

to Salonica, in order to show the Greeks that France is determined to oppose the insurrection. Admiral Dundas had also sent some vessels to the same quarter. The Gomer found an English corvette at Syra. The Archipelago and the coast of Greece are closely watched by the allied cruisers. The Mercur had returned to Smyrna from Samos where her presence had restored order. The Turkish Government is displaying the greatest activity and energy in its efforts to put down the Greek insurrectionary movement.

LATEST PARTICULARS.

Gallipoli appears to be the point on the Turkish coast which has been selected for the landing both of the French and British contingents. As will be seen on reference to the map, it is very conveniently situated for that purpose. It can be easily defended against any land attack, and troops stationed there could with great facility be marched to Adrianople, or embarked on the Sea of Marmora and landed at any part of the Black Sea coast where their presence might be required. The regiments belonging to the expeditionary army still in England will now, of course, proceed direct to Gallipoli without stopping at Malta.

It is said that Sir D. L. Evans will command the 5000 men destined for a "special service."

The fleet of Sir Charles Napier is again under weigh, and there is no doubt but the first point of attack will be the island of Aland. The on dit in the fleet affirms that an officer high in command ventured, in a conference with Sir Charles Napier, to argue against attacking Aland, saying that great carnage must occur in such an attack by ships without troops, there being about seven thousand Russian soldiers in garrison on the island. The answer of Admiral Napier is stated to have been very characteristic. "If you think so, you had better go home again." The impression in the fleet is that Aland will be the first scene of their first operations.

It is stated that the Russian squadron has left Revel, but it is not known where they have gone. The current opinion in Stockholm is that the Russians will not meet Sir C. Napier's fleet. It is added that the Russian force of shipping is much over rated.

All the crews of the ships go to general quarters daily, and are practised at the great gun exercise in firing at targets and in ricochet firing at any small rocks or islands they may be near.

UNITED STATES.

BLOCKADE OF THE RUSSIAN PORTS OF THE PACIFIC.—A letter from Washington, published in the New York Express, states that the British government have notified the United States, that immediately on the commencement of hostilities they will blockade all the Russian ports on the Pacific.

We learn from the Kennebec Journal that the Railroad bridge across the river at Augusta is nearly completed.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK.—The American ship Anna Kimball, Pike, from London to Cadiz, came in contact with bark Bonetta from Pernambuco to Hamburg, on the 24th. The Bonetta went down head foremost at once. Only four persons were saved, and eleven were drowned. The Anna Kimball returned to Portsmouth for repair.

TREMENDOUS CONFLAGRATION.—A destructive conflagration occurred at Jacksonville, Florida, on Wednesday afternoon. Seventy buildings were destroyed, including twenty-three stores.—The total loss is estimated at \$200,000, about one half of which is insured.

CANADA.

THE NORTH SHORE RAILROAD.—The city was, on Saturday, in great agitation and anxiety as to the result of the deliberations of the Board of Directors of the North Shore Railroad which had assembled for the purpose of examining the propositions of twenty-six tenders that had been sent in for the construction of this road. This excitement and anxiety were natural, proceeding from the interest the population of Quebec takes in this vital enterprise, and that which the friends of the different proposers took in the respective chances. The number of tenders submitted prove the worth of the enterprise.—Many tenders were found to be excellent; but that of Mr Baby was judged to be so advantageous in all respects, and so complete, that it received the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. It substantially contains the following offers:—The Road to be completed within three years, from Quebec to Montreal, with rolling stock, nearly double that mentioned in the Engineer's report; depots at intermediate stations, wharves and depots at Quebec; telegraph line with stations; right of way, and the purchase of ground for stopping places and stations; interest on the bonds of the Municipalities and on those of the Company; also on stock paid in, expenses, past and future, of the company for the services of Engineers & Board of Directors, the whole for the sum of £8000 currency per mile. 500 men to be at work on the road one month after the passing of the contract; 1000 within three months, and

2500 within four months. The work to commence simultaneously at Quebec, Portneuf, and Three Rivers, proceeding from Quebec towards Portneuf, from Portneuf towards Quebec, from Portneuf towards Three Rivers, and from Three Rivers towards Portneuf and Berthier. The Contractors ask no advances and is to be paid at every £30,000 work done, and as security leaves 5 per cent drawback.

LUMBER.—The Hull Packet, Feb. 11th states that Sir C. Roney has arranged to meet the Merchants of Hull on the inviting prospects in relation to emigration in Canada, and to show that in the event of hostilities preventing Baltic timber coming to this country, an inexhaustible supply can be had from British America.—*Quebec Gazette.*

The Politician.

THE BRITISH PRESS.

