

News of the Week.

From English Papers to the 9th December.
EUROPE.

State of the British Army in the Crimea.—The Morning Chronicle says, there is not the smallest ground for supposing that the shipwrecks of the 14th ult, have in any degree crippled the operations of the English army, or exposed our troops to intolerable privations. Lord Raglan had in store at that time upwards of 34 millions of cartridges. And independently of the articles of winter clothing that were unhappily lost on board the Prince, there were on board other ships which must have arrived shortly after the storm, 54,000 pairs of woollen socks, 30,000 woollen frocks, 34,000 flannel drawers, 3,500 watch coats, 50,000 blankets, 23,000 rugs, and nearly 7,000 pairs of worsted gloves.

It is stated that a proposition has been submitted to government, by a large ironfounder to render fire proof the wooden houses to be sent to the Crimea.

The directors of the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company offer to allow gratuitously, tombstones and monuments to be erected in their cemetery to the memory of those who have fallen in the Russian war.

At a meeting of the militia surgeons of this and other counties, held at the Adelphi Hotel, on Thursday, Mr. Hugh Neill in the chair, it was resolved, to petition Parliament to grant militia surgeons a reasonable amount of permanent pay when the regiments are disembodied.

Orders have been issued for the siege guns just finished for the Crimea to be embarked at Woolwich forthwith: they consist of 85 eight inch guns; their total weight of is 208 tons 16 cwt.—namely, 44, each weighing 3 tons 4 cwt., and eleven six tons each. The Adelaide steamer and Eliza transport are ordered to carry them out.

On Friday, Messrs. Almond, completed the following contract with the Ordnance for the army in the east: 44,000 fur cloaks, 44,000 fur caps (helmets), 44,000 fur gauntlets gloves, 44,000 waterproof capes, 44,000 long boots (cow hide material), 44,000 suits of inner clothing, 44,000 pairs of leggings, 10,000 suits of fur clothing for officers.—Morning Herald.

Food supplies and comforts for the troops.—Lords and ladies, and the people generally, are taking a most intense interest in this matter:—Lord Blantyre has chartered a vessel which is now loading at the Broomielaw, Messrs. Maccaillum, Graham, & Co., of St. Vincent-place, Glasgow, taking charge, for the purpose of sending out to the troops in the Crimea, various articles of comfort, and space has been reserved for a few days—not later, probably, than Saturday first—to afford an opportunity to persons desirous to ship goods and send contributions of warm clothing or other comforts for the army. His lordship says, he cannot think of anything more acceptable to Scotch and Irish than oatmeal and porridge pots, with table bear to use with it instead of milk; 50 tons of oatmeal, 20 tons of mixed barley and wheat meal for scones and bread, 50 tons of Potatoes and carrots, and a great variety of other articles. His lordship is greatly anxious that hair mattresses and pillows should be sent out, which would be a great relief to the wounded. This latter particular he recommends to the early consideration of upholsterers, and concludes by expressing a hope that non-desirous of assisting will allow the present opportunity to be lost.—Scottish Press.

An Englishwoman of rank, asks her fellow countrywoman to follow her example—sell their jewels, and send comforts to the soldiers. She had sold a diamond ring, value £25, to provide blankets, to be sent in Mr. Kingsote's yacht. The Duke of Marlborough has contributed one hundred head of deer. The Warwickshire Hunt Club have decided to forego their annual ball, and give the money usually expended on it (£250) to the Patriotic Fund. Mr. Mechi, of Tripes, has subscribed for 40 copies of the Times daily, 30 to be sent to the army in the Crimea and 10 to the wounded at Scutari; Mr. Bousfield, apparently a city ale-merchant, sends out 600 bottles of Guinness's stout, another of our merchants, Mr. Waterhouse, of St. Paul's Churchyard, offers to give any quantity of tea and sugar, but is informed that the army has plenty; the Messrs. Routledge promise 100 volumes as an instalment of a "soldiers' library," which has been responded to by the gift of 1000 by Messrs. Clarke & Beeton; J. H. Gamble, provision-merchant of Cork, contributes 1000 pints of preserved soups; and, in fine, Messrs. Hudson & Co., Oxford street, forward £250 worth of their finest Havana cigars, which they hope may believe the tedium and discomfort of many a winter night on the snow-clad heights of the Crimea. The Warrington Guardian tells us what the ladies of that town are doing for our brave men. On Monday five boxes weighing nearly half a ton, were sent off from Warrington to "Miss Nightingale, British General Hospital, Scutari," consigned to Messrs. Howell and Hayter, 15, Mark-lane, London.

