshead Observer*.

CAVALRY FOR THE EAST.—It is stated that 2100 mounted men, and 400 horses will embark this week for the Crimea.

STRENGTH OF THE MILITIA.—From a return issued yesterday, it appears that the total numbers of volunteers in the United Kingdom, serving on the 15th of April, was 52,835. The number of those enlisted before the 12th of May, 1854, who left their regiment after Lord Panmure's circular of the 27th of March last, was 16,269, of whom 11,909 were re-enlisted, taking the £1 extra bounty. Another return shows the actual strength of the regiments in England on the 30th of April, with the number of those present and those absent on leave on that day. There were present 1,813 officers, 5,420 non-commissioned officers, and 28,474 privates; on leave, 275 officers, 268 non-commissioned officers, and 8,392 privates.

ARMS FOR THE POLISH CONTINGENT.—One thousand stand of Minie rifles, a large number of carbines, and revolvers for the use of the Polish contingent, have been forwarded to Constantinople, at which place the Polish Legion is being organised and disciplined.

A NEW LOAN FOR TURKEY.—A convention has been signed in London by the Ministers of England, France, and Turkey, and sent to Constantinople for the exchange of ratifications, by which England and France are to guarantee a loan of five millions sterling, to be raised by or on behalf of the Turkish Government.

By the motion of Sir E. B. Lytton Parliament is to be asked whether it will tolerate, at a period of so much difficulty and danger, the conduct of a Minister who, like Lord John Russell, engaged as a plenipotentiary to an European Congress, and being also a Cabinet Minister, transgresses his instructions, forgets his duty of secrecy, and makes known to the doubtful friends and declared enemies of his country views and opinions of his own, which it subsequently turns out are not entertained by the remainder of his colleagues. Parliament has to decide whether it will tolerate that this same Minister, coming home with peaceful propositions, shall conceal that fact from the House of Commons under the mist of speeches which, if not categorically denying such opinions as those he privately expresses, are, at any rate, wholly inconsistent with them. Parliament has to decide whether it will tolerate that these opinions in favor of an ignominious peace shall be kept secret so long as success waits upon our arms, to be brought forward with the most circumstantial minuteness as soon as disaster and disappointment give a chance of their favorable acceptance—whether, in fact, we are to tolerate a Minister who has two sets of opinions, one for private, the other for public use—the warlike for success, and the peaceful for failure.

THE "ANGEL GABRIEL."—Yesterday evening, John Sayers Orr, known in Greenock and elsewhere as the "Angel Gabriel," held forth on the Caltoun Hill, here, to a large crowd, chiefly collected by means of a placard which he himself posted over the town at a late hour on the previous night. For about two hours he harangued the assemblage in denunciation of the Pope and Romanism, mingled with narratives of his own "sufferings" and imprisonments in this country and the United States for his "freedom of speech," and with strong invective against the authorities of Greenock and other places in which he had exercised his "rights." Towards the close a hat was handed round for contributions towards "law expenses," and that listeners quietly dispersed.—*Edinburgh Courier*, 10th ult.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF EPISCOPAL MANAGEMENT.—Thanks to Lord Harry Vane, in the session of 1853, and to Mr. Mowbray, in the present session of Parliament, some new light has been thrown on episcopal management in the Ecclesiastical Commission, and its subordinate organization, the Church Estates Commission. With demands of the most distressing character upon these bodies for assistance to the poor clergy, they are, it turns out, wasting fortunes on lawyer's bills and surveyors' charges. From returns laid before the House of Commons on the motion of Lord Harry Vane and Mr. Mowbray, we find the Ecclesiastical Commission, in which the episcopal power is supreme, spending very nearly 45,000l. on lawyers and surveyors alone in three years, and after it was supposed that the Legislature had introduced some improvements into the management of the body. And yet the bishops are for ever clamoring after money for church extension, and talking of ecclesiastical poverty. No doubt there is some return for the money paid, some work to represent the charges; but the idea of paying for everything by the job, instead of for the whole in each department by salary, could only occur in a commission where waste has the place that economy ought to occupy.—*Examiner*.

The Liverpool correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*, writing on Monday last, gives the following account of a recent scene of "street preaching" in Liverpool, with which the notorious McNeill was connected:—"It having been announced during the week that Dr. McNeill intended to address an open air meeting on the Exchange flags yesterday afternoon, upwards of 5,000 persons were assembled at the appointed time, three o'clock, but the head-constable, fearing, with reason, that the appearance of so prominent a polemic in such a position might eventually be a breach of the public peace, considered it his duty to write to Dr. McNeill for the purpose of requesting that he would not take a step which was in so eminent a degree calculated to disturb the solemnity of the Sabbath. This view of the case meeting with the approval of some of the authorities, with whom he deemed it advisable to communicate before taking a decisive step, the head-constable addressed a letter to the Rev. Dr. McNeill, stating that the imperative sense of his duty as head-constable required him to urge on the Rev. doctor the desirability of altering his resolution, which he calculated might lead to a serious breach of the peace. Dr. McNeill had, in consequence of that letter, thought it inadvisable to meet there and then, though he remained away under remonstrance, not having any sympathy with the motives which appeared to influence the head constable. Reginald Radcliff, Esq., solicitor, John Limmer (alias Happy Jack), a town missionary, and several other persons who take an active interest in conducting street preaching, were in attendance; and the former gentleman having apologised for the non-appearance of Dr. McNeill, under the circumstances alluded to, a psalm was sung, and the Rev. Mr. West, a Wesleyan minister, addressed the assemblage for about an hour and a half, after which the multitude dispersed. At the termination of the proceedings the comparatively few people remaining broke into various groups, in each of which the *cacophonous* language was prominently