

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

In France, the loan of twenty millions sterling for the expenses of the war, has been voted by the Chambers with alacrity.

What would become of the War, if anything happened to Louis Napoleon?—is a question we hear often asked. The Lord only knows. But we may be quite sure that France, whether Legitimist or Republican, would speedily withdraw from it; and that England would be left to bear the brunt alone. We can judge, from the doings at Sebastopol, how well fitted she would be for such a task. Even at present, the war is said not to be popular in France. There is very little more ardor about it than about a campaign in Algeria, but a very great and singular anxiety on the part of the people to keep out of it. To such an extent is this the case, that a correspondent, who knows the country well, informs us £200 is a common price to give for a substitute in the conscription. Before the war, £30 was considered an extravagant bounty. France is at present for Peace. She has had enough of glory; and the only revenge she cherishes is the score she owes for Waterloo and St. Helena. The contempt she is acquiring for the power of England during the present war will hardly abate that grudge.—*Nation*.

ARREST OF A FRENCH LADY.—On Sunday last Madame Cl. de T., a lady of rank and fortune, was arrested at her chateau of Brunoy (Seine and Oise) on a charge of conspiracy against the person and government of the Emperor. The police had received intelligence that letters from French refugees in Brussels were frequently sent to the house addressed to a person who turns out to have been a female servant. The house was surrounded by some fifty or sixty sergeants-de-ville, and this servant was at first asked for. The master of the house, who seems to have had no suspicion of the object of the domiciliary visit, at once produced the servant, and her answers to questions led to the immediate arrest of her mistress. I am told that a voluminous correspondence with refugees at Brussels, containing full details of the conspiracy, was seized at the chateau. Madame Cl. de T. has been brought to Paris, and is now in prison *au secret le plus rigoureux*.—*Daily News Correspondent*.

GERMAN POWERS.

Certainly, when the war broke out, there was every chance that it would have extended and ramified on every side. It may do so yet, but the chances are considerably reduced during the last few months. If Austria had sided with the Czar, Germany would have been speedily in a blaze, and her Italian provinces would have instantly struck for liberty. The young Emperor found himself placed in a delicate position, owing gratitude on one hand to the Czar for the retention of his throne during the Hungarian revolution, and feeling on the other that his own permanent interests, and the true dignity of Austria, were identical with the policy of the Western States. He and his Ministers have weighed and balanced every possible movement in this emergency. They have proceeded cautiously in their conferences with the representatives of England and France, and have at length deliberately cut the Czar. The latest accounts from Vienna state that a protocol has just been signed by the Austrian Minister and the French and English Ambassadors at the Court, which is regarded as a supplementary compact to the treaty of alliance of the 2nd of December, and which, in point of fact, is equivalent on the part of Austria to a declaration of war against Russia. The Russian minister, Prince Gortschakoff, who was present at the conference, has asked for a delay of a fortnight to receive instructions, at the end of which time his master, the Czar, must either knuckle down or encounter a new opponent who can bring half a million of bayonets into the field.—*European Times*.

THE PROPOSED GERMAN LEGION.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes:—"The intention of the British government to raise a foreign legion has produced a great sensation among the public. Not a doubt can exist that the authorities of this country, and indeed of the greater part of the German governments, will strain every nerve to hinder their subjects of all classes from enrolment. It is even said that orders have already been issued to this effect, and that in case individuals known or supposed to be employed on the recruiting service should take up their residence in any given place, they are to be ejected, unless entitled by law to domicile in such places. The exportation of horses is prohibited throughout all the German states.

Although the King of Prussia has not thought fit, for several reasons, to accept the proposal of joining the Triple Alliance of the 2nd of December, the Cabinet of Berlin already shows signs of impatience and annoyance under the isolation into which it is cast, and it has even made some efforts to regain the confidence of the Western Powers. On the 19th of December a despatch was forwarded to the Prussian Ministers in Paris and London, in which M. de Manteuffel attempts to show that, although Prussia declines to be a party to the Austrian treaty, she desires to associate herself in the common work of the re-establishment of peace on just and permanent bases; she maintains that the diplomatic concert between herself and the other Powers still exists; and even announces that she is prepared to enter into engagements with the Western Powers analogous to those already contracted by Austria.

SWITZERLAND.

A private despatch from Berne, 27th says, that the British Chargé d'Affaires, addressed an official demand to the Federal Council for permission to enlist Swiss. The Council is said to have replied by a formal refusal, stating that Switzerland would remain absolutely neutral in this war.

SPAIN.

The Government is said to look very coldly on the English proposals to enlist soldiers for the war.

ITALY.

