

the slumbers in which he has so long indulged. The preparations for war in Sweden, too, look ominous. The arsenals and military establishments exhibit all the symptoms of an approaching conflict, and as the public treasury is full, the equipment of the army and navy is proceeding with great vigour.

The propositions for peace entrusted to Count Esterhazy were only submitted to the Russian Court on the 27th ult., and, as ten days are allowed for deliberation, some short interval may probably elapse before we know the result. But the belief is that the Emperor Alexander will not accept the terms, and that the war will continue,—that he will try, at all events, the result of another campaign. It was felt when his father Nicholas died that the chances of an early settlement of the war were diminished. The Russians, at the hands of the late Czar, would have accepted conditions to which his successor dare not accede, and there is every reason to suppose that the present Czar is impelled forward by influences which he dare not resist. He has a warlike brother, ready to profit by his mistake, and circumstances which he cannot control may impel him forward, contrary to his own desire.

If the war is to recommence again in the spring, as it is almost certain to do, public opinion will not be satisfied unless the timid policy which has hitherto been pursued in the Baltic be set aside in favor of more decided action. No doubt, we believe, exists that preparations for repairing past inertness in that sea are now being made by the Western Powers, which will enable them to strike some heavy blows at Russian supremacy in the northern extremity of her empire, for a fleet will sail in the spring for the Baltic, greater in number and material power than ever before left the shores of England; and our French ally is ably seconding the effort. That the Czar is a little uneasy at these vast preparations is evident from the pains which are taken to render Constantinople impregnable and to fortify St. Petersburg.

Latest Telegraphic Despatches.

THE CRIMEA.

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

A letter from Odessa of the 21st ult., 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 Kiburn, have been frozen in, and all the efforts made to release them have been hitherto fruitless.

THE EAST.

Accounts from Constantinople say the popularity of Omar Pasha has been much diminished by reason of the failure of his present expedition. It was known that he had abandoned the design of marching on Kutais, and was in full retreat upon Souchum Kaleh. 10,000 of his troops, with others to be despatched, are to be sent to Trebizond, to cover Erzeroum, which place, it is apprehended, will be attacked by General Mouravieff.

ASIA.

The Journal de Constantinople, which contained news from Omar Pasha's army to the 5th of Dec., stated that, at that date, the Turkish troops were encamped by the river Siya, and that it was impossible to advance, in consequence of the river having overflowed. The news respecting the river Siya might possibly be one of the causes of the retrograde movement made by the Turkish generalissimo. The army near Erzeroum was to be raised to 35,000 men.

Great dissatisfaction is expressed about the fall of Kars. Regarding its downfall The Times' Constantinople correspondent says:—

"The fall of Kars, if all the circumstances attending it be considered, should produce a great sensation in England and France; not on account of its real importance, which I repeat, is not great, but as exposing gross neglect and mismanagement in some quarter or other."

It is well known that Omar Pasha was most eager to depart for its relief as soon as news of its besiegement arrived, but was compelled by order of the allied commanders, to sit idly by watching great numbers of his troops dying by disease in inglorious inactivity. It is whispered that France, and not England, was the cause of this; that England was for immediate action, but her ally interfered. The truth or falsehood of this report will, in all probability, be established when parliament meets. We mentioned last week that the garrison of Kars had capitulated simply through famine, and not on account of the Russian arms; and although we then mentioned that they had killed and eaten all their horses, we only gave a faint idea of the state to which they had been reduced. It now transpires that they were reduced to such a fearful state of misery and starvation that famished cats were selling at one hundred piastres each. The Russians, assuredly, had little to triumph over. The neutral kingdom of Prussia, however, has seen something to rejoice over in this Russian victory, and accordingly have had "Te

Deum" chanted in her capital in order to celebrate it! It is stated that France has intimated to Prussia that if she continues to transmit contraband of war through her territory to Russia, without giving satisfactory reasons for so doing, her ports will be blockaded by the allies.

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

RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE CONTENTING POWERS.

The Russian war fleet in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoff has been destroyed. The occupation of Yenikale and Otschakoff enables the allies to shut up the remaining coasting vessels of the Russians commercial navy in their ports, even during the season of navigation. The Russians are shut out from the sea. On shore, at the close of the campaign, the allies have retained their strong position south of Sebastopol, with the ports of embarkation at Balaklava and Kamiesch; and they have at once extended and strengthened their position, by driving the enemy out of the town of Sebastopol, and all the forts south of the harbour, and by pushing their outposts into the valley of Baidar. The detachments at Eupatoria and Yenikale threaten the flanks of the Russian army. The Russians, on the other hand, occupy the strong defensive line along the heights north of the harbour of Sebastopol and the Mackenzie heights, with its colossal earth-works; the main body of their army appears to be encamped between that line and Simpheropol, with outposts keeping watch upon Eupatoria and Kerch. The communications of the Russian army with the interior must therefore remain uninterrupted.

The Russian government can therefore transmit supplies of stores without impediment, to the Crimea during this winter. The campaign has gone against this Russians in the Crimea, but their position is not yet desperate.

