

Gleanings.

EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS.

Captain Petrie of her Majesty's 14th Regiment, employed on the Topographical Staff, lately delivered a lecture at the United Service Institution, on 'The Armed Forces of Europe.' The *Morning Post* availing itself of his 'great carefulness and research,' supplies its readers with the information which the lecture contained as to the relative strength of the military forces of the great European Powers, upon which the peace and progress of the world depend; and from its tables we present the following:

AUSTRIA.—The war establishment of the Austrian army, according to the organisation that came into force in April, 1860, is as follows:—309 battalions of infantry 437,964 men; 41 regiments of cavalry, 60,110; 136 batteries of artillery, 27,176 men; 1,058 guns; two regiments of engineers, 7,460 men; six regiments pioneers, 6,558; twenty-four squadrons train, 18,204; ten companies sanitary corps, 2,550; Staff corps, corps of adjutants, and general staff, 3,889. Total regular army, 564,211. Volunteer corps organised in 1859, 30,000; depots and reserves of all arms, 103,751; gendarmerie, police, veterans, &c., 40,382. Grand Total of forces, 738,344 men, 1,088 guns.

PRUSSIA.—Infantry—Guard, nine regiments, 28,674 men; line, 72 regiments, 229,392; jager, 10 battalions, 10,480.—Total, 268,546. Cavalry—48 regiments, 36,768; field jager and staff orderlies, 902. Total, 37,670. Artillery—Nine regiments 41,292 men, 1,228 guns; pioneers, train, &c., 11,971 men.—Total field troops, 359,479. Depots and Ersatz troops, 98,487 men, 216 guns; Landwehr and garrison troops, &c., 261,126 men.—Grand total of forces, 719,092 men, 1,444 guns.

RUSSIA.—The army of Russia is so complicated in its organization that there would be considerable difficulty in making an exact analysis of it; but the numbers have been ascertained with sufficient accuracy to be on the present reduced establishment about 850,000 men. Of these the active army numbers 520,523 men, and 1,160 guns; the rest are composed of disciplined Cossacks and of Irregular troops.

FRANCE.—The infantry consists of—103 regiments of the line, each having three active battalions and one depot battalion; 20 battalions of Chasseurs, three regiments of Zouaves, two regiments of foreign infantry, two battalions of African Light Infantry, three regiments of Turcos, or Tirailleurs Algeriens. The artillery includes—Four regiments of Horse Artillery, with 192 guns; 10 regiments of Mounted Artillery, with 600 guns; 10 batteries of Foot Artillery, with 60 guns; one regiment of Pontonniers, six squadrons Train—giving a total of 38,767 men, 37,954 horses, 852 guns. This is in addition to 15,000 men, garrison artillery, and the depots, artificers, &c. The total number of guns than can be brought into the field, including the Imperial Guard, is 942, all of which are of brass, and rifled. The Imperial Guard forms a complete *corp d'arme* in itself. It is composed as follows:—One regiment of gendarmerie; seven regiments of grenadiers and Voltigeurs, one regiment of Chasseurs, one squadron of gendarmerie a-cheval; six regiments of cavalry, 16 batteries of artillery, two companies of pontonniers, two companies of engineers, four companies of train. Its total establishment is:—38,060 men, 13,477 horses, and 90 guns. The official returns on the 1st of Jan., 1860, gave the total number of available men as follows:—Troops in France, 398,559; in Algeria, 83,782; in North Italy, 55,281; in Rome, 7,904; in China, 5,468.—Total under arms, 550,994; men on *conge*, 64,471; reserve, 11,017.—Grand total, 626,482.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Regular troops of all arms, 218,971 men, 30,072 horses, 366 guns, British local and colonial troops, 18,249 men, 248 guns; foreign and coloured troops, chiefly in India, 218,043 men, 58 guns; military police in India, 79,264 men; grand total, 534,527 men, 30,072 horses, 672 guns. Of these there are in the United Kingdom:—Infantry—Guards, seven battalions, 6,297 men; line, 35 battalions, 33,105 men; total, 39,402 men. Cavalry—Life and Horse Guards, three regiments, 1,311 men; dragoons, &c., 16 regiments, 10,560 men; total, 11,871 men. Artillery—Horse, six batteries, 1,200 men, 36 guns; field, 23 batteries, 5,060 men, 138 guns; garrison, 39 batteries, 4,680 men; total, 10,940 men; 174 guns; Engineers, 2,316; military train, 1,830; hospital corps, 609; commissariat staff corps, 300; grand total of active forces, 67,268 men; 174 guns. Be-

