

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

OUR LOSSES IN THE EAST.

There is some consolation to be derived from a very melancholy document which has just been issued from the Adjutant-General's office in return to a motion of Mr. Locke King, in this House, on the 15th of March, in which he inquired the numbers of our men killed and wounded in actual conflict with the enemy in the Crimea. From the late ending of the expedition under the 15th of March, it is not probable that we have not been in the habit of considering such subjects, the number will appear infinitely small. In the course of the campaign, the action of an army which has been actually routed, and exposed to the action of artillery and cavalry when disorganised and in disorderly flight, it is not surprising that a very large number of elements which destroy an army, not actual conflict with the foe. How many persons are aware of the comparatively small number which represents the British loss on the field of Waterloo? It appears from the return before us that within the period named, the Russians have only contrived to kill on the field of battle 1399 British soldiers, officers and men. The list of wounded is of course more formidable; but, when it is remembered, that the period covered is not a very severe and hotly-contested action, to make no mention of daily and nightly skirmishes of the most murderous character in the Crimea, the number seems not to be altogether inspiring despair. It amounts to 4546. These figures are exactly taken from the returns, and, if we may venture upon a hypothetical addition of the numbers we claim to have lost, we should 1600 killed on the field and 5000 wounded, would pretty accurately express the British loss in comparison with the number of the enemy who left our shores only a day or two since. Going back to the return, and again limiting our statements to the date of the 15th of March, we find that of the 1399 British killed, there were 81 non-commissioned officers—about 13 per cent. of the total loss. Of the 4546 wounded, there were 1000 non-commissioned officers—about 9 per cent. of the total. The officers and non-commissioned officers, then, have certainly not shrunk from their share in the death-grapple with the Russian, and it would have been most satisfactory if we could have given any account of the number of wounded since the date of the second landing, and returned to duty; but on these points the Adjutant-General, strangely enough, has received no information. It is, however, most probable that the number of British killed incurred in actual conflict with the foe from the commencement of hostilities to the present date is 15,000, and the number of British wounded, of course, include the deaths from wounds of wounded men, as well as of those who were left dead upon the battle-field.

On the 15th of March, 1856, there were 2000 notorious, represents but a very small portion of the British loss. After a most careful comparison of numbers we maintain that the total British loss is at least 20,000 men—all good and well trained soldiers. The majority of these deaths, however, are referable to mismanagement and neglect, and we can not entertain some expectation that the reign of mismanagement and neglect is at an end, in the Crimea at least. Unless some sweeping plague or sickness shall lay upon our army, there is no reason for despair. Why should the troops be kept supplied with every article of comfort and convenience, and with every foreign transport? If the operations remain their present form, it is perfectly preposterous to speak of the loss of Sebastopol as a military disaster, or to suppose that we are to be to the Russians, indeed, it is a campaign, and a campaign of the most deadly kind. Their progress and their victories must be brought up from enormous distances, and it is not difficult to much to say that for every man produced in Sebastopol or its immediate neighbourhood, we have lost ten in the Crimea. This is a living man. We have every reason to be satisfied when we contrast our own position with that of the Czar, if we look at this question merely from a military point of view, and it is not possible but that the military drain upon the population of his empire must be severely felt. The Emperor has consented to the 100,000 men on the western front, in the Crimea, near St. Petersburg, other provinces are left unguarded which eighteen months back received no reinforcements, and which are at the expense of a fearful consumption, which will beget wide-spread discontent, and probably in the end general, as lately partial, insurrection. We are well aware that the Russians have destroyed the foreign commerce of Russia—we retain a lodgment upon her territory—we have swept her ports of all shipping. This is a business which France and England could not possibly well by themselves, if the Governments set in union with the real wishes and opinions of the two countries.—*London Times.*

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE FRENCH ARMY. The French Government is apparently greatly excited. Instead of only 80,000 men being called out next month, as is first intended, there will be 400,000 men sent to the Crimea. As no increase of taxes is spoken of, it is very much

soon be another loan. The sum spoken of is 250 millions. This mode of meeting the war expenditure is considered preferable, as the Government is not bound to pay interest on the loans, for experience has shown that money can, without difficulty, be obtained in the market, and that the interest will be recovered while the enormous dearthness of the necessities of life would cause increased taxation to be ill received.

BROTHER JONATHAN AND THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

(From the London Standard of Friday.) The following very extraordinary circumstance has just been ascertained, and which precludes any doubt as to the truth of the statement:—By a late letter received from St. Petersburg, it would appear that a fine American brigate-bulk ship recently arrived at Port Baitz. It was stated that this vessel had on board a cargo of cotton, but as her size (500 tons) made this cargo appear ridiculously small, the correspondent of our informant visited the ship, and he found that, in addition to the above, she had on board 50,000 rifles and 5000 revolvers. The Russians laugh at the vigilance displayed by our cruisers, and naturally express their surprise at the care which she has allowed to have no valuable a prize to have escaped? There is, however, another opportunity offered to the British, and that is, to send a secret ship to break the blockade, as the vessel is now ordered up to Constatid to take in a cargo of hemp.

