

"Exactly," said I; "so do I. But this is spelt *heav-ry*. I did it on purpose. I scold to take a man in about a horse, so I published his defect to all the world. I said he was too *cheap* for harness, and so he is. He ain't worth fifty dollars. I wouldn't take him as a gift—he ain't worth *con dam*."

"Well, I did see that," said he, "but I thought it was an error of the press, or that the owner couldn't spell."

"Oh!" said I, "don't take me for one of your Dutch boors. I beg of you. I can spell, but you can't read, that's all. You remind me," says I, "of a fellow in Slickville, when the six-cent letter-stamps came into fashion. He licked the stamp so hard he took all the gum off, and it wouldn't stay on, no how he could fix it, so that what does he do but put a pin through it, and writes on the letter, 'Paid, if the darned thing will only stick.' Now if you go and lick the stamp eternally that way, folks will put a pin through it, and the story will stick to you forever and ever. But come on board, and let's liquor, and I will stand treat."

"I felt sorry for the poor critter, and told him how to feed the horse, and advised him to take him to Saratoga, advertise him, and sell him the same way; and he did, and got rid of him. The rise raised his character as a lawyer amazing. He was elected governor next year."

Cleanings from late Papers.

News by the last Mail from England.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

THE CRIMEA.

General Jean Durando was to replace General La Marmora in the command of the Sardinian troops during the absence of the latter. Marshal Pellissier was spoken of as the probable commander-in-chief of all the allied forces in the Crimea.

A letter from Kalisch, of the 25th ult., in the Austrian Gazette, says:—According to the latest accounts from the Crimea, the Russian troops have been reinforced by a regiment of Hussars of the Guard, and by the Badetsky Regiment of Hussars, formerly stationed at Odessa. It is therefore evident that no want of provisions is experienced by Prince Gortschakoff.

A letter from Odessa of the 21st ult., in the Austrian Gazette, says:—Large bodies of troops are marching from the Crimea into Bessarabia. There is not, however, any intention of evacuating the former, as their places will be filled by other troops from the reserve, and by the militia. General Gortschakoff will, it is said, be replaced in the Crimea by Count Osten-Sacken. The former will resume the command of the troops on the Danube. The allied gunboats which remained at Kinburn have been frozen in, and all the efforts made to release them have been hitherto fruitless.

HAMBURG, Dec. 28.—A despatch received at St. Petersburg, from Prince Gortschakoff, dated Dec. 20th, states that two sotnias of Tschernomorski Cossacks attacked and defeated a strong squadron of General Vivian's Anglo-Turkish cavalry on the 19th instant, near Kertch, capturing the commanding officer.

WRECKS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA.

MARSEILLES, Dec 27.—Many wrecks have occurred on the Spanish coasts. It is also stated that fifty vessels have been wrecked at the Sulina mouth of the Danube.

THE PEACE PROPOSITIONS.

The Paris correspondent of the Times states that the fact of the Emperor of Austria having addressed an autograph letter to the King of Prussia, asking him to support the peace propositions, of which Count Esterhazy is the bearer, is now unquestionable. Bavaria and Saxony will also support the proposals. They are said to be drawn up with the greatest delicacy of expression, on without losing anything of their force.

PROMOTION OF SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.

Major-General Sir Colin Campbell, G. C. B., serving with the rank of Lieutenant-General in Turkey, to have the Brevet local rank of General in Turkey.

THE CZAR'S LETTER ON THE FALL OF KARS.

The following is a translation of the Czar's letter to General Mouravieff. "The resolute persistence, the exemplary courage, and the warlike circumspection which have marked your entire conduct in Asiatic Turkey have been crowned with full success. The dominating fortress of Asia Minor, the fortress of Kars has surrendered, with its entire garrison, artillery and great depots of arms and ammunition. The Anatolian army of 30,000 men exists no more; its commander-in-chief is our prisoner. I thank you heartily for this so glorious feat, which has invested the arms of Russia with new renown. I also commission you to express my heartfelt thanks to the army under your command for the steadfastness and courage which have overcome the stiff-necked resistance of the enemy. In testimony of your high merit I nominate you Knight of the Order of St. George of the Second Class, a rank to which you have proved yourself incontestably entitled; and remain, with imperial grace, your well wisher, ALEXANDER."

