

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Considerable controversy has arisen out of an expression used by the Emperor Napoleon in his letter of condolence to the widow of the late Marshal St. Arnaud—"in spite of timid counsels"—referring to the descent upon the Crimea having been carried out by the indomitable spirit of the late warrior, opposed as he was by officers with whom he was surrounded. The English writers, inspired evidently by official promptings, deny that there was the slightest want of resolution shown at any time by Lord Raglan or Admiral Lyons, and these commanders have displayed extraordinary energy in carrying out the attack upon Sebastopol, and the publicists also include in the same category Gen. Canrobert and Admiral Bruat. The inference then is, that Admiral Dundas and Prince Napoleon have been the timid chiefs pointed to; and, as regards the Prince, explanations bring out the fact that he was strongly opposed to the expedition to the Crimea from the first, and although he fought bravely at the Alma, he never disguised his opinion that the affair would prove a failure. In fact, it is alleged that so annoyed was the late Marshal at his conduct, and his illiberal criticisms, that he solicited his recall. But the Emperor, in order to put at rest all misapprehension on the subject, has distinctly disclaimed that he referred to the English—that his remark was solely intended for certain French officers; and to save the wounded vanity of his relative, the Prince, he has conferred upon that personage a military medal hitherto reserved as a recompense for privates and sub-officers—a compliment which will certainly admit of more than one interpretation. As Louis Napoleon does nothing unadvisedly—as the expressions thus challenged were written, deliberately put on paper in an official document, a foregone conclusion has evidently dictated the movement, and this view of the case is strengthened by the current rumor that the Prince is already tired of campaigning in the East, and that, but for the strong injunctions of his father he would ere this have left the scene of the war and returned home.—*European Times*.

The French Government, under all preceding régimes as well as the present, have possessed and exercised the right of excluding from the territory of France such persons as they did not think fit to admit. Not long ago, for instance, M. Kossuth was informed on his arrival at Marseilles that he would not be allowed to enter the country. The other day, upon Mr. Soulé's landing at Calais or Boulogne, he was politely informed by the police that orders had arrived not to allow him to proceed. No objection was made to his passport, and no reason was assigned for his decision beyond the will of the French Government. Some expostulation followed, and a reference was made by telegraph to the authorities in Paris, who confirmed the refusal of the local police. So Mr. Soulé was compelled, *re infecta*, to recross the Channel and to return to this country, which is perfectly indiscriminating in its toleration of all who may reach its shores. No one, we imagine, will see much reason to pity Mr. Soulé's wrongs. If he has been affronted, the exception made to his prejudice is obviously on personal grounds, and has nothing to do with his public character, which was not involved in the question. It would be absurd to contend that he has any right to enter the French territory, for whatever right he may have possessed as a French citizen was waived by his own act, and he may console himself with the reflection that thousands of better men than himself are just now excluded from that soil to which they profess more attachment than he can do. His grievance, if it be one, is a private affair, and, though he happens to hold the commission of a Minister of the United States in Spain, he has no public or official character in France or any other country. Whatever affronts may befall Mr. Soulé have been richly earned by himself since he set foot in Europe, and, while he has forfeited his claim to the courtesy usually shown to strangers, he can claim no especial consideration for his diplomatic character, which is, of course, confined to the country to which he is accredited.—*Times*.

The Emperor has prohibited for the present the distillation of corn, and of all other farinaceous substances. According to the report on which the decree is founded, it appears that there is a great scarcity of alcohols this year, and that this scarcity has greatly extended the distillation of grain.

GERMAN POWERS.