sides, there are the depot establishments:—Infantry—Line, 126 depots, 24,770; cavalry, 9 depots, 396; artillery, 2,975; total depots, 28,141 men. Reserves, available for the defence of the kingdom in case of war:—Pensioners, 14,768; militia, 45,000; yeomanry, 16,080; Irish constabulary, 12,392; volunteers, 140,000; total, 228,240 men.

PUBLIC DEBTS IN EUROPE, DEC., 1860.—The following is given by the *Star* as a correct representation of the present public debts of the different European States:—Great Britain, £786,000,000; France £340,000,000; Russia, £300,000,000; Austria, £315,000,000; Spain, £147,000,000; Holland, £96,000,000; Prussia, £32,000,000; Sardinia, £35,000,000; Belgium, £25,000,000; Denmark, £23,000,000; and all the others, £100,000,000. Total, £2,193,000,000.—[*Daily Chronicle*.]

AN IRISH INTERIOR.

God bless the Irish! I cannot choose but love them. They do unearthly things, I know, and are a grief of heart to the sorely-tried housewives. One whole winter did Bridget sweep my room, and invariably set the table with the drawer toward the wall. Never by any mistake did it happen to come right side out. Patsy had a way of swooping up all the contents of all the wash-hand-stands in her regular round with broom and duster, and distributing them again without respect of persons. Accordingly, your own stand would be garnished with the tooth-brush of your neighbor on the left, the hair brush of your neighbor above, and the hat brush of your neighbor below. But Patsy is a diamond in the rough. I wrote a love-letter for her once. She came to me beaming with ruddy shyness, and, after backing and filling for fifteen minutes, gave me to understand that her lover was by 'the far wash of Australasian seas,' and would I write him a letter for her. He was a fond swain, but she had been coy and coquettish, and now that he was so far away, her heart relented. Did I write to him? Of course I did, conjecturing, to the best of my ability, what manner of document a love-letter should be, and determined that at least it should not lack the quality which gives it a name. So, after exhausting my own vocabulary, I had recourse to the poets, and quoted Tennyson. It smote me in the heart to look up when I read it to her, and see her beautiful almond eyes filled with tears; for though one's own love-letters may be a serious enough matter, one can hardly voice another's tenderness with entire good faith. 'Oh!' said Patsy, with a sigh from the very bottom of her warm Irish heart, 'them is jes' my feelin's,' and even put her head back through the door after going out, to add, 'An' sure, ye must have had them feelin's yourself, or ye niver could have done it.' 'Ah, Patsy!' I said,—but never mind what I said.

God bless the Irish! They supply an element that is wanting in our Anglo-Saxon blood, the easy, eloquent, picturesque race. Their rest is such a cushion to our restlessness. As they mount the ladder, their individualities lose outline, but an Irish poor family is world-wide from an American poor family. The Americans will be so sharp and angular, and clearly defined. They will have such an air of having seen better days, and not giving up seeing them again. Their poverty is self-conscious, and draws comparisons. A painful scrubbiness is in the air. Everything is neat, whitewashed, and made the most of. Evidently they are struggling against fate. They contest every inch of the ground. If you offer them assistance, you must double and turn, and ten to one give mortal offense after all. I know these are the very things that the books applaud, and I suppose they are one of the bases of greatness; but for solid comfort, give me an Irish shanty, where all are duty and happy and contented. For the spare, stooping American mother, with thin hair, pointed elbows, and never fewer than forty years, you have the Irish matron always young—red, round arms, luxuriantly full figure, great white teeth, head set back, and royal hair. You are received with nonchalant courtesy, and your 'remainder biscuit' with graceful gratitude. No care furrows any forehead. If the baby creeps into the ashes, one blacksmithy arm whips him out again as good as new. In winter the air is warm with the odor of soap-suds, boiling cabbage, and fragrant tobacco. In the summer they set their wash-tubs at the back door, and, in a sensible scantiness of costume, rub to the robin's song, and never seem to look forward to a possible presidency. They float across the tide acquiescent. Thus poverty is robbed of its sting.