TURKEY IN ASIA.

The Austrian journal Fremden Blatt learns from Varna that the Russian General Susloff took possession of the defiles, of Hassan Kaleb as soon as Selim Pacha retreated to Erzeroum.

The greater portion of the Russian army will winter at Kars.

Intelligence from Constantinople of the 24th ult. states that many persons had already quitted Erzeroum, fearing that it would be attacked by the Russian army. These persons had sought refuge at Trebizond. It is also stated that Omar Pacha has retired upon Souchem Kaleb, and that he has abandoned his project of attacking Kutais.

MARSEILLES, Dec. 27.—The Simois has arrived with advices from Constantinople of the 18th, and from the Crimea of the 15th inst.

The Times correspondent, writing from Constantinople, under the date of the 18th December, says Omar Pacha was on the Siwa on the 30th November. His army was encamped, being stopped by heavy rains.

It was rumoured at Constantinople that in consequence of the surrender of Kars the Seraskier would be compelled to resign, and that Selim Pacha, the commander of the corps which was destined to advance to the relief of Kars, would be brought before a court-martial.

Omar Pacha's army was reported to be retrograding. General Williams and the prisoners of Kars have been sent to Triflis.

English gunboats are still cruising in the Sea of Azoff, destroying where the ice does not hinder them, all the Russian fisheries.

It is said that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has prepared a note in which the union of Wallachia and Moldavia, to be governed by an hereditary prince, with a national army, is proposed.

FRANCE.

Saturday, 29th.—There was a grand military fete of entry into Paris of regiments from the Crimea.

An immense crowd thronged the streets. Banners and triumphant arches were abundant.

Troops marched amid the enthusiasm of citizens, and formed around the column July, following the Regiments twentieth, thirty-ninth, fifteenth, Line distinguished at Malakoff, first Chasseurs, Zouaves, two regiments of Voltigeurs and Artillery of the Guards, two regiments of Grenadiers and the Gendarmierie of the Guards.

The Emperor, accompanied by Prince Napoleon, rode to the place de Bastille, and pronounced the following oration:

"Soldiers, I come to meet you as formerly the Roman senate went to the gates of Rome, to meet its victorious legions. I come to tell you you have deserved well of your country. My emotion is great, for the happiness of seeing you again is mingled with painful disappointment that I was prevented myself from leading you to battle. Soldiers of the guard as well as soldiers of the line, you are welcome—you, all of you, represent that army of the east, whose courage and perseverance have once more glorified our Eagles, and re-conquered for France the rank that is due to her. Your country is attentive to all that is passing in the East, and receives you with the more pride that she measures your deeds by the obstinate resistance of the enemy."

"I have recalled you, notwithstanding that the war is not yet over, because it is just to relieve in their turn the regiments that have most suffered. Thus every man will be able to claim his share in glory, and the country which keeps up a force of six hundred thousand men is interested that there should now be in France a numerous army inured to war, and ready to march wherever it may be necessary. Preserve then scrupulously your warlike habits, improve upon the experience you have acquired, hold yourselves in readiness to respond to my call; but on this day forget the trials of a soldier's life, thank God for having spared you, and march proudly amid your brethren in arms and fellow citizens, whose plaudits await you."

The troops afterwards refiled before the Emperor, Empress, Marshal Magnan, Canrobert and Court.

Every soldier in Paris received two francs gratuity. Admiral Lyons and General Marmora are in Paris.