WILL OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

A holograph will of the late Emperor Nicholas, written in 1844, has been published at St. Petersburg. The following are the principal points of interest. The first clause is a list of kindred to his family. After enumerating the various kinds of property belonging to the Emperor, his wife, the Emperor expresses a wish that her Majesty shall retain for her life the use of her apartments in the different palaces, and the clause concludes as follows:—The legacy which I bequeath to my children is to love and honour their mother, to do everything to promote her tranquillity, to answer her wishes, to be obedient to her commands, to render her old age happy by their devoted attentions. Never must they undertake any thing of importance without first asking her advice. In another clause the testator bequeaths pensions of 15,000 roubles a year to the Emperor's mother, the Empress Catherine, in addition to the pensions they already enjoy, to Adjutant-General Adlerberg and his daughter, Julia Baranov, the latter of whom is the illegitimate child of his (the Emperor's) daughters, and both of whom he calls his most devoted friends. In other clauses the Emperor bequeaths a number of persons whom he names as being his devoted friends and servants; among them he mentions Prince Paskievitch, Generals Orloff, Tchenitch, and Schouvaloff. The Emperor then thanks them all in the warmest manner for the services they have rendered to him and to the State. In one clause, which is particularly addressed to the Emperor's mother, he writes:—“I am convinced that my son, (the Emperor Alexander), will always remain a tender and affectionate son, as he has always been to his parents; and this duty will become still more sacred for him when his mother is alone. In his relations with his brothers, my son must be guided by the same feelings, and his youth with the necessary firmness of a father of a family. He must never prefer any family quarrel, and he must be justifier in the serious or even to the State. He should never be in any circumstances unhappily arrayed, he must remember that he is Emperor, and that all other members of the Imperial family are his subjects. It includes by a clause, in which the Emperor begs all those whom he may have unintentionally offended to forgive him, as he forgives all who have forgiven him. He concludes by saying, that he has not been able to accomplish all the good that he could have wished, and begs all his friends to offer up their prayers for the repose of his soul.

CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

General Canrobert, the Emperor addressed to the Emperor on the 28th of April, and expresses himself—“It is with pleasure that I announce to your Majesty that the English army, always so ready to take the field, has just arrived in the first days of its arrival in the East. It is receiving reinforcements in infantry, in cavalry, and in means of transport. I continue to live in the most perfect confidence in the English and the two armies continue to be closely united, and rely one upon the other.”

The New Screw Grenadiers.—It is now determined to send a new regiment, so that both the British and Black Sea squadrons of these powerful little “sharpshooters.”

The ball which killed General Biot has been shown to the Emperor, and has been so recently visited by a French officer.

OUR INDIAN ARMY.—There is now in India an army of nearly six million men, and the country. In that army, there are about 30,000 Europeans belonging to the Queen's service including cavalry and infantry regiments, and the remainder to the Company's service, of every arm except cavalry. The aggregate which Sir Erskine Pery has examined is estimated at an expense of £20,506,000. Large and costly as this army may be, it sits lightly on the population and resources of India, and might easily be increased as far as we desire, and is not lately added to our dominion. Here, then, is a reserve, and an ample reserve well organized, offered, and generally well equipped, and which we have no reason to think that we had no reserve! Of this immense force 70,000 are British soldiers. Of the rest the irregular native cavalry, and the remainder are the troops of the Company's Royal Army. We must confess to a great regret, though perhaps no great surprise, that such a motion, in the organization, discipline, European courage and talent in all its developments, practical experience in all its forms,—in fact, the substance of all that we have been accustomed to see in the British army, and which we have seen in the West of Europe. When such is the fact, and such the prejudice, and when the present practice is so manifestly a realization of the prejudice, Sir Erskine Pery has, as it appears to us, a very reasonable course in moving for a committee to consider the means of increasing the number of troops available for the war in Europe, and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken if it should be deemed expedient to increase the number of the Company's Royal Army. “We must confess to a great regret, though perhaps no great surprise, that such a motion, in the organization, discipline, European courage and talent in all its developments, practical experience in all its forms,—in fact, the substance of all that we have been accustomed to see in the British army, and which we have seen in the West of Europe. When such is the fact, and such the prejudice, and when the present practice is so manifestly a realization of the prejudice, Sir Erskine Pery has, as it appears to us, a very reasonable course in moving for a committee to consider the means of increasing the number of troops available for the war in Europe, and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken if it should be deemed expedient to increase the number of the Company's Royal Army.”

FRANCE AND AUSTRIA.—FROM VIENNA WE LEARN THAT in the letter of the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor of France, the Emperor of Austria on his escape from assassination, he refers to the attempt on his own life, and adds that “a noble heart in India may be made to do more than a step to such revolutionary attempts.”

THE POPE AND THE GOLDEN ROSE.—A letter from Rome states that the Golden Rose, which is bestowed by the Pope, and presents to some female sovereign, is this year to be given to the Empress of Austria.

A RAY OF HOPE FOR POLAND.—Count Walpurgis, the Russian Foreign Minister, and the Count of Persigny, Ambassador of the Court of France, these appointments appear to throw some light on the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lohas, and to indicate that the Emperor is to be friendly to the resuscitation of the Kingdom of Poland, as a bulwark against Russian aggression.

