

has been taken to task by the New York *Herald* as well as the *Times*.

The Rev. Messrs. Kirk, Wood, Worcester, and Hickey have since confirmed the Bishop's declaration, and this is a fact to which we would call the attention of the *Times*, who sneers at the Bishop and "Episcopal Clergy." We have never denied or doubted that the great body of the intelligent, sober-minded, religious people of the States were favourable to the cause of the Allies. No doubt this is true of the very excellent circles in which those Reverend gentlemen move, but we are convinced that such men have not, for some time past, controlled the government or the destinies of the country.—*N. Y. Churchman*.

### News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Canada, Feb. 17.

#### ENGLAND.

The *Spectator* informs us that all the most important points in the reconstruction of the Ministry appear to be now accomplished; but it has only been gradually, since Lord Palmerston accepted the Premiership on Tuesday, that some of the most important Ministers have fallen into their places, and it is not even yet certain whether the last touch has been given to the Cabinet. The list stands thus:—

Lord Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury.  
Lord Cranworth, Lord Chancellor.  
Earl Granville, President of the Council.  
Duke of Argyll, Lord Privy Seal.  
Earl of Clarendon, Foreign Secretary.  
Mr. Sidney Herbert, Colonial Secretary.  
Sir George Grey, Home Secretary.  
Lord Panmure, Secretary for War.  
Mr. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer.  
Sir Charles Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty.  
Sir William Molesworth, Public Works.  
Sir Charles Wood, President of the Board of Control.  
The Marquis of Lansdowne, Without office.  
Lord Canning, Postmaster General.  
Mr. Cardwell, President of the Board of Trade.

Lord Canning does not leave his post, but his having a seat in the Cabinet is new, and it will give further strength to the council. We place the last name where the reader sees it, because, although Mr. Cardwell did not take his seat at the Cabinet yesterday, it has been said, with great probability, that he is to be added to the Cabinet. Such an arrangement is desirable. As a man of business, Mr. Cardwell would often be useful. A free-trade Ministry ought to be helped just now, above all times—when free-trade alliance is the grand compensator for war interruptions—by the advice of the chief trade minister. And questions of commerce arise directly out of the relations with allies, the enemy, and neutrals. On every account the Cabinet ought to include Mr. Cardwell. With respect to the Ministers not in the Cabinet, there seems to be some uncertainty. No Chancellor has yet been provided for the Duchy of Lancaster. Sir John Young has been mentioned to succeed Sir Henry Ward as Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, and Lord Elcho, as likely to succeed him in the Irish Secretaryship. Mr. Layard has been mentioned as the newly-created Under-Secretary for War; but the appointment has not yet been made. It is understood that some considerations have had to be weighed respecting the number of Under-Secretaries, in either house; and that Mr. Layard himself did not meet the offer with immediate and unconditional acceptance. It was reported last week that Lord Grey had refused to join the Government: we have reason to know that this statement was untrue; and that, in fact, Lord Grey had not been invited. It is understood, however, that he will give to the War Minister all the aid of his experience, and special knowledge respecting the administration and organization of the military departments.

The two Cabinet offices of Secretary of State for War and Secretary at War are now combined, and entrusted to the experienced direction of Lord Panmure, who holds both offices, and directs both departments, until the legislature shall be able to mature a plan for the consolidation of the whole of the military system. In holding those two offices, it is scarcely necessary to add that Lord Panmure will receive only the salary of one. The only appointment decided upon is that of Mr. Frederick Peel, who removes from the Under-Secretaryship of the Colonial to that of the War-Department. To him will be entrusted the financial business of the department, which he will conduct in the office in Whitehall lately occupied by Mr. Sidney Herbert. He will prepare the estimates for Parliament, and answer in the house of Commons for the

War-Office, where the general business will be conducted under the able superintendance of Mr. Hawes. It is highly complimentary to Mr. Peel that his business habits have pointed him out at such a moment for selection in this important duty.—*Observer*.

