

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. America, May 12.

ENGLAND.

DEATH OF SIR ROBERT INGLIS.—Our readers will read with regret the announcement that Sir Robert Inglis passed from this world, after a short illness, on Saturday evening, May 8. Sir Robert was born in 1786, and had therefore attained the age of seventy. For many years he presided over the East India Company as chairman. He received his education at Oxford, and at an early age graduated at Christ Church. He subsequently became a member of the bar, but soon declined the law for the service of his country. Although in every sense of the word an Englishman, his early career in the House of Commons was as an Irish member, and in this respect coincidental with the cases of Peel, Goulburn, Home, and Russell. From 1824 to 1834 he represented Dundalk. At the close of the latter year he was elected for Ripon; and from 1828 to the close of his parliamentary career, about two years since, Sir Robert sat for the University of Oxford. In 1807, Sir Robert married the eldest daughter of Joseph Seymour Briscoe, Esq. of Penhill, Surrey, by whom he does not leave any male issue. The title was first conferred on the father of the deceased in 1801.

On Monday the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, was announced in a second edition of the *Post*, and a fourth conveyed the further intelligence that Count Walewski, the Ambassador here, had been recalled to Paris as his successor. M. Persigny is to be the new Ambassador to London. Everybody regrets the change, which is said to be owing to a difference of opinion about renewing negotiations for peace on fresh terms, proposed by Austria.

There has been a formidable disturbance amongst the Russian war prisoners at Lewes. Three weeks ago a spirit of insubordination showed itself, about forty out of the 350 refusing to go out for their usual airing unless three of their companions, who were in confinement for misconduct, were released. On Thursday evening there was a general refusal to pump the water required for their tea. "No water, no tea," said the governor, and supperless the prisoners retired for the night. Next morning the refusal to work the pump was renewed. "No water, no breakfast," was the decision of the governor. The dinner arrived from the contractor's but the governor ordered it to be returned, being determined to starve the refractory prisoners into order. The prisoners, at this, however, drew their knives, and threatened to use them, and actually attacked the guard of pensioners, some of whom they knocked down. In this state of things the governor ordered the yard gates to be fastened, and sent to Brighton for a detachment of the Sussex Militia. On their arrival they were drawn up in the yard in presence of the prisoners; and the warders then demanded of each prisoner the delivery of his knife. Each prisoner was then searched, and on one of them a second knife was discovered. Above a dozen of them were placed under restraint and in solitary confinement. The cause of the disturbance would seem to be rather that the Russians are too well treated than that they are treated harshly. Their captivity is of a kind unknown to warfare half a century ago. Visitors are freely admitted, and freely purchase the toys, in making which the prisoners beguile the tedium of their confinement. As many as 500 have visited the prison in a day, and as much as £40 has been received from them. It is known that at Christmas they possessed—after making the purchases in the town admitted by the rules of the prison—considerably above £1,000. These purchases were made by the wives of a few of the prisoners, who had nearly perfect freedom of ingress and egress between the town and the prison. Scarcely a prisoner, says the local reporter, is without a watch; and many of the time-pieces are of gold. The allowance to each man, in addition to bread, butter, cheese, tea, coffee, &c., is two-thirds of a pound meat per day, and this cut from the primest parts of the bullock. The medical officer of the prison [Dr. Burton] has, it is said, expressed his opinion that they are too well fed. For the future it is intended their luxuries shall be reduced.

It has so far attended the progress of the floating batteries; the *Grillon* has undergone three alterations, and much doubt is expressed amongst professional men as to the probability of the iron plates, when expanded from heat, drawing or breaking their fastenings, in taking their curves by expansion, the joints and bolts being quite close. The vessel has also been

found so leaky, that a large portion of her timber has had to be removed in order to repair the leaks. On Thursday night another of the batteries, the *Etna*, was completely destroyed, by fire, as far as fire could destroy it, on the stocks in the yard of Messrs. H. Russell and Co., at Millwall. Before any one could render assistance the flames rushed between the iron plates of the battery, firing the timbers, and eventually the heat became so great that the iron plates, 1½ inches thick, started, when the flames rose to a great height, lighting up the whole of the East-end and the Surrey side of the water. Tons upon tons of water were kept falling into the vessel, yet the conflagration continued its ravages, and about eleven o'clock a frightful scene took place, as the ponderous vessel, in a thorough state of ignition, glided off the stocks in the darkness into the river, amidst the shrieks of some thousand persons who were in boats at the mouth of the dock. Several persons were so terrified that they jumped into the water, fearing that the blazing vessel would fall upon them and crush them to death. The whole were, however, recovered by the Thames police and watermen. No cause has been discovered for this conflagration. The battery was to have been launched on Saturday. The property destroyed is valued at £120,000.

An order has been received at the Royal Arsenal to send out immediately to the Crimea 20,000 shells—10,000 13-inch and 10,000 10-inch. The order was received at Woolwich within twenty-four hours from leaving Sebastopol. Twelve more companies of Artillery have also received orders to hold themselves in readiness for embarkation.

It is stated to be the intention of the British and French Governments to send an expedition of 95,000 men, artillery and infantry, to assist in the operations about to be resumed against the Russian fortresses in the Gulf of Finland and Bothnia, and the Baltic. France will supply the greater portion; but, as a set-off, the British Government is to increase the naval forces, and to furnish tonnage for the conveyance of the troops, who will embark sufficiently early to reach the scene of operations before the ice breaks up. The British will embark at Leith, and the French at Brest or Boulogne.

It is now stated that "an invention by J. B. Neilson, Esq., of the hot blast, calculated effectually to destroy Sebastopol, or any other stronghold of the kind, was tried at Woolwich on Saturday last, by the Government officials, and found to be perfectly successful and adapted for the purpose. It has, in consequence, been favourably reported on to Lord Panmure, and will likely forthwith be put in operation in the Crimea."

