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NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Progress of the War.

THIRTY DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

HALFAX, Dec. 23.

The R. M. Steamship America, from Liverpool, 9th inst. arrived at noon to-day. She brought 17 passengers for Halifax. Admiral Bruce was on board, proceeding to take command of the Squadron, in the Pacific, in place of the late Admiral Price. Since the battle of Inkerman, no other engagement had occurred in the neighborhood of Sebastopol up to the date of the latest despatches from the seat of war.

It was stated that the Austrian signed a treaty with the Allied Powers on the 2nd inst. at Vienna, engaging to take the field, should the Emperor of Russia prolong the war beyond the 1st of January next. It is not doubted that Austria will take the field, in consequence of the issue of the battles of the Alma and Inkerman, and fears of her subjects in Italy and Poland revolting. Prussia, too, joins the ranks.

LIVERPOOL, December 9.

Parliament, which meets on Tuesday next, is not to be called upon to provide more money by loan or otherwise for meeting the expenses of the war. Last session, the Government proposed to raise £1,000,000 of additional annual taxation, will power to issue Exchequer bonds and bills to the amount of £3,000,000, until the new taxes should be productive; and there were £1,000,000 of Exchequer bills to be issued to begin with. It is now stated positively, and apparently on official authority, that Mr. Gladstone has paid his way that he has not to be called upon to provide more money by loan or otherwise for meeting the expenses of the war. Last session, the Government proposed to raise £1,000,000 of additional annual taxation, will power to issue Exchequer bonds and bills to the amount of £3,000,000, until the new taxes should be productive; and there were £1,000,000 of Exchequer bills to be issued to begin with. It is now stated positively, and apparently on official authority, that Mr. Gladstone has paid his way that he has not to be called upon to provide more money by loan or otherwise for meeting the expenses of the war.

Many members of the House of Commons, who are earnest supporters of the Patriotic Fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of our brave soldiers who fall in the conflict with Russia. Several of the principal Quaker merchants of Dublin have subscribed to the fund.

At length complete accounts of the great losses suffered by the Anglo-French expedition in the Black Sea on the 14th ult. Thirtieth British and French regiments were wrecked, and 18 vessels were wrecked or dismasted at the mouth of the Tcherny. The loss of men at the various stations on the coast of the Crimea during the day is reckoned at 15,000, including those that have fallen into the hands of the Cossacks. The English men of war, owing to the strength of the cables, suffered comparatively little loss, but the French three-decker war steamer Henri IV. The greatest loss is that of the fine screw-steamer Prince, of 2700 tons. She carried on board 1000 men, and 1000 tons of clothing for the troops engaged in the siege, including 40,000 greatcoats, blanket shirts, under-clothing, socks, and gloves; beer, pork, and other provisions; hospital stores for 3000 men; and a vast quantity of shot and shell to carry on the siege. The troops were landed at their destination in safety, but the stores are reported to have been lost. The French Admiral Prince had half a dozen of her numerous crew, who managed to get on the cliffs when she was "broken to pieces" against the rocks, and with 3000 lbs. of powder, also went to the bottom. The pecuniary loss to the shipping is roughly estimated at two millions of pounds. On shore, the French soldiers were blown down and greatly injured.

The anxiety of the public as to the terms of the treaty between Austria and the Allied Powers has not yet been relieved, and it is probable that the precise terms of the important document of the 2d inst. will not be allowed to transpire, till after its ratification this day week. A Paris correspondent writes, however, that the nature of the treaty is perfectly well known; that it is *bona fide* a treaty offensive and defensive; and that it sets forth, if Russia does not comply with the just demands of the Western Powers, and take steps to conclude a solid peace within a certain specified time on the basis of the four guarantees, that the Allies will then proceed to England and France to enforce her.

The writer adds, that at the Palace of the Tuilleries, on Saturday evening, when the telegraphic despatch announcing the signing of the treaty was received, a grand party happened to be assembled, to whom the Emperor read the despatch, amidst the hearty congratulations of his guests. The

correspondent of the Globe states, that in the domestic circles of London, the three Powers have agreed fully on the conditions of peace to be submitted to Russia by Austria, in the name of Germany, as being reasonable, and necessary, and necessary for the repose of Europe; and that Austria binds herself to enter into a definite offensive and defensive alliance with the Western Powers against Russia, if, within the time allowed to Russia for her answer, these propositions be not accepted.