We learn from our continental correspondence that the refugees who aim at directing from their own retreats the politics of Italy have seized the occasion presented by the Russian war to urge all Italians to immediate insurrection. The hour is said to be propitious, the opportunity inviting, the prospect hopeful, and the result secure. With regard to the objects of the revolution we are left in no manner of doubt, for, though anything like a programme of the future is carefully avoided and all decisions are ostensibly reserved for the manifestations of "national will," it is plain that republicanism, pure and simple, is contemplated as the species of constitution under which the whole of Italy, without distinction of people or province, must be unhesitatingly placed. There is to be no compromise or alliance with any organised Government, no acceptance of aid from existing Powers; no toleration of "tyrannical"—i.e., monarchical institutions; and no acquiescence in any result save that ideal conclusion which the exiles keep before their eyes.—*Times*.

Another correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"It is a fact that the number of Russian agents in Italy is very great, and they are exceedingly active. Within the last few days Count Orloff passed through here under an assumed name on his way to Florence, which of course has given rise to endless speculation as to the object of his journey. Of him or his further movements I know nothing, but there are others whose contradictory acts and language are deserving of note. For instance, at Genoa there is a Count Skariatine, Secretary of the Russian Legation at Rome, and formerly Chargé d'Affaires at Turin in 1848, who has come to Genoa on the plea of his wife's health, where he excites the hopes of the Republican party by speaking of his master being the 'natural friend of rising nationalities,' while he assures his ancient friends among the retrogrades in this country that 'the Emperor will never play the game of either Kossuth or Mazzini.'

"In Lombardy the same double-facedness is the distinguishing characteristic of Muscovite intrigue. There Russian propaganda has been carried to the officers of the Slavonic regiments, and the agents talk loudly of the old alliance of Austria and Russia, but *sotto voce* to those whom it suits of the contempt with which their Emperor regards Francis Joseph. In Tuscany it is the same. There the Baroness Mayendorf (a relative of the late Russian Minister at Vienna), and Count Orsini, of Alexandria, are the recognized agents of Russia; and at Naples Count Kakkoschine, the Russian Minister, who has been long resident in Italy, spares no exertions for the diffusion of similar two-edged principles. Between these two great bodies of agitators—the exiled demagogues and the agents of Russia—the Italian people have naturally been much excited lately."

A CASE FOR THE "KNOW-NOTHINGS."—The *Times* correspondent says that in "a few days the Sardinian frigate Degennés will sail from Genoa for America with 34 persons belonging to the Italian emigration, who have been arrested in consequence of their general bad reputation and not having any visible means of livelihood, and who are suspected of having been sent into Piedmont with the view of exciting disturbances. All of these persons had entered Piedmont since 1850, and many of them had already been turned out of the country once before."

A correspondent from Turin writes:—

"A letter from a personage in high station at Rome announces important intelligence calculated to astonish the world, and which will be made known in a few days. People here are lost in conjectures about it. I have heard it rumored that a great number of the Greek schismatic bishops are about to return to the Latin Church. Of course, I only send you the report as it has been communicated to me. Much is also said of the new dogmatic definition. The reverend fathers of the Society of Jesus, amongst others Father Passaglia, have, I am assured, greatly distinguished themselves on this occasion. The latter has delivered a discourse which lasted nearly two hours, to remove the objections of some German bishops. The fathers are now on very good terms with the King of Naples. The journals have added many exaggerations to the recital of the so-called persecutions inflicted on this celebrated society; and in this respect they have given circulation to a number of documents, all of which are apocryphal."

Various Turin papers have also for some days mentioned rumors afloat in that city, as to the measures which the Holy See may be disposed to take in defence of the Church's rights in Piedmont. The *Armonia*, which we have just received, speaks still more explicitly on the subject—"Among other current rumors," says this journal, "we must mention that of a mission from Rome, to precede an interdict. We know that as ecclesiastical censures are never directed except against the contumacious, they are always preceded by paternal warnings and charitable exhortations intended to bring back the wandering, who, if they still persevere in their perverse course, must feel the weapons of the Church. We do not consider this report as destitute of foundation, and we would call attention to the fact, that when the law upon civil marriage was under discussion, a letter from the Pope addressed to our King was spoken of, a letter which had really been written, and which was afterwards published to the great benefit of Piedmont and of all Christendom."

RUSSIA.

The exertions of the Czar to repair and strengthen the shattered forces of Prince Menschikoff have been indefatigable. If any faith can be placed in

the intelligence which reaches us by way of Germany, large bodies of Russian infantry hitherto constituting the army of Bessarabia, have been pushed down from Odessa to the Crimea.