From Wilmer and Smith's European Times, March 25.

SECRET STATE PAPERS.

PROPOSED PARTITION OF TURKEY.—THE CZAR'S CONFESSION.

The following diplomatic correspondence shows that for at least ten years the Czar's intentions with regard to Turkey have been, or should have been, known to all English statesmen. So far back as the year 1844 has the man who now disturbs the peace of Europe been sounding the British government on the subject of a partition of the Turkish empire.—In the year 1844, shortly after the Czar's visit to the Queen, undertaken, there can be little doubt now, for the purpose of exploring the ground, Count Nesselrode delivered a memorandum to her Majesty's government, in which the Autocrat's views with respect to Turkey are laid down with tolerable distinctness. In this document it is hinted that the Turkish empire contains within itself "many elements of dissolution." This being the case, and inasmuch as unforeseen circumstances, may hasten its fall, "a single fundamental idea seems to admit of a really practical application; it is that the danger which may result from a catastrophe in Turkey will be much diminished, if, in the result of its occurrence, Russia and England have come to an understanding as to the course to be taken by them in common.—That understanding will be the more beneficial, inasmuch as it will have the full assent of Austria."—In other words, England is asked to join with Austria and Russia in a great political crime which has its exact counterpart in the infamous partition of Poland. In a subsequent portion of the letter the object is stated to be "to enter into previous concert, as to everything relating to the establishment of a new order of things intended to replace that which now exists, and in conjunction with each other to see that the change which may have occurred in the internal situation of that empire, shall not injuriously affect either the security of their own states and the rights which the treaties assure to them respectively, or the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe."

This was the object of the memorandum in 1844, when it would appear that the Czar had managed to throw a little dust in the eyes of British statesmen, for the document concludes by saying that "it is to secure this object of common interest, that, as the Emperor agreed with her Britannic Majesty's ministers during his residence in England, the previous understanding which Russia and England shall establish between themselves shall be directed." In 1853 we are permitted to trace the plot as it verges towards the denouement. In a despatch from St. Petersburg, dated January 11, Sir G. H. Seymour, who seems to have acted with consummate skill and determination throughout the whole of his mission, gives an account of an interview with the Czar.—The autocrat expresses his delight at the constitution of the new ministry, hopes that it will be of long duration, and desires the ambassador particularly to convey this assurance to the Earl of Aberdeen, with whom he had been acquainted for nearly forty years, and for whom he entertained equal regard and esteem. This was at the very time when the demonstrations which Russia was making towards the south were attracting the attention of the world, and the Czar calculated upon his professions of regard for the Prime Minister as a sort of blind during the carrying out of his projects. Sir G. H. Seymour was not, however, to be tricked. Seeing that the Czar was about to leave the room with a mere casual allusion to Turkey, the ambassador boldly but respectfully begged that "his Majesty would add a few words, calculated to calm the anxiety with regard to Turkey which passing events were so calculated to excite on the part of her Majesty's government." The Czar was taken aback at the request, and answered at first with a little hesitation, but, as he proceeded with more openness. After insisting upon the necessity of union between England and Russia in the very probable event of Turkey "falling to pieces," he became suddenly confidential. "Listen!" he said; "we have a sick man on our hands—a man seriously ill; I tell you at once frankly, it will be a great misfortune if, one of these days, he slips out of our hands, especially if this happens before all the necessary arrangements are made. However, this is not the moment to speak to you on that subject." To this plain proposition for going shares in a nefarious scheme of murder and plunder Sir G. H. Seymour replied, "Your Majesty says that the man is ill, that is very true, but your Majesty will graciously excuse me if I represent to you that it is the part of the generous and the strong man to treat the sick and the feeble man with gentleness." Nicholas, knowing what he was about, took care to show no signs of displeasure at the English ambassador's honest endeavour to inculcate a lesson of honesty and kindness, and the conversation then dropped.

At a subsequent interview the dying state of the Turkish empire was again alluded to. "We cannot resuscitate what is dead," said the Czar; and there would be great danger, he argued, if the death should take place before proper arrangements should be taken. In other words it would be necessary to make proper dispositions of the spoil beforehand, in order to prevent quarrelling when the time came, and give pretences and opportunities for others to come in and claim a part in the division.

The decision of the British Government, contained in the despatch of Lord John Russell, is honest and distinct. It shows argumentatively the iniquity of the project that had been brought under the notice of the government. It points out also what the Czar understood very well, but had taken care to

keep it out of view, that the very fact of two of the Great Powers making provisions for the partition of Turkey, contingent upon the dissolution of the empire, would hasten the dissolution of itself. "An agreement thus made, (and thus communicated to the other powers), would not be long a secret; and while it would alarm and alienate the Sultan, the knowledge of its existence would stimulate all his enemies to increased violence and more obstinate conflict. * * * Thus would be produced and strengthened that very anarchy which is now feared, and the foresight of the friends of the patient would prove the cause of his death."

