

cock, who was killed at the head of his corps, will never be forgotten; still less that of General Windham, who, amidst a shower of bullets, and as if he had a charmed life, stood unsifted on the ramparts, urging on his men to the attack. (Cheers.) It may be said of them, as Lord St. Vincent said to Lord Nelson after his temporary want of success in his attack with gunboats on Boulogne—"It is not in mortals to command success, but you have done more, you have deserved it." The result of all these heroic deeds is that the allies stand on vantage ground on the eve of negotiations. If these negotiations terminate in a safe and honourable peace, and comprise effectual guarantees for ensuring its permanence, then all the objects of the war will be attained. But we must not forget the proverb, *"Si vis pacem, para bellum."* There will be no relaxation on our parts in preparing for a continuance of the war, so that, if the enemy will not listen to reason and shall prevent peace being made, we may look confidently, through the blessing of God and a righteous cause, to another glorious campaign. (Cheers.) My lords and gentlemen, I have spoken hitherto of the horrors and glories of war. I would now venture to mention an episode in the last campaign of a character that will come home to the hearts of all persons residing in Hampshire and this immediate neighbourhood with peculiar interest—I speak of the benevolent acts of Miss Nightingale and of the ladies with whom she has been associated in her works of mercy in the East. (Cheers.) I speak with knowledge of the facts when I tell you that it has fallen to the lot of but few women to do the good that they have done. To dilate on those acts would be superfluous; no tongue can do justice to them; but I trust they are registered in heaven, as I know they are engraved on the hearts of thousands of their countrymen. (Loud cheers.) I hope you will do me the justice to believe that it is impossible for any man to feel more sensibly than I do of the honour which has been paid to me, not only in this room but out of doors, and I shall return to my command with an increased desire, if that be possible, to do my duty. (Cheers.)

The announcement of the acceptance by Russia of the terms of peace, was hailed by the English press with somewhat less cordiality than in Paris. *The Times*, doubtful of the sincerity of Russia, makes out, however, that anyhow a debt is due to Lord Palmerston which ought to be at once discharged. "Compare our position now with our position last April, when Gladstone, Graham, and Herbert, terrified at the effects of their own counsels, and unmanned by the contemplation of the disasters for which they were responsible, were urging a base and ignominious peace; and when Lord John Russell, in the character of Ambassador, was but too faithfully seconding their efforts to degrade and ruin us in the Senate. To the courage, the foresight, the unflinching firmness and unsleeping vigilance of Lord Palmerston we owe it that we escaped that danger and that disgrace which were so much nearer to us than we supposed, and that we are now in a condition to conclude a peace or to wage a war, of neither of which any honest English heart will have cause to be ashamed. Such a peace will be a suitable termination to the long epoch of a life devoted, with but little support from political party or popular sympathy, to thwarting, counteracting, and overthrowing the designs of Russia, to frustrating and foiling her at every point, with a firmness and pertinacity not unworthy of the great founder of the liberties of Europe, whose name has just been illustrated by the pen of the most eloquent of our historians."

The Morning Post, the Premier's organ, warns us that the five proposals, as accepted by Russia, do not contain on the face of them all that the Western Powers consider necessary for their safe entrance upon negotiation. "When the cabinet of Vienna applied to England and France to know the terms upon which they would consent to make peace with Russia, a direct and distinct reply was given. Upon that reply Austria founded the proposals which Russia has accepted; but she has not represented to the Czar the whole and exact tenour of our demands, and it would not be fair in us, nor indeed just, either to ourselves or to Russia, to enter upon discussions before the preliminaries have been arranged so clearly and unmistakably that Russia, on the one hand, may not have it in her power to pretend that we have entrapped her into negotiations without making her fully aware of their import—nor we, on the other, be open to the manoeuvres of the adroit diplomacy which has already, in former instances, so cleverly amused our Ministers. To take an example. In the Austrian proposals, the name of the Åland Islands is never mentioned; but, nevertheless,

