

I am revenged. The sultan knows all; and it is he who sent the garrison, and thus delivered up the victim to my sword. But the affair is not yet terminated. Behold those men who are approaching us; they are the gardeners of Mahmoud; they are coming to raise the slabs in the court of marble; and if the body of my brother is not found buried beneath them as the old negress has stated, if the wily spy of the Russian Emperor has removed the body elsewhere, I will forfeit my head. That which is written is written."

The dervise hereupon arose, and, spinning the body with his foot, entered the house with a careless air, at the head of Mahmoud's workmen.

"The sixth slab, behind the fountain," said the negress, Cora, with a shrill voice.

The slabs were raised, and digging down about a foot, they found the skeleton of Abou-Abdalah; the dervise kissed the precious relics, and then, turning towards Gustavus, his eyes bathed in tears, said—

"Christian, Mariam is thine. The sultan bestows upon her the fortune of the murderer of her father, and she is richer now than all the daughters of the East. The child is a Christian; for she is the daughter of a Grecian lady, who, in dying, asked my brother to have the infant baptized. Abou-Abdalah promised that it should be done, and he fulfilled his promise, for children of the Prophet keep their word. Take her with all her wealth, for the sultan desires that nothing may remain to remind him of the Russian spy; even his house will be razed to the ground, and the value thereof paid to you."

Gustavus did not hear the conclusion of this speech, for he was in the arms of Mariam. The next day the young man went to call upon our ambassador.

"I have come to take leave of your excellency," said he.

"Oh! oh! my young countryman, are you going already? You were to remain six months at Constantinople. Is it the plague that drives you away?"

"No, sir; it is love."

"I hope you are not going to elope with a sultana?"

"No, sir; but the Commander of the Faithful himself, his Highness, Mahmoud, wishes me to marry."

**PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW BILLS.**—The rise and progress of laws in various States, prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks, is to be seen in the following abstract:—

- 1851—Passed by the Legislature of Maine.
- 1852—Passed by the Legislature of Minnesota.
- 1852—Passed by the Legislature of Rhode Island.
- 1852—Passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts.
- 1852—Ratified by the people of Minnesota.
- 1852—Passed by the Legislature of Vermont.
- 1853—Passed by the Legislature of Michigan.
- 1853—Ratified by the people of Vermont.
- 1853—Ratified by the people of Michigan.
- 1853—Its submission to the people pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in Minnesota.
- 1853—Pronounced unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in Rhode Island.
- 1853—Supreme Court equally divided in Michigan.
- 1854—Pronounced unconstitutional in Massachusetts.
- 1854—Passed the Legislature of New York.
- 1854—Vetoed by Gov. Seymour of New York.
- 1854—Passed by one branch of the Legislature of New Hampshire.
- 1854—Passed by one branch of the Legislature of Maryland.
- 1854—Passed by the Legislature; but the two branches failed to agree in Pennsylvania.
- 1854—Passed by the Legislature of Ohio.
- 1854—Voted for by the people of Wisconsin.
- 1854—Pronounced unconstitutional in Ohio.
- 1854—Passed in a modified form by the Legislature of Rhode Island.
- 1854—Passed by the Legislature of Connecticut.
- 1855—Passed the lower branch of the New Jersey Legislature—defeated by one vote in the Senate.
- 1855—Passed by the Legislature of Wisconsin and vetoed; modified and passed and again vetoed by Gov. Barstow.
- 1855—Passed for the second time by the Legislature of New York, and became a law of the State by the signature of Gov. Clark.

Eight States and one Territory have thus passed prohibitory laws. The question has failed in four States through legislative disagreement. It has been submitted to the people and retained by them in four other States. It has nowhere been repealed by legislative action, though it has been four times set aside by the judiciary, and in one instance re-enacted in a modified form.

English and Foreign.

THE RESTORATION OF POLAND.

The following is an extract from a French work just published, entitled *Ni Paix ni Sécurité pour l'Europe avec la Russie telle qu'elle est.* (No Peace no Security for Europe, with Russia such as she is:—

Backed by the rigours of her climate, and attacked at home, as in 1812, she (Russia) will be able to resist the best troops of united Europe, who will perish or be devoured by cold and hunger. Attacked in her possessions on the Black Sea, in the Crimea, in Bessarabia, in the Caucasus, she may suffer considerable material losses; her sea-ports, her ships, her naval arsenals may be destroyed; but this will merely be a temporary destruction, which may easily be repaired with time, and money, and patience—merely a forced adjournment of her ambitious plans of universal dominion. In order really to reduce Russia, to strike a blow at heart, so as to deprive her of all her means of aggression against Europe, she must be attacked in Poland, and not elsewhere. This is the only vulnerable side of Russia.