The *Augsburg Gazette* has a leader, in which the possible consequences of the expedition to the Crimea are taken into consideration. The object of the German writer is to show that, without the assistance of Austria, the Western Powers will never succeed in making Russia consent to conclude a peace on acceptable conditions. We are told that the allies will be humiliated if Sebastopol should not be taken this year, and there is some truth in the remark; but when he states that, even if the fortress should fall, the allies will be obliged to withdraw from the Crimea, he is evidently wrong. The harbors in the bay of Sebastopol are large enough to contain half a dozen fleets, and England and France are not likely to turn their backs on the Black Sea till their mission is accomplished. The Bavarian writer says that it is almost time for Germany to think of taking a part in the great drama—"now that the Western Powers are so deeply engaged that they cannot retreat with honor;" but he is still far in advance of the German Governments, which will hardly do their duty to their subjects and to Europe until they are driven by the force of circumstances to do so.

Two or three days since Prussia and Austria seemed to be on the eve of a rupture, but within the last 24 hours a more pacific spirit seems to have taken possession of the two Governments. Count Arnim tells the Vienna diplomatic world that his Govern-

ment is most desirous to come to an understanding with Austria, and Count Esterhazy is said to have informed this Cabinet that things appear to be less unpromising than they were. In spite of all this, little confidence is placed in the sincerity either of M. von der Pfordten or of M. von Manteuffel. A lively diplomatic correspondence will be carried on by the Austrian and Prussian Cabinets during the next five or six weeks, and at the end of that time the two parties will be exactly where they were when the negotiations commenced. The only proof which has until now been given by the two Governments that they really desire to come to an understanding is, that the *Kreuz Zeitung* has received orders to mend its manners, and leave off abusing Austria, while the Vienna papers have again been informed that they must leave the Prussian Eagle unmolested.

Voss's Gazette of Berlin, under date of Vienna 24th ult., says:—"The grand council of war, which has been announced for some time past, took place yesterday morning at the chateau. The Emperor, the Archduke William, Baron of Hess, the Count de Wratisslaw Wimpfen, and several other distinguished generals were present. It is said that the eventuality of a war against Russia furnished the principle object of the deliberations, and that the concentration of a corps d'armée in Bohemia may be considered as a certain fact. The Emperor is said to have expressed his satisfaction at the report of the Baron de Hess, and approved of several propositions of that officer relative to the division of the troops of the Bukowine. The sixth corps d'armée has, it is stated, lately received orders to quit its quarters in Italy and march on Vienna; it is thought that its destination will be Bohemia. A large quantity of ammunition and military stores was sent off to-day to Cracow. The armaments are going on with such extraordinary activity, that no doubt exists as to the imminence of war between Austria and Russia."

A Vienna correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette* has given the following interesting information relative to the Austrian army:—69,800 men, with 144 guns, are posted with the German provinces (in Austria), under the command of General Count Wimpfen. The army under Marshal Radetzky, in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces, and on the right bank of the Po, consists of 117,000 men, with 160 guns. The "mobile" army in Galicia, the Bukovina, and the Danubian Principalities, with the reserves in Hungary and Transylvania, is composed of 30 Infantry regiments, 10 battalions of Chasseurs, 16 regiments of heavy and 18 of light cavalry, 12 battalions of Border troops, 24 depot battalions, and 25 field and 18 reserve batteries. The total is 225,800 men, with 200 field and 144 reserve guns. The troops are thus distributed:—In the Danubian Principalities 24,000 men (this is much below the mark), in Hungary and Transylvania 58,000 men, in Galicia and the Bukovina 80,000, and in the district of Cracow 63,000 men. The forces under Ban Jellachich and General Mamula consist of 25,400 troops of the line and 70,000 Borderers, with 72 guns. In the Federal fortresses in Germany are 12,800 men, with 24 guns. According to this calculation, the military force of Austria is composed of 522,200 men, with 664 guns, and this is probably below rather than above the mark. There is a continual coming and going in the military world in Poland. General Gecewitsch, who is attached to the person of the Emperor, and was for some time at Warsaw, has left for the town of Vladimir, on the Austrian frontier. A passage in one of the Kalisch letters serves to confirm me in the idea that it will depend on the result of the siege of Sebastopol whether Austria will be at peace or war during the winter.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

KIEL, Oct. 23.—The "screws" are now beginning to arrive at this anchorage on their way to England, the St. Jean d'Acre having this afternoon made her appearance, and she doubtless will be followed by others, as I understand this is to be the place of rendez-vous for the fleet on their homeward voyage. The St. Jean d'Acre was on shore for a short time last night, but I understand she sustained no damage. The weather here is still comparatively mild, the prevailing wind being from the south.

