

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.—A correspondent of the *Times* writes in the strongest terms of the good feeling that prevails at Paris, towards the English. The Republicans are loud in their expressions of admiration at the heroic courage of the British soldier. The Republicans have, since the declaration of war, and the manliness to forget their grievances, and to ally themselves heart and soul with the Emperor in defence of the cause protected by their common country, and defended by the French and English army. No men more readily express their admiration of the noble conduct of both armies at the Alma and at Inkerman, none are more enthusiastic in praising the heroism of our cavalry at Balaklava, and if their "wishing could do any good," Sebastopol would have been in our possession ere now. The hearty cheers with which the blouses greet the red coats when they appear on the stage of the mimic 'bataille d'Alma,' are most refreshing to an Englishman.

"I was purchasing a cigar a day or two since in the Boulevards, when a cabman came in to buy tobacco. 'Is it true,' said he, addressing a Frenchman, 'that 8,000 Englishmen kept the field against 45,000 Russians, until Bosquet came up, and that in company with our soldiers they charged the enemy and killed 9,000?' 'Yes.' 'Then, although I have always hated the English, and thought them false and perfidious, if an Englishman were now to fall into the Seine, I would jump after and try to save him, though I can't swim a stroke. Here are heroes; why, the Old Guard could never have done more; and to think they are Englishmen, whom I have been hating all my life! But it is never too late to learn.'

"Several English officers, wounded at the Alma, lately passed through Paris, and ventured in undress uniform (their only clothes) into the Tuilleries gardens. With shattered bodies and tarnished embroidery, they looked as became men who had been fighting for their country. The people pressed round them in all directions, and gave most hearty signs of their sympathy, desiring to shake them by their undamaged hand, for most of them had one arm in a sling. 'Voilà des Anglais, les blessés de l'Alma,' was heard in all directions, mingled with words of good fellowship from the men, and of pity from the softer sex. One old man, more practical than the rest, judging from the condition of their uniforms and their honorable scars that they must want money, offered to supply them with anything they required, and was quite grieved that they had no occasion to avail themselves of his generosity.

"The *Charivari* contains a picture of a Highlander standing sentinel at his post with a precipice and the sea immediately at his back. A French soldier and a Tartar peasant regard him from below. 'What folly,' says the Tartar, 'to place a sentry in such a position.' 'There's no danger,' replies the Chasseur, 'ces soldats là ne reculent jamais.' And this in the *Charivari*, written by some of the most consistent Republicans in France, and so long bitter against England and all connected with her.

"Indeed, nothing can exceed the generous spirit that pervades the mass of Frenchmen, both civilians and military, since the details of the battle of Inkerman have been published. The gallant stand made by 'that astonished infantry' has received a full meed of justice at their hands, and over and over again I have been met with the remark, 'How proud you should be to be their countryman,' to which I have replied, 'Yes, as you to be the countryman of those who so nobly flew to their assistance. The *Journal des Débats* and *Sicde, Constitutionnel* and *Patrie*, *Presse* and *Charivari*, vie in admiration of their conduct. The *Assemblée Nationale* is silent, and the *Union*, the organ of the Fusionist party, speaks of the battle of Inkerman as though no Englishman were present thereat. 'How cowardly in the Russians,' say many, 'they always attack the English force, knowing it is the weakest. However, we should not regret it, as it has shown us of what stuff your army is composed, and how implicitly we can rely upon it.' A veil seems to have passed from their eyes, and the jaundiced hue with which they regarded England and her institutions has been changed to *couleur de rose*.

