

BRITISH DIPLOMACY.

Sir Henry Bulwer has been appointed to succeed Lord Stratford de Redcliffe as Ambassador at Constantinople. The post is one which requires no ordinary qualifications; for Constantinople still remains the centre of intrigues, which within a few years may again imperil the peace of Europe. Now, whatever his faults of temper may have been, Lord Stratford, by his personal experience and the weight of his personal character, did undoubtedly exert an extraordinary influence in the councils of the Porte. This kind of influence is now withdrawn, and cannot be replaced. There is not on the Foreign-office list the name of any one diplomatist who could at all pretend to the succession of the retired Ambassador. The system which he represented—the system of personal influence—had its evils as well as its advantages, but, whatever these may have been, with Lord Stratford they had disappeared. It would require half a century to build up again the kind of Viceroyalty which he exercised at Constantinople. Still, it is not all loss. If Lord Stratford could at all times bring a strong pressure to bear upon the Turkish authorities, it must also be admitted that he could set his own Government at defiance. If the Turkish Ministry are now freed from a stern taskmaster, English statesmen are also liberated from the dominion of a dictatorial servant. The Embassy at Constantinople, both as far as we and the Turkish Government are concerned, will henceforth be placed upon an entirely new, and perhaps—considering the altered circumstances of Europe, upon a sounder footing. The English Ambassador to that Court must henceforth be in reality, as well as in name, the mouth-piece of the Foreign-office. Under this new state of things it would have been difficult to find a man of more varied experience than Sir Henry Bulwer. For the last 30 years he has been almost constantly employed in the diplomatic service. At Vienna, at the Hague, at Paris, at Brussels, at Constantinople, at St. Petersburg, at Madrid, at Washington, at Florence, his name will be found recorded in the list of the various Embassies. For three or four years, indeed, during this long period he remained at home, but even then he was in the House of Commons. For the last two years he has been engaged as Commissioner at Bucharest in investigating the state of the Danubian Principalities, and in this capacity has been brought into immediate contact with modern Turkish diplomacy. Whatever the success of his Mission may be, it would have been difficult to select a man with fairer antecedents for the post of our representative at Constantinople than Sir Henry Bulwer.—Times.

Thus the Times.—Now is there any Englishman such a fool as not to know that the real reason of the removal of Sir Stratford Canning (his diplomatic name,) from Constantinople was because he would not permit the insolence of Mr. de Thouvenel the French Ambassador. If there were intrigues, they were at Paris not at Constantinople.

Our French Canadian friends are continually reproaching *l'Angleterre* for its interference in European affairs while there is not a single occasion on which France does not intervene. The last intimation in *le Moniteur* that M. L. Bonaparte thinks that he is called on to intervene between Turkey and part of her subjects the Montegrins, is a specimen. And because he chooses to do this, the English Ministers must drag our country at his tail. The fiddling of Nero was sanity compared to the contemptible squabbling of English Politicians while their country is being disgraced and ruined in every way.

THE RUSSELL ELECTION CASE.

The public will recollect the revelations of a Mr. Bedell in this case.

Some three hundred votes forged, with the connivance of Mr. Fellowes, by the orders of his immediate Agent and confidant Casselman, the votes forged being more than the declared majority. These facts are undisputed. And yet, to the eternal disgrace of the members, a major-

ity of one (Mr. Thibaudeau of Portneuf being that one,) has declared that the forger, who should take his seat in the Penitentiary instead of the Parliament, shall make laws for Canada!

If the Queen's Representative, the natural guardian under God of our Constitution, permits it to be violated, he must be held responsible and not the wretched men who are betraying it and us. His duty is clear, he must DISSOLVE this PARLIAMENT.

"REALLY TOO WITTY."

In our number of 8th May we, in the exercise of our natural vocation as a Military Paper, took on us hardly to criticize the operations of Sir Colin Campbell at Lucknow. This unfavorable opinion was not given for the vulgar reason of a want of success, but because wars in the East cannot be conducted "cautiously." The moment that policy is adopted we had better abandon the country, for it won't answer. With 40,000 men, a powerful train of Artillery, a large force of Cavalry, and the hot season approaching, it was a General's duty to have struck home. For thus unfavourably expressing ourselves we were called to task by *le Courier du Canada* which, in the usual style of French Canadian journalism, tried to ridicule the idea of a military opinion proceeding from such a quarter. The remarks of *le Courier* were considered so witty that other French Canadian journals eagerly copied them.

