

THE BATTLE OF NAVARIN

(From the Constitutionnel.)

PARIS, Nov. 9.—The Captain of a ship, at the battle of Navarin, writes to his wife, that the destruction of the Egyptian fleet is complete, and that the ships continued burning two days after the battle. He adds that the victory was so decisive that even the fortresses capitulated, and at the hour he was writing, the flag of the Allied Powers was floating on the ramparts of Navarin, and the garrison marching out before them.

Destruction of the Turco Egyptian fleet.

No thing less than an event of this importance could divert public attention from the contemplation of the great interests in which it was absorbed. The destruction of this fleet by the Allied Powers must be so serious that the shrewdest and most penetrating mind cannot calculate on its consequences. There can be no temerity in anticipating a real war against Turkey, and the destruction of that barbarous empire, which has been so long wished for by the sincere and enlightened friends of humanity, who wish for the independence and dignity of individuals and nations.

The European Governments are supporting, at a great expense, embassies at Constantinople, besides diplomatic or Consular Agents in other Turkish possessions, though there is no sort of insult or outrage to which they are not daily exposed. When the Ambassadors go to the palace of the Sultan or Turkish Minister, they are sure to see the heads of Christians exposed to their view, and they are frequently themselves menaced with a similar fate to that of the victims whom they behold—the gates of the Seven Towers being continually open, ready prepared for the infliction of punishment. For a number of years have the nations of Europe been compelled to run the risk of such dangers, and to endure all these humiliations. How could it be otherwise? The Turks do not send any agent, minister, or representative, among us; their pride is increased by our humility and condescension; they adopt only of language of submission, and answer in that of haughtiness and menace. Their Chief, like the proud Agamemnon, assumes the title of King of Kings. While we are so weak as to lend to such arrogance, why should the Porte condescend to lay it aside?

For four years have ten or twenty European Ambassadors succeeded each other at Constantinople, to negotiate in the affairs of Greece...that is to say, to supplicate the Grand Turk, who treats us as dogs of Christians, to be pleased to put an end to the massacres of our brethren of the East. From time immemorial have our merchant vessels been captured by barbarous corsairs, and our fellow countrymen, notwithstanding the heavy tribute to which we are so silly as to subject ourselves, dragged into slavery to Tunis, Algiers, and Morocco. Hitherto we have confined ourselves to empty protestations, which only aggravate the barbarities of our eternal enemy, those perpetual butchers of the Christian name, but we deserve it. The time has at length arrived for putting an end to such calamities and outrage. The splendid and Christian victory of Navarin will, it is to be hoped, be but the prelude of even much more considerable events which will bring about the emancipation of nations, as regards the barbarians of Asia and Africa. But in order to arrive at this happy issue, so ardently sought for by civilization, we ought to be consistent with ourselves, and no longer have recourse to diplomacy, when it is added to have recourse to cannon, the old

arms which can cope with Mussulman arrogance.

We publish from the *Moniteur* an account of the naval battle of Navarin, and we are delighted with the glorious part that French men have taken in this bold and decisive enterprise, which has been crowned by the most splendid victory. We could wish we had it in our power to publish and hold forth to the grateful thanks of the nation the names of all our brave fellows who have contributed to the destruction of the naval power of the implacable enemy of the human race. According to letters and private accounts which we have received, it would appear that every man did his duty...officers and men, there was not an individual who did not signalise himself by some prodigy of skill and courage. Glory to our Admiral, who has shown himself worthy to command such brave fellows, and lead them in the path of victory and honor! Glory, too, to our generous allies, whom it is our duty to associate with ourselves in the expression of our joy and national gratitude. It is a common enemy, and victory will share her laurels among all the conquerors.

The *Moniteur* gives but a very imperfect idea of the immense number of the Turco Egyptians, the greater part of whom is destroyed, and the whole fleet beyond the power of further combat. The Turkish Government never collected on a single point a more imposing naval force. They reckoned...

- 126 transports,
- 4 ships of the line,
- 4 frigates of 60 guns,
- 84 ditto of 40 ditto,
- 39 corvettes,
- 37 fire ships.

Total, 224 vessels, no longer in existence!!

The immediate result of this victory is the deliverance of the heroic Greeks; the forces destined to swallow up the remains of this nation being now cut to pieces. The only resources left to Ibrahim is a flight, which he will be able to effect, or a capitulation, which he has perhaps already solicited, and of which they have the power and the right to dictate the conditions. As to Greece, she may be looked upon as delivered from the Ottoman yoke for ever; her definitive deliverance is complete and irrevocably concluded at Navarin; and when history will record the long list of miseries and innumerable sacrifices which this heroic nation has been obliged to suffer, in order to break her chains, and reconquer her territories, in which to repose with the remains of her ancestors and martyred parents, she will consecrate the memory of the brave men, who have determined the happy day of her deliverance from bondage. But may she forget that, four years since, thousands of victims, now in the grave, would have enjoyed with their brethren just rescued from barbarian chains, the fruits of so much toil, tears and blood.

Now only remains for us to consider what may be the effect of this news at Vienna and Constantinople. The *Moniteur* does not mention it; yet it is not the less certain that among the Turkish ships there were several Austrians; which have been sunk like the others. There are, therefore, *de facto*, hostilities between Austria on one side, and France, England and Russia, on the other. And where they not commenced by the Austrian Admiral Dandolo, who was distinguished, even amongst the Turks, for his ardour in pursuing and persecuting the Greeks? Will not facts so serious bring about consequences more serious still?