we believe it will be found that Lord Clarendon had emphatically stated to the Cabinet of Vienna that we must insist upon Russia's binding herself not to rebuild Bomarsund. This resolve, justifiable on the ground of military success, and requisite as a matter of high import to the well-being of Europe, becomes imperative, when it is remembered that we have only recently concluded an alliance with Sweden, and that it is our bounden duty not to leave our ally at the mercy of Russia, nor to permit the re-erection of a huge and menacing fortress within one hundred miles of Stockholm. Under these circumstances, then, it will be the duty of the belligerents before negotiations can be entered upon, to signify the intentions to Russia, and to require her acceptance of proposals totally free from the possibility of misinterpretation. These proposals we trust, will have the support of Austria and the German Powers, and will, we are confident, meet with acceptance at St. Petersburg, if Russia be now really alive to her own interest and anxious for the welfare of Europe. If they are accepted, the negotiations will follow, but not at Vienna, nor Paris nor London. All preliminaries being once satisfactorily adjusted, some more fit place will be appropriated for the conduct of conferences.

The Morning Post of Monday stated that a protocol will be signed almost immediately at Vienna by the representatives of England, France, Austria, and Russia, recording the fact of the acceptance of the Austrian proposals by the Cabinet of Russia, and fixing a date for the opening of conferences upon the basis of those proposals. The conferences will take place in about three weeks from this time, at Paris, which capital was simultaneously proposed as the seat of negotiation both by England and Russia. Plenipotentiaries will be immediately appointed by the Powers concerned. Lords Clarendon and Cowley will represent England. The perfect accord which subsists between France and England on the important and vital questions to be submitted to these conferences, makes it certain that they will be opened under the most favourable auspices, and we trust they may issue in the happiest results.

The Post this morning, with its mark of semi-official type, declares "emphatically" that "Prussia will not be admitted to the Conferences; and, whatever may be the impression at Berlin on the subject, it is not true that France has withdrawn her opposition, nor that the British Cabinet alone raise obstacles":—

"The belligerents only, with Austria as the mediating Power, can take part in the conferences which are about to open at Paris. Prussia having chosen to take no part in the war, and having no recognised status as a mediator, must be content to see the other powers of Europe ignore an influence which she has allowed to lie dormant, good offices which she has never exercised, and a position in Europe as a first-rate power, which Prussia herself has voluntarily abandoned.

"It is not unlikely that, if a treaty of peace be concluded, that then Prussia may be invited to give her signature to a document of such European importance, but in its framing she can take no part."

The Debats says that France will be represented by Count Walewski and Baron Bourqueney; Russia, by Baron Brunow and Count Orloff; England, Lord Clarendon and Lord Cowley; Austria, Count Baal and Prince Lichtenstein; and Sarlinia, M. Massimo d'Azeglio.

The fifth volume of Mr. Macaulay's *History of England* has been committed to the printer.—*Edinburg Express*.

A sad story is recounted by the *Essex Gazette*. John Burgess, an old shoemaker of Lowestoft, was expecting his son home from the Crimea after an absence of between three and four years. He had been disappointed in meeting him two or three nights, and on Tuesday was again on his way down to the station to meet the 10 p. m. train. The son on his way up met the father, but neither appeared fully to recognise each other, until the son said, "Hold hard, father, don't be in a hurry," when he stopped and said, "Good God! is that you, John?" They walked on together, when the son wished the father to go forward and break the news of his arrival to his mother, but when the son reached home he found his poor father a corpse on the floor. On returning, he had opened the door and exclaimed, "Good God! Maria, John —" and fell down dead before finishing the sentence. The joy he experienced on the return of his son was more than his frame could bear.

Prayers were offered up last Sunday in the cathedral and churches of Bristol for the Lord Bishop of the diocese, who remains, we regret to say, in an anxious state.—*London Guardian*, Jan. 30.