A BALTIC CAMPAIGN.

The Steele anticipates a future campaign in the Baltic provinces, and after having enumerated the forces possessed by Russia in these regions, which it values at 200,000 men, thus marshals the armies which the allies in conjunction with Sweden and Denmark, could dispose of, if necessary.

"Admitting that Sweden were to furnish 70,000 men and Denmark 30,000, the Western Powers would have to furnish 100,000 men, or 70,000 French and 30,000 English. France could even increase her contingent if the military organization of our neighbour were not to permit them to complete theirs, for our country possesses a military strength really formidable.

FRANCE.

We (United States Gazette) are informed that engineer officers are now engaged in tracing out most extensive lines near St. Omer, for the immediate reception of a large army, reported at 100,000 men. The new huts are to be erected adjoining those occupied by the camp of this year. Another camp of 40,000 men is to be formed at Cherbourg.

It is rumoured that Marshal Pelissier will be nominated commander-in-chief of the allied armies, and that Sir Edmund Lyons will be appointed to the chief command of the allied fleets.

HANOVER

King George of Hanover has just abolished trial by jury for political offences in his dominions by his mere decree. Trials on account of published writings are also withdrawn from the cognizance of juries. This sovereign, the public are aware, is the son of our late Duke of Cumberland.

SWEDEN.

Stockholm, December 24.—Whatever may be the official and public interpretations of the treaty with the western powers, there is every reason to believe it is only the outside shell of a kernel, which is perhaps not yet ripe, but it cannot last long before attaining its full growth.

The extraordinary activity prevailing in our naval and military arsenals and other departments point to the presumption that there is more going on behind the scenes than is considered needful to make public, at least for the present. It is clear that in this hyperborean climate, with the thermometer at 20 degrees below zero, and sea and land covered several feet deep with ice and snow, the Christmas holidays would not be employed for such energetic work unless there was some good reason for it. It is more especially the army and navy clothing establishments that are so exceedingly busy in preparing uniforms and other articles of dress and accoutrements. Regimental commanders have received strict orders to put their corps in the greatest possible state of efficiency. Here at Stockholm the belief is generally that we are preparing to take part in the war in the spring, and although the partisans of Russia disclaim against it, public opinion in general is greatly in favour of it, and a war with Russia would be a very popular measure.

SPAIN.

Intelligence from Madrid of the 2nd inst. states that the capitalists of Madrid had proposed to the Government the creation of a national bank of credit.

PROJECTED CAMPAIGN ON THE RHINE.

A few days ago a decree appeared in the Moniteur, for constituting the Imperial Guard

on a larger basis. The intention is that that select body, and the other corps which have fought in the Crimea, shall form the nucleus of an army which can be directed to any point where its services may be required. On this subject the Paris correspondent of the Times makes the following important statements:—

"I have no difficulty in supposing that this point will be the Rhine, in case Russia do not accept the conditions of peace we propose to her, and in case Germany again allows itself to be intimidated or seduced by our enemy. Nay, more, if peace be not concluded this winter, if the spring still sees Prussia timid and uncertain, not to say hostile to us, and Russia still obstinate, I have little doubt that the next campaign will commence on a scale commensurate with the power of the two greatest nations of the earth, and that the war will then become a war a l'outrance. The grand army to which the speech of the Emperor refers, and of which the Guard and its companions in arms are to form the centre, is destined for great things; and fertile in events as the year which is just going out has been, it may be far less rich in material for the historian of the present war than the one on which we are about to enter. Two camps of 100,000 men each, will, it is believed, be formed without delay on the French territory, and serve as schools of instruction, to be swelled by successive arrivals from the Crimea. In the Crimea it is said that our united forces—French, English, Piedmontese, and Turks—are not less than 200,000, and are far too numerous in a place where active operations are not soon expected. Their services will be more valuable elsewhere. It is said, therefore, that only sufficient troops will be left in the Crimea to keep the positions we now occupy, and which will be strengthened so as to defy any force that can by any possibility be brought against them. The rest will probably be called back to France to form part of the immense host which is destined to put an end to the Russian question for ever. Russia had better look to it in time.

The Globe gives, as nearly as possible, an accurate list of the Baltic fleet for 1856. It is to consist of thirty-eight line-of-battle ships and heavily armed frigates, mounting 2812 guns; eighteen corvettes and steam frigates, mounting 302 guns; twenty smaller steamers, with 105 guns; seventeen dispatch gunboats, with 78 guns; three floating-batteries, with 52 guns; four heavy mortar-ships, mounting 44 pieces; 137 gun-boats, carrying two heavy pieces of ordnance on an average. There will be also a store ammunition-ship, hospital-ship, and a floating factory, Total, 243 ships of war; all, with the exception of a store-ship and a hospital ship, propelled by steam. Total guns, 3667.

The steam transport La Dordogne has just embarked 1000 men of the 1st and 2nd Regiment of Zouaves at Algiers, to convey them to the Crimea.