The Post says, in the course of a few days a general Council of War is to be held at Paris at which England will be represented by H. E. H. the Duke of Cambridge, Sir Richard Airey, and Sir Harry Jones, together with Admirals Sir Edmund Lyons and Dundas. The object of this Council is to collect, to interchange and to consider all possible information with respect to the War; but it will not be in the province of the Council to plan campaigns or to decide in the beginning of January what is to be done in April. The Council having deliberated fully on the important objects which will suggest themselves, will communicate the result of their labours to their respective Governments, who will discuss the questions which may be raised, and having decided they will give the necessary orders to secure the objects which they may have in contemplation.

INDIA AND CHINA.

Arrival of an Indian Mail brings interesting intelligence. Battle had occurred in Oude between fanatic insurgents and British troops under Captain Barlow, assisting the troops of the King of Oude, November 7th. Five hundred dead were left on field, and insurgents dispersed, but country is yet unsettled.

Martial Law has been proclaimed in the Santhal district. Santhal insurrection is not suppressed, but is no longer dangerous.

Herat has been taken by the Persians. Causes excitement, as Herat is the key of Northern India.

An expedition up Persian gulf to compel Persia to give up her conquest, is talked of.

The order prohibiting export of Saltpetre from India except to England, is loudly complained against.

Chinese politics to Nov. 15th unchanged. The British ship Invincible, from Shanghai to London, sunk the American ship A. Chesborough during a squall. No particulars.

Manilla dates to the 9th of Nov. report dreadful occurrence. American ship Waverly with Chinese labourers on board, put into Manilla to bury her captrin, some trouble ensued on board, when mate shot two or three, and drove the rest below, then went on shore to attend funeral—on return hatches were opened, when out of four hundred and fifty men, two hundred and fifty one were dead from suffocation. Mate and crew are imprisoned by Spanish authorities. It is reported that the American consul declined to take cognizance of the catastrophe.

Serious difficulty has arisen at Hong Kong between Mr. Keenan, American consul, and local authorities; trouble arose by British police of port, apprehending E. W. Nichols, master of American ship Reindeer, on board his ship, for assault on carpenter, and for putting him in irons. Nichols was fined fifty dollars, with 25 compensation, but refused to pay. Consul Keenan was present during examination, and protested against jurisdiction of the court, as affair took place on board an American ship. Police then proceeded to lock up Capt. Nichols, but Keenan took him by the arm and went quickly to harbor, whence took boat and went on board U. S. steamer Powhattan; superintendent and police following, and demanded prisoner to be given up. Capt. McClanely of Powhattan, replied, that without stating whether Nichols was on board 'Powhattan' or not, he considered the action of the Court altogether illegal, and he would not hesitate to resist by force any attempt of British authorities to exercise jurisdiction over American citizens in American ships. Nichols afterwards sent the amount of fine to the court; the consul was summoned by warrant to appear and answer, but did not attend whereupon he was apprehended and committed for trial before the Supreme Court, charged with the rescue of a prisoner.

LATEST FROM ABROAD.—Saturday, Jan. 5.—Administrative Reform in Russia. Hamburg, Jan. 4th.—The Grand Duke Constantine as the head of the Naval service of Russia, has issued a circular to its several departments, requiring that all Reports shall contain the naked truth. Defects and misstatements are no longer to be glossed over. Officials disobeying this injunction are to be dismissed the service.

SALE OF SHIPS AT LIVERPOOL.—Wilmer & Smith's European Times of the 5th lays before its readers the usual statistics of the past year's business in the sale of ships, from which we extract the following:

"The number of ships that have changed hands in the year is 601, equal to 277,605 tons, against 730—380,000 tons in 1854. Of these 84 are British, equal to 37,072 tons, against 83; equal to 31,386 tons in 1854, and 23 are foreign, equal to 17,835 tons.

The number of new Colonial vessels that have arrived in Liverpool and been registered, or are in course of registration is 102, equal to 70,191 tons, against 123—128,994 in 1854, showing a decrease of 21 ships, or 58,038 tons, on the return of last year, and making the average of each vessel 685 tons.