Serious considerations have prevented the Western Powers, during the campaign of 1854, from touching in any way upon the vital question of Poland. They were obliged to avoid giving umbrage to Prussia and Austria. On the other hand it would have been necessary to avow the thought of a territorial reconstruction of Europe, and the struggle would then at once have assumed the character of a European war. They also hoped that Russia would have been intimidated, and would have renounced her pretensions on Turkey, when she saw the allied powers determined to resist her. The experience already acquired suffices, however, to prove that in order to put a step to the ambitious avidity of the Emperor Nicholas more vigorous and efficacious means must be resorted to. \* \* France and England cannot, therefore, hesitate longer. This year, instead of limiting the war to the environs of the Black Sea, let them remove into Poland. On this territory Russia must succumb, the tranquility and future prospects of the world will be secured; the war will be less prolonged and less difficult, and ultimate success infallible. Elsewhere you will merely wound and irritate the monster; in Poland you may crush it; if you take Poland from Russia you undermine her very foundations, you limit her power, you throw her back within her ancient limits, which she ought never to have been allowed to overstep. With Poland Russia loses her prestige and her influence in Europe; she becomes again an Asiatic power, and will thus be restored to her true mission in the world.

The restoration of Poland is a necessity of our epoch. It is a terrible weapon against Russia in the hands of the western Powers. This weapon ought to be employed; indeed the necessity for so doing is evident, is logical, strikes every eye.—The advantages of such a bulwark against Russia are so obvious that, if no Poland existed, it would be right to invent one.

ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE WITH SWEDEN

Great hopes are entertained that England and France will speedily accomplish an alliance with Sweden. The establishment of a power in the North could not fail to have a salutary effect in checking Russian aggression. At present, without the direct intervention of England and France Sweden is completely under the thumb of Russia. Before the exhausting wars of Charles XII, Sweden had given laws to a great part of Europe at the peace of Westphalia, and was the chosen umpire at that of Ryswick. Since then, through her civilization has kept pace with that of other nations, Sweden has gradually become enfeebled as Russia increased in strength. The acknowledged neglect of Sweden, by the Western Powers, demands immediate reparation by the latter, if for no other reason than their own safety. A late London paper says, in reference to the sailing of the Baltic fleet:—

The departure of this fine armament for the Baltic will again direct the eyes of Europe to the North, and will divert the popular attention from much of the exclusive intensity with which it has lately been concentrated at Sebastopol, and upon the naval and military operations in the course of progress upon the coasts and waters of the Black Sea. It is to be regretted that the North has not occupied more of our thoughts. If it be necessary for the security of Europe to curb the aggressive power of Russia in the Euxine, it is clearly equally requisite to restrain her grasping and ambitious hand in the Baltic; and if the alliance of Austria be worth the seeking to prevent the Czar from reigning in the South, surely the aid of Sweden

would be invaluable to debar him from ruling absolutely in the North. We fear that this point has been too much overlooked. Rumours have, indeed, occasionally prevailed that endeavours were being made by our statesmen to bring about an alliance between Sweden and the Western Powers; but nothing has yet transpired to show that these endeavours have been prosecuted with becoming earnestness. It cannot be doubted that the restoration of Sweden to the independent power and rank which she formerly held amongst the nations of Europe, would operate as the best and most permanent check that could be devised to restrain the Czar in their efforts at universal dominion.

Again, another writer says in reference to the subject:—  
"When," says he, "the noble Armada of Great Britain is about to plough the waves of the Baltic, may we not be permitted to ask the British Government whether their sailor heroes and their chivalrous allies expect to meet with less resistance in the northern islands than before the fortresses of the Crimea? Would not the war assume another aspect if the Scandinavian army of 80,000 brave and well disciplined soldiers joined the Western allies and if their unequalled fleets were increased by the Swedish and Norwegian naval forces, including 300 gunboats, which are so essential to the navigation of those shallow waters? Might not Poland hail the blue and yellow flag, which for centuries led her sons to victory? and might not the Finnish sharpshooter lay aside his deadly rifle at the sound of his mother tongue—the language of Sweden, in which his Bible is written and in which he lisped his first prayer. Let the noble British nation reflect on the necessity of securing the independence of the north, and let it be borne in mind that no greater Power can with impunity separate its interests from those of Europe at large."

THE SICK MAN AND THE DEAD CZAR.

The Death of the Czar is full of admonition, all the circumstances considered. It illustrates in the most striking manner, the truth of the apothegm, that "man proposes and God disposes." But a short time has gone by, since the Emperor of Russia, prompted by a grasping ambition, persuaded himself that the Ottoman Empire was tumbling to pieces, and that hence, it became his duty as a matter of discretion and prudence, to make suitable arrangements for the distribution of the territory of the "sick man," or tottering neighbor. He represented that the Sultan was on his death-bed, politically speaking, and that it was no more than right for the nations immediately concerned, to parcel out his property among themselves, and even while the spark of life still flickered. He therefore addressed himself to the governments of England and France, and advised that they should take the affairs of the Sultan in hand, and settle the matter among themselves, as they deemed best under the circumstances. Of Austria he spoke with contempt, and as not entitled to particular consideration. The suggestion did not meet with a favorable response, and in reply, the Minister of England contended that the condition of Turkey was not so bad as the Czar represented, and that even if it were, the policy of friendship would be to encourage and assist, and not to seize upon a moment of weakness; with the object of precipitating an event, which might, under other circumstances, be postponed for many years. And thus the contemplated partition of the Ottoman Empire was avoided. The Czar, however, still persevered. An Envoy was sent to Constantinople, who thus authorised to make certain demands of the Porte, and in the event of refusal, to intimidate and coerce. The subsequent events are known.—The Sultan encouraged by Great Britain and France, resisted the policy of Nicholas, who soon after ordered his troops to march into the Danubian Principalities.

