GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

RE-CASTING OF THE EASTERN A AND FUTURE OPERATIONS.—We und stand that the Army in the East is al to receive a new organization and bution, with a view to render i chinery more efficient and easy worked. It is the intention to div whole Force into two Grand Div one of which is to be under the com of Sir William Codrington, and the othe under Sir Colin Campbell, with Sir George Brown to hold the supreme command. The whole of the existing Divisions and Brigades, as well as the General Staff, will be newly disposed, and the entire Army remoulded on an improved plan before the next season for active operations has commenced.

Rumour, as usual, is already busy in assigning to the British Army a new field of operations, and points to Asia Minor. It is said, that with the fall of Sebastopol the necessity of retaining both the French and British Armies in the Crimea has ceased, and there are many excellent reasons for their being now employed on two separate services. There can be no question, that the French are perfectly well able of themselves to deal with the Russians in the Crimea, and drive them from every foot of ground in that Peninsula. The English and Turks will, we have no doubt, close a triumphant campaign in Asia Minor, if there employed, and we certainly agree in opinion with those who maintain, that the expulsion of the Russians from Georgia is hardly of less importance than from the Crimea. Already Omar Pacha has, by forcing the passage of the Ingour and marching on Kutais, virtually effected the raising of Siege of Kars, and threatened the safety of Telfis itself. Should Telfis not fall into the hands of Omar Pacha by a forced march,its occupation in the next campaign will be rendered certain, if the English and Sardinian Forces be destined for the conquest of Georgia. Time and circumstances can alone determine the operations to be commenced in 1856, but we feel assured, that Asia Minor will be one of the great fields on which the Czar will have to do battle for his Empire.

In Courland, also, it is not improbable that Russia will find next year a hostile Army, and then she may well tremble for Poland. Austria and Prussia must then answer distinctly the demand, "Who is on my side—Who?" Neutrality can no longer be allowed as the mask of a secret hostility—and the Western Allies must sternly require of those shifty States to declare themselves friends or foes. "He that is not with us, is against us." Sweden and Denmark, too, must no longer be left watching the balance,but be called on to choose their side. The year 1856 must end Neutrality.

MILK AND BUTTER.—In answer to the question, "How much milk does it take to make one pound of butter?" a correspondent of the Agricultural Gazette states that, as the result of twenty years' experience on dairy farms, he finds that it takes 2 gallons 5½ pints of new milk to make one pound of butter for the summer half-year, and 2 gallons 3½ pints for the winter half-year; or, for the twelve months it takes 2 gallons 5 pints of new milk to make one pound of butter, and 2½ pints of cream to make one pound of butter. The stocks from which the experiments were taken were chiefly what are known as the well-bred Irish cow. See what may be done, says the editor of the Ploughman, by a proper selection. Four quarts of milk in October, and six quarts in June will make a pound of butter, in procure the right kind of stock.

INCOG.—A Paris correspon- *Daily News* tells the follow- "Several anecdotes are in cir- here in connection with the stay of ng of Sardinia. It is said that, wish- escape for a while the formalities of ourt, he left the Tuileries one evening garb of a private gentleman, and in company of one of his suite walked ugh the streets of Paris. . He had not far, before he discovered that he was wed by two individuals. At length one he latter approached and asked the ng, who was smoking, for a light. The King lent him his cigar with a good grace, and then, turning to his companion, said, in the Piedmontese *patois*—"These are spies; if they continue to follow us I shall knock one of them down." The two indi viduals immediately disappeared.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY AT BABYLON.—Col. Rawlinson has just discovered among the ruins of ancient Babylon an extensive library—not, indeed, printed on paper, but impressed on baked brick—containing many and voluminous treatises on astronomy, mathematics, ethnology, and several other most important branches of knowledge. These treatises contain facts and arguments which, in his opinin, will have no small operation on the study of the sciences to which they relate, and which throw great light upon biblical history and criticism, and the history of our race.

The Lyons journals speak of a spectacle at once singular and touching. Eight one-handed Zouaves from the Crimea have been seen walking in the streets, in twos, keeping together by the only arm which is left them.

In Sweden a man who is seen four times drunk is deprived of his vote at elections, and the next Sunday after the fourth offence is exposed in the churchyard.