"The number of British ships sold to foreigners is 51, equal to 17,387 against 20—9462 tons in 1854, showing an increase of 31 ships or 7925 tons.

"The number of ships built and launched here the past year is 40, equal to 14,474 tons, of which 17 are wood, equal to 2614 tons, and 23 are iron, equal to 11,860, built for the most part to order.

"Colonial built ships may now be quoted as follows: Very superior St. John, Miramichi, and Quebec, to class 7 years A 1, at £7 10s. to £8 5s; ordinary £7 to £7 10s.; those classing 4 years £6 10s.; inferior £5 to £5 10s. "Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia—some few have sold remarkably well—say from £6 10s. to £7; the majority are worth from £4 to £5 15s. per ton."

(From the London Globe, January 4, 1856.)

STRENGTH OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

The total strength of the British land forces in the vicinity of Sebastopol, at the present moment, is as nearly as possible 53,600 men of all ranks and arms of the service. At Kertch there is a battalion numbering about 700, and on the Bosphorus thirteen regiments of cavalry, whose aggregate strength is rather over 4,000, making a total, exclusive of 2,400 in hospital at Scutari and Benikoi, of, in round numbers, 58,000 purely English forces. Between this time and the first week in March nearly the whole of the troops now composing the reserve at Malta will probably be forwarded to the Crimea, their place being supplied by reinforcements from home, of which something like 4,000 will embark in the course of the next week or two. About ten infantry regiments from the Malta and Gibraltar, will, in all likelihood, be sent up to the Black Sea about the same time, thus adding more than 15,000 men to the English army now in the field, and bringing its numbers up to about 73,000 in all. The Turkish Contingent, the head-quarters of which is now at Kertch, will be considered as amounting to 20,000. Portions of the British Swiss and British German Legions are already at Scutari, one or two more regiments are on their way, and the total number of these corps in two months may be safely anticipated as 7,000 men. The British Italian Legion appears likely to be most successful, but it is not that sufficient progress will have been made in its organisation to allow of its taking the field early in the campaign. Summing up the figures just stated, the whole of the British forces will probably be found to amount to 100,000 men, of whom 85,000 will be effective combatants. Some important arrangements as to the re-distribution of the forces will be made on the arrival of Sir Colin Campbell, who now holds the local rank of General. All officers on leave must be present with their regiments on the 1st of March, and within a very few days of that date the public may expect to see an army to take the field whenever it may be ordered, which, in point of numbers, arrangement and condition, we shall be justified in regarding with confidence and pride.

(From the same.)

PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

Menshikoff is appointed to Cronstadt, and the Nord assures us that the destruction of that place is so incredible, that we English ourselves do not believe it! This is to-day the "Latest Intelligence." We do not know whether, taking the two facts together, we are to understand that Menshikoff means impregnability, or whether our Brussels contemporary means that any Russian marine fortress is, qua Russian, impregnable. Now the result of the effort to take any Russian fort, however powerful, has hitherto been corresponding to the effect. We have seen at Bomarsund, Sveaborg and Sebastopol, results exactly proportionate to the mechanical means which we employed; so that the degree of Russian impregnability appears upon the whole to depend upon our own estimate of the resistance to be overcome, and of the cost which we are inclined to lay out upon the undertaking. Nor can we look upon the presence of Menshikoff at Cronstadt an equivalent to that of a Palladium.

The Prince, no doubt, is a man of considerable ability; we have encountered him upon various fields, and he has succeeded in getting from his opponents large concessions. From the land of Kokan to the Danube, Menshikoff might, for a quarter of a century, be regarded as a decided conqueror; supplementing his military success with no small amount of diplomatic activity and cunning. But to the Sultan Abd-ul-Medjid must be granted the merit of having, to use an appropriate vulgarism, put a spoke into the wheel of Menshikoff. The wheel has never rolled so smoothly since that day when he found Turkey prepared for the astounding audacity of resisting him. He left Constantinople in a fume; he became Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces; he had to be encountered in the Crimea; but really we have not found him an unconquerable foe. If, therefore, the impregnability of Cronstadt depends upon the presence of Menshikoff, we have some elements for calculating the military as well as political probabilities in the Gulf of Finland.