They contained sheets and pillow cases, calicoes and linens, wearing apparel, and rolled bandages and lint. A very large quantity of old and new flannel has also been sent in, which will be manufactured into waistcoats, &c., as fast as the ladies of Warrington can do it, and despatched on the 10th.

Some of the principal shipowners and master mariners of South Wales have, at a meeting, resolved to raise at their own expence 1000 seamen for Her Majesty's naval service, provided the government will fit out a 120 gun ship, and call it the South Welshman, for those men to man it and fight the Russians.

There are about ten officers now in London who, abandoning their regts. in the war field under feigned-illness, are completely cut by their old associates the moment they appear in their accustomed clubs.

Government have prohibited the exportation of lead to the north of Europe while the war rages.

Jewish Patriotism.—It is reported that the Jews, to manifest their patriotism and loyalty to the sovereign of these realms, and thus to prove themselves worthy of the honour they seek (to be admitted into the Legislature of the country), have determined at the present crisis to raise a regiment of their co-religionists, who are to be equipped at their own expence. The Barons Rothschild and Sir Moses Montefiore are at the head of this movement.

The numerous reinforcements for the army of the East at present on their march to the south of France, succeed each other with the greatest rapidity.

The French Government has just sent off from Marseilles, 60,000 pairs of gaiters, lined with fur, for the army of the East.

The Emperor of France and the Scripture.—The Emperor has presented each of the 10,400 soldiers, ordered from Bologne to Paris en route to the Crimea, with a copy of the New Testament, being the diamond edition published in London by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

The present plan of the Allies seems to be to suspend the siege. To occupy the Isthmus of Perokop with a force of 40 or 50,000 men. To invest Sebastopol with a force of 150,000 or 200,000, and compel the garrison to capitulate or, as an alternative, be destroyed. The business in the Crimea will then have been completed. All that is required of Austria is armed neutrality—and the presence of a force at Bucharest sufficient to keep the Russian on his own side of the Pruth.

The Gale in the Camp.—The following is an account of the gale as it was found in the camp of the Allies before Sebastopol:—

Camp before Sebastopol, Nov. 14.—Yesterday was showery squally, and disagreeable—the night comparatively fine, and for some hours calm; then came on a hurricane, which is still blowing, and windows, trees and tents in all directions succumbing to its force. It came on here very suddenly. At half-past six, thunder and lightning, and storm, to a degree never witnessed in England; and some unfortunate drafts of regiments from home had disembarked at sunset at Cape Chersonese, to march five miles to their encampments ankle-deep in sticky clay, and in almost utter darkness. This was of course, not intended, and messengers, in the shape of dragoons, were sent by the commander-in-chief to meet them, and order them to halt near to this, which they reached at eleven, and where they were placed under cover, and got a ration of rum. This was a fortunate accident for the poor fellows. At a very early hour officers were seen wandering about, with nothing but their cloaks, and drenched to the skin, seeking shelter from the pitiless storm. Their tents had been blown down while they were in bed; and without head-covering or foot-covering, they had toiled through the mud and rain to get benefit of the slightest shelter, even for a few minutes.

If such were the state of the officers, to what a condition must the troops have been reduced? At the encampments all the tents had been struck, as nothing could withstand the fury of the tempest—all, in fact except the Turkish. These infidels understand tent work better than we civilized folks.—Some of the drafts that lost their way marched in this morning; they had met with kindness from the French, and had much talk, without having been able to understand one word.

The fearful gale continued all day. Tents are struck throughout the British and French armies, hospitable marquees, and all; their owners were on the steppe with the harsh gale, now snowing, then sometimes hailing, beating on them. How the men endured it appears miraculous, the plank-and-stone buildings erected as field hospitals by the French for their wounded were likewise levelled, and the poor fellows exposed.