There are different statements as to the time allowed to Russia for her answer. Some state that it is three months; others that it is only one month, to expire on the 1st January next, and that the three months spoken of are the delay, beyond which the direct co-operation of Austria with the Western Powers cannot be deferred, in the event of the refusal of the Emperor of Russia to make peace on the conditions suggested. England, France, Prussia, and Austria. Whatever may be the terms of the treaty, the announcement of its conclusion has given general satisfaction, because it is believed to be in the present state of affairs, feeling, the Government of this country dare not accede to any propositions which were not likely, in the event of their acceptance, to lead to the re-establishment of peace on honorable and lasting basis, and in case of their rejection, to bring in the effective aid of an armed power which has too long delayed active co-operation in the struggle, in the name of its own interests permanently involved. While the French reefs have risen about 3 1/2 per cent., our own consols, after steadily rising with the price on honorable and lasting basis, and in case of their rejection, to bring in the effective aid of an armed power which has too long delayed active co-operation in the struggle, in the name of its own interests permanently involved. While the French reefs have risen about 3 1/2 per cent., our own consols, after steadily rising with the price on honorable and lasting basis, and in case of their rejection, to bring in the effective aid of an armed power which has too long delayed active co-operation in the struggle, in the name of its own interests permanently involved.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

VIENNA, WEDNESDAY MORNING.—The British and French fleets, on the 25th of November, and states, on the authority of a despatch of the 25th from Balaklava, that the English took two batteries of seven guns each, which the Russians are permanently involved. While the French reefs have risen about 3 1/2 per cent., our own consols, after steadily rising with the price on honorable and lasting basis, and in case of their rejection, to bring in the effective aid of an armed power which has too long delayed active co-operation in the struggle, in the name of its own interests permanently involved.

Since the battle of Inkerman, all the weak points in the external lines of the allies have been thoroughly fortified. For this purpose, works of considerable strength, well furnished with cannon and mortars, have been placed, so as to command both the ravines up which the Russians advanced to the British camp on the morning of the 5th of November. The ravine leading from the fortress of Sebastopol, up which General Dannebarg advanced, is now completely blocked by three batteries mounting guns, one of them a Lancaster; and the ravine leading from the valley of Inkerman is closed by entrenchments which completely cross it, and commanded by guns so directed as to sweep the British camp in the valley. In order to render it impossible for the Russians to bring up cannon as they did on the 5th of November, the road from the British camp to the British camp is now completely blocked by three batteries mounting guns, one of them a Lancaster; and the ravine leading from the valley of Inkerman is closed by entrenchments which completely cross it, and commanded by guns so directed as to sweep the British camp in the valley.

From the British camp, near Inkerman, to Balaklava, a distance of about eight miles—the country which is naturally strong, is strongly fortified. Even Balaklava itself, which the British army has held since the 25th of November, is strongly fortified. The Russian army had not attempted anything from the 5th of November to the 25th, because of the strength of the position of the allies. The Russians, indeed, seem to have been reduced to total inactivity for the 31 days which followed the battle of Inkerman.

THE CRIMEA.

BALAKLAVA, Nov. 21.—On the 14th, the hurricane blew down the tents, and the men were exposed to the rain and cold for the day, several of our troops died from cold and exhaustion, and many horses perished. The camp was a sea and air, and the Russians were quite depressed.

On the 15th, the fire was very slack on both sides. On the 16th, men and officers were beginning to hate themselves for the winter. The Russian army is in a very bad state, and has not been reinforced. On the 17th, it rained all day. There was a snow storm on the 18th, which was very thick. The British lines, which were only very weakly to French and English reinforcements continue to arrive.

About ten days later, and after the result of the battle of Inkerman was known to the Austrian minister at St. Petersburg was informed, that the Russian government was disposed to accept the terms of peace without those modifications. In both cases, it is evident that the real object of the Russian Cabinet in making these negotiations was to obtain from Germany a neutrality supported with firmness and perseverance; but in both cases, the matter failed, for even Prussia was not restrained from consulting the additional article to her treaty with Austria, and Austria proceeded without any further delay to complete her treaty with the Western powers.