At this aggressive step, the "sick man" became indignant, rallied somewhat of his ancient energy and prompted by his people, issued a Declaration of War. England and France rallied to his assistance, and the struggle has been kept up ever since, with an immense expenditure of the treasury, and an appalling loss of human life. It is probable that the victims, in all forms, may be estimated at two hundred thousand men. The responsibility of such a conflict, must have weighed heavily upon the mind of its more immediate promoter and author. Nicholas however, haughty, ambitious and self-possessed, must at times, have felt that he was engaged in a bloody drama, and have shrunk back aghast at the scenes of desolation and death that were constantly submitted to his imagination. He doubtless had a will of iron, and yet, as the result has shown, he was a mere man, and liable, like all the rest of his race, to a speedy summons before an immortal tribunal.—

And he has gone to his long account. The master spirit of Russia is now among the things that have been. The "sick man," too, who but the other day was represented to be on the verge of the grave, still lives, moves and is full of vitality. The lesson is a fearful one. "Let him who studdeth, take heed, lest he fall." The influence of this event upon European affairs is yet to transpire. The first impression is, that the effect will be pacific. And yet it is impossible to speak with confidence. The new Emperor may feel bound to follow in the footsteps of his father, and if so the fearful struggle, which has been so long in progress, may be protracted for many months to come. Let us hope, however, that wiser counsels will prevail, and that the parties immediately concerned will, standing in the presence of the dead Emperor, and influenced by so solemn a warning from the King of Kings, throw away the sword, and endeavor once more to live in amity and good will.

**FORCE OF THE ENGLISH ARMY.**—The artillery force is highly efficient, notwithstanding the large proportion of young gunners. Our engineers, if not quite so numerous as the ought to be, are active and energetic, and our army must now consist of nearly 20,000 bayonets, owing to the great number of men discharged from the hospitals here, and returned fit for duty, and to the draughts which have been received. No one at all acquainted with the facts can pretend to deny that at one time, and that not very far back, the British army mustered little more than 10,000 bayonets. By the term "bayonets," the infantry soldiers who are fit to bear arms and do duty in the field is meant, and not the cavalry, artillery, sappers and miners, sailors and sick men. It is strange we get up so few convalescents from Scutari. The hospitals there seem to swallow up the sick for ever. Of all the Guardsmen were sent down there to recover from disease or wounds, not more than sixty or seventy, we are told, are in such a state of convalescence at the present moment as to permit them to join their regiments, and do duty once more. The men in Balaklava do better, and the weather has effected a marked improvement in the health of the men in the field hospitals. Perhaps the huts which have been provided for medical purposes have had something to do with that most desirable result. The artillerymen, who have been better fed and clothed than any body of men out here, except most of the sailors, are in excellent condition. As to Jack, he is as happy as he will allow himself to be, and as healthy, barring a little touch of scurvy now and then, as he can wish.

**THE RUSSIAN STEAMERS REPULSED.**—The fire of an English battery at the head of the harbour of Sebastopol, has driven a Russian steamer from its position, whence it had long annoyed our working parties. The battery which opened on these steamers is that under the command of Major Strange, and it is situated about 500 feet above the level of the sea. The smaller of the steamers at which the fire was directed was anchored at the distance of 1,700 yards—the larger was 2,300 yards off. The battery fired 60 odd rounds, 20 of which were of red-hot shot. One of the first struck and disabled the machinery of the small steamer, so that she could not move when her steam was up, and the Russians had to tow her away. In this operation she received from first to last eight shots. The larger steamer received three shots before she got under cover. When it is considered that the fire was "plunging," that the ships were in motion in a few moments, and that the distance was so great, the practice does not appear to have been so very discreditably. The whole time the battery was firing, no less than six Russian batteries were playing on it incessantly, with a converging fire. It is believed the smaller steamer sank soon after she was turned into the Careening Bay. The French officers who witnessed our practice declared themselves greatly pleased with it, and I have heard that General Canrobert sent over to ask the name of the officer who commanded the guns.

**PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF THE LATE CZAR.**—In personal appearance, Nicholas is said to have been the handsomest man in Europe—tall commanding, with a perfect outline of form—physically a fitting monument to mark the history of the present age. A broad chest, a face in which severity and consciousness of majesty were the predominant characteristics, a mouth regularly chiselled sometimes beaming mildly but never smiling, eyes which glared terrible in anger, but were calm and mild when the soul was untroubled—such was the physical man Nicholas of Russia. Prejudice and self-sufficiency naturally proceed from inexperience of the world and ignorance of mankind.