If one must be poor, it is so much easier to be comfortable about it. And if one is thoroughly comfortable, what matter whether one lives in one room or twenty.

God bless the Irish! Their strong arms

are lifted, their warm hearts are beating, side by side with ours, for the honor and life of their adopted country. Does famine impend over their island home? We have enough and to spare. From our bursting granaries, from our larders over-full, let their tables be spread with plenty. Surely the bread the few crumbs which we cast upon the waters, many days ago, are already returned to us in Irish truth and loyalty. And when their civilization and Christianity are brought abreast with their inborn poetry, Ireland shall come forth fair as the sun, clear as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION—THE CLOSING SCENE.—The International Exhibition was brought to a close on Saturday. When the enormous mass of people assembled on the floor of the western dome and adjoining parts, the sight was very grand. At four o'clock all the organs pealed forth 'God save the Queen.' The members of the Sacred Harmonic Society had volunteered the vocal part, and the visitors joined in the chorus. At the conclusion of the anthem the cheering seemed to shake the floor of the building. When the people stood up uncovered in the galleries and on the floor, the effect was truly imposing. The French national anthem was also given, and 'Rule Britannia,' and both were received with great applause. After some cheering for names called, the bells tolled the knell of the International Exhibition, and the people gradually and unwillingly departed. Including Saturday, the total number of visitors has been 6,116,640, which is only 77,445 more than the Exhibition of 1851, though the present Exhibition was open three weeks longer. Had it been closed at the same time, there would have been a deficiency of 725,701 in the number of visitors. The treat to the female attendants at the refreshment counters of the International Exhibition, given by Miss Skinner, came off in the evening, in the large rooms of the western annex. It was a tea party, and about 500 of the establishment were present. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, who, with the Rev'd. Baptist Noel and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting. The speaking was chiefly of a religious character, but several instances occurred where cheering was considered appropriate, when the assembled ladies gave free scope to their sweet voices, led by a reverend gentleman with a roll of paper in his hand. The whole went off not only with pleasure, but at times it really became exciting. At the conclusion, all the guests passed Miss Skinner, who is very young and charming, in order that they might all have the pleasure of seeing the donor of the feast, many of them recognising her as a customer, and each received a little book from her hand on the merits and advantages of the International Exhibition.

A NOTED MISER.—Last week there died in the Fever Hospital, Dunfermline, a man 55 years of age, named Andrew Hutton, better known in the western district of Fife as the 'African Chief.' For a number of years he has lived in the most miserly manner, hardly allowing himself enough of food to sustain life, and the little he did take was of the coarsest description. Many amusing stories are told of his parsimonious habits. The immediate cause of death was eating the leaves of ash trees. He had been walking along the edge of a field bordered by these trees, on the fallen leaves of which the cows were feeding greedily. He thought the animals seemed fat, and that if the leaves were good for them they could not be bad for him. He accordingly gathered a quantity and took them home, and after boiling them, fed on them for several days. The consequence was that he was taken ill, and removed to the hospital, where he died after some days of great suffering. On searching his house after death, his relatives came upon an old teakettle, in which was found a cheque for £70, the interest on which had been accumulating for seventeen years, and a book showing a balance of £61 to his credit in the National Security Savings' Bank. Several £1 notes and a great quantity of loose money, in half-crowns, shillings, and smaller coins, were also found in the most out-of-the-way places. Hutton was also possessed of considerable property in Dunfermline. He was a great reader, and well versed in several languages.—*Edinburgh Courant*.

A COMING DELUGE.—M. Mathieu (de la Drome) writes to the *Siecle* to communicate a note which he has addressed to the Academy of Sciences, and according to which all the watercourses in the south-east of France, and in the whole south of Europe, will experience a very great augmentation from the 28th inst. to the 8th of November. He predicts great inundations in Italy, and still greater ones in countries to the east of Italy.

