

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

To win back the magic sunshine to the fond Spanish eyes for which he staked his throne, Napoleon has revived the games of chivalry in France. To divert his wife's ennui, he has even dared destiny—for whilst the world, with bated breath and straining gaze, looks fixedly towards Sebastopol, the army at Boulogne are turning the grim reality into a gay tournament, to flatter the imagination of the Empress. Miles upon miles are covered with troops in this mimic Russian campaign. St. Omer stands for Sebastopol, which the Emperor attacks in person, and, of course, by programme, utterly annihilates. We wonder did any blunt courtier, if there be such a thing, whisper that "it was ill jesting with edged tools."

Magnificence is an attribute common to all the Bonaparte family. Their uncle used to say jestingly, that hearing them talk, one would think, that instead of being their benefactor, he was keeping them out of the dominions of the Kings, their fathers. Certainly, nothing more brilliantly splendid in military pomp is recorded in the warlike progress of the first Consul than the doings of the camp of Boulogne, and we question whether the hero of Austerlitz could have borne himself with a dignity so closely verging on arrogance, and yet so clearly free from it, as his nephew did in his demeanor towards the Belgian King, and Prince Albert, in a forced visit of courtesy, where the wine they quaffed must have tasted as gall and wormwood, whilst his was nectar of the Gods.—*Nation*.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IN FRANCE.—The extreme importance attached to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul by the French Episcopacy, may be estimated by a circular recently addressed by the Bishop of Soissons to the members of that association within his diocese. The circumstances of the times, the Bishop says, in allusion to the cholera and the zeal displayed by the society in aiding and consoling the victims to the malady, have induced him to carry into effect his long-cherished intentions of bestowing on the conferees, so happily multiplied in his diocese, a solemn testimony at once of his paternal solicitude and of his profound gratitude for the good achieved and the consolation afforded by them to his beloved poor.

Most of the physicians and medical students who had been sent by the government to the districts infected with cholera have returned to Paris, the disease being either on the decrease or having entirely disappeared. According to the *Union Médicale*, the number of victims to the epidemic throughout France amounted on the 14th Sept. to 82,050.

GERMAN POWERS.

Some of them, says the correspondent of the *Times*, have gone the length of saying that it will become the duty of Germany next year to impose peace upon the Western Powers, and to settle by one sublime act of the German Confederation the conditions on which Europe is to be restored to harmony and repose. That is the language of the dominant party in Prussia, by which they mean that if war must come they hope it will find them on the side of Russia and against us. To be sincere, we can entertain no regret that a people so governed is not at this moment ranked among our active allies. Had the German Courts joined us; or professed to join us, with their armies, at an earlier period in this dispute, they would have acquired a right to hold language to the belligerents which no party is now compelled to listen to; and, if we had been led to place any confidence on their co-operation, we should probably have suffered from their constant divisions, distrust, dishonesty, and bad faith. When it ceased to be probable that Germany would act manfully and decidedly with us, the next best thing for us was that she should cease to act at all. The King of Prussia has doubtless assumed an appropriate and a harmless position. He does no good to Europe, but he can do it little mischief, and he cannot exercise the smallest influence over any State more powerful than the veriest minnows of the Germanic Confederation. The idea that the Sovereign of a great country can retain a sort of mediatorial character and play the part of some Heaven-sent negotiator while other nations are engaged in the dust and heat of battle, is too absurd to be entertained by any man who has mixed in public affairs.

The weight which a nation may acquire and exert is invariably proportioned to the strength it has put forth. It was not by staying at home with Berlin wools and a hymnbook that the Prussian eagle recovered at Leipzig and Waterloo the plume which it had lost at Jena.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Sept. 26.—The Princess of Asturias is ill. The Queen is said to be *enciente*. There is great uneasiness in the public mind, and fears are entertained of renewed disturbances.

The following is the conclusion of a long article of the *Journal des Débats* on the state of affairs in Spain:—"It would be vain to deny that Communism has manifested itself by acts. It has destroyed the manufactories at Barcelona, and ruined that great city, which was justly considered as the industrial capital of Spain. From Barcelona it extended in Catalonia, in the provinces of Valencia, Malaga, Cadiz, and Andalusia. In certain places the property of communes has been seized and divided, and the estates of some great personages who never visited them, and who were represented by stewards, have been seized, in spite of all remonstrances.

ITALY.

TURIN, Sept. 16.—M. Mazzini's last "encyclical letter" (as the Piedmontese papers profanely call it), which he addresses to the members of the Swiss Federal Council, and in which he takes the Govern-

ment of that country to task at very considerable length for what he deems an abuse of power, in interfering with him and his compatriots when quietly and peaceably conspiring against a neighboring State, has produced nothing but disgust among that portion of the Italian emigration resident in Turin. Here the prevailing feeling is annoyance at his presumption in assuming to his clique the name of the national party of Italy, when fresh victims of his folly or wickedness are every day being added to the long list in every part of the peninsula.