On the 4th ult. there were 50 cases of cholera at St. Petersburg, notwithstanding the coldness of the weather.

Letters from Para, on the river Amazon, state that the cholera had broken out there again, and that a great many cases had proved fatal.

The Cork Examiner announces on authority that it is the intention of a company of high mercantile position to establish a line of steam vessels, which will ply regularly between that port and New York.

In consequence of the Sardinian government having discharged 9,000 men, on whose services they have no further claim, and who are at liberty to enter the British Italian Legion, this force will before long be complete.

Commercial.

HALIFAX MARKETS.

CORRECTED FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 22.

Table listing market prices for various goods including Bread, Beef, Butter, Coffee, Tea, Flour, Cornmeal, Indian Corn, Molasses, Pork, Sugar, Bar Iron, Hoop, Sheet, Codfish, Salmon, Mackerel, Herrings, Alewives, Haddock, Coal, Sydney, and Fire Wood.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.



Notice to the Public.

THE following Regulation with respect to Pamphlets, Periodicals, Magazines, &c., is to take place on and from this date. All Pamphlets, &c., forwarded through the Post in this Province not exceeding 2 oz. in weight will be sent Free.

Exceeding 2 oz. and not 3, 1d. " 3 " 4, 1 1/2d. " 4 " 5, 2d. And so on, adding one half-penny for every additional ounce as at present, up to 48 ounces—beyond which weight no Pamphlet can be forwarded by Post. A. WOODGATE. General Post Office, Halifax, Jan. 15, 1856. Jan. 23. 1w.

British American Friendly Society OF CANADA.

For the Assurance of Health and Lives. Incorporated by Act of Parliament. CAPITAL STOCK, £100,000. HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL. LOCAL BOARD FOR NOVA SCOTIA. Hon. James W. Johnston, M. P. P. John Esson, Esq., M. P. P. W. B. Fairbanks, Esq. George Ritchie, Esq., Merchant. William J. Stairs, Esq., do. John Skerry, Esq., Barrister. Samuel Gray, Esq., Barrister. MEDICAL OFFICER. Daniel McNeil Parker, Esq., M. D. LOCAL MANAGER. James W. Johnston, Junr. Esq., Solicitor. Office, No. 42 Hollis Street.

STATEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS PRESENTED TO THE 2ND ANNUAL MEETING IN OCTOBER LAST.

Table showing financial data: Whole No. of policies received to Oct. 1, 1855, 5,263; do. accepted, 4,792; do. rejected, 476; do. forfeited by non-payment of premium, 2,747; do. forfeited by fraud, 5; do. issued, 2,045; do. weeks sickness experienced, 627; do. death, 10; Average age of Members, 32; ANNUAL INCOME, Oct. 1, 1855, £3,000.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Table for 1855: Oct. 1, To total amount of cash received on account of Health Assurances, £5,517 2 3; To agent's balances and amount due on application, 594 10 0; Total, £6,111 12 3.

PER CONTRA.

Table for 1855: Oct. 1, By agent's commissions and returned entrance fees, £2,634 0 0; By contingent expenditure, 1,592 8 11; By sick claims, 626 10 0; By balance in Bank, 1,358 13 4; Total, £6,111 12 3.

EXTRACT FROM DIRECTORS REPORT.

"The experience of the past year has but confirmed and strengthened the confidence of its friends which has been growing during each year of its operations in the fidelity, economy and discretion with which its affairs have been managed."

"The plan of its (Health Department) operation is based upon the idea of paying into a common fund a certain sum annually by each member to be refunded by an equivalent amount in the event of sickness, old age infirmity and death."

Example.—A person aged 20 next birth-day by the payment of £1, may secure one pound per week whenever incapacitated. Should such occur within one year from date of Policy or the same party by the annual payment of £1 2 6, for five years may secure the like amount when ever incapacitated, should such occur within five years from date of policy.

Or by the payment of £1 5 annually for seven years secure the same amount, should incapacity occur within Seven years from date of policy.

Or by the annual payment of £1 7 6 for life, secure the like amount on the same contingency, occurring during the remainder of life.

ANNUAL RATES TO INSURE A WEEKLY BENEFIT OF ONE POUND.

Table with columns: Age, 1 year, 5 years, 7 years, or life. Rows for ages 20, 25, 30, 35.

ENTRANCE FEES, 10s.

Other amounts (not exceeding £2, nor less than 10s. per week) may be assured in proportion. The rates of premium have been carefully prepared with reference to fluctuations from the experience of Friendly Societies, and the Cashiers, Sweden, Northampton, and other tables of mortality.

The profits remaining after the prompt payment of losses as they occur—are added to the policy, OR PAID IN CASH ON DEMAND.

Local agents will be appointed throughout the Province, on application to the Subscriber, by letter, post paid—to whom a handsome commission will be given.

Applications for membership received by the Subscriber from whom prospectuses and every information may be at all times obtained. JAMES W. JOHNSTON, JUNR., Solicitor, Local Manager, 42 HOLLIS STREET. January 23, 1856.