A BANISHED PRINCESS.—The Princess —The Princess Christine Belgiojoso of Lombardy was banished from Austria some six years ago, on account of her political doings. This lady took up her residence at a farm house in Asia Minor, where, being totally destitute, she was forced to labour with her hands for her very existence, in the strictest sense of the word. The Emperor has now been pleased to recal the lady by an edict of grace, and to annul the sequestration which at the time of her banishment was placed on the whole of her property.

RECOVERY OF H.M.S RESOLTE.— Advices from Aberdeen state, that the American whaling ship "*John Henry*" fell in with the British arctic discovery ship "*Resolute*," off Cape Mercy, Davis' Straits. The Captain and crew of the *John Henry* have taken charge of the *Resolute*, and left their own ship. The London *Chronicle* says;—H. M. Ship Resolute, which has been picked up by an American whaler, was deserted by Capt. Kellett, in obedience to orders of Sir Edward Belcher. Capt. Kellett, however, was very much opposed to the proceeding. The recovery of the Resolute was most remarkable and curious, and no doubt, will give to an infinite variety of conjectures, but the solution of the mystery must for ever remain unknown. It does not therefore appear, that the decision of Sir Edward Belcher was wrong, for no human being could have forseen so improbable a fact, that the ship should have escaped safe and sound from the ice bed in which she was imprisoned, and have drifted without injury to the place where she was discovered by the American whaler. Capt. Kellett abandoned the Resolute about two years ago, in the pack ice off Cockburn Island, by Melville Island. She was discovered off Cape Mercy, Davis's Straits. By what passage the Resolute, after having been abandoned by her crew, arrived at this locality, will occasion many hypotheses to be started, the result, of which we shall look for with much interest.

Capt. Norton,of Dublin, Ireland, has patented a mode of using fulminating powder as a priming for cartridges, so as to cause an explosions through the unbroken cartridge case; also for puncturin the case of cartridges at the base, to enable the charge to be ignited from the dame of the cap of the nipple.

In Turkey, whenever a storekeeper is convicted of telling a lie, his house is painted black, to remain so for one month. If there were such a law in force in this country, what a sombre and gloomy appearance most of our towns would present.

THE AMERICAN ALADDIN.

When we go out on Saturday afternoon to moralize and see new houses, we usually take our young ones by Aladdin's palace. Aladdin was a Yankee. He started life by swapping jack-knives, then putting the halves of broken marbles together, and passing them off as whole ones. When he had gathered some brass, he went to school all the summer to learn the golden rule of arithmetic—addition for himself and substraction for his neighbor.

At an early age, Aladdin was considered to be good at a bargain—which meant that he could always succeed in changing a worse for better—always keeping the blind side of a horse to the wall when he had to sell it; and the village said, that certainly Aladdin would succeed. When he left, "he will be rich," said the village, with more approval than it would say "he will be generous and true." To Aladdin the world was but a market in which to buy cheap and sell dear. For him, there was no beauty, no history, no piety, no heroism. Vainly the stars shone over him—vainly the south wind blew. In the wake of the great ship Argo, in which Jason and his companions sailed for the Golden Fleece, over the gleaming Mediterranean—where the ships of Tyre, Rome, and of the Crusaders had been before him—through the Pillars of Hercules, through which Columbus sailed to find a fame in a new world —now sails Aladdin to find fortune. To him all lands are alike. No Homer sang for him in the Ægean; he only curses the wind that will not blow him into Odessa. No syrens sing for him, but he loves the huge oath of the lively boatswain. With the Bible in his hand and a quid of tobacco in his mouth, he goes about the holy places in Jerusalem, and "calculates" their exact size and site. He sees the land of the Ramesses the Ptolemies; and the reverend records of the Lybian desert whose echoes have slumbered since they were tramped over by Alexander's army, are now awakened by the thrill whistle of Old Dan Tucker. He insults the Grand Llama, hob-nobs with the Grand Mogul, turns his back upon emperors, and takes a pinch out of the Pope's snuff box. He chews with the Arabs, smokes opium with the Turks, and rides for a bride with the Calmuck Tartars.

