

Haszard's



Gazette,

FARMERS' JOURNAL, AND COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

Established 1823.

Charlottetown, P. E. Island, Saturday, June 23, 1855.

New Series, No. 251

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

From *Willmar's European Times* June 9.

Amongst the most important announcements of the week were those made in Parliament by the Premier and the Foreign Secretary in their respective places, to the effect that the Vienna Conference had finally closed, and that they had been closed by order of the allied governments. Austria before this took place had made another ridiculous proposition, which the Russian envoy solicited permission to send to St. Petersburg, but which request the ambassadors of France and England assured him they had no power to comply with. This movement took place opportunely enough, for it satisfied the House of Commons that all hopes of patching up a peace on any of the propositions yet made by Austria to Russia were at an end, and that the question must be ruled by the events of the war. A step so decided on the part of the Western Powers is strongly at variance with the statement of Mr. Sidney Herbert in his speech on Thursday, that France was more desirous of peace than ourselves. If this assertion had proceeded from a less respectable quarter, no earthly interest would have attached to it, and, notwithstanding the excellent sources of information open to the speaker, it seems to be strangely at variance with the recent acts of the Emperor, —with the substitution of Pelissier for Canrobert, and with the new and awakened energy which the contest in the Crimea has recently displayed. Hitherto the fear was that when we had tamed Russia, we should find it still more difficult to satisfy France, and the eccentric Mr. Henry Drummond still inclines to the latter opinion, for he declared in the course of the monster debate that our French ally would only be content with the possession of Constantinople as his share of the prizes of the war.

We know so little of what passes in the provinces of Russia, —so little, in fact, is allowed to transpire, —that implicit reliance can never be placed on accounts professedly circumstantial. A Belgian authority, however, states, that the disturbances in the Ukraine, so far from being subdued, are daily spreading, and that armed bands, amounting to 20,000 or 30,000 men defy the Government, and that the insurrection in certain to ramify still more extensively. It is suggested that, if the allies gave a little assistance to this flame, it would spread far and wide amongst the motley tribes which Russia holds in her iron fetters.

Our occupation of the Sea of Azoff begins already to tell in Circassia, for we learn that the Russians have evacuated Toujuk Kaleh, and were concentrating at Anapa. Every day will show more clearly the desperate pinch to which we have reduced Russia by cutting off the supplies which fed both her armies.

An interruption of the telegraphic wires between Varna and Balaklava during two or three days of the present week has prevented the receipt of intelligence from the Crimea; but the communication is again open, and Lord Panmure has availed himself of it to announce the commencement on the 6th of the third bombardment of Sebastopol. The telegraph has already put us in possession of the results of the expedition to Kertch, the terrific fights between the French and the Russians on the nights of the 22d and 23d ult., and the advance of the army to the Tchernaya. These great events, when narrowed to the compass of a summary, appear imposing and even grand; but read by the light of the detailed accounts which have just come to hand, they swell out to a magnitude unsurpassed in grandeur, heroism and skill, by anything which transpired since the invasion of the Crimea.

Preparations are already making at Boulogne for the reception of her Majesty and Prince Albert, who, it is believed, will visit the French Emperor and his Queen in the early part of

August, immediately after the prorogation of Parliament. At Boulogne, the English Sovereign and her Consort will be received by Louis Napoleon and the Empress, and a review on a grand scale will take place immediately after the landing. It is understood, that the Royal party will remain a day or two at Boulogne before proceeding to the French metropolis. Of course, the interest in Paris to see the illustrious English visitors cannot fail to be great. Hitherto, the French exhibition has not attracted across the channel so many of our nation as might have been anticipated, partly owing, probably, to the unfavorable nature of the weather for holiday making; partly, also, to the exhibition itself being deficient in the attractions which it would have possessed but for the war; and partly, no doubt, to that impelling power —fashion, being wanting to compensate for these unavoidable drawbacks. But the fact of English royalty making a pacific descent on the shores of France, to enjoy a scene which is common to all, whether rich or poor, cannot fail to act like a charm in dispelling the tardiness which has been hitherto evinced in supporting an undertaking which has, after all, much to recommend it, and which would unquestionably have vied with the Hyde-park exhibition, if the circumstances of the two countries for the display had been equally favorable.