The news from Navarin, must fall like a thunderbolt on the Divan...and particularly on the Grand Seigneur; and have we no reason to fear that, in the first moment of his fury, he may not set bounds to his vengeance and cruelty? Precautions, it is said, are taken in favour of those Europeans who are in the capital of the Ottoman empire; but what precautions can resist the wrath of a despot, by whose nod thousands of heads leap from their shoulders? Or who has the power to stop the arm of his slaves? If he had, he would have yielded to the Powers, whom he knows he cannot withstand; and that he has not done so is because he dreaded the fate of his predecessors, who have tried in vain to tame the fanaticism of the Turks. Heaven grant that the Europeans of Pera may be able to escape the massacre, for which this news will be the signal!

As to the political consequences of this victory, they will be immediate, and of the first importance. We must have patience; but let us be assured that the Sultan cannot yield without running the risk of his own head. He has destroyed the Janissaries, but the spirit of this body is not yet annihilated in Turkey. It slumbers to awake with more fury than ever. Such are the fruits and sweets of despotism. He cannot support himself except by the aid of other despots, more powerful than himself.

COUNT CAPO D'ISTRIA.

This nobleman, who has lately been elected President of Greece, was born at Corfu in the year 1776, a glorious year for the cause of freedom. His family had from the year 1300, held an honorable place in the first class of citizens of the Seven Ionian Isles. He studied in the universities of Italy, and returned to his country in 1798 at the moment when the overthrow of the Republic of Venice, introduced into the Ionian Islands the democratic power of France. He found his father a prisoner, and threatened by the French Commissary with banishment, on account, it was said, of his political opinions. Count Capo d'Istria exerted himself with zeal and activity for the relief of his father; and had the good fortune to succeed after the French had surrendered the Islands to the combined Russian and Ottoman fleets, and they had been formed into a Republic under the joint protection of Russia and England, the Count, though still young, was employed in 1800 to organize the islands of Cephalonia, Ithaca, and St. Maura. This was the commencement of his political career. In 1808 he was appointed Secretary of State for the Home Department of the Republic, and afterwards for Foreign Affairs, for the Marine, and for Commerce. One of the prominent acts of his administration was the establishment of moral schools, which had not before existed in the Islands.

In 1807, the Isle of St. Maura was threatened by Ali Pacha. The Ionian Government invested Count Capo d'Istria with the powers of Commissioner Extraordinary on the frontiers, and placed under his orders all the militia in the service of the Allied Courts in the Seven Islands. In this campaign, under the command of Ali Pacha, Count Capo d'Istria became first known to the Greek Captains Colocotroni, Botzaris, Karaiskaki, and other Chiefs; and at this epoch his personal relations with the warlike part of Greece, commenced. In July, 1808, he was invited to repair to St. Petersburg, to be employed in the foreign department. Thither he went in 1812. He was then employed in the suite of the Russian Embassy at Vienna, whence he was summoned to discharge the functions of

Chief of the Diplomatic Department at the Head Quarters of the Russian army of the Danube, and afterwards with the Grand Army. He continued with the army during the campaigns of 1813, 1814, 1815, and took an active part in the most important negotiations of this memorable epoch. In November, 1813, the Emperor Alexander sent him to Switzerland. The result of his mission was, that Switzerland made common cause with the Allied Powers against Buonaparte, and the system of Helvetic confederation, as it now exists, was in part his work, in concurrence with the Ministers of the other Allied Courts, and of the 22 cantons. Switzerland still feels for him a grateful affection. At the Congress of Vienna, during the conferences at Paris in 1815, and at Aix-la-Chapelle, Count Capo d'Istria, possessing all the confidence of the Emperor Alexander, was chosen to carry on the principal negotiations with the Allied Powers...negotiations which included those, the result of which was the placing the Ionian Islands under the exclusive protection of Great Britain. From 1816 to 1822 he exercised the functions of Secretary of State for foreign Affairs in the Cabinet of the Emperor Alexander. In 1822, when the Court of Russia adopted the Austrian system with regard to the affairs of the Levant and Greece, Count Capo d'Istria resigned his office and retired to Switzerland, carrying with him marks of the unalterable kindness of the Emperor Alexander, and of the attachment of the most distinguished persons in Russia. In the beginning of the year 1826 he came to Paris, and it was supposed that he then intended to go to Russia. He did not take the journey, however, until the month of May in the present year, and it was on his arrival in Russia that he received the news of the choice which called him to the Government of the affairs of Greece. After a residence of two months in Russia, he retraced his steps, and was in France at the last advices, having brought a decree whereby the Emperor Nicholas gives him a complete discharge from his service, in terms which at once demonstrate the personal sentiments entertained by his Sovereign towards him, and the character of the recollections he has left behind him in Russia.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

From the London Courier, Nov. 6.

COURT OF ADMIRALTY. — [Before Lord Stowell.]

MOST IMPORTANT TO SLAVE OWNERS.—IN THE MATTER OF THE SLAVE GRACE.

Lord Stowell said, he wished that the junior Counsel in this case (Dr. Dodson) should read his judgment:—this is rendered necessary, said his Lordship, in consequence of my inability from the state of my eyes, to read a long and complicated judgment.

Dr. Dodson read his Lordship's judgment.

The facts of the case, which has been so often before the public, in its progress through the different stages of the arguments of Counsel, arising thereon, are simply these.—A slave named Grace was brought by her master to this country, from the island of Anigua, and having remained here for some time, returned voluntarily with him to that island, where he insisted on her continuing in a state of slavery. She was subsequently seized by the Government officers there, as free, inasmuch as having once touched the British coast, she was henceforward ever free. An action was brought by the owner, for restitution, in the Court abroad, and decided in their favour, and against this decision the present appeal