A letter from Naples states that His Majesty has conferred on the Cardinal Archbishop of Naples the Grand cordon of St. Januarius, as a mark of distinction for his zeal and devotedness during the raging of the cholera. His Majesty has also made some valuable gifts from his private purse for the relief of the sufferers, and the Queen has also given, for the same object, all the money which she possessed.

RUSSIA.

The *Times*' correspondent writes from Revel, on the 12th ult., that the recent communications from St. Petersburg afford evidence that the present policy of the Emperor is causing great discontent amongst certain classes of his subjects, and it is hinted that if he should not listen to the earnest representations that have been made to him by those whose interests are seriously injured by the continuance of war, that a revolutionary crisis may occur.

The portion of the Russian fleet which is in the harbor of Helsingfors has commenced preparations for the winter season. The ships have unbent their sails and struck their topmasts. In a month from the present time they will be frozen in. The Cronstadt fleet, consisting of 21 line of battle ships, and carrying 688 guns, was undergoing a similar process.

The question is again raised, now that the fortunes of the Czar look so lowering, how will he act in the event of Sebastopol being captured and his fleet destroyed?—results which seem in a fair way of achievement. Will he accept the four conditions which he has already rejected, or will he doggedly pursue the same sullen course of obstinacy which has marked his career from the commencement of this conflict? This is an important question, the solution of which, if we could satisfactorily arrive at it, would throw a flood of light on much that now seems obscure. We had an opportunity recently of conversing with a Russian gentleman who has travelled much in various parts of the world, and knows his own country well. His impression is that the Czar will not yield, that reverses will increase his obstinacy and pride; and that, relying on the belief that he is unassailable in his own dominions, he will trust to the chapter of accidents and hold out to the last. An opinion from such a source is worth mentioning; and the question is already raised, we perceive, in certain quarters, whether we have done enough to cripple the monetary power of Russia—for that is the most vulnerable point in the Romanoff policy. Probably, when Parliament meets, this question will assume a practical shape, and it may be found desirable to render still more stringent the intercepting of Russian produce, which still finds its way to this country via Prussia, and thus enables the Czar to fight us with the money which he draws from our own coffers. It would not be a matter of much difficulty, we apprehend, to provide ourselves from other sources with all that we now get from Russia, which would weaken our foe, and bring him more speedily to his senses. Our Russian friend seems to think that the pressure of circumstances, which is now telling so painfully on the nobles of Russia, may bring matter to a crisis sooner than anything else.—*European Times*.

The small squadron sent to the White Sea has inflicted a good deal of injury on the government stores, and public buildings in that northern region, the details of which are duly set forth in the despatches of the officers of the expedition, and have been published by the Admiralty.—*Id.*

The reports which had gained ground in the south of Europe, that a high personage would betake himself to the Crimea in this emergency are mentioned with some distinctness in St. Petersburg letters; they mention that the Grand Duke Constantine would set off for Simferopol. This rumor I imagine to be entirely groundless, inasmuch as in the influential circles in St. Petersburg it must be known that the combined expedition would have arrived there before the Grand Duke could do so, and thus cut off his arrival. I have also very distinct and authentic information from that capital that in the Imperial family and its *alentours*, Sebastopol is given up already, and looked upon as lost.—*Cor. of Times*.

THE BALTIC.

Accounts from the Baltic speak of a contemplated attack upon Revel, the bombardment of which place will, it is said, be the last act of the allied forces in the North. Admiral Plumridge was in Revel Bay with a portion of the squadron under his command, and there were also two or three French ships of war there.—Sir Charles Napier was hourly expected with the remainder of the squadron, when it was believed the attack would commence. Nevertheless, there is reason to doubt whether Revel will be bombarded at all, and we hope that the statement that it will be is premature, for to attack Revel, where the loss would fall upon the inhabitants, peaceful Russian subjects, and yet to spare Cronstadt, Sweaborg, and the other Russian forts, is certainly contrary to the principle which ruled at Odessa, and which was so much applauded at the time. Admiral Napier must be too shrewd a man to suppose that this act would give any glory to a campaign which has been so barren of results. The report is the more improbable as the French Admiral, Parseval, was on his way home, and we read in the French papers of the congratulations which passed between the English and French commanders before they separated. "At the

moment of parting," says the *Journal des Débats*, "the Admirals exchanged salutes with emulative courtesy; the flags, the national airs, which had celebrated the junction of the forces, and the French and English staffs, expressed cordial wishes for their next meeting." It would be in still worse taste for the British Admiral to deprive his French colleague of any honor involved in an attack upon Revel or any other point, and we are inclined, therefore, to believe that the persons who have sent this intelligence home are ignorant of the Admiral's intention. It is said, however, that some very important despatches have been forwarded by the British Government to Sir Charles Napier, and that something on a grand scale may be attempted in the Baltic before the frost sets in.—*European Times*.