UNITED STATES.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The part of the Message which was looked for with the greatest interest was that which touched upon our Foreign relations. It was anticipated that our difficulties with England would not be treated of with a very assuring tone; neither are they. The British construction of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is pronounced inadmissible, and the determination is expressed to insist upon the rights of the United States. It is stated that negotiations are not yet at an end; and yet little encouragement is held out that they will produce a satisfactory solution, and we are told that the question cannot much longer continue open without seriously endangering the friendly relations of the two countries. So far as regards the view of our government, that under the treaty the British have no right in Central America, except at Balize, we apprehend there will be no difference of opinion among the American people, but we believe it morally certain that England will never follow her pretensions to the arbitration of the sword. The battle will not be suffered to leave diplomatic ground, it will probably not be determined there before the internal, civil, and commercial changes of that part of the continent will have superseded and made obsolete every material point in dispute. In regard to the difference with England arising out of her violation of our neutrality laws by the attempt to raise recruits within our borders, the President presents no definite view of the case. He has demanded of the British government not only a cessation on the wrong but its reparation; yet nothing specific is disclosed concerning the character of the reparation demanded, or the disposition of the English government to make it. The subject is yet under discussion. The importance of settling the disputed boundary line between the territory of Washington and the contiguous British possessions is again urged. In reference to the *quod ducis* of

Denmark, it is stated that the invitation to our government to go into convention with representatives of European States for the capitalization of the dues, has been declined, though a willingness is expressed to compensate Denmark for all of her outlays in improving the navigation of the Sound or Belts. Our difficulties with France, Spain and Greece, are all pronounced settled or nearly settled.

The Message contains, as usual, general statements in regard to the condition of the several Departments. They are for the most part satisfactory, though such an excess as that reported of \$2,626,206 expenditure over receipts, in the Post Office Department, shows a necessity for material changes in the present laws—changes which should bear particularly upon that immense mass of matter which now goes free.

The President devotes but a single brief paragraph to the troubles in Kansas, and that, studiously vague as it is, will by no means escape animadversion. He shows himself in it to be either a very poor historian or a very inconsistent reasoner. We have supposed that no historical fact of the past year was more indisputable than that Missourians had, in large numbers, interfered with the exercise of the right of suffrage by the settlers of Kansas. And yet, in the face of this glaring fact, and even with the assertion upon his lips that "the people of the Territory must be protected in the enjoyment of the right to determine their own domestic institutions," he affirms that no acts have occurred in the Territory "to justify the interposition of the Federal Executive." The indulgence of so flagrant an inconsistency in the gravest document that can come from his hand, is the boldest thing the President has yet done in connexion with the Kansas disturbances. Verily, in President Pierce's hands at least, "the pen is mightier than the sword." The House of Representatives will doubtless know how to rate this rhetorical courage, when they come to discuss the subject. —N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.

NICARAGUA AND THE UNITED STATES.—The President sent the Senate, on the 3rd January, his ratification of Mr. Wheeler's treaty with Nicaragua, negotiated before Gen. Walker's advent in that country. It stipulates for the recognition by the United States of the right of Nicaragua to all her claimed territory, including Mosquito, and regardless of the British Protectorate. It also stipulates for the protection and encouragement of the capital and the undertakings of American citizens in Nicaragua, covering of course any railroad or canal which may be projected. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Parker H. is still there. If he does not leave the country by the steamer of the 9th inst., you may expect that the government will withdraw all diplomatic courtesy from him. Should the United States Marshal be molested by Gen. Walker at San Juan, as the latter threatens, our government will have ample grounds for driving that chieftain from the country.