Of course, in connexion with the termination of the Vienna Conference, comes the question of Austrian sincerity, and opinions, both in Parliament and beyond its walls, are divided respecting our losses and gains, owing to the policy which Austria has pursued. If the advantages and the drawbacks are minutely balanced, it may be found that the difference is not after all great, for Austria at the present moment stands between Russia and Constantinople, and thus enabled Omar Pacha to proceed to the Crimea with his Turkish troops. In fact, but for the engagements which Austria has contracted with the allies and fulfilled, the line of the Danube and the Balkan would now be threatened by the enemy, and to preserve the Turkish territory from invasion would have required the whole force which we now possess in the Crimea. Again, if the indecision of Austria has perplexed and disappointed the allies, the effect upon Russia has been still more serious, for it has compelled her to maintain an enormous force in Poland, which she would otherwise have poured into the Crimea. The indecision of Austria has annoyed and baffled the Court of St. Petersburg to an extent of which we can hardly judge; but amongst its fruits may be mentioned our easy possession of the Sea of Azoff, our destruction of the Russian fleet there, and the great probability, that we thereby render the enemy incapable of much longer feeding his army in the Crimea. If the enormous military resources of Russia had been concentrated in the Crimea alone, instead of being divided to meet the anticipated attacks of Austria, our conquests at Kertch, Genitchi, and other points, which are likely to bring the war to a triumphant close, might have been achieved or might not; for this much is certain, that the vulnerable parts would otherwise have bristled with Russian bayonets, and our reception would have been very different from what we found it. In all this we are far from being the apologists or defenders of Austria. All that we desire to point out is this —that there are two sides to every question, and that, in measuring the extent of our disappointment, we must not forget that, if Austria had followed the example of Prussia, the dimensions of this war and its dangers would have been immeasurably greater and more formidable than we found them, or they are now likely to become.

The *Post Gazette* of Frankfort publishes a despatch from Odessa to the effect that the Russians are raising batteries to command the channel near Genitchi, which connects the Puzid Lake with the Sea of Azoff. Another despatch says that General Oushakoff had at length arrived at Perekop with his division of four infantry regiments, each 3600 strong. General Grontheim had also arrived at Perekop with his light cavalry division, the third, consisting of four regiments, each 900 strong. These figures would give Prince Gortschakoff a reinforcement of 18,000 men — a number which more exact information would probably reduce.

The Imperatrice steamer, used as a transport ship, was wrecked in the Downs.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

VIENNA, June 1. — Yesterday evening the negative answer of the Western Powers to the last Austrian proposition arrived. Count Buol, Baron de Bourquency, and Lord Westmoreland met to-day. It is rumored that a final conference may very probably take place the day after to-morrow.

BERLIN, June 2. — The Austrian Government has published a new circular, dated May 25, and declares, that if the last propositions of Austria for the adjustment of a peace be rejected, the policy of Austria would thenceforth be one of expectancy.

VIENNA, Sunday evening, June 3. — Despatches which arrived from London last night contained the rejection of the Austrian propositions. To-morrow the ministers of the five powers will meet, and the conferences will be formally dissolved.

VIENNA, June 4. — A final sitting of the conference was held to-day, and the conference have been forthwith terminated.

At the final meeting of the Conference a new Austrian proposition was made; Prince Gortschakoff asked, if he might send it to St. Petersburg, but the French and English ministers replied, that they were not authorized to agree to such a step. The exact nature of the proposal was unknown to Lord Clarendon.

THE KERTCH EXPEDITION.

The *Times* contains a long letter from its special correspondent, who has accompanied the Kertch expedition, describing some of the earlier operations.

On approaching Kara Burnu, it was evident that our vessels were engaged with the forts and earthworks at Pavlovskaya, which guards the entrance to Kertch and Yenikale. Frequent puffs of white smoke, followed by faint echoes and booming reports, which rolled heavily along the shore, told us that the contest was tolerably smart, but it certainly did not last very long, for at 1 40 a huge pillar of white smoke rushed up toward the skies, opened out like a gigantic balloon and then a roar like the first burst of a thunder storm, told us that a magazine had blown up. The action grew slacker, the firing less frequent. At 2 15 another loud explosion took place, and a prodigious quantity of earth was thrown up into the air along with the smoke. A third magazine was blown up at 2 25; a tremendous explosion, which seemed to shake the sea and air, took place about three o'clock, and at 3 30 several columns of smoke blending in one, and as many explosions, the echoes of which roared and thundered away together, announced, that the Russians were beaten from their guns, and that they were destroying their magazines. They could be seen retreating, some over the hills behind Kertch, others towards Yenikale. The allied troops commenced disembarking at once, and the boats of the fleet were ordered out and landed them on the beach between the Salt Lake, north of Cape Kamusch Burnu, and the cliff of Ambalaki, a hamlet on the hill side in the little bay between Kamusch and Pavlovskaya Battery. The heavy steamers lay outside. The transports were anchored off the Salt Lake to the south, and the gun boats and lighter steamers lay off the smoking ruins of the Russian earthworks. We passed slowly through the fleets.