Another writer says:—

"A distinguished Frenchman, occupying an important post in the Emperor's household, told me that in the early part of the year, and before the commencement of hostilities, he attempted to get up a dinner between some English officers whom he knew and some of his own countrymen, as they were both proceeding to the Crimea. His efforts were not successful, and his proposal met with so much coldness that he gave up the attempt. Within the last month he has received letters from many of the French officers whom he had invited, and who, referring to the question of the dinner, declare that on their return they will *faire* every English officer who comes to Paris, and they know that French officers in London would be met with equal cordiality. General Bosquet also writes home in the strongest terms of the 'chaleureuse réception' he got after the battle of Inkerman, and both armies are delighted with each other. An officer who lately passed through Paris told me that his regiment was quartered with the Zouaves for some months, and that nothing could exceed their merit as light troops. One man among them spoke excellent English, and, being questioned by my friend, informed him that he had been waiter at a London hotel for three years, but getting tired of answering 'Anon, anon, Sir,' he became a Zouave, and was ready for anything. I see many of your contemporaries are much puzzled as to what the Zouaves really are. According to some, they are Arabs; while others contend that they are a mixture of all

nationalities. The truth is, they are simply Frenchmen, picked principally from regiments which have served in Africa, and chosen for their courage, daring, activity, and powers of endurance. Most of them have been 'Gamins de Paris,' and the metal still rings as true as it did in June '48, when the gamins of the Garde Mobile saved the capital."

ITALY.

The *Parlamento* of Turin, quotes a letter from a correspondent at Rome, giving an extract of the written depositions in the case of the murder of Count Rossi, which he says he has been able to take notes from, though generally kept secret by the tribunal. The total number of persons arrested was 58, from which must be deducted 4 who died in prison and 1 who committed suicide. Among the rest were 4 women and a canon. There were 4 defaulter, one of whom was Mazzini. Three of the prisoners turned what is called in English king's evidence, and many confessed their guilt. It appears from these depositions, which fill about 500 pages in print, that soon after the fall of the Roman republic, a committee for political agitation was formed at Rome, depending for instructions on another committee at London, at the head of which was Mazzini. It had correspondence throughout the Roman States, and arms, printing materials, and money at its command. The conspirators were divided into bodies of a hundred, subdivided into others of ten, &c. The government had letters, cyphers, printed papers, types, pass-words, and signs in its possession, besides autograph letters of Mazzini. The depositions led to the conclusion that all the political assassinations and attempts at assassination which have taken place in the Roman States since 1849 are attributable to the agency of the secret society. In the beginning of 1853 dissensions arose among the chiefs, from which two parties arose, one of republicans, called pure, and another of fusionists, who contented themselves with Italian independence. This is proved by different programmes issued by two parties. The pure party wanted to get up an insurrection on the 15th of August, 1853, and eight refugees had landed at Paola for the purpose, but were all arrested, together with the chiefs of the party; and these arrests afterwards led to those of the fusionists. The revision of these proceedings, which was to take place on the 15th November had been adjourned on the 15th of December.

At the opening of the sitting of the Sardinian Chamber of Deputies on the 28th Nov., the Minister of the Interior presented a project of law for the suppression of monastic congregations.

GERMANY.

The much vaunted treaty of alliance with Austria has not yet been ratified by the three sovereign States who are parties to it, and consequently has not been laid before the British Parliament. Enough, however, of its contents has already transpired to show that it is a mere farce, or bubble, not worth the cost of the parchment upon which it is inscribed.—*London News of the World*.

SPEECH OF THE KING OF PRUSSIA ON THE OPENING OF THE CHAMBERS.—The King's speech upon the opening of the Prussian Chambers on Thursday, contains the following passages:—"A bloody conflict has broken out between three powerful members of the family of European states. Our father-land is not yet affected. I have fresh occasion to hope that the basis of a further understanding will soon, perhaps, be obtained. Closely united with Austria and Germany, I shall continue to look upon it as my task to plead for peace and the recognition of the independence of foreign states. Should I subsequently be compelled to add force to this attitude, my faithful people will bear their inevitable burthens with resignation. The army shall be made ready for war."

The Prussian State is at this moment passing thro' a crisis of unprecedented anxiety. There is no nation in Europe that has more to dread from Russian ascendancy than Prussia. The representative institutions of Prussia, are in their infancy, shifting and changing their form from day to day according to their monarch's whim of the hour, are a constant eyecore to the Government at St. Petersburg. Even were the reins of Government in Prussia held by a King less obsequious to the Czar, the indefensible eastern frontier of the monarchy, and the conflict of races in the frontier province, expose Prussia at all times to intimidation from its Muscovite neighbors.