MASSACRE OF UNITED STATES SOLDIERS IN FLORIDA.—An extra of the Charleston Courier, dated 11 o'clock, A. M., December 29, has the following:

The following "official information" was received at head quarters of the troops in Florida, about 11 1/2 o'clock last night. The intelligence was brought from Fort Myers, by the U. S. steamer Ranger. The Ranger left Fort Myers on the morning of the 23d inst.

Fort Brooke, (Fla.) Dec 23.—An exploring party under command of Lieut. George L. Harstuff, 2d Artillery, consisting of one sergeant, one corporal, and seven privates, were suddenly attacked by a party of Seminole Indians, at daylight on the 20th inst., about 16 miles S. E. from Fort Simmon Drum—that party being about 40 miles N. E. from Fort Myers.

The party left Fort Myers on the morning of the 7th instant, and up to the time of attack were engaged in making a re-examination of that portion of the Big Cypress Swamp examined by the troops last winter. Three men of the command arrived at Fort Myers on the night of the 21st; it is supposed that Lieut. Harstuff and the remainder of his party have been killed.

Most of the public animals with the expedition, some eighteen in number, were also shot down. Lieut. Harstuff, when last seen, had one arm broken, and is supposed to have been wounded in the side. Private Hanna, of Company G, 2d Artillery, one of the party who escaped, brought the above information to Fort Myers. Hanna was wounded in the abdomen, not seriously, it is thought; he left another of the party, private Baker, also wounded, about 18 miles from Fort Myers.

Baker gave out at that point, and could come no further. The Indians making the attack were some twenty-five or thirty in number. Two companies of the 2d Artillery were to leave Fort Myers on the morning of the 23d inst., in search of Lieut. Harstuff and the missing members of his party.

Other movements of the troops in the direction of the battle ground, were ordered immediately on the receipt of the information concerning the attack.

A SUSPICIOUS VESSEL MET AT SEA.—Capt. Atkins of the ship Sultana, at New York from New Orleans, reports; Dec. 20, fresh breezes from E. N. E. with fine weather; at 3 P. M. saw a brig running off the wind under two topsails; stranger was tided for 10 guns, had two quarter boats, both painted white; 3.30 P. M. tacking to north, ship Westmoreland tacked about the same time about two miles to the windward of us. The brig before mentioned hoisted the Spanish flag, and hauled to under the ship to windward. I set my ensign, and kept it flying about 10 minutes, and then hoisted it down. The ship to windward outailing the brig, she again kept before the wind, and ran down on my weather quarter, but my ship outailing him, he kept off and gave us a gun. I then backed my mizen topsail and again set my flag, and he made sail after me, by which time he was in my wake. He kept after us about half an hour, and getting to leeward haled us, and told us we could go on—hailed down his flag, and kept before the wind. I had my ensign flying all the time he was after us. When he told us we might go, I asked him why he insulted the American flag, but received no answer.

The New York Herald, of 13th Jan., supplies a fearful list of casualties—wrecks, &c.—caused by the late hurricane, which appear to have swept along the entire range of the North-east coast of the United States.

Vessels bound into New York seem to have suffered most; from the point of the "Hook" to below "Spartan inlet," on the Jersey coast, eight vessels were entirely lost.

"The scene," says the Herald, "from the bank in front of the Broadway House, this morning, is terrible. The buildings partly blown down on all sides, the broken and caved banks, demolished bathing houses, &c., presented a perfect picture of ruin; but the worst feature is presented from the sea. At every moment some vessel heaves in sight, in various stages of disarrangement and dismemberment—with sails gone, rigging hanging loose, bulwarks stove, masts gone, &c. "It is a most surprising fact that so far we have heard of no loss of life in the immediate neighborhood. We have been able to procure intelligence of the loss of eight vessels along the upper coast, from the point of the Hook to below Squan Inlet. The severity of the gale, which began early on Saturday evening and continued through the night, gave reason to fear that a very heavy loss of life had occurred in our immediate vicinity, as the offing during Saturday, was lined with vessels inward bound."