WAR IN THE EAST.

It was not at Eupatoria that the Allies disembarked, after all, but at a place called the Old Fort, within twenty miles of Sebastopol, and nearly twenty south of Eupatoria. It appears, therefore, that on the 15th the troops were only thirty miles, instead of forty or fifty, from Sebastopol, having landed a considerable distance on the right. It is plain that the Czar will not yield as long as a chance remains of repulsing or tiring out the allies. He is probably led to believe that Sebastopol is impregnable, or, at least, that he can dispose of sufficient forces to prevent the allies becoming masters of it within the present year. That the place is strong there is no doubt; and, though little faith can be placed in rumors, there is every reason to believe that the Russians will defend themselves with great stubbornness, and have made every preparation for doing so. But the shortness of the time allowed them must have forbidden the erection of any really effectual fortifications. It is true, the men have been worked nearly to death—soldiers, dockyard laborers, and seamen have been seen from our vessels digging, carrying earth, and constructing masonry, month after month, ever since the declaration of war. Of late the laborer appears to have been incessant, and the mortality must have been incessant also. In the English army, it was found that, where the men were exposed to fatigue, the deaths were very numerous, and, as the cholera is known to have passed over the Crimea, it is thought that the garrison of Sebastopol must be fearfully diminished. Of the existence or number of any army at large in the Crimea we are quite ignorant, as no dependence can be placed on the statements of the German press; that some forces of this kind will endeavor to harass our army is very likely, but the Russians will hardly risk a battle in the open field. The terrible calmness of expectation which pervades Constantinople at this moment is such that the news of any event would be a relief.—*Times*.

A letter from Vienna 20th Sept., says:—"A report of the bombardment of Odessa was completely false, as is proved by the account received to-day. The telegraphic despatches from Odessa come down to the 15th; they state that the enemy's vessels have not yet made any attack. The Russians keep on the defensive, and the commanding officers of the batteries have received orders not to fire unless they are first fired on.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.—The *Daily News* has received a telegraphic despatch from its correspondent at Hermannstadt, which intimates that the Ottoman army is advancing to the Pruth for the purpose of creating a diversion in Bessarabia. The approach of the Turks will find ample employment for the greater part of the Russian troops, which it is said were being despatched to the aid of their countrymen in the Crimea. The occupation of Ibrail and Galatz by the Turks will furnish Omer Pasha with an excellent basis for his operations. The *Presse* of Vienna calls for some explanation of the eventful preponderance of foreign influence in the Principalities. The interests of Germany ought especially to be protected by the occupation of those provinces by Austria.

OPERATIONS IN ASIA.—Two battles have been fought by the troops under the command of Daniel Bey, the Lieutenant of Schamyl, in Georgia, with division commanded by General Wrangel; in both of which the Russians were defeated. Some of the Poles, who formed part of this Russian division, it is said, deserted, and went over to the Circassians, taking with them two of their guns.

AUSTRALIA.

THE SPIRIT OF THE COLONIES.—The following singularly graphic and characteristic communication is taken from a letter recently received from Geelong:—"The news brought by the ship *Crest of the Wave*, out 72 days from England, has caused quite a war panic here. The startling intelligence that hostilities were about to commence between England, France, and Russia has had the effect of reducing the price of gold from £3 19s. to £3 and meetings have been convened with the view of forming a rifle brigade to 'shoot the Roosans,' should they at any time attempt a landing. Nervous old women of the masculine gender are withdrawing their money from the bank for the purpose of 'planting' it, while here and there the anxious cry is heard, 'Where are our brave diggers?' and ere the echo of so many voices had time to answer 'where,' 'Here we are,' exclaimed a deputation of those noble fellows, who had come down to assure the authorities of their readiness to resent any attempt at an invasion, 'Here we are, ready, willing, and able to fight the battles of John Bull and his youngest daughter Australia.' True it is we are in a most defenceless state, as there is nothing to prevent any adventurous bucaniers from landing and walking up to our banks and thanking the managers to hand over the little 'swag' of gold—about £4,000,000. Still there is something at the head of our harbor which might possibly keep them at bay for some 24 hours, by which time the presence of 100,000 stout-hearted diggers, each armed to the teeth with