RUSSIA.

According to a communication from St. Petersburg, which seems to wear semi-official stamp, the Emperor Nicholas has addressed a letter to the Prussian Court, after a long conference with Count Nesselrode, the spirit of which, if it be correctly given, would show that the war is as yet only in its initiatory stage, and that before it concludes it may possibly change the whole face of Europe. In its note the head of the Russian empire is said to declare emphatically that he still adheres to his Oriental policy, and will adhere to it, no matter what eventualities may occur—that should Sebastopol fall, and the Crimea be lost, Russia will not yield an inch, but insist on her treaty rights with the Porte Russia is the powerful State in the East she is prepared for whatever may occur, as she has not yet put forth her military strength. This note is so much in accordance with the system of Russian vaporing, that it is very likely to be thus faithfully rendered; and to show the feeling which actuated the Czar in its concoction, he is represented as having introduced several emphatic passages in the draft drawn up by Count Nesselrode, because the original was not sufficiently decisive. We have inclined for some time to the belief that the obstinacy of this infatuated man would induce him to pursue some such course as the one which is here indicated; but we believe at the same time that before next autumn his personal feeling will be of less consequence in the settlement of the question than that of his nobles—a consideration which he was evidently overlooked in his estimate of the future.—*European Times*.

EASTERN WAR.

The fall of Sebastopol is considered so certain, not only by the public at large, but by the two Governments, that the question as to their future conduct with respect to Russia has already been discussed, or rather what is the next step that should be taken when the fleets and the strongholds of the Black Sea are destroyed. It is said that some difference of opinion has existed on this point. The English Government are represented as desirous of following up the destruction of Sebastopol by that of all the forts or fortified places, if any, belonging to Russia on the coast. With the Black Sea free, the navigation of the Danube unrestricted, the Bosphorus and Dardanelles open, the object for which the war was undertaken—namely, the fall of Russian domination in the East—is attained. This, it is said, does not come up to the views of the French Government, who think that the occupation of the Crimea should at once follow the capture of its principal stronghold, and be made the base of further operations in the southern provinces of Russia, and which are absolutely necessary in case the Emperor of Russia persists in refusing to come to terms. The value of a successful campaign in the Crimea and on the coasts of the Black Sea is fully admitted, but they are not considered sufficient to warrant the cessation of hostilities in those parts of the Emperor's dominions. It is thought, however, that this difference of views, if it really exist, will be arranged.—*Times*.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday says that the bombardment continued without interruption, and with the greatest vigor. Sebastopol was full of killed and wounded. The steamer which brought this news left Sebastopol on October 25th, and reached Varna on the 26th.

The *Pays* remarks that the question of the surrender of Sebastopol with one open breach and two forts silenced it simply one of time.

WEIGHT OF METAL IN THE SIEGE.—There certainly never was a siege in the course of which such heavy guns will be used on both sides. The English siege train will comprise about 38 32-pounders, 30 56-pounders, 30 68-pounders, 18 84-pounders, and about a dozen 12 and 13 inch mortars, with six Lancaster guns throwing 96-pound solid shot. The Terrible and Retribution have each given us four 68 pounders of 113 cwt., having a range of from 3,800 to 4,000 yards. The Trafalgar, the Sanspareil, and the Diamond have also landed some of their heaviest metal and two long range Lancaster guns have been landed from the Arrow, and two from the Beagle, which recently arrived from England. There is no possible combination of which stone and mortar is capable, which can resist the concentrated action of such guns as these. We shall not, however, find the Russians deficient either in range or weight of metal; I believe that some of the finest and heaviest guns used in modern warfare will be found in the fortresses of Sebastopol. In no respect shall we find it wanting in the defences to be expected from a first class fortress of such enormous strength and paramount importance.