In France only a few departments will be visited by this scourge. The 17th degree of longitude is the region where it will be most severely felt. The overflow of rivers will take place, according to M. Mathieu, throughout a zone of more than 600 leagues, parallel to a line drawn from Certe or Marseilles to a point beyond the Black Sea, grazing the south of the Crimea. The neighborhood of seas will, it is said, be chiefly affected, and advice is given to the population of the districts indicated to take such precaution as may be in their power before the 28th inst.

PREDICTIONS AS TO AMERICA.—Coleridge said, January 4, 1833:—'Can there be any thorough national fusion of the Northern and Southern States? I think not. In fact, the Union will be shaken almost to dissolution whenever a very serious question between the States arises. The American Union has no centre, and it is impossible now to make one. The more they extend their borders into the Indians' land, the weaker will the national cohesion be. But I look upon the States as splendid masses, to be used by and bye, in the composition of two or three great governments.' Mr. Calhoun, during his last illness in 1850, remarked to a distinguished senator: 'I shall probably never again be in the Senate; my day is gone by; but if the gentlemen who have charge of these questions (bills affecting slavery) think that they will be able, as loyal men, to adjust them by compromise, I fear they are mistaken. The seeds of dissolution have been sown, and must bear their fruit. The two sections can no longer live under a common government. I think I can see clearly within what time the separation will take place, and fix it at twelve years—three Presidential terms. My judgment is clear on that subject; but I am not so clear as to how it will take place, but think that the greatest probability is, that the Government will expide during a Presidential election.'

A MODERN DANAE.—The 'Salut Public' of Lyons publishes the following not very probable story:—'A woman, while lately watching a flock of sheep in the neighbourhood of Lyons, was caught in a violent storm and took refuge under a tree. A short time after a branch was torn from the trunk by the wind and fell at her feet, accompanied by a number of pieces of gold. Looking up in the astonishment she saw a hole in the trunk whence the branch had been torn, and putting her hand into it found a further lot of gold pieces, amounting together to 20,000f. The news of this discovery spread rapidly in the village, and every one was lost in conjectures as to where the money could have come from. At length some of the ancients solved the enigma by stating that about 30 years ago a rich landed proprietor residing in the neighborhood had been murdered by his servant and robbed of a large sum of money which he was known to have in his possession. The servant was tried and executed, but he would never confess where he had concealed the treasure. Is this the gold stolen?'

A HIGHLAND PROCLAMATION.—The following has been sent to us (*Glasgow Herald*) as a proclamation made at the Market Cross of Inverary last century:—'Ta hoy! Te t'ither a-hoy! Ta hoy three times!!! an Ta-hoy—Whist!!! By command of His Majesty, King George, an her Grace te Duke of Argyll:—If any body is found fishing aboon te loch, or below te loch, afore te loch, or ahint te loch, in te loch, or on te loch, aroun' te loch, or about te loch, she's to be persecuit wi' three persecutions: first, she's to be burnt, syne she's to be drowned, an' then she's to be hangt—an' if ever she comes back she's to be persecuit wi' a far waur death. God save te King an' her Grace te Duke o' Argyll.'

A NOVEL MODE OF COURTSHIP.—The London correspondent of a leading Parisian journal has a tale about a young lady who served comestibles behind M. Veillard's counter, at the Exhibition. A baronet one day called for a bottle of champagne, drank it, and left his purse behind. It contained a good deal of money and a season ticket. 'Mees' returned it to him; but he retained only the ticket, and made her a present of the purse and its contents. The next day 'the baronet came for another bottle of champagne, and again left his purse; and he continued the same strange procedure for several months. At length came a day when he did not leave his purse; the young lady asked him why, and he thereupon made a proposal of marriage. She is now Lady—. In this singular manner English baronets do make love.'

HER Majesty has signified her assent to the approaching marriage between the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandria of Denmark, whose name is now loyally honoured on occasions of festivity as the future Queen of England.