

should flow in from all classes of society.' And this is written at the very moment that the Finns are being robbed of their autonomy, and are flying off to foreign lands in thousands. It has also appeared at the very moment that millions of Russians are suffering the pangs of hunger. . . . The money that might alleviate the distress of thousands of Russian families is going off to the Boers, the popular Press applauding. This seems biting off one's nose to spite one's face with a vengeance. The *Novaya Vremya*, which called for the persecution of Protestants in the Baltic Provinces, and of the Quakers, or 'Dukhobortsy,' in the Caucasus, drags religion into the Transvaal question as follows: 'The honest, religious farmers who are minded to shed their life-blood in the defence of their country will ever be nearer to the heart of Holy Russia than our secular foe—cold, selfish England. to help them is a noble—aye, a holy—deed. . . . We will at least heal their wounds, and for this purpose shall not grudge our hard earned money.'

The Transvaal agency at Brussels having circulated reports of Boer victories (of which the world had not otherwise heard anything), the Paris press indulged in fresh rejoicings at "the British Dêbâcle!" The *Journal* of November 3rd, declared that the Dual Alliance (Franco-Russian) has now a splendid opportunity for settling accounts with England—the "British Goliath" having received a fatal blow from the "Boer David" (!), and the total collapse (!) of the British Empire being near at hand. "Nobody pities England in her trouble," says the *Autorité*. "Satisfaction is unbounded everywhere" at the thought that "the English have been thrashed again." General Joubert is being variously claimed as of Breton or of Provencal origin—of French connection somehow. The *La France* of Bordeaux is responsible for the following:

"The English have a rude task to accomplish and victory, if they bring it off, will cost them very dear. Their effective military forces being very limited, it will be an incomparable occasion to settle with them all the differences in suspense, and they may well be uneasy regarding China, India, Persia, and likewise Egypt."

The *Dépêche de Brest* does not blush to say that, in order to augment the British forces.

"Recruiting sergeants are travelling through certain European countries—notably in Alsace-Lorraine—knocking at the doors of farmhouses and offering large sums for recruits for the war."

With these lies, with this animosity, does France repay the kindness received from us in the day of her own trouble. A correspondent of the *Globe* writes:—

"The French are frantic with joy because the British lost two regiments and a mountain battery in Natal on 30th (or 29th) October 1899. Let them look back to the 27th October, 1870, when Marshall Bazaine, with two other Marshals of France, 6,000 officers, and 173,000 men, capitulated to the

Germans at Metz. Did England rejoice over that calamity?" We might add also that at Sedan, 25,000 men were taken prisoners in the battle, while 83,000, with 70 mitrailleuses, and 550 guns, surrendered afterwards. Besides these, 14,000 wounded fell into the hands of the Germans, and 3,000 laid down their arms after crossing the Belgian frontier. Yet we can safely say that here France found nothing but respectful pity for that tremendous disaster.

Still more pertinent is the following, from the correspondence column of the *Daily Mail*:—

"When France was prostrate 'neath the heel of Germany, and Paris starving after her two sieges, England sent enormous stores of every description and capable men and women to distribute them among the hungry, destitute and dying inhabitants. This uncalled-for deed of Christian charity is already utterly forgotten, and France is only wishful to injure Great Britain, and to express her malignant joy at any reverse this country may suffer in South Africa or elsewhere. She is 'willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike.'"

Germany, for the moment at any rate, puts on a semblance of friendship. It illustrates the bitter animosity of the French for Britain that Berlin has been inundated with free copies of several Paris journals containing articles denouncing England, and advocating Franco-German co-operation (!) in South Africa. The Germans will, however, follow a policy of prudence. In the words of the *Hamburg Correspondent*, "Germany is not going to be so simple as to pluck chesnuts for other people out of England's fire." Even Russia, in spite of what *Novoe Vremya* calls its "traditional animosity against England," reminds herself that "whenever she has taken action in common with other Powers she has never attained the desired result, and has only labored for the benefit of her partners." It is a case of hatred paralysed by the mutual jealousies of "them that hate us."

The prophets are full of encouragement for Israel in the day when her foes exalt themselves against her—"Fear not" is the burden of many a prediction. Israel is to be confident—none making her afraid. She is to trust in the Lord, who will be her tower of strength. One thing that astonishes our Continental critics most is the calmness we have assumed in the face of disaster. The *New Free Press* of Vienna reminds the world that—

"Napoleon named the English a nation of shopkeepers, but in our opinion the shopkeepers have put the chivalrous French to shame by the manly fortitude they have shown in the face of disaster. In every other country, including France, there would have been an outburst of popular fury demanding the sacrifice of some convenient scape-goat to appease the indignation of the nation, but in England there has been patience, order, and a just recognition of the difficulties of the situation."

Even the French papers cannot help expressing their wondering admiration. The *Figaro*, for