

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—“The visit of Lord Palmerston to Paris at this moment would give rise to an infinity of conjectures as to its real object. His Lordship paid a visit yesterday to the Emperor at St. Cloud, but returned in the evening to his quarters at the British Embassy. He again, I believe, visited the Emperor today. Thus it would appear that, as yet, no all events, he has not become the constant guest of the Emperor. There are, of course, many who would be glad to know something of what passes at these long interviews, and in default of such knowledge (for no one believes that the visit is one of mere courtesy) conjectures are hazarded. Some say that the object is to discuss the terms of a subsidy, and others that a grand financial operation, in which England and France should mutually guarantee a loan on an extraordinary large scale, is on the tapis. There are, not a few, however, who doubt that such can be the object of such a visit, seeing that either of these questions might be left to the ordinary diplomatic agency of both countries, but that something still more important is to be discussed. Indeed, it is said Lord Palmerston has come over to become acquainted with the Emperor's real thoughts and intentions on the present state of affairs, complicated as they are, and to come to an understanding as to the line of conduct which the English and French governments are to adopt in the event of any still more serious emergency arising—that emergency being nothing more or less than a continental war. It seems, indeed, a moral impossibility to avoid a more decided misunderstanding with Prussia. The selection of Lord Palmerston for such an object is not extraordinary, his Lordship having at the period of the coup d'état manifested much tolerance to Louis Napoleon. Such at all events are the rumors which prevail.”

FRANCH REINFORCEMENTS.—We believe we may confidently state that it has been arranged that 50,000 men are to be immediately sent out from France to the Crimea, and that England is to bear half of the expense. It is to supply the men for this expedition that the camp at Satory has been broken up.

A number of floating batteries are in progress of construction at Brest. About 20,000 kilogrammes of iron plates, intended for those batteries, have already arrived there, and more are expected shortly.

Letters have been received from M. de Lagondie and M. de Dampierre, taken prisoners by the Russians in the Crimea; the former on the eve of the battle of the Alma, and the latter during the operations of the siege of Sebastopol. Both speak highly of the attention shown them. After being extremely well treated during their detention in Sebastopol, they were conveyed, by order of the Emperor, to St. Petersburg. There, by His Majesty's directions, they were shown all that is curious in the capital, and were taken to the theatre. They were then supplied with furs, pelisses and with provision of all kinds and were removed to Jaroslaw, which is to serve as a depot for the French prisoners.

RESOURCES OF THE HOSTILE ARMIES.—The *Constitutionnel* has a useful article on the means of supporting the allied armies, and on the chances of Russian reinforcements:—“Provisions are abundant, and should the wind become contrary for our hundred and fifty sailing vessels, we have one hundred steamers always ready to supply the 12,000 men assembled in that narrow space. The sea even in winter is a more easy and certain resource for our supplies than the land conveyance for Prince Menschikoff. What is there, we again ask, so alarming in this state of things? Are we to consider all as lost because the German journals and the lying despatches of the private telegraph incessantly speak of reinforcements of 50,000 and 60,000 Russians reaching the Crimea? Certainly not; and the reason is, because the German journals are either the dupes or the accomplices of Russian policy. Reinforcements have certainly arrived, but they are far from being considerable. There is an absolute reason, which cannot be contradicted, which shows this. The nature of the country from Odessa to Simpheropol (150 leagues) prevents more than from 800 to 1,000 men marching together, and bivouacking on the same spot. They would be in want of water; wells are scarce, and would be insufficient to supply a greater number of men. Calculate, therefore, all the delays and the 26 days' march of the first detachment which left Odessa, and it will be seen that Prince Menschikoff could not receive more than 1,000 men per day at the most, which from the day of the landing of the allies to the present time would only make 27,000 men, allowing every circumstance to be in favor of the enemy. General Gortschakoff, besides, cannot spare too many of his troops, and the state of the steppes will soon be such as to prevent their passage. The season, in fact, becomes our most useful auxiliary. While the mountains of the Tauric chain check the rains, and the icy winds which come from the north of Russia, while we are established on southern slopes, under a climate so serene that the Russian aristocracy select it for building handsome country houses, where they seek an asylum against the cold of the north, the rains have deluged the roads by which the Russian columns have to march, and the steppe is transformed into a lake of mud. The date of the last accounts which reached St. Petersburg from the Crimea proves this fact; even rapid Feldjäger himself took 48 hours longer to perform the distance from Sebastopol to Koursk. Can it, therefore, be supposed that provisions, ammunition, and bodies of troops can make more rapid progress? Thus, therefore, we see that either a want of water

does not allow an army to advance, except by detachments, on the rain plunges it in the mud, and it pursues its march with difficulty, decimated by fever and arduous marches, with the half of its original effective strength. The Archbishop of Paris is about to proceed to Rome, where he has been summoned by an autograph letter from the Pope. From the *Univers*, our readers are aware of the deep impression caused throughout the whole of England by the recent conversion of Mr. R. Wilberforce. The illustrious neophyte received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, at the hands of His Excellency Monsignor the Archbishop of Nioca, Apostolic Nuncio in France. There were present at this ceremony, which took place in the chapel of the Annunciation in Paris, the Rev. P. de Ravignani, and four new converts, fellow-countrymen of Mr. Wilberforce. It is needless to say what religious emotion prevailed among all present.