November 15.—The hail and snow of yesterday has whitened some of the hills around and to-day has been cold and bracing. The harbor was filled with trusses of compressed hay, broken bits of boats, spars, and symptoms of the devastating power of the Tornado. About a mile from this, near the French camp, we found collected and brought there in carts about fifty carcasses of bullocks that

had died from hard weather, fatigue, and insufficient food.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

CARLETON SHIEWRIGHTS.—We are gratified to learn that a number of young and enterprising men residing in Carleton have recently formed themselves into an association for the purpose of Ship-building. Perhaps there is no community in the Province where enterprise and skilful industry are more permanently displayed than amongst our friends on the Western side of the harbour, and the formation of this association presents a very creditable manifestation of those commendable qualities. Whilst "Carleton Ship building Company" has our best wishes for its prosperity, we may be permitted to add that it richly deserves all the encouragement which the public can extend towards it.—New Brunswicker.

MAGNIFICENT COLLECTIONS.—On Christmas day, collections were taken up in the Catholic Churches in this City and Portland for the maintenance of the cholera orphans, and the result proved the continued liberality of these congregations when appealed to by their Bishop. In St. John the contribution amounted to £270, and in Portland to £43.—Courier.

UNITED STATES.

The city of New Orleans continues unhealthy. The number of deaths for the week ending Dec. 19th, is 229. The cholera prevailed to a considerable extent.

An expedition is to be fitted out at Red River settlement, in Minnesota, to search for the remains of Sir John Franklin's party.—It will be conducted by Mr James Bissett, an experienced employe of the Hudson's Bay Company.

NOVA SCOTIA.

A private of the 76th Regiment was taken in custody to-day by the Civil authorities under very suspicious circumstances. It appears that he was on guard within the square of the South Barracks, at the end joining the Eridwell grounds—and on his being relieved at 5 o'clock in the morning, his clothes were found covered with blood—as also his musket and bayonet. Being questioned as to the cause, at one time he said he had killed a dog, at another one of his comrades' nose was bleeding and he allowed him to sit in his sentry-box, and at another that a woman was getting over a fence and fell and cut her head. On examining about his post, large quantities of blood was found in his sentry box, in the privy and round about where he was on duty. It is evident that some foul play has been going on who the victim is not yet known. We are told that a thorough and rigid investigation is going on, and a few days may unravel the mystery.—Journal.

CANADA.

It is said that a despatch from England by the last mail invests the new Governor General with full power to exercise the undoubted Royal Prerogative with respect to the fixing of the Seat of government, and recommends His Excellency to fix it at Quebec.—Quebec Chronicle.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES OF COAL IN CANADA.—We have important news to communicate—important, considering the present and prospective price of fuel, and important to this province generally. Coal has at length been discovered in Canada. The important discovery was made a few days ago on the farm of Mr Campbell, at the village of Middleton in the township of west Gwillimbury about two miles West of Bradford, not far from the line of the Northern Railroad.

The discovery was made by Mr Campbell as he was in the act of sinking a well. When down about 16 feet, he struck on a rich bed of coal which is pronounced to be a very superior quality. An old country blacksmith in the neighbourhood, who examined it, affirms that it is as good, and as rich as any specimen of coal he has ever seen. On being placed in a blaze it immediately ignites and burns brilliantly.—We have precise information of the extent of the bed. The above statement is made on the authority of a highly respectable and well informed gentleman and sincerely do we hope it may prove in all respects correct, as we have little doubt it will. Such a discovery must be regarded as an important blessing to Canada.—Toronto Colonist.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—The most efficacious Remedies for the Cure of Ulcerous Sores in the Leg.—Charles Yeates, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, had scrofulous sores in his legs for four or five years, attended with an unusual discharge, he suffered considerably and everything was tried in the hope of curing him without success. After every other remedy failed, he had recourse to Holloway's Ointment and Pills, these infallible medicines thoroughly cleansed his blood and healed the sores in his legs, and he is now in the enjoyment of perfect health.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

EUROPE.

