

are but to distribute the public burdens fairly and judiciously—to relieve the industry of the nation from the oppression (for that is the proper word) under which it groans—and prosperity and plenty would come again of themselves. In the report from Littleton parish (Cambridgehire) there are the following remarkable statements.—My informant, Mr. Kimpton, an overseer, a considerable occupier, told me that * * * the land within the parish was amply sufficient to employ all the labour, if fairly cultivated; that it was a light chalky soil, naturally poor, but capable of a very high degree of cultivation by the aid of artificial manure; * * * that the taking of Tithes in this parish was a great restraint and impediment to the cultivator of land of this character; * * * that, in some cases the indisposition to cultivate seems to have arisen in part from irritation of the mind on the subject; a Mr. —, occupying 300 acres, having abandoned the cultivation of his land altogether, being a person of capital, and independent of farming profits; * * * and that the general result has been to throw large numbers of able-bodied men on the parish who might otherwise have been kept in the condition of independent laborers. The same Commissioner mentions four other parishes in Cambridgehire in which, but for the tithes, inclosures of valuable lands might have been effected, which would have provided labor for hundreds: The Tithes, the chains, the taxes, explain all. Not but what other circumstances may have helped to accelerate our downward career, such as the manners, as well as the expectations of our Clergy—the shame as well as the weight of our chains—the mode as well as the amount of our taxes; but that to pay so much to priests, pettyfoggers, and tax-ratherers, is more than enough to drive any people to perdition."

COMPARATIVE STRENGTH OF THE FIVE GREAT POWERS OF EUROPE.

In the present posture of affairs in Europe, it may be worth while to take a glance, (it must of necessity be a brief one) at the comparative strength of the five influential powers of Europe—Russia, Austria, Prussia, France, and England. We may dismiss the population in a word; but will put down the figures as we afterwards have occasion to refer to them.

The population of Russia is about 60 mills.

Austria	33
Prussia	13
France	33
Great Britain	24

With respect to Great Britain, if we add to her account the population of her Indian and Colonial Possessions, we should swell the total of the inhabitants of the British dominions to at least 140 millions; a number equal to the population of the other four great powers of Europe. But it is not alone from the number of the population under its rule, that a State derives its aggressive power, but from the revenue it can raise to set that population in motion. Let us see how the Five Powers are relatively circumstanced in this respect.

The revenue of Russia is about 14 m. stg.

Austria	12
Prussia	8

France	38
Great Britain	54

Let us see how far these revenues are applicable to external purposes; for the apparent large revenue of a kingdom is as deceptive as the delusive long rent roll of a land owner, whose income is reduced by the interest on his mortgages; so national revenues for the disposable purposes of their Governments, are minus the interest of their debts.

The National Debt of Russia may be calculated at—including charges of Interest

	Collection
55 millions	3 mills.
Austria	60
Prussia	28
France	200
Great Britain	770

The amount of interest on the respective national debts being deducted, we shall find that the surplus disposable revenue of each stands thus:—

Disposable Revenue, after paying the Interest of the Nation Debt of

Russia	11 millions
Austria	9
Prussia	6 1-2
France	28
Great Britain	26

The disposable Revenue, thus stated, it must be borne in mind, is more or less absorbed in the necessary expenses of the Internal Government, independently of the expenses incurred in the maintenance of armies in a state of warlike efficiency. We shall have to recur to this point again presently. We may observe at this place, that the power of England, as to its disposable revenue is less than that of France, although equal to the whole of the revenue of the three other states. We shall endeavour to show, however, that the real revenue power of Great Britain is vastly superior to that of France; but, first, let us have before us such figures as are necessary in our consideration. A brief survey of the actual state of the fleets and armies of the five great Powers of Europe will be useful in considering the means of aggression of each at the present time. We will first take the fleets; and, here, the pre-eminence of England is so great, that the naval forces of the other states under consideration, sink into utter insignificance. In stating the number of vessels of war of each state, we must classify them in a general way, or shall fall into erroneous deductions. The total number of vessels of war in the possession of Russia, (we do not care for minute correctness, it is the comparative strength of each state that we are endeavouring to arrive at) is

Austria	123
Prussia	2
France	72
Great Britain	604

But those gross numbers do not express all we want to know; let us make more obvious the respective strength of each navy, by a little classification. We will divide the general term of "vessels of war" into "ships of the line," "frigates," and "armed vessels of all denominations."—Of these

Ships of the line.	Frigates.	Armed vessels
Russia has	49	30
Austria	3	8
Prussia	2	—
France	60	53
G. Britain	162	118

It is difficult to ascertain the actual number of the armies of each state, in a condition of warlike efficiency; we may form an estimate, however, sufficiently accurate for our purpose; but it must be borne in mind, that the numerical strength of the army of a State, is a very delusive indication of its military power; it is the financial means of a state, to supply that army with all the material which forms efficiency for action, that is the grand consideration. In these times, it is seldom that a state need be in want of soldiers, if it is in possession of the money to pay and maintain them. In ancient times, war was carried on with men, in modern times it is carried on with money. It is obvious, however, that on some occasions, a large number of men, trained to military habits, and ready for the field, may place a state of minor resources in a superior and temporarily commanding position in respect to another state really far superior in power. But, before we pursue this thought farther, let us look at the armies of the Five States under consideration.

Russia is supposed to have, of soldiers of

all sorts throughout her wide spread dominions	600,000
Austria	350,000
Prussia	250,000
France	400,000
Great Britain	110,000

The number of soldiers of Russia is commonly stated at a much larger amount; as high as a million, but although this may be strictly true, if we include the militia, and the barbarous troops of its distant, and Asiatic dominions, it may be doubted whether Russia could bring into the field a larger number of efficient troops than we have stated. And if Russia has its million of soldiers, France has hardly less. But these troops, powerful as they may be in resisting invasion, (in Napoleon's invasion of Russia, they availed nothing) are certainly not to be counted on as any aggressive military force. We have now before us, a general view of the respective statistics of the Five Powers of Europe, immediately affected by the contemplated hostilities between Holland on the one side and France and England on the other. It will be seen that, as a navy and defensive