Since that date every Military authority from England has, one by one, confirmed the opinion we expressed of the most unsatisfactory nature of the operations before Lucknow; a most striking corroboration of this will be found in the extract we give below from the Correspondent of the Times.

The next time *le Courier* wants to be witty at our expense, it will perhaps select some more felicitous field than military matters; if it had been naval perhaps! Eh M. Tartuffe, entendez-vous?

"I must mention that the escape of the Sepoys has for the time impaired the confidence of the Army in Sir Colin Campbell. The soldiers cannot, or will not, see that, had the Sepoys been surrounded, and had they fought with the desperation they showed in the detached houses by the river bank, we should have suffered a loss which would have left the Sikhs and Ghoorkas masters of the situation. The Commander-in-Chief had that contingency to think of as well as mere victory."

THE NORTH SHORE RAILWAY.

Mr. Baby's contract for the construction of this line expired on Monday last. Have the remarkably active Directors of this undertaking ever thought of this? What do the people of Quebec think of this undertaking at its present stage?

MATRIMONY.

The Limerick Chronicle says

"It is to be hoped the new minister for war will do something to prevent imprudent marriages on the part of young officers—a law that would prohibit such, unless the parties had means to support themselves, would prove beneficial to the service, and prevent much misery."

It is to be hoped that the Minister of War will mind his own business, there is too much of interference with the private affairs of officers of the British Army.

They are men and know how to take care of themselves, we don't want any imitation of continental despotism in the British Army.

Sabatier's FULL DRESS CONCERT on Monday must not be forgotten.

The Programme is full of promise, and Mr. Sabatier is regarded as the premier Artiste of the American Continent.

Literature.

ORGANIZATION OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Continued from last number.

The Secretary for War! If he only knew how often his name was made use of, he might order some official mode of answering official letters to be drawn up. But let us suppose that the department would recognise the advantage of simplicity, and agree to work from the top, there is still that great point "trust" to be overcome. The Treasury holds the Secretary of State for War responsible for the due carrying of military finance. As a Cabinet Minister, and having many important points to consider, he deposes his trust to an Under Secretary of State. Now if we take into consideration the enormous military expenditure of this country, the constant calls which are made for grants of money from our numerous colonies the great questions of munitions of war, or commissariat, which such an event as a revolt in India or at the Cape will necessitate, it must be admitted a man who has to turn his attention to large sums, which becomes matters of serious consideration with the exchequer of this country, cannot fill his head with the pretty details which constantly reach the War office from every military station. Yet, so jealous is the Treasury of trusting any one, that the Under Secretary cannot depute power to men at the heads of large departments, to sanction unforeseen expenditure on their own responsibility.

Thus the commanding engineer of a station, in connection with the Barrack Master, makes a list yearly of repairs and additional work which have been pointed out to them by officers commanding districts and regiments, and principal medical officers but these are all forwarded to the Inspector of Fortifications. They are duly gone over at the Head-quarter Office, and after consultation with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, these estimates are what are called "cut down." That is to say, this and that item are cut out by the men at head-quarters, without any reference to the original proposers; and the engineer officer the districts gets back the mangled remains of the budget. Now we are perfectly aware that there would be the greatest difficulty, indeed it is almost an impossibility that all the demands made in any one year upon the exchequer could be sanctioned that year.

On the other hand, we do not think that in revising estimates there is that careful attention paid to discriminating what may be cut down. It is true, it is difficult to please everybody, but our War Office is sometimes given to sacrificing practical good to a hobby. Let us but think of the enormous expenditure which has taken place during the last few years at Woolwich arsenal, and at Enfield. We find from the Fourth Report of the Sebastopol Committee that a very talented officer of artillery succeeded in effecting a very great saving to the Government by manufacturing shell instead of getting them by contract. The new Clerk of the Ordnance deduced from this the theory that the Government of this country should manufacture all its implements of war. It was a matter of record that the iron foundries and the small-arm trade had furnished excellent weapons at a moderate cost, but still he dreamt of enormous buildings and tall chimneys, and splendid gates, and finished by erecting an iron foundry at Woolwich, which would have graced the arsenal at Vienna; and in the midst of the swamps of Enfield marsh has risen a factory which would do credit to any European power, but the extra cost of which, caused by its isolated position, would alone have built quite as good a one in a more sensible locality. Nevertheless, in spite of this large buildings we have terminated our Crimean war, and have reconquered India, by the assistance alone of the trade of this country.