Aladdin comes home again, and the admiring village points him out to the younger generation a successful man: "My son, look at him; he began with nothing—now see." "My son" does see, and beholds him owning a million of dollars—of all societies of which he is not president, a director. His name is as good as gold—he has bought pictures and statues—he has also brought a Mrs. Aladdin and housed her in luxury; but he picks his mouth with a silver fork. He has a home for a poet, but he makes it his boast that he reads nothing but his newspaper. He goes to church twice on Sundays, and only wakes up, when the preacher denounces the sinner of Sodom and Gomorrah, and those "tough old Jews" of Jerusalem. His head is bald and shiny with the sermons which have hit and glanced off. He clasps his hands in prayer, but forgets to open them when the poor box is passed around; and he goes home like a successful man, thanking God that he is not as other men are. And after dinner, he sits before the fire in his easy chair, lights a cigar, and looks languidly at Mrs. Aladdin through the thick smoke. By and by old Aladdin dies. The conventional virtues are told over, as the mourning carriages are called out. The papers regret that they are called upon to deplore the loss of a revered parent, generous friend, public-spirited citizen, and pious man; and the precocious swapper of jack-knives, and the model set up to the young generation is laid in the dust. Above his grave the stars he never saw now burn with a soft lustre which no lamps about a king's tomb can emulate; and the south wind, for whose breath upon his brow he was never grateful, strews his lonely last bed with anemones and violets that his heel crushed when living; and we who are to be formed upon that model, carelessly remark, as we stir our toddies, "So old Aladdin is gone at last; and, by the way, how much did he leave?"

IS A PACIFIC RAILROAD POSSIBLE?

It all turns upon a question of *water*. The road can be built, no doubt; but whether the iron horse can find drink enough to sustain him on his long journey, is the unsettled question at Washington. For observe:

The road will have to traverse three distinct kinds of country. The first three hundred miles after leaving the Western borders of civilization, is rolling prairie, covered with luxuriant grass, watered by occasional streams, and tolerably supplied with timber. This region presents no serious obstacle to the construction of the road, nor to the running of locomotives.

Next, some six hundred miles of desert, waterless, treeless, except that at long intervals small streams are found coursing narrow valleys, and giving life to a few stunted trees and a little coarse grass. The timber required for this part of the road, the food for the support of the laborers and every article necessary for the passage of trains, will have to be transported from regions more highly favored by nature.

This desert extends to the base of the Rocky Mountains. The rest of the distance to the Pacific is an alternation of mountains, deep table-lands, and desert plains. A small portion of this region, which is more than a thousand miles wide, is well wooded and sufficiently watered, but the greater part of it destitute of wood and water as the desert itself. The government explorers say that this mountain region, rocky and precipitous as it is, furnishes facilities and openings for the building of a railroad, that seem almost providential. The lack of wood and water is the serious obstacle, and the question is whether this is insurmountable.

Timber, of course, can be bought and transported, but the expence will be something prodigious. A cross-trees value here twenty-five cents, doubles its cost by being transported a hundred and fifty miles. Consequently there will be hundreds of miles of the Pacific railroad every cross-tree of which will cost three or four dollars! Then huge depots of fuel will have to be established all along the route, every cord of wood, every ton of coal, costing five or six times its value on the Missisippi River.

Money can do all this however. But money can not transport the enormous quantities of water that will be required for the locomotives. That is out of the question. It remains to be ascertained whether by boring into those arid wastes and into those rocky hills water can be obtained.

That is the question to be settled, before it can be known whether a railroad to the Pacific is or is not a *possibility*. After that is settled, it will be time to inquire whether it is worth while to expend the almost incalculable sum that the road will cost.—*New York Life Illustrated*.

(An article on another page, gives a somewhat different view of the proposed railroad to the Pacific.)

WATERING CATTLE.—Among the many causes of stock not thriving as much as might be desirable, during the winter, is their too scanty supply of water. A few have running water in their cattle yards, and their stock drink as nature requires it; but most farmers water their stock either at the pump, or by driving them to a running brook twice, or often but once a day. Watering is done by rule, from fall to spring, regardless of weather or food. I have observed stock so dry as to refuse to eat dry food; but after being watered, they eat it voraciously. Now, it is a well-settled fact, that no animal will thrive well, while suffering for want of food, water, or shelter. Let those, therefore, who want to turn out their stock in the spring in good condition, attend to these things; and let them see, that the poorer and weaker stock get as much as they want.

LITTLE GIRLS.—There is something inexpressibly sweet about little girls. Lovely, pure, innocent, ingenious, unsuspecting, full of kindness to brothers, babies and every thing. They are sweet little human flowers, diamond dewdrops in the breath of morn.—What a pity they should ever become women, flirts, and heartless coquettes!

RAG "FAIR."—A pretty girl in tatters.