The *Morning Herald* of yesterday announces that Lord Palmerston offered the seals of the Duchy of Lancaster, with a seat in the Cabinet, to the Earl of Shaftesbury, who accepted, but, adds the *Herald*:—

"After the arrangement had been, as it was thought, finally concluded, a peremptory veto was placed upon the appointment by some members of the Cabinet. It is confidently stated that Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Sidney Herbert remonstrated in the strongest terms against it. They assigned as their reason the incompatibility of the well known opinions of the noble earl upon religious questions with their own views upon such subjects, and threatened resignation if the appointment was persisted in.

"Lord Palmerston was compelled to yield; and after the appointment had been actually made, it was cancelled, in obedience to the Pusoyite tendencies of the two right honourable gentlemen who now rule the Cabinet over which Lord Palmerston has condescended nominally to preside.

"We do not feel justified in withholding this statement one hour from the Protestant people of the United Kingdom."

The  *Globe* of the same evening, however, assures its contemporary that there is not the most remote foundation for any portion of the statement.

The same authority tells us there is no foundation for the statement that Lord Wodehouse is to leave the Foreign for the Colonial-office as Under Secretary of State. We may add that with the exception of the transfer of Mr. Peel from the Colonial to the War department, no change has yet been decided upon respecting the Under-Secretaries.

It was announced yesterday by the *Times* and *Daily News* that Lord John Russell is to proceed in a few days to Vienna as British Plenipotentiary at the conference and negotiations for peace, about to open in that capital. The former adds:—"It is further stated that Mr. Hammond, a gentleman who fills with great ability the office of Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and who is consequently thoroughly acquainted with the diplomatic relations of this country, will accompany the mission; so that Great Britain will be represented at this conference by a Minister of State who, till within the last few days has taken part in all the deliberations of the Cabinet on the present war, and also by a gentleman who is equally well versed in all the official details of these important transactions."

Friday night's *Gazette* contained a proclamation commencing—"Whereas information has been received that certain acts of a highly treasonable nature have been or are about to be done or attempted by certain British subjects adhering to the Queen's enemies, either within her Majesty's dominions or in parts beyond the seas," such as building and equipping ships, providing stores, tackling, ammunition, and the like, or otherwise aiding and abetting the Queen's enemies: it warns such persons that "they will be liable to be apprehended and dealt with as traitors, and proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law."

In the House of Commons, replying to a question from Mr. Craufurd, Admiral Berkeley expressed his regret at the indiscreet speech of his old friend, Sir Charles Napier, at the Mansion-house. With this expression of regret, it was his duty to inform the house "That Sir Charles Napier has not been censured; that Sir Charles Napier has not been dismissed from his command; that Sir Charles Napier was not goaded into improperly attacking any one fortification in the Baltic; that Sir Charles Napier was not restricted in any way from attacking those fortresses, if he had so thought proper; and that Sir Charles Napier was informed by the Admiralty that the country expected everything that such a fleet could perform to be carried out and executed against the enemy. I regret extremely that Sir Charles Napier is setting so bad an example to those officers whom he would command. I regret extremely that it is my duty to state, as the senior naval officer of the Admiralty, now highly we must disapprove of such conduct in any officer in her Majesty's service." Sir Charles Napier should reflect whether his conduct to his superiors would enable him to secure the confidence of officers under him, "if such confidence they have in him; and whether such conduct is becoming in an officer who assumes to command a fleet in conjunction with our allies the French." (Cheers.)

Sir Charles Napier has written to Mr. Craufurd expressing himself much surprised at Admiral Berkeley's reply to the honourable member's question, and adds:—"I do not intend to bandy words with the gallant admiral, but I beg to tell you, when the paper—which I hope will be asked for—are produced, it will be seen that I was goaded to act contrary to my own judgment—that I was censured—and finally dismissed my command."

