

of the Empire and the hopeless disorganization of its military forces.

The economy claimed as being effected by this transcendent genius is another of those "*Shams in Excelsior*" our contemporary so forcibly condemns, and why **CARDWELL** should escape is a mystery time only can explain. The particular *sham* in question was the disbanding of 20,000 trained soldiers, of which probably 1000 came from the Colonies in the spring of 1870, and before the midsummer was well past **MR. GLADSTONE** or **MR. LOWE** had to ask for an additional £2,000,000 to supplement the Army Estimates for the ostensible purpose of adding 20,000 raw recruits to a military force then totally disorganized; so that it is an outrageous *sham* to impute any credit to the British War Minister in any matter relating to the efficiency of the Colonial forces or their organization, the avowed object being to withdraw the troops from Canada in order to promote its annexation to the neighboring States; and the War Minister as well as his colleagues merited a halter at the hands of the British people instead of fulsome adulation for the act.

The scandal of the Royal Warrant will cling to the Whig-Radicals as long as England has a constitutional history, and it is fresh in the memory of our readers that *Broad Arrow* was in considerable doubt as to whether the War Minister was to fill **MIRABEAU** or **CROWWELL'S** shoes.

The bright scheme of the *three years service* in the Army has filled its ranks with the sweepings of all the gaols, workhouses, and towns in England. Respectable men refuse to enlist or spend so large a portion of their time for nothing, although the commissions are to be had by *crams*, and we question the example afforded after the *three years service* has expired, or its effects in procuring recruits—the directly contrary in operation will be the case—it will be difficult in an overstocked labor market for the discharged soldier to obtain employment, and he will not be as apt at his speciality after as he was before he devoted three years to learn the goose step.

As we surmised in our remarks on "*Sham in Excelsior*," **MR. CARDWELL**, according to our contemporary, was to blame for the "prescribed Autumn Manœuvres"—their utter failure accounts for our contemporary's rage.

**LORD MACAULAY** relates an episode in the life of the notorious **RICHARD TALBOT**, Duke of Tyrconnel and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, under the last of the **STUARTS**. Previous to the disastrous battle of **Aughrim** he took the field with the troops and endeavored to prescribe the military operations of the day, but he was quietly told it was none of his business, and if he did not leave his tent lines would be cut.

Our contemporary is fond of historical parallels for the War Minister; might it not be as well to apply this lesson as an incitement to forego those abstruse studies in connection with black despatch boxes and

the War Office, as an inducement to take that healthy exercise on the moors which would result in recuperating his exhausted powers, and securing for England a continuation of the valuable services which culminate in "*Shams in Excelsior*"?

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a pamphlet on "the Berlin Conference and the political state of Europe," from the author, **CAPT. W. T. WYATT** of Woodster Place, Epsom, England, in which the present political complications of Europe are ably handled, the probable scope and tendency of the Conference indicated, and their effects on the future of Great Britain graphically portrayed.

Starting with the premise that Peace Conferences, as that of Berlin was rather ostentatiously announced to the world to be, generally ended in a scheme for the revision of the Map of Europe; and that it is not the Potentates themselves who will be the probable agents in a future contest, but their Ministers, who would be as likely to be moved by disappointed egotism as any other feeling; and that in the present position of affairs the following four propositions need little demonstration.

1st. The countries which have most to fear from a Holy Alliance at the present time are those that have received the most friendly assurances.

2nd. That neither Russia nor Austria have anything to fear from any country in Europe except Prussia.

3rd. That Prussia by her aggressive policy has to fear German freedom and the future revenge of crippled France.

4th. That the three Potentates know that at the present moment they have the fate of Europe in their hands.

It is then asked "What can England do to prevent their decree being carried out?" "The policy of nonintervention, the dismemberment of the British Empire, and the making the organization of our Army and Navy the political football for party manoeuvres have rendered us helpless. Besides the lukewarm spirit displayed by all classes of politicians on the balance of power in Europe, proves to these Sovereigns that the *silver streak of sea* is the policy of our present race of Statesmen."

The pamphlet goes on to show that dismemberment of the British Empire means dismemberment of the United Kingdom, that in the event of a renewal of a Franco-Prussian struggle on the Continent, the Irish people will not be passive but will actively aid France. That in **PRESIDENT THIERS'** hands rests the peace of Europe by declaring for the stability of the French Republic or endeavoring to reconcile the interests of the rival Houses of **BOURBON** and **BONAPARTE** by marriage or otherwise, but that in any case the inevitable conflict must come.

It also shews that the policy of Prussia has been and is to play the interests of the minor

nationalities comprising the greater States against those States, and relatively against such other so as to neutralize any concentrated action opposed to her own. France, from its homogeneity—being her greatest difficulty—and that she suffers and will suffer from the aspirations after liberty of the free German States that she has cajoled or conquered.

That the intrigues of the German National party paralyse the action of Russia, Austria and Italy—renders Turkey useless in any calculation of material force, and that the double headed Eagle of Prussia will wave over the spire of St. Stephen's at Vienna, and St. Sophia at Constantinople.

The present political party in power in England have led Prussia to believe that they "would gladly see the day when we should be content to sit and spin at home" and pay Prussia for being our military "guardian angel."

In this connection it is ably shown that the success of Prussian arms has entirely altered the relations of Russia with Turkey—that her Baltic interests being jeopardised the gain at Constantinople would not counterbalance the loss—that the want of homogeneity in her populations constitutes a real danger, and that a war with Prussia would involve the creation of Slavonic and Greek Empires carved out of Russian territory, and as a consequence a solution of the political difficulties under which the three great powers labour, demands a new revision of the Map of Europe; and that was the object of the conference.

In this division it is supposed that France would be offered French Belgium, Luxembourg, and a rectification of her frontier together with French Switzerland, extension of her African possessions and a part of the Island of Madagascar. Prussia would obtain the remaining part of Belgium, Holland, some of the Dutch Colonies, Denmark, a portion of Norway, part of the African coast, some of the Mediterranean possessions, and part of Madagascar. Russia would obtain Sweden, part of Norway, and indefinite extension in Asia. Austria the protectorate of Moldavia, Wallachia, and Montenegro.

By this means the Prussians would obtain a maritime frontier and fleet capable of being augmented till she would become the first Naval Power in the Universe; and it is said that "In this second division of Europe the independence of England as a nation will be decided. Either the author of the *Battle of Dorking*, or that of *Berlin*, will have rendered one of their names famous in the annals of future history."

It is to this the policy of non-intervention, the panacea for all national evils of the Whig Radicals and Quakers, has brought the country of **MARLBOROUGH**, **RODNEY**, **WELLINGTON**, and **NELSON**.

The programme so ably sketched out appears to have been the result of the policy of **FREDERICK THE GREAT**, who aping the Czar