If Prussia does not join the Western alliance, the liberties of the Prussian people are not worth a six months' purchase.—*London Daily News*.

We read in the *Mynence Journal*:—"The temporary convention concluded between the Holy Father and the Government of Baden, has been communicated to the administrative and judicial authorities. It contains the following stipulations:—1st—That his Royal Highness the Regent shall withdraw his authorisation to bring an action against the Archbishop. 2nd—That the priests and laymen who were imprisoned for having conformed to the decrees of the Archbishop, shall be set at liberty. 3rd—That no incumbents shall be appointed to the cures which have become vacant during the time of negotiation; but they shall be entrusted to provisional administrators, who will be named by the Archbishop. 4th—That the ecclesiastical revenues shall be administered in the same manner as before the dispute; consequently the endowments, titles, valuations, and keys shall be restored into the hands of the Church authorities."

BALTIC.

The greater part of the fleet is now on its way home. Sir Charles Napier, in all probability, will not be in command of the Baltic fleet during the campaign, of 1855. He was the officer appointed to that important position in obedience to the wishes of his countrymen, who justly entertained a proper estimation of his qualifications for the post. His bravery and abilities as an officer are well known, and,

although there are others in the service his equal in every respect, there are few who were thought as competent to take a fleet into action and to lead it to victory. But with that prudence which he was not supposed to possess, and which he has exercised with the concurrence of the Admirals and officers under his command, he has wisely abstained from pitting his ships against the granite batteries of Sveaborg and Cronstadt without the co-operation of a large body of troops, which, during the present campaign, could not be furnished. Under the peculiar circumstances in which, as Commander-in-Chief of the most efficient fleet which has ever existed in the annals of the naval history of England, he has been placed, all praise is due to him for the discrimination he has exercised in not incurring the risk of the crippling, if not destruction, of any portion of the fleet under his orders, which would have infallibly occurred had he confronted the enemy with no other means of attack than the guns which the ships afforded.

RUSSIA.

A despatch from Warsaw, dated the 4th of December, states that Gen. Sievers is concentrating the First Infantry Corps of the Russian army, with a portion of the Imperial Guard, on the left bank of the Vistula, that is, on the extreme western frontier of the empire, while Gen. Paniutin is advancing with the Second Infantry Corps on Podolia and Volhynia. Movements of this magnitude and importance, undertaken by whole armies (for each infantry corps consists, when complete, of about 52,000 men) at this season of the year, when the troops would otherwise be taking up their winter quarters, indicate a conviction of the near approach of hostilities. Prince Gortschakoff, and the Russian agents in Germany, have been lavish of their promises and unsparing in their exertions to prevent the conclusion of the treaty between Austria and the Western powers.—*Times*.

POPULATION OF RUSSIA.—The following, according to the almanac of the Imperial Academy of Science of St. Petersburg, was the population of Russia at the last census in 1849. The population of Russia in Europe was 60,628,700, and that of the whole of the empire was 66,428,200. It was in 1772, 14,000,000; in 1762, 20,000,000; in 1795, 36,000,000; in 1818, 45,500,000; in 1824, 50,000,000; in 1838, 59,000,000; and in 1842, 62,500,000. These augmentations arise from the conquest of the Crimea, of the Caucasus, Poland, Finland, &c., which additions of territory have more than doubled the extent of the empire in 1722.—The augmentation of 4,500,000 between 1818 and 1825 shows an increase of population of one-tenth in six years, and of double in sixty years, according to which calculation M. Stechekaloff affirms that in 1892 Russia will have 230,000,000 of inhabitants.