Having strengthened the band of his general with these large reinforcements, it is said that the Czar has sketched a plan of operations which he commends the Prince to put into immediate execution. The plan is this: Menschikoff is again to attempt to force the British lines, whilst Admiral Nachimoff, with the newly re-armed line-of-battle ships, is at the same time to quit the port, sail to the northward, and bombard Eupatoria, in which he will be supported on the land side by the troops of Prince Gortschakoff, who has lately received considerable reinforcements, and whose orders are to make himself master of the place at any cost. When this movement has been successfully effected, the whole of the Russian forces will move to the south, concentrate themselves under Fort Constantine, and attack the Allies. To neutralize this bold and formidable plan, by forestalling it, is now the great problem to be solved.

By an order of the day, December 18, his Majesty the Emperor, desirous of manifesting his gratitude for the exemplary bravery, the zeal, and the signal services of all the land and sea troops forming the garrison of Sebastopol, since the 25th of Sept. last, has designed to order that each month of service in the "cadres" of the said garrison shall be counted as one year of service, with all the rights and privileges thereunto belonging. His Majesty the Emperor has designed to extend this favor similarly to all the officials in the civil service that forms part of the garrison.

THE CZAR'S LATEST MANIFESTO.—St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—His Imperial Majesty, penetrated with the duties imposed upon all Christians, declares, "We will reject no offers of conditions of peace compatible with the dignity of the Empire and the happiness of our subjects. On the other hand, a duty so holy commands us to be ready for all such sacrifices as the immense attack may require. If necessity forces us, we will face our enemies, declaring, that while we hold the steel in our hand, we bear the cross in our heart!"

THE CRIMEA.

Under date of St. Petersburg, Jan. 2, we learn that a despatch had been received there from Prince Menschikoff, announcing that nothing remarkable had taken place at Sebastopol between the 20th and 26th December, with the exception of two sorties on the 21st. In one of these sorties 11 officers and 33 soldiers were made prisoners, and a considerable number killed. In consequence of the bad weather, the siege operations were progressing slowly.

A despatch from Admiral Hamelin to the Minister of War, dated the Crimea, Dec. 22, says, that besides 4,700 troops which had arrived between the 13th and 18th of that month, 2,170 had also arrived at Kamiesch on the 20th. Reinforcements had likewise reached Constantinople. Every night the Russians attempted sorties, but were always vigorously repulsed.

PRESENT STATE OF THE BRITISH FORCE.—The effective British force may now be about 18,000 men, exclusive of 1,200 who have by this time arrived in the *Royal Albert*, and 300 artillerymen sent out to supply the places of those killed or disabled in the trenches. But, though every addition is most acceptable, it must be boldly stated that the reinforcements are by no means in proportion to the demands of this great war; and, as may be seen from the comparison of numbers, really do little more than make up the deficiency caused by illness and fatigue. It is enough that the British army should be kept up to an effective strength of 20,000 men, though even that is not done. At least 35,000 are required to hold with anything like security the position we occupy; and in justice to our devoted troops, they ought not to be exposed to such terrible fatigues as they now undergo.

(From the Nation.)

Again Europe is all on the alert for news from Sebastopol. The English and French journals confidently announce that the assault was to have been attempted about Christmas Day. We have news to the 26th of December, however, and the city was still intact; and, sheltered amid countless batteries, mined, and barricaded on every side, was likely long to remain so.

The whole prosecution of the siege appears to have devolved upon the French. Of the English, hardly 17,000 emaciated men remained a month ago, to do the duties of 60,000. Reinforcements were swallowed up as fast as they arrived; and the medical officers of the expedition calculated that before March two-thirds of the force under their care would have died of want and disease alone—by which time Peto's navies will just have begun to lay down the Balaklava railroad, and no end of wooden huts and warm clothing will have arrived.

But, fatal as want and disease are to an army, there are yet worse plagues; and mutiny and panic rage in the English tents. Deserted by their generals, led by malingering and home-sick officers, utter despair seems to have seized upon the wreck of that fine host. The French are obliged to attend their sick, to carry their provisions, to make the very road they are carried upon. The unhappy Turks, dying in myriads, of plague and starvation, are not in a more pitiable plight.

In all this it is hard to see much prospect of a successful storming. The wonder is how they are able to hold their ground against the frequent sorties from Sebastopol, or to face the powerful army by which they are flanked.

Whether the French can accomplish so terrible a feat single-handed, it is hard to say. But it is again certain that the Russians have not lost one moment in making the most formidable preparations. During

the inaction which followed Inkermann, the Allies were astonished to discover that they had thrown up countless batteries, all splendidly finished and manned, we dare say, by the fresh Artillerymen of the Baltic. The last news we have is of vast additional reinforcements, which must have reached the Crimea ere this. The whole Empire, from Moscow to Perekop, resounds with the tread of divisions marching from province to province towards the seat of war; and on New Year's Day, Prince Menschikoff is supposed to have had 90,000 bayonets with 12,000 horse and 300 field pieces at his disposal. How the Allies can ever hope to hold the defensive against such a force, we cannot conceive; to try so fearful an operation as storming such a stronghold in the face of it, looks like the course of men driven desperate and doomed to perdition.