Galvani's Messenger describes an impressive spectacle in the Cathedral of Meaux:—“By the orders of the Bishop of Meaux, the leaden coffin, recently discovered, containing the mortal remains of Bossuet, was opened on the 14th instant. The head was found covered with four folds of linen, which was cut away with a pair of scissors, and the features were then seen. They were much less changed than might have been expected, considering that the body has been buried a century and a half. The head was leaning a little to the right, like that of a person asleep, and the left part of the face was in particular exceedingly well preserved, and at once reminded the lookers-on of Rigaud's portrait of the deceased. The mouth was open, the eyes shut, the nose somewhat fallen in, the hair white, and the mustaches and imperial visible. The skull had been sewed across so as to allow the brain to be taken away, in order to let aromatic substances be placed in its stead. An artist, who was present, took a sketch of the face as it appeared when the coffin was opened. When it was known that the features of the deceased could be seen, a great number of persons hastened to the cathedral. Several ecclesiastics also arrived from Paris, and amongst them the curé of St. Roch and the curé of St. Louis d'Antin. In the night of the 14th a glass was fixed over the face, so as to preserve it from the contact of the external air, and the next day, at ten in the morning, a funeral service was performed, at which the bishop officiated. Pontifical ornaments covered the coffin, a crozier was placed close to it, and Bossuet once more appeared as bishop in his own cathedral. All the functionaries of the town were present on the occasion as well as a large number of other persons. After the mass had finished, the crowd walked round, in order to see the features of the deceased. The coffin was replaced in the evening in the vault.”

ITALY.

ROME.—The communications of the Holy See respecting the definition of the Immaculate Conception have been addressed, I am informed, to 350 prelates throughout Catholic Christendom; and of this number all, save a very small minority, have been unanimous in their counsels; all (I believe without one exception) according in their sentiments.—*Correspondent of Telegraph.*

The *Univers* has the following:—“Our letters from Rome are of the 4th Nov.—The regiment of Dragoons which has been in garrison there from the commencement of the occupation, and took part in the siege of 1849, has received orders to hold itself in readiness to return to France. As there is no talk of its being replaced, its departure is considered as a step towards a complete evacuation of the Papal States. We have already stated that the only battalion of Foot Chasseurs which had been attached to the army of Italy had also returned to France. That army is now only composed of two regiments of the line, two regiments of light infantry, four batteries of artillery, a company of engineers, with a detachment of the wagon-train, workmen, &c. The total effective strength may be reckoned at 10,000 men. If, as has generally been stated, these departures of troops are an indication of an approaching evacuation, we shall before long hear of a similar movement in the Austrian army which occupies the Romagna and the Marches, for the evacuation can only take place by common accord of the two great Catholic Powers. Public opinion endeavors to calculate the nature of this measure. In the present state of affairs, there is nothing to fear. It is true that if, by an impossibility, the arms of the Western Powers should experience a check, that check would probably be the signal for a revolutionary movement in Piedmont and Lombardy, and that the audacity of the Mazzinians might be raised throughout all Italy; but that eventually appears to be so improbable that it does not merit being taken into account.”

Mazzini is busily occupied in fomenting another *emancipation*. He assures the disaffected party who were formerly his adherents that the decisive moment for action has come at last, and recommends them to raise a new loan on the principal he propounded a few years ago. Young Italy responds with scant sympathy to his overtures, however, and some of the most intelligent and influential members of the party have imitated Garibaldi's example by repudiating him altogether. “Nevertheless,” writes a correspondent who seems to have studied the character of the ex-Triumvir, “M. Mazzini does not consider himself as beaten, and it is feared that we shall soon hear of some other outbreak similar to those of the 6th of February, 1853, at Milan, and the 22nd of July, 1854, at Parma.”—*Nation.*

SPAIN.

A telegraphic despatch of the 14th from Madrid states that there was a rumor that Marshal Espartero was about to retire from the Ministry.

The Jesuits are again threatened with expulsion from their ancient home and patrimony, Loyola, in Biscaye. The Balearic Isles are spoken of as their probable retreat. Truly the prayer of their exalted Founder, St. Ignatius, constantly receives accomplishment in his devoted children's persecution for the sake of Jesus.

