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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The news from Herzegovina is so conflicting that one is puzzled what to make of it, as both sides claim the advantage ground in the recent skirmishes which have taken place. We are inclined, however, to the opinion that the Herzegovians had the best of it. If we may judge from the telegraphic reports which daily reach us from the seat of war—there is no immediate prospect of a cessation of hostilities—rather the breach is widening—for we are told that Servia and Montenegro have taken part with Herzegovina and declared war against Turkey—that 7,000 well armed and equipped Montenegrins have joined the insurgents, and that the Servian troops will take the field on the 1st May. If this news should prove to be correct, it will make matters serious indeed, more especially as it is stated on reliable authority that Russia is either playing a double game, or that the Slavonian party have attained such influence that the Government are powerless to stop the insurrection. It is also asserted that the Sultan contemplates the raising of the Standard of the Prophet, thus appealing to Mahomedan fanaticism. It is evident then that unless the European Powers combine at once, and interpose their strong arm, and settle the differences between Turkey and her revolted Provinces, the whole of Europe, if not the world, will before many months be engaged in one of the most gigantic wars the world has ever seen. The following are the latest developments.

Vienna, 18th.—A Ragusa telegram states that an important sanguinary battle took place on the 4th instant near Travigno. The insurgents stormed all the Turkish entrenchments simultaneously. The Turkish garrison Nicsie made a sortie, but was repulsed. The insurgents are very sanguine of the result of their operations, but their sympathizers fear that their ammunition and supplies will fail.

Ragusa, 18th.—Slavonic advices report a sanguinary battle at Presjeka, north of Nicsie. The insurgents captured the Turkish entrenchments and drove the Turks to Ozina and Fagljama. The reports that Mukhtar Pasha's forces have been surrounded are confirmed. Losses heavy on both sides. Nicsie cannot be re-occupied. The insurgents are receiving supplies of war material.

A Vienna despatch says: "It is confidently asserted that Count Andrássy will address a fresh note to the Porte advocating the claims of the insurgents."

Another Vienna despatch to the London Daily News says Herzegovinian insurgents have captured all the provisions lately sent for the Turkish troops, on the road from Ragusa to Travigno.

The Tugblatt's Ragusa special says that the Turkish commander, Mukhtar Pasha, is preparing another expedition to revitalize Nicsie.

Eight thousand insurgents are encamped at Duga and Presjeka, barring access to Nicsie.

The Kelep Nepe newspaper asserts that Montenegro has declared war against Turkey. Deevich Pasha has been appointed Minister of War. The Turks estimate the number of insurgents killed and wounded in the recent engagements at 800.

Negotiations between the Porte and Montenegro have failed, because Montenegro demanded the cession of Montegrin Valley and the harbour of Spizza.

The Russian Ambassador has made serious representations to the Servian agent at Vienna to the effect that Servia would risk everything if she declared war, whereas she might gain all she desired by observing an expectant attitude.

Paris, 21st.—The Russian telegraphic agency is informed that the Porte has declared the Andrássy programme exhausted. The Grand Vizir consequently finds himself in danger of being carried away by the military party which appeals to the fate of arms. This late phase will clear up the situation. The task of diplomacy will only be more urgent. The cabinets are deliberating on the common course to be proposed to Europe for the pacification of the east and maintenance of general peace.

London, 21st.—The Times Berlin despatch says the Cologne Gazette, Weser Zeitung and other leading German papers continue to criticize Russia's policy, and assert that all Andrássy's measures against an insurrection in Turkey are opposed and rendered futile by the united Ultramontane, Military and Conservative parties in Austria, who, for various reasons, are bent upon annexing Servia to Bosnia. The apprehensions of the Germans are increased because Austria is arming the Danube with steamers and Servia is purchasing quantities of war material. The Moscow Gazette says the Turkish soldiers receive neither pay nor provisions, and sell cartridges to the insurgents, for bread.

A telegram from Vienna says foreign ambassadors at Constantinople have remonstrated against the Porte bringing into Europe troops from Bagdad, on account of the plague. It also asserted that the three

northern European powers have intimated to the Porte that if a massacre should follow the arming of the Mahomedan population, a military expedition into Turkish territory composed of Austrian and Russian troops will certainly be undertaken.

In Ireland they have had a little bit of a fight at Limerick, between the Nationalists and Home Rule, in which the former were worsted. Messrs. Butt and O'Shaughnessy, members of Parliament for the city, had announced their intention of addressing the people from the base of O'Connell's monument. A procession numbering some thousands consequently marched to the place. A body of Nationalists, armed with sticks, who had previously taken possession of the monument attacked the procession. The Nationalists were overpowered after a fight in which many persons were badly injured. The police and military were under arms, but abstained from interference. The cause of the riot was the discontent of the Nationalists, who form a remnant of the Fenian party, at what they declare to be the utter neglect of the Home Rule question by the so called Home Rule leaders during the present session of Parliament.

It is stated that the Spanish war estimates amount 570,000,000 reals of which 48,000,000 are for extraordinary expenses.

The Straits of Malacca, we are again assured are at peace. One such lesson as they have lately received certainly ought to be enough for the natives of that part of the world. Britain is determined to maintain her hold on her Indian Empire, and her rule will be found by the natives to be the most advantageous for themselves which they can have, for no one having much knowledge of the matter, will contend that they are fit for self government as it is understood among more western peoples.

The difficulties at Maca have been settled by the Chinese yielding and abandoning their position, having been intimidated by threats of the Portuguese.

The body of Captain Jones of the Victory, which sailed from Shields for San Francisco, has been picked up off Spurn Head with a quantity of wreckage, which leaves no doubt that the ship has been lost with all hands.

The steamer City of Toronto commences running on the 24th inst.

Lord Lyteltyl has committed suicide while in a state of temporary derangement.

President Grant has very properly vetoed the bill reducing the allowance hitherto paid the Presidents of the United States from \$50,000 to \$25,000. \$50,000 in all conscience is little enough for such a country as the United States to pay its Chief Magistrate.