The bulletins of Prince Menschikoff, announcing successes obtained over the allies by the garrison of Sebastopol and the forces collected for the relief of that place, have created a feeling of uneasiness in the public mind, though the accounts are supposed to be exaggerated, if not to some extent fictitious. The latest intelligence we have yet received is of a nature partly to relieve the uneasiness which has been very generally felt. The dates of the reported reverses, which if they have taken place exactly as announced by the Russian Commander-in-Chief to his Emperor, must be considered very serious ones, and such as might interrupt the operations of the siege, are given as the 23rd and night of the 24th ult., but direct intelligence of a later date has now been received from the Crimea, which seems to exclude the notion of any serious losses having befallen the allies, or of any considerable attempt having been made by the enemy either in the way of sortie or of surprise. This despatch states that the land attack on Sebastopol was progressing vigorously on the 25th, a day later than that named in the Russian bulletins as the date of their successes. This, though not absolutely inconsistent with the literal truth of Prince Menschikoff's account, indicates at least that the damage done by the Russian attacks was not enough to dishearten the allies or to disconcert the measures of their generals. It is admitted by both parties that the casualties on either side during the bombardment have been very numerous. Admiral Korniloff has fallen, and Admiral Nachimoff has been, according to the Russian account, severely wounded; according to the British account, killed. It is observed that the two Russian admirals who commanded at Sinope have already personally shared in what may be considered the retribution for that merciless slaughter. It is remarkable that a Russian official account admits that the damage done to Fort Constantine by the attack of the English squadron was very great, and that thirty-three guns were dismounted in a single bastion. If this be true, the fort which was the chief exterior defence of the harbor may be considered to be now *hors de combat*. Still there remain the sunken ships to bar the entrance to the allied fleet, and inner batteries of far heavier armaments than the outer ones, and, in addition, the Russian squadron of eight or ten sail of the line, with many frigates and steamers, as yet untouched. Whatever degree of credit may be given to the bulletins of Prince Menschikoff, it is pretty evident that the Russians have been making an obstinate, if not a desperate, defence of Sebastopol, and that their resources for such a defence were very much greater than the writers in the English journals, or their correspondents from the allied camps, supposed. In fact the besieged and besiegers were on very nearly an equal footing in respect of cannon, military stores, and, after the arrival of the

Russian reinforcements, available troops. A siege carried on under such circumstances is an operation very nearly unprecedented in the history of military affairs. The only absolute advantage possessed by the allies is the command of the sea, and at this season of the year such an advantage cannot be too much relied on. Meanwhile reinforcements are hastening to the Crimea from this country as well as from France, and it is said that a diversion begun by Omer Pasha on the Pruth has had the effect of stopping the march of a Russian force which was moving towards the peninsula. Under all the circumstances there seems no sufficient grounds for dreading a failure of the enterprise against Sebastopol, but those who thought to find a Bomarsund there were sadly mistaken in their calculations.—*Tablet*.

It is stated in advices from Bucharest of the 30th that General Prince Gortschakoff had stopped the troops moving from the Dniester, to the Crimea, in consequence of Omer Pasha commencing operations in the Dobrukscha.

ITALY.

That indefatigable agent of Satan and the Czar, Mazzini, is still busy in attempting to reproduce the sad scenes of 1848. Two of the emissaries have been recently in Rome, scattering the seeds of sedition, especially in the environs, and it was found that they were abundantly supplied with money, the source of which has been well ascertained. There is, in fact, no doubt of the complicity of Russia in these anarchical proceedings. The chain of connection between the Revolutionary demagogue and the Czar is complete in every link. A descent upon Italy has been matured; and the anarchical brigade were to have landed in Sicily, according to the original plan; but this was altered, and the expedition was then appointed to sail from Alicante for the shores of the Roman States. The discovery of the infamous plot will, it is presumed, now cause the conspirators to pause in their infernal work. Should they persist in their wicked attempts, measures of the most ample and decisive character are taken to give them a far different reception than that on which they build their hopes.—*Catholic Standard*.