FRANCE.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR.—The details of the incident, as far as we are yet acquainted with them, are of a very simple description. The Emperor was proceeding leisurely, at a foot's pace, on horseback, up the *Champs Elysees*, about five o'clock, to join the Empress in the *Bois de Boulogne*. On arriving opposite, or nearly opposite, the public gardens called the *Chateau des Fleurs*, an individual, tolerably well dressed, approached the Emperor and fired upon him twice from a double-barrelled pistol. The *Moniteur* of yesterday speaks of one discharge only; but this morning it corrects its statement, and mentions two discharges. All accounts written and verbal, agree that the shots were point blank, the danger great, and the escape from all injury most surprising. Eye-witnesses say that the Emperor's horse never quickened his pace beyond a walk, and that the *sang froid* of the rider was exactly such as might have been expected of him. He proceeded to join the Empress in the *Bois de Boulogne*, communicated the incident to her himself, was received with the warmest acclamations on his road home, and found at the Tuilleries all the members of his own family, his Ministers, the Foreign Ambassadors, &c., waiting to congratulate him on his escape.

Between the *Patrie* and the *Moniteur* of this morning, we learn that the assassin is an Italian, of the name of Liverani, a Roman by birth, and apparently of the age of thirty-five or thirty-six years. He is described as of middle stature, and wearing a black beard. He was on the point of discharging a third pistol drawn from the side pocket of his frock-coat, when he was seized. On being conducted to the Prefecture of Police, he underwent an examination before the Prefect and the Minister of the Interior. All, however, which appears yet to have been elicited are the above personal facts, with the additional ones that the culprit is a shoemaker by trade, lately arrived from London, as proved by a new hat from thence which he wore, and by a passport, or rather permit, which he carried about him. His confederates are as yet spoken of, or at least too vaguely to be noticed.

A Te Deum was chanted in all the churches of Paris yesterday by the order of the Archbishop. On the same day the Emperor received the Papal Nuncio and foreign Ambassadors, who came to congratulate him. The Senate also waited upon him at the Tuilleries to take leave at the close of the session, when the President delivered an address expressive of their indignation at the attempt, and their gratitude to Providence for having frustrated it. The Emperor's reply was highly characteristic.

"I have no fear," he said, "of the attempts of assassins. There are existences which are instruments of the decrees of Providence. So long as I have not accomplished my mission I run no danger."

The Emperor has refused all addresses from the municipal bodies, "confident," he says, "in the affection of the people." On Sunday he took his ride as usual, moving at a foot pace at the side of the Empress's carriage. A meeting of English residents took place to-day to prepare an address.

A singular marriage was celebrated recently in the chapel of the Hotel des Invalides, that of a Zouave, who lost both feet and both hands in the siege of Sebastopol, with a young woman of some property. The couple, it seems, were engaged to be married before the Zouave left for Sebastopol; and when he came back, so frightfully but so gloriously mutilated, he betrothed generously declared that she would keep her word. The marriage was attended by the Governor of the Hotel and his staff, and by all the invalids, the Emperor and Prince Jerome caused themselves to be represented by aides-de-camp, and the Empress by a lady of honor. After the ceremony the Cross of the Legion of Honor was presented to the hero in the name of the Emperor, and a valuable present to the bride in the name of the Empress. The Zouave has, besides, been admitted to the Hotel des Invalides, and promoted to the rank of sub-lieutenant.

THE CRIMEA.

Before Sebastopol, April 21.

"My Lord—Omer Pacha having considered it expedient to make a reconnaissance, in front of Balaklava, with a view to ascertain what force the enemy had on the Tchernaya, he proceeded at daylight on the 19th inst., by the extreme right of Sir Colin Campbell's position, towards Kamara, with about twelve battalions of Turkish infantry, having in the plain on his left a body of French cavalry, and a battery of horse artillery under General Forey, and two squadrons of heavy cavalry and two squadrons of the 10th Hussars, the whole of which regiment have, I am happy to say, arrived, and a half troop of horse artillery under Colonel Peby, these detachments of French and English troops having been placed at his Highness's disposal by General Canrobert and myself.

"The enemy showed only a few Cossacks on a side of the river, who remained on a height overlooking Chagourm till driven from it by a few discharges of rockets by the French artillery; and on the other side, behind the village, a small force with four guns only was visible.

"Omer Pacha did not think it desirable to move across the river, but withdrew after he had satisfied himself that the enemy were not in strength, and the troops returned to their camps, the infantry covered by the cavalry and the artillery. The appearance of the Turkish army was very satisfactory.

"The rifle pits, in front of the approach from the advance off our trenches on the extreme right, were attacked and carried by assault the night before last in the most gallant manner, by a detachment of the 7th Regiment, under Colonel Egerton, forming part of the additional force sent to reinforce the guard of the trenches in the evening.

"The resistance of the enemy, although obstinate, was speedily overcome by the impetuosity of our troops, and the pit, which it was desirable to retain, was, without the loss of a moment, connected with our approach, and thereby furnished protection to the working party to continue its labours without intermission for a considerable time. At the interval however, of about three hours, the enemy brought a heavy fire of artillery and musketry upon the party in advance of the pit, into which they retired, and which they effectually defended and maintained; but this brilliant achievement was not accomplished without considerable sacrifice of life, and it is most painful to me to have to announce to your Lordship the death of Colonel Egerton of the 7th, who was unfortunately killed, while forming troops for the support of those on the extreme advance, and of that of Captain Edmonstone, of the same regiment, who fell in the first affair, in which also Colonel Egerton received a wound on that only is