The Steamer Asia arrived at Halifax about noon on Wednesday, and our Mail was received here last night. The papers are to the 23rd December, but they do not contain any intelligence of moment. We hurriedly give below a summary of the news:

ENGLAND.—The thanks of both Houses of Parliament having been voted to the French army and navy for their gallant exploits in the Crimea, in conjunction with our own troops, Lord Cowley, our ambassador in Paris, notified the fact to the Foreign minister in the French capital, in very neatly expressed terms. The Moniteur responds to the compliment in a short but pithy article, which seems to bear the stamp of the Emperor's own hand, so concentrated are its sentences, so impulsive its spirit. The French are proverbial for doing this sort of thing well, but the article in the official organ is a model in its way. Take the following brace of sentences as an illustration of the fact:—"The two nations, like the two armies, have done each other the most frank and the most cordial justice. While their soldiers and their sailors struggle with courage and devotion, the two nations appear to rival each other in generosity, in order to accord each to the other the most brilliant share of the glory acquired by both in common."

The Baltic fleet has returned home, but such of them as mounts 90 guns and upwards are ordered to the Crimea, for a double purpose—to convey troops, and to assist, if necessary, in the siege.

According to accounts from Galatz, to the middle of the present month, a detachment of Cossaks had passed the Pruth, and, in the presence of the Austrian troops, destroyed the supplies of hay and straw which had been prepared for the Austrian army in Moldavia.

The accounts from Odessa state that the inhabitants of that place were in constant dread of a visit from the navies of the Western Powers, increased by the fact that their forces there had been weakened by heavy drafts to the Crimea.

TURKISH TROOPS FOR THE CRIMEA.—Bucharest, Dec. 7.—Mussa Pacha starts on Monday or Tuesday. Thirty or forty thousand Turks, and a hundred guns, are to be embarked at Varna, or Baltschik, under his superintendance. Next week Omar Pacha, too, will start for the Crimea. The troops will most probably be disembarked at Eupatoria. The prospect of entering on a campaign at this season is not very pleasant; but, taking it for all and all, it is pleasanter for me than this stupid life at Bucharest. I have no doubt Omar Pacha's army will redeem the character of the Turks. Under his eye they are ready for anything, which shows what they would be were they generally well officered.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.—The Berlin correspondent of the morning Chronicle says that the intention of the British Government to raise a Foreign Legion had produced a great sensation in that capital. The fear of the Russian sympathisers are awakened by apprehensions of the moral link and example. Not a doubt can exist that the greater part of the German Governments will strain every nerve to hinder their subjects of all classes from enrolment; but notwithstanding this, it is not doubted that with care there will be no lack of good and trustworthy men who will flock to the British standard.

SEIGE OF SEBASTOPOL.—According to a despatch from St Petersburg dated Wednesday, December 20, nothing of importance had occurred before Sebastopol up to the 13th of December. Some small sorties had been made with success; in one of them the Russians captured in the trenches of the allies some small mortars, and spiked some others of larger dimensions. The fire of the allies was feeble, and the Russian loss was but very light.

Paris, Dec. 12.—The following despatch has been received from Admiral Hamelin, addressed to the Minister of Marine:— Bay of Kamiesch, Dec. 12.—Four thousand men arrived on the 10th, with an ammunition.

A brisk cannonade has been kept up for the last two days.

The enemy has made some vigorous sorties on our own and on the English lines.

They were driven back by our musketry, and in some instances by the point of the bayonet, after a fierce resistance.

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS.—A letter from Odessa, of the 4th, instant states that, from the 12th to the 30th of November last the army of Prince Mentschikoff had been reinforced by two divisions consisting of from 28,000 to 30,000 men.

The report circulated in some journals the other day, to the effect that 60,000 had passed Perokop to join the Russian army in the Crimea, is, we learn from a good source, entirely untrue. From fifteen thousand to sixteen thousand men is the greatest number that the Russians can receive for some weeks.

DOMESTIC TROUBLES OF THE CZAR.—The following private letter, dated the 6th instant, has been received from St. Petersburg:—