Latest News!

THE PEACE QUESTION.

Le Nord of yesterday contains the text of a despatch from Count Buol to count Valentine Esterhazy, accompanying the propositions which that diplomatist has taken to St. Petersburg in the name of Austria. In this despatch it is stated that his Imperial Majesty and the Emperor of Austria, though finding the Allied Powers unalterable, resolving not to take the initiative in pacific overtures, nevertheless believes himself justified in expressing the the hope that these Powers continue to hold the principles which guided them at the outset and have no object of aggrandisement in view. The Imperial Cabinet is therefore encouraged to endeavour to procure a settlement, taking the four principles already accepted by Russia as the best starting point. The propositions already known are then given, and it is added that the signing of these by the belligerents will be immediately followed by a general armistice and definite negociations. Count Buol adds if the propositions are accepted, Austria will not hesitate to warmly recommend their acceptance to the courts of Paris and London, and that he is persuaded the special conditions will be no serious obstacle. We will not, says Count Buol, in conclusion, enter upon the grave consequence which Russia will entail upon herself by refusing to enter upon the paths we a second time open to her for arriving at an honorable reconciliation, a refusal which would bring upon her the weight of an immense responsibility. We prefer relying upon her wisdom to weigh all the chances.

Continued War Preparations.

We hear that the authorities of the War Department are not abating their efforts. At the Tower the embarkation of ordnance and commissariat stores is carried on with the same energy and despatch as heretofore; the operations in the small arms department proving this establishment is rather on the increase.

Instructions were forwarded yesterday morning to the commanding officers of embodied regiments of militia notifying that volunteers from these corps will be accepted in light cavalry regiments, with the exception of the 10th Hussars and 12th Lancers, which regiments are complete to the war establishment, namely, 700 rank and file each.

THE EAST.

The Ganges arrived at Marseilles this morning with advices from Constantinople of the 7th, and from the Crimea of the 5th instant. A ship called the Suberb has gone down in the Black Sea with the whole crew, the captain excepted. The transport Talavera has also gone down in the Sea of Marmora; the crew were saved.

At Kertch an attack was expected from the Russians.

Russia.—Advices from St. Petersburg state that General Luders will take the supreme command in the Crimea, and Prince Gortschakoff will succed Paskiewitsch as Stadtholder (viceroy) of Poland. Kotzebue, hitherto head of the staff in the Crimea, is appointed to the command of the 5th infantry corps.

Intelligence from Naples of the 16th announces the refusal of the Neapolitan Government to permit the exportation of corn. No political interests had been granted, as was anticipated.

News dated Trieste, the 16th, contains intelligence from Constantinople to the effect that the generalissimo was concentrating his troops at Ursuagetti. An English war steamer had received orders to proceed from Sinope to Souchoum Kaleh, to convey Omar Pacha to Constantinople.

(From the Second Edition of the London Times.)

Vienna, Wednesday, 10 p. m.

Russia has unconditionally accepted the propositions of the Allies. This is authentic.

We have received the following telegraphic despatch from our Paris correspondent:—

Paris, Thursday, Jan. 17.—The following telegraphic despatch was received here at 12 20 this morning, and was immediately posted up at the Bourse, by order of his Excellency the Minister of the Interior;

"Vienna, Jan. 16, 11 15 p.m.—The Minister of France to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"Count Esterhazy writes to-day from St. Petersburgh that M. de Nesselrode has just notified to him the acceptation, 'pure and and simple,' of the propositions contained in the ultimatum, which propositions are to serve as preliminaries of peace."

We have received the following telegraphic despatch from our Berlin correspondent:—

Berlin, Thursday, Jan. 17.—Russia has accepted the Austrian proposals. Official men attribute this to the urgency of Prussia's representations and remonstrances."

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* reports that at a reception at the Court of Vienna, on the 9th instant, the Emperor Francis Joseph declared to a member of the Diplomatic Corps, that the moment had at last arrived to get out of the situation they were in one way or another; and to the Swedish Minister he observed that the treaty of his Government with France and England had produced the greatest effect at St. Petersburgh, and would be powerful in hastening the termination of the crisis.

LATER FROM AUSTRALIA.

Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson's "White Star" clipper Bon Nevis, Captain Heron, arrived in the Mersey on Thursday, the 17th inst. with 80 passengers, 50,000 ounces of gold, and a general cargo, including 360 bales of wool, 300 bundles of rugs, 2300 hides, 4600 horns, &c.