PARIS, THURSDAY MORNING.—The minister of war has this morning received the following telegraphic despatch from General Canrobert: "Before Sebastopol, Nov. 24.—The rain has ceased, and the weather becomes more propitious. The progress of the labor has been hitherto impeded by the stormy state of the climate; but we are again at work in the trenches with renewed activity. Reinforcements are arriving. Our enemies still continue unmolested, covering themselves by their numerous intrenchments."

STATE OF THE RUSSIAN TROOPS.—A Vienna military paper says, on the 19th November there were 9,000 sick or wounded Russians in the Crimea. The Russian troops were in a very miserable state—many had no tents or warm clothing, and many were suffering from lack of food. The English prisoners were taken at the interior.

THE GALE IN THE BLACK SEA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 19.—We have just had the most distressing news down from the Crimea,—the total loss of a great British steamer, the "Wynantia," which was blown up by a heavy gale on the 14th inst. The "Wynantia" was a vessel of 1,000 tons, and was carrying a large quantity of stores and provisions. The crew and passengers were all saved.

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stantinople, 20th November, and received in a despatch on Monday evening:—

"The Vienna Convention of the 23rd of November at Balaklava on the 14th inst. The Jura, very fortunately, got into harbour before the gale came on. The steamer Dec. 6.—Accounts have just been received from Constantinople on the 27th. They confirm the news that General Liprandi had retired from Balaklava and the Duke of Cambridge is seriously indisposed."

THE TREATY WITH AUSTRIA.—The Daily News Paris correspondent learns, from a perfectly authentic source, that the treaty with Austria will become eventually a peace offensive and defensive. Peace will be proclaimed in a few days on the basis of four points, interpreted as mentioned in the treaty. If by January 1st or 2d, Russia shall not have accepted the four points, it will be interpreted. Austria will send her ambassador to St. Petersburg; and if by March 2d she shall not have accepted the four points, or if by March 2d she shall not have accepted the four points, she will be interpreted to the western powers based upon the Russian terms, shall not have been accepted by Russia. The four points are: 1. The interpretation of the four points includes the interpretation of the Black Sea. Russia is not to be allowed to increase the number of vessels in the Black Sea beyond the number of vessels in the Black Sea. 2. The Black Sea is to be a common sea. 3. The Black Sea is to be a common sea. 4. The Black Sea is to be a common sea.

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LATEST TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

LOSS OF RUSSIA: ST. PETERSBURG.—A correspondent of the Vienna *Freeman* writes, a journal usually very favorable to Russia, adds that a train of several hundreds of waggons, laden with provisions and munitions for the Russian troops at Sebastopol, was surprised by the frightful snow storms in the steppes south of Perekop, and annihilated.

PROVISIONS IN SEBASTOPOL.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Chronicle* states that Sebastopol is provisioned for not more than 14 or 15 weeks, and the Russian relieving army altogether unprepared for such a long stay. Supplies sent from Southern Russia, which are conveyed in all descriptions of vehicles, principally drawn by oxen, which are as much exposed to destruction in the Taurian steppes as the ships of the allies in the Black Sea.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—In England matters are approaching a mitigation. It is probable that Parliament will be summoned for the 1st inst. at the request of the war. The dispatch of reinforcements from the seat of war continued without intermission.

It has been determined to call Parliament together on the 12th of December. The object of this assembling of the National Assembly is to discuss the question of the Chancellor of the Exchequer with the view of carrying on the war. Those means are not probably transpire before Mr. Gladstone's resignation to the House of Commons. War is costly sport, and business must be provided, come from what quarter they may. In his statement of the 11th inst. Mr. Gladstone has indicated the course against the system of raising the loan by means of loans—adding future generations with the expenses of the present. It is not in this view, the income tax must be increased at least 10 per cent., and additional duties must be placed on the great necessities of life,—on tea, coffee, sugar, beer, and probably wine and spirits. Such a course is not one which the only one which is open to the custodian of the national finances, for hitherto the war has been enormously expensive, and it may be probably be at the commencement of it. The effect on trade cannot fail to be very serious, and there are already prospects of evilly engaged in prognostication. It is not in this view, the income tax must be increased at least 10 per cent., and additional duties must be placed on the great necessities of life,—on tea, coffee, sugar, beer, and probably wine and spirits. Such a course is not one which the only one which is open to the custodian of the national finances, for hitherto the war has been enormously expensive, and it may be probably be at the commencement of it.

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