The *Times* says:—"Of the many and great losses suffered by the Anglo-French Expedition, from one cause or another, the alarm of the 13th of November, of which we have at length the melancholy details, may almost be regarded as the worst. It is true that the immediate loss of men is not to be compared with the numbers placed *hors de combat* at the battles of the Alma and Inkerman—still less with the victims of cholera. It may also be admitted that, for a country so rich as ours, and with such a power of rapid production, the loss of material is little more than a temporary inconvenience. In this instance, however, the losses come in a form and at a time the most unfortunate that could be desired by the worst enemy of the expedition. The total loss of men at the various stations on the coast of the Crimea on the disastrous 13th, cannot be less than a thousand, besides those that have fallen into the hands of the Cossacks. The loss of vessels was thirty British and French wrecked, and had as many dismasted at Balaklava, and eighteen wrecked or dismasted at the mouth of the Katcha. Our men-of-war—thanks to the precaution of frequently trying their cables, have come off with no further damage than the loss of guns, or of masts, or of rigging, the twisting of their rudders, or the springing of some leaks. The French have lost the *Henry IV*, a noble three-decker, and a favorite war steamer. Thus far we have sustained no loss beyond the ordinary drain of war; but the greatest calamity is that of which we scarcely now know the full. The Prince, a magnificent new screw steamer, of 2,700 tons, carried out the other day to Balaklava the 46th Regiment, all the winter clothing for the troops engaged in the siege, including 40,000 great coats, flannel suits, underclothing, socks, and gloves; beef, pork, and other provisions; hospital stores for Scutari; and a vast quantity of shot and shell to carry on the siege. These are wholly lost, and nothing remains of the Prince but half a dozen of her numerous crew, who managed to get on the cliffs when she was broken to powder against them. The *Resolute*, with 900 tons of gunpowder, also went to the bottom. Thus, it seems, all the materials for carrying on the siege and providing against the severity of the winter, have been carried off at one fell swoop; and, even if we think to content ourselves with merely maintaining our position on the heights before Sebastopol, it is evident that we are not in a condition to stand our worst foe, the coming winter. Everything seems to have conspired, under a mysterious dispensation of heaven, to make the loss of the Prince the greatest possible disaster. She could not stop at Scutari to land the hospital stores so greatly wanted there.—When she arrived at Balaklava it was blowing fresh, and she did not venture within the narrow, tortuous channel of the harbor. All she did was to land the 46th, though it is said that, besides a very large crew, some sappers, and some medical, and other officers, were still on board. On attempting to anchor, the whole of the cable ran out, not being properly clinched, a second cable shared the same fate. The Prince then steamed out, while a third cable was got up from the holt, and with this she was brought to, though with a smaller anchor than those she had lost, this answered for a while. On the dreadful morning of the 13th, however, it proved utterly inadequate. The prince cut away her masts, and put on her steam; but the wreck of the mizen mast fouled the screw, and the noble vessel becoming helpless, immediately drifted against the rocks. Figures are but feeble language for the description of such a catastro-

phe, but the value of the Prince, as she floated, is put at £150,000, and her cargo at half a million. There must have been nearly 200 souls on board. The thirty transports, utterly lost, with most of their crews at Balaklava, are put down at £15,500 each. So here at once a million of money went to the bottom, in a form of which money conveys but a faint idea. The other losses, enumerated above, the French ship of the line and war steamer, the transports lost on the western coast, the many vessels of all kinds disabled, made up another million to be added to the naked pecuniary estimate of the loss. But the true way of stating it is, that the army is utterly disabled for the present, and left to no other protection than Heaven, and that valor which the British soldier is ever sure to display in the face of the greatest difficulties, the direct privations, and the most overwhelming numbers. Yet never was the ancient valor of our race put to so tremendous a trial. The tempest, which is said to have been the most terrible ever known in that part of the world, and which overthrew three of the minarets of Sultan Achmet's Mosque, at Constantinople, besides driving large vessels from their moorings before that city, and did not spare the allies even on land. It blew down and greatly injured their tents, feeble protection as they are against the cold of a Crimean winter at the height of 700 feet above the neighboring surge. Such is the situation in which the army finds itself suddenly deprived of the much wanted supply of clothing sent out for the winter, and the equally needful ammunition for the siege.