The papers contain no news of importance. All legislative busines in Victoria had been suspended till the new constitution, which arrived out in the Shalimar, had been discussed and proclaimed.

The price of gold was 75s. 9d. the oz. 30,000 diggers were at the Fiery Creek diggings, and had partly brought down from 8000 oz. The yield from quartz has greatly increeased at Bendigo. During the week ending the 12th October the escorts from Mount Alexander, Ballarat, and Beechworth brought 64,181 oz. down to Melbourne.

Meeting of Parliament.—An official announcement that Parliament will meet on Thursday, the 31st instant, and that "public business of great importance will be brought forward without delay," has been forwarded to the minsterial members of the House of Commons.

The Suez Canal.—The commission for the piercing of the Isthmus of Suez has arrived at Alexandria from its exploring journey. The results hitherto ascertained are favourable. The commission considers that it will be easy to pierce the Isthmus from Suez to Peluse direct.

The Austrial Concordat.—It was expected that the convention with Rome would give internal peace to the empire, btu there has seldom or never been such a general ferment in the country as now. In Bohemia the indignation of the Catholic population is so great that the authortites are astounded and at a loss how to act. A person whose words deserve full credit assures me that if the police were to undertake to arrest all those individuals who in Bohemia openly rail against the concordat they would have to incarcerate half the population of the province. In the Italian provinces the state of public feeling is quite as bad, and the disaffected have now a new grievance. Until now the Hungarian bishops have remained quiet, but you may be sure that they will soon be up and doing.—*Times Correspondent.*

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and the Fall of Kars.—The *Times* says the blame of the fall of Kars rests upon Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the British Ambassador at Constantinople, and attributes the ambassador's alleged dislike, to General Williams having received his appointment from the Foreign-office, and not through the representations of Lord Stratford.

War and Taxes.

The *Edinburgh Review*, in an article of 1820, on "America," after counselling us not to suffer ourselves to be inspired "with any other love of *war* than that which is founded upon a determination not to submit to serious insult and injury," adds the following:—"We can inform Jonathan what are the inevitable consequences of being too fond of glory:—*Taxes* upon every article which enters into the mouth or covers the back, or is placed under the foot—taxes upon every thing which it is pleasant to see, hear, feel, smell, or taste—taxes upon warmth, light, and locomotion—taxes on every thing on earth, and the waters under the earth—on every thing that comes from abroad or is grown at home—taxes on the raw material—taxes on every fresh value that is added to it by the industry of man—taxes on the sauce which pampers man's appetite and the drug that restores him to health—on the ermine which decorates the judge and the rope which hangs the criminal—on the poor man's salt and the rich man's spice—on the brass nails of the coffin and the ribands of the bride—at bed or board, couchant or levant, we must pay. The schoolboy whips his taxed top; the beardless youth manages his taxed horse, with a taxed bridle, on a taxed road; and the dying Englishman, pouring his medicine, which has paid seven per cent., into a spoon, which has paid fifteen per cent, flings himself back upon his chintz bed, which has paid twenty-two per cent., and expires in the arms of an apothecary who has paid a licenser of a hundred pounds for the privilege of putting him to death. His whole property is then immediately taxed from two to ten per cent. Besides the probate, large fees are demanded for burying him in the chancel: his virtues are handed down to posterity on taxed marble; and he is then gathered to his fathers—*to be taxed no more.*

Importance of a Comma.

In the priory of Ramessa there dwelt a prior who was very liberal, and who caused these lines to be written over his door:

"Be open evermore, O thou my door,
To none be shut, to honest or to poor."

But after his death, there succeeded him another, whose name was Raynhard, as greedy and covetous as the other was bountiful and liberal, who left the same lines there still, changing nothing therein but one point, which made them run after this manner:

"Be open evermore, O thou my door,
To none, be shut to honest or to poor."

Afterward being driven from thence for his extreme niggardliness, it grew into a proverb, that for *one point* Raynhard lost his priory.

A Madman.—A workman at a lunatic assylum in England, left a chisel more than three feet long, on a recent occasion, in one of the wards. A furious patient seized it, and threatened to kill with it, any one who approached him. Every one then in the ward immediately departed from it. At length the attendant opened the door, and balancing the key of the ward on his hand, walked slowly toward the dangerous madman, looking intently at it.