But whilst we were throwing away money, which can never be redeemed, we find that the medical officers of Fort Pitt Chatham, have been for the last twenty years unable to get drains made at the back of the Hospital. Every quarter have they reported the subject to the Barrack Master and the Engineer. Doubtless the Engineer did his duty, and forwarded the statement, with his estimates, to the Inspector of Fortifications; but nothing was ever done: at least, do not let us say that nothing was ever done, for something was done. After

several years' application, gratings were put down at the mouth of the drains to prevent the rats running about the yard at night.

Now, why, in so important a matter as the health of invalids, could not the commandant of a garrison, or the principal medical officer, in connection with the chief engineer, order these drains to be made, and report the circumstance to the War Department. It will be said it reply to this, that if at all military stations a similar licence were given, it would entail an enormous unforeseen expenditure. We doubt this. We think that if trust were placed in such men, it would not be misused. We think, also, that if the chief engineer could be allowed to get into the train and take his plans with him, and the statement of the medical officer, and go to the War Office and explain what he wanted, and take a letter from the War office to the Treasury, and see one of the Lords of the Treasury, he would soon get what he wanted; but then if everybody were to do this, the Under Secretary of State could not see them all. Granted but why should not the Under Secretary have officers about him whom he could trust, who could give a decision on such matters, and who would report to him what they had done, and not ask him what it was they should do.

We think such a system could be instituted, Englishmen used to be considered honest, and men of business; and in spite of the British Bank, we think the Under Secretary might delegate much of his authority to men under him, which would save not only a vast deal of unnecessary correspondence, but do away with that great slur which is now so generally cast on the War Department, that you cannot even get an answer to your letter, and that nobody knows who to apply to. We are, of course, speaking of the condition of things at home; for although it is a very English proverb that charity begins at home, the War office in its munificence has been able to make up its mind to be charitable abroad. On the 19th of October, 1857, circulars were issued to commanding officers abroad, which to a certain degree simplified matters and recognised their being trustworthy. Thus, we find.

"All estimates for works, repairs, and establishment are, in the first instance, to be submitted to you by the several branches concerned with them, for your information and approval, before they are forwarded for the decision of the Secretary of State for War. You will from time to time, when practicable, inspect the various branch departments to such extent as will satisfy you that they are efficiently conducted."

You will report whether the barrack repairs have been executed with promptitude.

Your order will be required for all issues of stores not previously sanctioned by authority from this office; and you will, without delay, report such order to the Secretary of State, explaining at the same time your reasons for granting it. . . . You will report whether the troops are well and regularly supplied by the commissariat with their rations and provisions, forage, fuel and light. . . . Should you deem it necessary to order the issue from the commissariat stores of any extra rations of provisions, forage, or fuel, and light or pecuniary allowance in lieu, over and above the allowance granted by the Royal warrant, or sanctioned by the local regulations of the command, you will report the same, without delay, for the approval of the Secretary of State, explaining your reasons for granting it. . . . All applications for temporary use of quarters and stabling, beyond the amount of accommodations prescribed by the regulations, must be submitted by the Barrack Master for the approval of the officer commanding the troops at his station."

Why, one can work under such a system. Leave as to be asked in a proper, regular manner but the authority whose leave has to be asked, is there on the spot. The question comes straight before him without delay. He acts on his own discretion, and reports what he has done. But such a system is too simple and inexpensive at home. The very War Department, which issued the above Orders in October, 1857, ordered the 12th November, 1857, that—

"The Deputy Quartermaster-General in Ireland will notify the movements of troops in Ireland to the respective Barrack Masters, receive and forward to the Quartermaster-General applications for extra fuel and sanction in the usual manner, and receive