GERMAN POWERS.

Three days ago the Emperor of Austria sent an autograph letter to the Emperor Napoleon, the sense of which is said to be, that “If the Eastern question was not settled by the spring, Austria would no longer remain a passive spectator.”—*Cor. of Times.*—The *Official Gazette* in Wurtemberg published, at the commencement of this month, some account of the plans now ripe in that country for emigration to Palestine. A Society for the bringing together of God's people in Jerusalem has constituted itself, and among other proceedings has prepared a petition to the Bund at Frankfurt, the purport of which is as follows:—That the Assembly of the German Confederation will be pleased, through the agency of the two great Powers of Germany, to induce the Sultan to permit the “Society for the bringing together of God's people in Jerusalem” to found communities in the Holy Land, under the following conditions:—1. Self-government in all civil and religious matters, that they may be able to be arranged entirely according to God's word. 2. Security for person and property against the arbitrations of Turkish officials, and against uncontrolled and oppressive taxes. 3. Exemption from Turkish military service. 4. Guarantee of the same rights to every one who shall subsequently become a member of this society, whether he may have previously been Christian, Jew, or Mahomedan, Turk or foreigner. 5. The assignment of the Holy Land to these communities, in order that they may settle there conformably to the object and purpose which they have stated above.

THE BALTIC.

The *Indépendance Belge* publishes the following letter from Hamburg, of the 17th ult.:—“Despatches from England for Admiral Napier reached Kiel on Wednesday evening. From what has transpired among the officers relative to their contents, it appears that the English ministry considering the presence of a large portion of the fleet still necessary in the Baltic, has resolved not to recall it immediately, but to maintain it at Kiel until December 4th, when Admiral Napier is to receive fresh orders, acquainting him with the number of ships which are to return to England and those which are to winter at Kiel.”

RUSSIA.

The *Indépendance Belge* publishes the following letter, dated Hamburg, 12th ult.:—“The military measures adopted of late by the Russian Government in Poland evidently prove that it wishes to be prepared should political complications render that country the theatre of war. All the fortresses have been placed in a formidable state of defence, and supplied with provisions for 18 months, and three divisions of the army are now installed in the three camps the military engineers have been engaged in constructing since the first fortnight of September.”

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS.—A despatch from St. Petersburg states that, to replace the artillerymen picked off at Sebastopol by the French tirailleurs and the riflemen of the allies, the Russian Minister of Marine has taken artillery soldiers from the Baltic fleet, and sent them to the south. A special and rapid service of wagons has been provided for their conveyance. It is also said that a new recruitment, for the service of the fleet at Cronstadt, has taken place in the beginning of this month, and that a number of recruits for the navy have already arrived at that fortress. The Minister of Marine had also ordered 500,000 lbs. of salt butter, and the same quantity of hogs' lard, for the use of the Baltic fleet next spring. He has likewise given directions to prepare, during the winter, an immense quantity of timber and planks, which are to be delivered at St. Petersburg, Cronstadt, and the ports of the Baltic and the Gulfs, exposed to be attacked next spring by the fleets of England and France. News from Vienna says that 15,000 men had been sent from Kischeneff and Odessa. Prince Paskiewitch has ordered another corps of 20,000 men to the Crimea.

BRITISH INDIA.—England again trembles—and well she may—for the possession of those magnificent territories she has so long misgoverned in the far East. Not wholly absorbed by a struggle which has already done so much to exhaust the military power of his opponents, the Czar has been steadily pursuing his career of conquest in Central Asia, and his last achievement has been the capture of Kokan, a country of the Usbeg Tartars, only 500 miles distant from British India. It is scarcely a year since the Russian Government realized the ambition of centuries by establishing their dominion in Khiva, and they have occupied the interval in subjugating the more powerful territories of Bokhara and Kokan. It would scarcely take another twelve months, we presume, to traverse the 500 miles which separate them from Peshawar, the most northern district of British India; and then, a collision between the two Powers would be inevitable. In fact, the elements of a collision seem to be already at hand—for we are told that the Shahzada of Kokan has arrived at Peshawar to ask the assistance of the British Government against the Russians, who “have forced the King of Bokhara to acknowledge their superiority, and have taken a city belonging to the Khan of Kokan, on the refusal of that chief to have anything to do with them.”—*Nation.*

WAR IN THE EAST.