MONEY MARKET, Jan. 30, One p. m.—Consols opened on Wednesday at 90 to 1, and with some little fluctuation, having continued to advance under the improved prospects for peace. On Friday they receded, owing to an increased demand for money, but recovered the next day, and on Monday advanced to 91½ for money and 92 to 1 for the account of the 11th March. There was diminished buoyancy, however, yesterday, and the closing official quotations were 91½ to 1 for money, and 91½ to 1 for the 7th of February; for the account of the 11th of March, 92.

RUSSIA.

We have little reliable news as to the progress of the question of peace. Anecdotes and gossip abound, but they must be taken with a very modest estimate as to their value. A despatch from Vienna, Saturday, says—

"Russia proposes that the preliminaries of peace shall be signed at Paris. She also expresses a strong desire to conclude peace as speedily as possible."

Other reports state that it will be impossible for the conferences to open before the end of February, on account of the necessity of waiting for the Turkish Plenipotentiary to make his way to Paris. It is also asserted that the interpretation of the fifth point includes a Russian pledge not to rebuild Bomarsund, and the establishment of consuls in the Russian ports of the Black Sea.

The following is a translation of a circular, dated, St. Petersburg, Jan. 16, issued by the Russian Government to its diplomatic agents, in which it announces the acceptance of the Austrian proposals:—

"Public opinion in Europe has been strongly excited by the intelligence that propositions for peace concerted between the allied Powers and Austria had been transmitted to St. Petersburg through the intervention of the Cabinet of Vienna.

"Already the Imperial Cabinet, upon its side, had made a step in the path of conciliation, by pointing out in a despatch bearing date of the 11th (23rd) of December, published in all the foreign journals, the sacrifices which it was prepared to make, with a view to the restoration of peace.

"This twofold proceeding proved the existence on either side of a desire to profit by the compulsory cessation imposed by the rigour of the season of the military operations, in order to respond to the unanimous wishes which were everywhere manifested in favour of a speedy peace.

"In the despatch cited above, the Imperial Government had taken for basis the four points of guarantee admitted by the Conferences at Vienna, and had proposed, with regard to the Third Point—which had led to the rupture of the Conferences—a solution which differed rather in form than in substance from the one put forward at that epoch by the allied Powers.

"The propositions transmitted to-day by the Austrian Government speak of the same fundamental proposition—that is to say, the neutralisation of the Black Sea by a direct treaty between Russia and the Porte, to regulate by common agreement the number of ships of war which each of the adjacent Powers reserves the right of maintaining for the security of its coasts. They only differ appreciably from those contained in the despatch of the 11th (23rd) of December by the proposal for rectifying the frontier between Moldavia and Bessarabia, in exchange for the places on the Russian territory in the actual occupation of the enemy.

"This is not the place to inquire if these propositions unite the conditions necessary for ensuring the repose of the East and the security of Europe, rather than those of the Russian Government. It is sufficient here to establish the point, that at last an agreement has been actually arrived at on many of the fundamental bases for peace.

"Due regard being had to this agreement, to the wishes manifested by the whole of Europe, and to the existence of a coalition the tendency of which was every day to assume larger proportions, and considering the sacrifices which a protraction of the war imposed upon Russia, the Imperial Government has deemed it its duty not to delay by accessory discussions a work the success of which would respond to its heartfelt wishes.

"It has, in consequence, just given its adhesion to the propositions transmitted by the Austrian Government as a project of preliminaries for negotiations for peace.

"By the energy of its attitude in the face of a formidable coalition, Russia has given a measure of the sacrifices which she is prepared to make to defend her honour and dignity; by this act of moderation the Imperial Government gives at the same time a new proof of its sincere desire to arrest the effusion of blood, to conclude a struggle so grievous to civilization and humanity, and to restore to Russia and to Europe the blessings of peace.

"It has a right to expect that the opinion of all civilized nations will appreciate the act."