Although the "sick man" argument is disposed of very neatly in these few words, the Czar returns to it again in the next interview with the ambassador, and when Sir G. H. Seymour candidly declares that there is no reason to believe that the "man is dying," the Autocrat again repeats the assertion, and longs for "ten minutes' conversation with the ministers—with Lord Aberdeen, for instance;" certain that he should then be able to come to an understanding with us.

We arrive now at the crowning feature in these remarkable transactions. It is clear that the Czar throughout the whole business could not understand the existence of any moral sense in a government, which would cause it to reject with indignation a project for plunder. Wishing the government of England to join with him in a piratical attempt, he has no idea that England can have any objection to the proposal, except that grounded upon the fear of getting a due share of the booty. He therefore states his terms distinctly, and asks whether we can refuse now. A plainer invitation to rob and divide the spoils has never yet been made.

"The Emperor went on to say that, in the event of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire, he thought it might be less difficult to arrive at a satisfactory territorial arrangement than was commonly believed. The Principalities are, he said, in fact, an independent state under my protection: this might so continue. Servia might receive the same form of government. So, again, with Bulgaria. There seems to be no reason, why this province should not form an independent state. As to Egypt, I quite understand the importance to England of that territory. I can then only say that, in the event of a distribution of the Ottoman succession upon the fall of the empire, you should take possession of Egypt, I shall have no objections to offer. I would say the same thing of Candia; and that island might suit you, and I do not know why it should not become an English possession.—As I did not wish that the Emperor should imagine that an English public servant was caught by this sort of overture, I simply answered that I had always understood that the English views upon Egypt did not go beyond the point of securing a safe and ready communication between British India and the mother country."

Every honest man must see from this plain proposition of the Czar's that sooner or later war must have taken place. A sovereign so utterly void of all sense of decency as to make so barefaced a proposition as the above would have been restrained by no new agreements founded upon old treaties. Nothing but a curtailment of his power, or the dissipation of his resources, will ever make an impression upon a despot who has not common honesty to restrain him. His fleets and armies of the united nations of Europe must be relied upon to teach the Czar that though he may never lose the will to do evil, he may lose the power.

From the London Punch.

SCENE FROM THE RUSSIAN GENTLEMAN.
AN UNFINISHED DRAMA.

Scene—St. Petersburg. A Room in the Palace.
Enter the Emperor Nicholas, Sir Hamilton Seymour following.

Emp.—Seymour, come hither—now we are alone, and I can talk to thee. I like thee Seymour; I note thy zeal and thy alacrity, thy diligence—and, I will add, discretion, shown in thy service to thy Sovereign Mistress, Coupled, I think, with what at herewith consists in every way—good will toward our own.

Seym.—Sire, it rejoiceth me that mine intents should be apparent to your majesty.

Emp.—Seymour, thou bear'st a brain. Now, mark me, Seymour;

I love thy Queen, and love thy countrymen, Her subjects, loyal as they are, yet free! Would every prince—in Christendom—had such! We have a common interest, gentle Seymour; England and Russia should be hand and glove.

Seym.—England is bounden to your Majesty With Russia's glove that would protect her grasp.

Emp.—Ha! Well, so take the figure and thou list. Hark in thine ear. Look yonder, Seymour; look, Seest thou yon Turk? Seymour, he's very ill.

Seym.—But that your Majesty's more keen discernment

Did graciously correct my grosser sense, I should have blindly deemed you Turk in health, Rude as my speech.

Emp.—Oh! but he's ill, good Seymour, He's dangerously ill; and time it is

The disposition of his property, For he will die intestate, should be thought on By his next heirs. Now, therefore, Seymour list. To his estates in Candia and in Egypt England is freshly welcome to succeed, If England will cleave to my consent.

Seym.—But how, an't please your Majesty, Will the co-heirs therewith be satisfied?

Emp.—That which suite me will Austria suit likewise,

Prussia is nought; then, if but England side With us, at France I snap my fingers—so!

Seym.—So please you, Sire, unto my Sovereign liege

I will transmit, by way of Downing Street, The weighty matter you have broached to me.

Emp.—But, Seymour, mind; all this is said and meant

In strictest honour and in confidence. Let's have no seals, no parchment, no red tape; I merely want a quiet understanding, And make my offer as a gentleman.