AUSTRALIA.

A Cambridge man writing to the *Cambridge Independent* from Melbourne says:—"Twisden Hodger, who was M.P. for Rye two or three Parliaments, is keeping a public house here; a nephew of Dr. Whewell, Master of Trinity College, was walking the streets last week, without a shoe to his foot, or a shilling in his pocket; and I can enumerate many instances of the kind. Gentlemen having left the University come to Melbourne to make a fortune, and in a few weeks are found on a heap of stones, studying stone-cracking."

FROM AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL REGT.

"Dec. 3.—My last letter left the camp at daylight this morning; it was then raining, it increased, then cleared up at 12; but the floodgates of heaven soon broke loose, and such rain as pours down is only known in the tropical monsoons. It streams down the hills in rivers; and then you see the evening guards, pickets, and working parties marching off to the trenches for the night, soaked to the skin before starting. How can these men live? The death reports will be sent to me in the morning, and probably tomorrow p.m. many of them will be for ever out of sight in this world. It is of daily occurrence,—10 died last night, 20 the night before, and so on it goes. But this is only in my brigade—I don't see the returns of other corps. All the trifling detachments sent out here are but as a drop in the ocean; 30 of my last draught (they have been here but 12 days) are under ground, besides many old soldiers. I cannot see clearly how any of the great army can stand out the winter; the stoutest men are giving way. How can it be otherwise, living, or trying to live, almost naked, in mud, and worked to death in spongy rags hanging in tatters about them, and covered with Russian vermin? They cannot help it; but so it is, and there is no use in any deception. England is almost in perfect ignorance of the privations of her army, now before an enemy the most vigilant, active, and determined that she ever encountered. They are fighting by their own fireside, and, as I told you from the beginning, will never yield an inch of ground that they can hold with their guns. I believe that their casualties are enormous, and their privations in bivouac frightful, but they are slaves in ignorance, and kept up to their work by terror. Careless of life, they rush headlong into death, and if we lose one man for six of theirs their chiefs are satisfied. All this privation and death is looked upon by my men with gravity and quiet bearing. I never hear a murmur among them. I said to-day *en passant* to a few of my lads who were making great endeavors to roast their little ration of raw coffee on the top of a mess-tin in the rain, 'Hard times, my boys! cheer up; this dark cloud will pass away.' 'God help us, Sir! we must hold on; the officers, sure, arn't much better off.' I never changed my humble opinion regarding this siege and operation from the first day, as I told you often, and I repeat it. We want 50,000 men landed to the north to come down and act against that side of this town of innumerable batteries. We want 100 guns, half of them mortars of the right size, to throw shot and shell into the city, to put it in a blaze; and we want 100 more doctors to heal the sick and wounded. Then, depending on Providence for better weather to get our guns into position, we might go ahead; as it is, the north side being free to the enemy, with their multitude of commanding batteries, if we made even a successful assault and got into the town, I don't think that we could keep it, while their murderous fire would pour in upon us from the opposite side of the harbor."

"Our shot and shell have been for a long time so limited that we cannot afford to keep down the works that are being built up daily before our guns, and the roads, almost knee-deep are impassable for wheels or the poor half-starved, famished horses that are lying down to die at night in the mud by scores. It is a great effort to get up supplies for the army from Balaklava with the few mules left. I do assure you that I sent my servants all that way to-day in the rain to get some forage and any bits of wood that they could pick up from the late wrecks to cook our rations, for the fuel now is limited here to what roots the men can grub up, since the brushwood has been all cut away. The sick cannot be conveyed to Balaklava; they are so very crowded in hospital tents. Such is war and a winter campaign in the Crimea! It is a very simple matter for people at home giving their opinion about such things after dinner, over their wine and walnuts; but they little know anything of the true reality of our unheard of difficulties before Sebastopol. We have now been 49 days in the trenches, and can scarcely keep our own. We are receiving and repelling constant attacks by night. The duty is so hard and harassing that the same men who come up from the trenches at day dawn in the morning, shivering and wet, have to return frequently to the same post in the evening. This often occurs. There are 150 men of one regiment in my brigade sick to-day in camp, besides the absent sick."

UNITED STATES.

The first act of the Massachusetts Legislature has been to disband the companies of foreign origin in the Militia. Several of these have refused to obey the command. The *Boston Atlas* says:—

"The Shields Artillery, of this city, have protested against the order of the Governor. The Jackson Musketeers of Lowell, acting under legal advice, will not disband or surrender their arms."

"But that portion of the Governor's message in which he advised the exclusion of persons 'of foreign ex-