Colts' Deans and Adams, for a shouting lion of some kind or other, might be secured. Americans as well as English are ready to defend from invasion this young empress of the world, though each hold their own views on questions touching their nationalities. A somewhat ludicrous scene took place at the theatre; the other night, the performance being under the patronage of the American Consul, and on the arrival of that gentleman, the band, out of compliment, commenced playing 'Yankee Doodle,' which did not exactly suit the palate of the English. Some of the 'gods' having misunderstood its meaning, cried 'No, no we won't have it.' 'Old England for ever!' and 'God save the Queen!' were heard throughout the building, while the hisses of the Americans gave room to fear that the matter would terminate seriously, when the Consul, a good-looking young American, with gold laced cap in hand, came forward, and, in the course of an address characterized by much good-humor, suggested the propriety of splitting the difference, by amalgamating the two airs, one half to be 'God save the Queen,' and the other half 'Yankee Doodle.' The orchestra attempted to obey the summons, but the effect it produced was so ludicrous that all present were convulsed with laughter, and thus ended the matter. The 'stars and stripes' are very numerous here, especially about the diggings, where they may be seen streaming by thousands over the various American tents, stores, and grogshops."

A RECENT VISIT TO SEBASTOPOL.

(From Mr. Scott's New Book on the Crimea.)

The port of Sebastopol consists of a bay running in a south-easterly direction about four miles long, and a mile wide at the entrance, diminishing to four hundred yards at the end, where the "Tchernia Retchka," or Black River, empties itself. The average depth is about eight fathoms, the bottom being composed of mud in the centre and gravel at the sides. On the southern coast of this bay are commercial, military, and careening harbors; the quarantine harbor being outside the entrance; all these taking a southerly direction and having deep water.

The military harbor is the largest, being about a mile and a half long, by 400 yards wide, and is completely landlocked on every side. Here it is that the Black Sea fleet is moored in the winter; the largest ships being able to lie with all their stores on board, close to the quays. The small harbor, which contains the naval arsenal and docks, is on the eastern side of the military harbor, near the entrance.

The port is defended to the south by six principal batteries and fortresses, each mounting from 50 to 120 guns; and the north by four, having from 18 to 120 pieces each; and besides these there are many smaller batteries. The fortresses are built on the casemate principle, three of them having three tiers of guns, and a fourth two tiers. Fort St. Nicholas is the largest, and mounts about one hundred and ninety guns; on carefully counting them, we made one hundred and eighty-six. By great interest we obtained permission to enter the fortress. It is built of white limestone: a fine sound stone, which becomes hard, and is very durable, the same material being used for all the other forts. Between every two casemates are furnaces for heating shot red hot; we measured the calibre of the guns, and found it to be eight inches, capable of throwing shells or 68-pound solid shot. Whether all the guns in the fortress were of the same size, it is impossible to say, but my belief is, that most of the fortifications of Sebastopol are heavily armed. We entered Fort Saint Nicholas through the elegantly-furnished apartments of the military commandant, situated at its south eastern end.

At the period of our visit there were certainly not more than 850 pieces of artillery defending the port towards the sea, and of these about 350 could be concentrated on a ship entering the bay. Other batteries, however, are said to have been since built. We took some trouble to ascertain these facts by counting the guns of the various forts, not always an easy matter where any suspicion of our object might have subjected us to grave inconveniences. Sebastopol is admirably adapted by nature for a strong position towards the sea, and it will be seen from what we have stated above that this has been fully taken advantage of to render it one of the most formidably fortified places in that direction which could be imagined. We are well aware that the casemated fortresses are very badly constructed, and though having an imposing exterior, that the walls are filled in with rubble. The work was carried on under Russian engineers, whose object was to make as much money as possible out of it. They were, moreover, found to be defective in ventilation, to remedy which some alterations were subsequently made; but admitting all their defects, they are still strong enough to inflict some amount of injury on an attacking fleet before their guns could be silenced. And when that is accomplished, supposing there are now 950 pieces, there would still remain 500 guns of large calibre, in strong open batteries, half of them throwing shells and red-hot shot, independent of mortars. This is a force of armament against which no fleets have been tried, not only with regard to the number of guns and weight of metal, but the nature of the projectiles; any single shell fired point blank, and striking between wind and water, being sufficient to sink a ship. If Sebastopol can be so easily taken by the allied fleets alone, and without land forces, as some people appear to imagine, it would be very satisfactory to know what amount of resistance it is expected that Portsmouth could offer to an enemy, with her seventy or eighty guns, not above five-and-twenty of which are heavier than 32 pounders. We do not mean to assert that it is impossible to destroy Sebastopol from the sea alone, but we believe that it could only be accomplished by an unnecessary sacrifice of life and ships with our present means, and that it would be nothing short of madness to attempt it, unless we had a reserve fleet on the spot, sufficiently strong to insure the command of the Black Sea in case of failure.

The town of Sebastopol is situated on the point of land between the commercial and military harbors, which rises gradually from the water's edge to an elevation of two hundred feet. It is more than a mile in length, and its greatest width is about three-quarters of a mile, the streets entering the open steppe on the south. It was partly defended on the west, towards the land, by a loop-holed wall, which had been pronounced by one of the first engineers of Rus-