Seym.—But, under pardon of your Majesty Seruance of a somewhat vulgar phrase, Returning to our matrons, may I ask Is it so certain that the Turk will die?

Emp.—Oh! he will die—no doubt of that, good Seymour;

No hope for him! convey thus much to England, And so good night. Mind this, the Turk must die.

[Exit.]

Seym.—The Turk will die? Of that I'm not so sure.

The Turk must die! so Nicholas declares. His mind is made up for the poor Turk's death. Pray Heaven that he hath not resolved thereon! I'll straight to mine hotel, and ere night's cap My temple's shall unfold, in black on white I will reveal this plot to Clarendon. [Scene closes,

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

GHATHAM, SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1854.

TERMS.—New subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 12s. 6d. in advance, or 17s. 6d. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

We learn by the St. John papers, that the vexed question, the Orange Bill, has been settled for another year. On the afternoon of the 12th instant, Mr Earle moved the Orange Bill in Committee, pursuant to the order of the day. Messrs. Earle, Wilmot, English, and Needham, spoke in its favor, and Messrs. Barbarie, the Speaker, and Johnson against it. Progress was reported. The debate on this subject was resumed on the afternoon of the 13th. The following notice of the proceedings thereon, we copy from the correspondent of the New Brunswick:

"This morning the House again went in Committee on Supply, and passed a number of school and other grants. At half past one the Orange Bill was again committed, when several members deprecating the course the debate took yesterday, and the angry feelings that must necessarily be aroused if that course was again pursued, expressed a hope that the question would be taken at once. Mr Earle replied that he was willing if it was agreed to by all hands. Mr Gilbert, and Mr Connell both stated that Mr Johnson's bitter remarks ought to be replied to, and that they were prepared to do so, but would forego the occasion for the sake of peace. Messrs Wilmot, Botsford, Smith, Harding, Street, and McPhelim all deprecated further discussion. Mr MacPherson would not agree to it, and made a short speech, complaining that he had been recently denounced by the Roman Catholic Bishop from the altar, because he voted for the Orange Bill last year, and the Roman Catholics were instructed not to vote for him. When the gavel was then thrown down there could be but two parties, and being compelled to make his selection, he would support the Bill again. Mr Hatheway made a brief speech in favour of the Bill. Mr Smith then rose and commenced speaking, stating his intention of going into the matter thoroughly, when Mr Earle rose and again stated his willingness to take the question at once. There appearing to be a general disposition to do this, Mr Harding moved the further postponement of the bill for six months. The question was then put, when the Committee divided as follows:—For the motion—Messrs Street, Partelow, Montgomery, the Speaker, Smith, Botsford, Harding, Johnson, Kerr, Barbarie, Read, Scoullar, Landry, Williston, Gordon, Rice, Jordan, McPhelim, Thomson and Porter—20. Against it—Messrs Gray, Wilmot, Hayward, English, Stiles, Godard, Taylor, Macpherson, Pickard, McLeod, Ryan, Purdy, Boyd, Needham, Connell, Gilbert, Earle, Robinson and Hatheway—19.

"On the House resuming, they divided on the question of accepting the report, the division being precisely the same with the exception that Mr Cutler's name will appear in the place of the Speaker's. "All the members were present but Mr Lewis, who entered the House a short time afterwards and stated that he had left the House for a short time, not having the slightest idea of the question being put so soon, and when he returned he found the vote had been taken. He desired that his name should appear in opposition to the postponement. The Speaker said it could not be done, as it would make an equal division."

We learn by Telegraph, that another vexed question has been disposed of, we mean the Liquor Bill. Mr Scoullar introduced this Bill on the 18th, Mr Robinson moved that it be postponed for three months, which was carried. Yeas:—Partelow, Street, Gray, Montgomery, Read, Barbarie, Johnson, Harding, Botsford, Robinson, Williston, Gordon, Rice, Stiles, McPherson, Jordan, Earle, Thompson, McPhelim, Porter, Smith, Landry, Kerr, 23. Nays:—Speaker, Hatheway, Hayward, Scoullar, Lewis, English, Gedard, Needham, McLeod, Connell, Cutler, Purdy, Ryan, Gilbert, 14. Wilmot in the chair.—Boyd and Pickard absent on receiving report. Wilmot voted with majority on its reception.

Mr Williston's Liquor Bill, revising old License Law, was committed, read, and progress reported.

Mr Partelow introduced a Bill to repeal Loan Duty Act.

The House has voted £200 to aid a Telegraph line from Miramichi to Dalhousie. Also £750 for publication of Scientific Map the Province.

This, last grant, we presume, is intended as a sop for some hungry banger-on of the Government. We think the money would be much more judiciously expended in surveying