The Bishop of Sierra Leone has died on shipboard, in the course of a visitation tour. Great devotion, missionary work, and an extensive acquaintance with African dialects, especially qualified him (setting aside his theological views) for the post in which he has died before the attainment of middle age, and in which it may not be easy to find a successor.—*Guardian*.

The following is the latest despatch received from Lord Raglan:—

"Before Sebastopol, Jan'y 27, 1855.  
"My Lord Duke—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your grace that the weather continues fine. There are severe frosts at night; but the sun shines brightly through the day, and there is an absence of wind which, whilst it continued, added considerably to the sufferings of the troops.

"Every exertion is making, by public transport and individually, in getting huts up; but this is a most difficult operation, and the ground is still so rotten that it is a most arduous labour to pass along it.

"The extremely confined space of Balaclava, and the vast accumulation of stores, has obliged us to erect huts at some distance outside the town for their reception.

"I enclose the list of casualties to the 25th inclusive.—I have, &c. "RAGLAN.

"His Grace the Duke of Newcastle."

According to Vienna despatches, the Czar has issued a manifesto, under date of St. Petersburg, the 12th February, in which he calls out the entire male population under arms. An additional force of 500,000 men will be despatched to the Crimea; 60,000 men are being concentrated on the Pruth, and preparations are being made to attack the allied positions. A letter from Constantinople, dated the 29th ult., in a French paper, also tells us that—

"The Russian army in the Crimea has just received large reinforcements. It now consists of—the garrison of Sebastopol, supposed to be 30,000 strong; of the army of observation, which occupies very strong positions to the north and east of the camp of the allies, and which communicates with Sebastopol, though with difficulty; of detached divisions in the environs of Batehi Serai and Simpheropol, which may be concentrated in a few hours, so as to oppose to the besiegers a mass of 100,000 men; of a corps of from 25,000 to 30,000 men fortified in the position of the Alma, in order to close the road to Sebastopol against Omar Pacha, and to cut off all communications by land with the allied army; and, lastly, of about 30,000 men who are encamped at the entrance of the isthmus to prevent Perekop, observe Eupatoria, keep up the communications of Prince Menschikoff with Russia, and to be ready to go wherever they may be required."

30,000 of the Turks have landed at Eupatoria—Omer Pacha left Varna for Bourges on the 6th to inspect the cavalry and magazines. "After that inspection he will embark definitively for Eupatoria."

An unconfirmed report derived from Vienna has appeared in the papers that "the Zouaves had retreated, and demanded a retreat from the Crimea. Four hundred of the mutineers had arrived at Constantinople in chains, and will be despatched to Toulon."

The *Herald* correspondent remarks—

"We have had continuous fine weather since last night, and all the men are now completely clad in the warm sheep-skin coats. The soldiers appear to think it an essential part of their duty to wear on all occasions all the clothing which is issued to them. For instance, men employed in dragging up huge guns, or in fatigue parties working with picks and shovels, turn out to their labour when the sun is almost hot, swathed up to the chin in thick comforters, flannel shirts, and great coats, and sheep-skin coats over all. It is sometimes ridiculous to see them moving about this way, and it is generally said that the men now suffer as much from overclothing as ever they did from being short of it."

A Berlin despatch states that the following telegraphic message has been received at St. Petersburg. It so far corroborates the report that Menschikoff has left the fortress, in that it is not mentioned as usual to have come from the Prince:—

"Nothing particular has taken place before Sebastopol, except a sortie on the night of the 31st of January, in which we (the Russians) took three officers and seven men prisoners."

The following despatch has been received at the Admiralty:—

"Agamemnon, off Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.  
"Sir—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my last general letter of the 23rd instant (No. 60), the weather has been particularly fine; the health of the army has been much benefited by the change. A good deal of progress has been made in putting the troops and distributing the clothing which has been so liberally sent out from England; so that the men express themselves as being comfortable.

"2. The health of the fleet and of the naval brigade