THE AMERICAN PRESS ON THE WAR.

The European correspondent of the *Washington National Intelligencer* writes as follows:—

"The losses of the Allies are frightful, particularly in the British army. The Russians single out the latter in their attacks; avoid as much as they can the French; speak well of the latter, and disparagingly of the former.

"A general belief already prevails that the Allies must soon sound a retreat, when the Russians will act with great vigor, and I shall not be surprised to see a second Moscow. There is no sea in the world worse than the Black, which its name indicates. The fleet must soon return to Constantinople. How it can do so without bringing back the army or protecting it to Varna no one can tell. If the latter movement is attempted, the losses will indeed be dreadful.

"France is sending forward very large reinforcements. Forty thousand men are embarking at Toulon and Marseilles, with battering and siege artillery, which is a proof they do not expect to take Sebastopol this season; and they are sending also munitions of war in quantities as if for another Russian campaign like that undertaken by the great Napoleon.

"Well-informed persons assert that, including the ravages of the cholera, the Allies have already lost 50,000 men since they entered the Black Sea. The expenses are appalling. A new and heavy loan must be made in this country, and a new conscription on a large scale, which I fear will create great dissatisfaction.

"If the Allies even took Sebastopol, they could not retain it, and could only destroy the city and fleet, and then abandon it; for the greater forts domineer over and command the town, and against these forts not a shot has yet been fired. The forts thus far attacked are only those in advance.

"It is, I fear, but the prelude to the general war over all Europe, which will convulse the civilised world; destroy thrones, create new kingdom, illu-sory, and momentary republics, vandalism, taxes, loans, paper money, general distress, and ruin and horrible carnage. Hoarding of gold has already commenced both in Great Britain and on the continent.

"I see but little in this contest to interest the feelings of an American in the successes of either party. There is something for him to regret, and something the contrary, whichever may be the victors. The cause of humanity, I think, would gain, or rather would suffer less, by the present success of the Allies; for if they are now foiled, the pride of these proud nations would be thoroughly roused, and a renewal attempt to capture Sebastopol would be made next season, by a force, next season, if necessary, of 200,000 men or more, which would be met by corresponding exertion on the part of Russia, and result in a carnage to which even the wars of Napoleon afford no parallel.

"This war, however, if it continues, must very soon seriously affect the industrious interests of the country in various ways. Heavy, very heavy clouds now rest on the European future."

UNITED STATES.

We regret to learn the death by cholera, last week in New Orleans, of the Rev. George Blackney, of the Society of Jesus. The deceased was a native of Ireland.—*R.I.P.—Catholic Miscellany*.

LORD ELGIN IN NEW YORK.—The Earl of Elgin sailed for Liverpool yesterday, in the Collins' steamship "Pacific." Lord Elgin arrived in this city from Montreal on Tuesday, and on the same evening, visited the opera, in company with Royal Phelps, Esq., and others. The late Governor General carries with him the Canada subscription—twenty thousand pounds sterling—to the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the soldiers, sailors, and marines who have been killed in the present war with Russia.—An amusing circumstance connected with Lord Elgin's visit transpired yesterday. His Lordship was in want of funds to settle his hotel bills, and so forth, and presented at the Bank of Commerce a draft from the Bank of Montreal ordering the first named institution to pay to the order of the Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine the sum of £250, &c., &c. The teller of the Bank of Commerce assured his lordship that he could not pay the draft—could not say whether he was the person named in it or not. The Earl replied, "Why, I am the person—I will endorse it," and forthwith wrote "Elgin and Kincardine" on the back of the document. The teller was still incredulous. That sort of thing had been done by several confidence men before, and the Bank of Commerce could not pay this money until the claimant of it had proved his identity by some person known to the bank officers. Here was a fix. Lord Elgin looked about in vain for some person who could testify that he was really himself. He was finally obliged to depart without the money, there not being sufficient time previous to the sailing of the steamer to allow him to send for a friend to identify him. Lord Elgin was accompanied to the steamer by a large number of distinguished citizens.—*New York Herald*.