When the news of the victory, and the details of the battle of the Alma, reached Rome the Supreme Pontiff did not take any pains to suppress his sympathy with the cause so brilliantly sustained by the French and their Allies in the Crimea.—*Id.*

A correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The return of the Baltic fleet in every respect as 'atoms' as it left our shores, now more than half a year ago, seems to have caused the owners in England about as much satisfaction as we mind well to have experienced on beholding our garlanded Greenlandman, the Truelove, telegraphed as 'clean' from our upstairs window, after her long, costly, wear-and-tear voyage of nine anxious weary months in the Arctic seas. The ship's 'book' was then a pleasing one indeed to overhaul and square; unfortunately, the 'debit' side of the 'venture' being marked in several thousands of pounds for wages to 'captain, first, second, and third mates, line-coilers, harpooners, boat-steerers, surgeon, cook, and seamen,' including generally a contingent taken on board at Shetland, to which came the 'items' of provisions for some 40 men for nine months, insurance, pilotage, and 'contribution to Greenwich Hospital'; in all, a goodly sum for ever gone to us, the favored owners of the aforesaid Truelove. Sometimes, it is true, we had a set off as 'credit' to the ship, in the shape of an Esquimaux canoe and suit of seal skin, presented to us by our rather overfed skipper, whose mystifying yarn in explanation of the sad 'cleanliness' of his vessel was only closed by our handing him a check for his services, and thus striking a balance on the dismal page for that voyage to the 'Straits,' the good ship in the meantime being sent to dry-dock, the bill for which we duly found on our desk, as you may be assured. There are many retired owners who can vouch for this slight sketch of a clean whaler's return to port being no exaggeration, and it appears to me the singularly applicable to the vast fleet of 'clean' men-of-war hourly expected at home after their northern 'promenade,' as the French call the expedition, with the slight difference of the 'debit' side of the Baltic venture being marked in millions sterling; by droves upon droves of slaughtered beeves, swine, and sheep; lagoons of rum and beer, with bread, cocoa, and peas, by tons and hundreds of tons! We have in this small account current, equally with the unlucky Truelove, a 'set off' in Bomarsund and the burnt tar barrels—something equivalent to our Esquimaux trophies; the ships go likewise into dry-dock, the skippers receive their checks, and the owners muse on the 'profit and loss' of the matter pretty much as our proprietor of the 'clean Greenlandman' might be supposed to do over his fireside after business hours. But, Sir, it is not the money, nor the beef, nor the rum, nor yet the peas, that we unduly lament being consumed in this late protracted anchorage in the Baltic. It is the 'log' of the fleet that galls us. It is the lack of everything bordering upon daring, gallantry, or even fair trial of the—one would imagine—overwhelming armaments of unheard of range and power, placed, as we were told by Sir James Graham at the farewell banquet, at the sole command of our fire-eating chieftain of the sea, who was to be in St. Petersburg or Heaven—or Heaven knows where—within a fortnight after buzzing his last heel-tap, that we so universally feel with humiliation, to which the criticism of our French neighbors—one closely bordering upon scorn—may well give an additional twinge. The fact of the sleepy flagship being named after the great Duke—the immortal type of action and reflection—is not pleasant to dwell upon; as, indeed, we may well ask, what is there gratifying to dwell upon in surveying the non-doings of this huge fleet now expected home—'clean?' It was not by anchoring off the batteries of Copenhagen, out of shot, and singing out, 'Come out!' to the there also sheltered Danish fleet that that great victory was gained, but it was by his broadsides, blood, and bravery that the brother immortal to Wellington attacked and beat both ships and granite as a matter of course, as such 'minutes' for the onslaught were entered in the 'order of that day.' It was not by 'cleaning' at the Alma and its foe-swarming heights, defended by heavy guns placed in scien-