His attention, said the attendant, was immediately attracted. He came toward me, and asked:

"What are you doing with that?"

"I am trying to balance this key on my hand," said I, "and I can do it: but you cannot balance that chisel in that way on the back of your hand."

"Yes, I can," said he, balancing it carefully, and extending it towards me.

I took it off very quietly, and without making any comment upon it. He seemed a little chagrined at having lost his weapon, but made no atempt to regain it, and in a short time all irritation passed away.

Early Rising.—The New York *Christian Advocate* has a letter from its London correspondent, under date of December 7th, giving an interresting account of the visit of the King of Sardinia. In speaking of the departure of the King, the writer introduces the foollwing extract from the Court Circular of the 6th:—"At half-past 4 o'clock this morning, the Queen, the King of Sardinia, Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge, breakfasted together at Windsor Castle." The writer then contrasts the present mode of family enjoyment with that of George the Fourth. Then the hour of breakfast oft times ran into the afternoon. "Now, we find the Queen sitting down to breakfast, with her husband and her guests, three hours before daylight, on a wild December morning, with the wintry winds howling round the turrets of Windsor, and the snow lying thick on park and terrace." The writer admits that this hour is earlier than that at which the royal family usually breakfasted, and was fixed to allow of the departure of Victor Emanuel, the train starting a five o'clock. Yet the habits of the Queen and Prince Albert are systematically so early and regular, that in the spring and summer her Majesty and children are generally seen driving three or four miles from Buckingham palace, as early as eight o'clock, having breakfasted and united in domestic worship, with the household, before leaving home.

Singular Antipathies.—The antipathics of the human mind are very extraordinary, and their effects are involuntary, irresistible, and uncontrolable. Out of the almost innumerable cases of this affection of the nerves on record, we here subjoin a few of the most remarkable. Thus, for example, Uladislaus, King of Poland, became almost frantic if apples were put in his sight. Henry III. of France could not stay in a room where there was a cat; yet this king was at the same time so absurdly fond of dogs, that he would often walk about his palace with a basket of young puppies dangling by a piece of blue ribbon from his neck. Scaliger could not look at velvet without a violent shaking of the whole body. Marshal d'Albert could not bear the presence of either a wild bear or a sucking pig. Boyle used to fall into convulsions on hearing water running from a tap. M. la Motte de Vayer, though he could not bear music, was delighted with the roar of thunder. James I. could not bear the sight of a drawn sword; and Sir Knowles Digby relates that his majesty shook so violently in knighting him, that he would have run the sword into the eyes of the knight elect, had not the Duke of Buckingham guided it across his shoulder.

An Original Speech.—At a demonstration in Banff, in honor of the Birthday of the Earl of Fife, the following singular speech (says a contemporary) was delivered by Captain McDonald:—"It is now the eleventh hour with me, I am now seventy-five years of age, and the oldest man in the room. I came here to live and die amongst you. I had sailed far and wide, and labored hard to acquire some means. I have sailed four times round the globe. I have been in all the climates of the known world—and I may tell you my young friends here that, for fifty years, I have drunk nothing stronger than tea and coffee, and I always stood the cold better than any man in my crew. I have made nine voyages around Cape Horn—and I always stood the cold better than any of my seamen, so you will see that it's only 'Dutch courage' that drink gives. I never had the happines to get a classical education, but I could always conduct myself in company. Perhaps it's not generally known that I was no less than three weeks living at the Mansion-House with the Lord Mayor of London. While there, I once had my legs under the table with the whole of Her Majesty's Ministers, and once with no less personages than Prince Albert and the Queen Dowager—and once, too, while there, I dined with forty-five clergymen; and upon another occasion with no fewer than sixteen bishops. I feel grateful for the kindness you have shown me, and I must say I never wish to stand higher in Banff than I do at this moment in your good opinion."

The most prevalent disorders to the human frame is subject are, perhaps, sick headache and bile, by both sexes and all ages, and which are the ground work, nay, the very foundaion of some of the worst of disorders. Amongst the many remedies brought before the public, there is nothing which can equal Holloway's Pills for the cure of these distressing complaints, their effects are prompt and certain, and as they strike at the very root of the disease, they leave the sufferer in the enjoyment of health, after every other means have failed. These Pills will also cure all liver and stomach complaints.