Sir E. Lyons and Admiral Stewart were on board the *Vesuvius*, and Sir George Brown, after seeing the troops landed, went on board and held a conference with them. As we anchored a most exciting scene was taking place to the westward. One of the enemy's steamers had run out of the Bay of Kertch, which was concealed from our view by the headland on which Pavlovskaya and the battery of Cape Burnu are situated, and was running as hard as she could for the Straits of Yenikale. She was a low schooner-rigged craft, like a man-of-war, and for a long time it was uncertain whether she was a Government vessel or not. The gun boat dashed after across the shallows, and just as she passed the Cape, two Russian merchantmen slipped out and made towards Yenikale also. At the same moment a fine roomy schooner came bowling down with a fair breeze from Yenikale, evidently intending to aid her consort and despising very likely the little antagonist which pursued her. The gun-boat flew on and passed the first merchantman, at which she fired a shot by way of making her bring to. The forts at Kertch instantly opened, and shot after shot splashed up the water near the gun-boat, which still kept intrepidly on her way. As the man-of-war schooner bowled down towards the Russian steamer the latter seemed to gain courage, slackened her speed, and lay to, as if to engage her enemy. A sheet of flame rushed from the gun-boat's side, and her shot flying over the Russian tossed up a pillar of water far beyond her. Alarmed at this taste of her opponent's quality, and by the sudden intimation of her tremendous armament, the Russian at once took to flight, and the schooner bore away for Yenikale again, with the gun-boat after both of them. Off the narrow straits between Yenikale and the sand-bank, which runs across from the opposite land, a great number of gun-boats and small craft were visible, and as the English gun-boat ran up towards them a Russian battery opened on her from the spit on which the town is situated. One of her consorts, however, which had followed her early in the chase, was now close at hand, and the gun-boats dashed at their enemies, which tacked, wore, and ran in all directions, while the gun-boats chased them as a couple of hawks would harry a flock of larks. The action with the forts on the sandbank began to take part in the unequal contest. Sir Edmund Lyons, however, soon sent off the light steamers and disposable gun-boats, to reinforce the two hardy little fellows, and the French steamers also rushed up to the rescue. The batteries on the sandbank were not silenced without some trouble, but at last they blew up their magazines, and the fort at Yenikale followed their example. The gun-boats kept up a running fight along the coast till it was dark. At about half-past six o'clock, the batteries in the Bay of Kertch ceased firing, the Russians blew up their works, and abandoned the town.

Friday Morning May 25. — The French moved off from the bivouac at six o'clock this morning, but their advanced guard started some hours earlier. They took the road towards Kertch, going to the northward, and not following the sea-coast line. Our troops, consisting of the 42d, 79th, 93d, and 71st regiments, Barker's battery, and 50 of the 8th hussars, under Lieutenant-Colonel de Salis, preceded them on the right in the same direction, and the Turks seemed to form the rear and left of the line. Sir George Brown commanded.

Several prizes have been towed down along side of us, but they are only small 50 or 70 ton schooners. One large vessel north of the Jounjaya bank has been burning all night. The shore batteries are silent, and from one great explosion which took place about half-past ten o'clock a. m. on the bank, it may be inferred that the Russians have abandoned them and blown up their magazines. There is no sign of an enemy in any direction now.

Half-past twelve o'clock. — The columns of the allied troops are now visible, advancing over the hill on which Yenikale is situated. Kertch has, therefore, fallen without a blow. We are now masters of the sea of Azoff, and Anapa and Taganrog must fall when we please.

The *Austrian Gazette* states that there is now a semaphore telegraphic communication between Sebastopol and Odessa.