THE MONITEUR DE LA PLATE announces that the Baltic naval division, under the command of Rear-Admiral Fenard, sailed from Cherbourg for its destination on May 1.

TOOORS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND.—The ship Cremona, which sailed from this port, has with her number of the Newfoundland companies on board. She left St. John's on the 5th ult.

THE ASSASSIN PIANORI.

It is thought that the assassin Pianori, who since his condemnation, has been removed to the prison of the Roquette, where prisoners are kept, will not undergo his punishment as soon as was expected. Three days are allowed for appeal, but it does not appear that he has any objection. If he does not object to his execution—the opinion being both unambiguous, and on the part of the judges and of the public, against a mitigation of punishment—it will be carried into effect. It is also stated that he received of the existence of a revolutionary plot with ramifications in most of the countries of Europe, and that he had been in Paris, and was fired at, the chiefs of the secret societies received accounts that the Emperor was killed, and that Paris was in insurrection. The hope is, that he will not be put to death, and that the prospect of death before him, may make some important disclosures.

FRUIT CONSUMED IN PARIS.—The first strawberries in Paris come from Bordeaux. This is the first time that the fruit has been sent to the finest kind, called “Anglaise,” come from Brest. Angers also furnishes a quantity of this fruit; the amount of them altogether sold in Paris is estimated at 100,000 bushels, and before the middle of end of May; the first seen in Paris come from Marseilles, Lyons, and Bordeaux, about 200,000 bushels of this early fruit from Lyons from Lorraine, and the remainder are sold to the amount of more than 100,000.

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GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

INSURRECTION IN HUNGARY.—The *Pesti Naplo* gives fresh particulars respecting the insurrection in Hungary, and says that 250 squares miles were entirely under water, and the consequent loss in hay, straw, stubble, &c., is reckoned at 11 millions florins; and the loss of provisions and such like at 11 million florins.

FISH PROPAGATION.—Upwards of 60,000 young fish (salmon trout from the Swiss lakes, and ordinary trout), have, within the last few days, been hatched at the establishment of the Duke of Boulogne. They were hatched in the College de France, by the new system of artificial propagation, which has been introduced into the ponds are perfectly formed, nearly three-quarters-of-an-inch long on an average, and are capable of providing for themselves.

A professor in the Russian Agricultural Institute, Bolland by name, has published a pamphlet on the potato rot, and he announces to the public that mere drying, if conducted at a sufficiently high temperature, and continued long enough, is a complete antidote to the disease. He ascertained that the vitality of the potato is not affected even if the rind is charred.

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Fifty-five young Abyssinians and Negroes, selected by Roman priests, and sent to Egypt for life, where they are to be educated as Roman Catholic missionaries.

An extraordinary marriage ceremony was celebrated a few days ago in the church at St. Hilaire de Neuilley (Gironde) that of a man named Lapierte, aged 107, to a woman whose maiden name was Neuville, aged 86.

The Dordogne journals announce, that in the departments the wheat crops are very fine; and that the crops of the harvest; also that vegetables, potatoes, and fruit trees, in general, are all in excellent condition.

GEORGE AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.—This line, the pioneer of the Railway system in Australia, is now open for passenger traffic, and the opening of the harbour branch and a portion of the line was expected to take place early in June.

The *Journal of the Academy of Medicine*, at Paris, contains some curious statistics on human life, among others, the statement that married men live longer than bachelors, and great numbers of other interesting facts. The two months of the twelve in which marriages are celebrated are June and December.

It is said in the foreign journals that Queen Victoria is likely to visit Paris in July.

The *Dunster Gazette* says that a person living near Silkestone, a few days ago, brought a fighting cock in front of a large swing glass. The cock, which was supposed to be an antagonist, and shivered the glass to bits.

DEADLY CATASTROPHE IN SPAIN.—A letter from Barcelona states, that in the course of a violent tempest, which burst on the 24th ult., over the valley of Arran, in Catalonia, near the Pyrenees, an enormous quantity of snow fell from the Pyrenees, and completely buried three large villages, named Un, Vay, and Vay, and a great number of persons, from 600 to 700 inhabitants. The authorities of the district immediately caused labourers to be employed to remove the snow, and though the operation was not completed, the number of men left left, not fewer than 47 dead bodies had been discovered.

Five Russian prizes were sold by auction, at Lloyd's captains room, London, on the 4th. The total amount was £22,000.

There are seven women from the Crimea, now in the Queen's Bench.

The wife of a commercial traveller, residing in Sheffield, has become quite insane, in consequence of an infatuated belief in spirit rappings. Of iron vessels there are but three building in the Clyde, and the present moment, when there are upwards of 1000 in the water, it is not lower than 1000.

Several large chests of seeds were shipped at Southampton, a few days since, on board the transport ship *Albatross*, for the service of the convict of carrot, parsnip, onion, &c., besides clover, of the different varieties, and a large quantity of the same grass seeds, which it is intended by the war several acres.