Omar Pasha has received orders from Constantinople to advance to the Pruth. **PARIS, THURSDAY.**—The *Moniteur*, under the

date of Friday, November 10th, says it is expected here that the Turks will commence hostilities on the Pruth very soon. Suleiman Pasha, who commanded the Turkish troops in the Crimea, has been degraded by the Sultan. The Rev. Mr. Whibley, Catholic Chaplain to the British army, has died from dysentery, in the Crimea. The Rev. D. Sheahan, the friend and companion of the deceased, writes as follows:—

Camp near Sebastopol, Nov. 6, 1854.
“In my last letter I stated that Mr. Whibley was in a very precarious state of health, and that his absence from duty had become inevitable. It is my painful office now to add that his illness has terminated fatally. He died in Balaklava Harbour last Friday, and was buried on Saturday. The Rev. Mr. Bagshawe, a few friends, and myself, followed him to the grave. We purpose erecting a memorial of him in the cemetery where his remains lie. Poor dear Whibley's death has made me very, very sad. If you knew how much every one of his own loved him—how much, even every Protestant clergyman included, of his division respected him, and the good he accomplished, you would realize the loss religion has experienced, as you can already tell how great a blow his death would prove to those who entertained for him all the feelings of affectionate friendship:—‘Sed fiat voluntas Dei.’ May his soul have eternal rest! How I missed him yesterday. The fight was more bloody than that of the Alma. It fell chiefly on the Second Division, that to which our late dear friend was attached. If the truth were told it would have gone hard with us had not the French reinforced our troops in the nick of time. The Russians were beaten back, and the Allies maintained their position; but it was a dearly purchased victory, as accounts will show.”

The following communication appears in the *Times*: You say we are to have a winter campaign in the Crimea, I have travelled in an open sleigh in winter in the north of Russia, and broke my brandy with a hammer for breakfast, and, *experto crede*, nothing but fur can effectually resist such cold.

You will be told that the cold is not so severe in the Crimea as in the north. This is half true, and therefore the more likely to deceive. The mercury is not so often hard in the bulb of the thermometer as I have seen it in the north, but there are violent winds in the Crimea which never occur in the north, and 10 degrees of frost with wind are more intolerable than 30 degrees without it.

RUSSIAN FORCES IN AND ABOUT SEBASTOPOL.—The *Morning Chronicle* publishes a detailed statement, of which the subjoined is a summary, of Prince Menschikoff's disposable force, both for the defence of the fortress and for offensive operations outside:—

Bayonets	...	63,800
Sabres and lances	...	15,100
Guns, &c., with 328 guns, subject to be reduced to 248, if Dannenberg's eight batteries have not arrived		6,400
Sappers and train	...	4,800

General total of all denominations 90,100

It is not quite certain whether a brigade of the reserve Dragoons drilled to fight on foot have or have not joined. If they have, 2,800 sabres must be added.

THE FLOATING BATTERIES FOR THE BALTIC.—The fleet of steam floating batteries building in England and France, as an auxiliary force to the Allied fleets in the Baltic, amount to no fewer than forty, and the whole of them are ordered to be launched and equipped by March next. The French government, it appears, first suggested to the Admiralty the construction of the batteries, which are to be armed with twelve of the largest Lancaster guns. They are nearly 2,000 tons burthen, flat bottomed, with round stern and stern, 180 feet extreme length, 66 in width, and 20 in depth, each being propelled by horizontal engines of 200 horse power. They have two decks, the upper being bomb-proof, eight inches thick, and the lower, the fighting deck. The batteries are perfectly encased with nearly 700 tons of wrought iron slabs, each slab four inches thick, 12 inches broad, and 14 feet in length. The tests these wrought iron slabs have undergone show that they are capable of resisting the heaviest shot in use. The new flat-bottomed gunboats which are to accompany the expedition are in a very forward condition.

ARISTOCRATIC SOLDIERS.—The *Times* says:—“The siege of Sebastopol, though not raised, may be regarded as at a standstill for the present. We are standing on the defence, constructing earthwork, erecting wooden barracks, waiting for reinforcements and supplies, and giving our men a little rest, and comfort, at the cost of allowing the enemy to rest also from his labors, to repair all the damage we have done, to complete new works of defence, and perhaps to receive further reinforcements and supplies. The flower of the British army, after having excited the admiration of the world, and the warm affection of our once hostile allies, will pass the winter as ill-housed, ill-clothed, and ill-fed, that they would be glad to exchange their case for that of an ordinary laborer at home. Those Guards, who have stood for many years at home in the common butt for the envy and jealousy of all classes, in and out of the service, and who were pronounced fit only to wear splendid uniforms and figure in State ceremonies, will have to endure scanty rations and cold for a whole Russian winter, on a desolate promontory in the stormy Bosphorus. They will have to do this with an enemy ever on the watch to break in upon their rest. How many an invincible controversy will be lulled, meanwhile! For many a month we shall hear no more of rapid promotion, courtly favor, and aristocratic captains. Why, look at the list of the slain; and half of them, if they have not a handle to their names, are at least of noble blood. Who envies them now their death sleep on those bloody heights, pierced through and through, mangled and disfigured by their brutal foes?”