

then let Derbyism be put to the test. If it do not ring true, then see whether, among untried men, such a Cabinet cannot be formed. If that be not possible, then, although there is no sacrifice that we not individually make to continue the war, it is clear to us that we are totally incompetent to carry it on, and that our only remaining course is to patch up a peace at once, on the best terms our own treachery, folly and imbecility have left for our acceptance. Our view of the state of the case, and of the position of Europe, is briefly this:—The Empire of Russia, beyond the Grand Duchy of Muscovy, is literally made up of thefts, intrigues and robberies practised upon other unoffending States. Her Sovereign is simply a gigantic burglar, and his territory is but a nest of pirates and moss-troopers. Invulnerable in itself, its navy, and an army of a million constantly on foot can have no other object than mischief to its neighbours, ruin to the rights of nations and liberties of Europe. The captain of this horde of banditti has distinctly avowed his intention to appropriate Turkey, now refuses to withdraw his pretensions, or to disarm a standing menace to Europe and the Sultan. His power purely military, an organised offence to the world, has been strong enough to resist the combined forces of the two greatest nations of the world. Glad of the fair and honest opportunity his overt acts of spoliation and aggression have given us honestly to cripple his force and to humble his position, we have 'championed him to the utterance.' The only useful object of the war is to break his power and crush his force—to push him back again to the humbler place of a chained mischief—a fiend shorn of his claws and tusks. That is the real end the people purpose to achieve by this war. Nothing less or other will accomplish any possible useful object of all our expenditure of men and money. It never was at Vienna it only is at Sebastopol, that we can attain the true ends we aim at. The condign punishment of a great enemy of the human race, a huge European criminal, will alone satisfy, not merely the justice, but the wisdom and the policy of the case. The sole useful purpose of the war is to prove by force of arms that England and France are masters of the tyrant of Muscovy. If no Ministry can be formed will undertake to enforce that view, then the sooner we make peace the better it will be with a State which thereby confesses that it has abdicated every function of power but that of saving its bacon, and guarding its breeches pocket. No treaty—no protocols, no 'points' will make Russia weaker. Without that the war is entirely futile. Let the people ponder these thoughts. Let them meet in their several communities and pronounce. If we are neither hot nor cold, Providence will spew us out of its mouth. The *juste milieu* has no place in war. As Lafayette said, it only means this, one man asserts that two and two make four—another asserts they make eight—and a wise-acre steps in, declares he hates extremes, and submits that two and two probably make three. 'Choose ye this day which ye will serve.' If we are right, then not a moment is to be lost in driving waverers from power. If we are wrong, then decide at once that Gortchakoff and Buol 'are to have it all their own way.'

From the London Weekly Times.
THE WAR.

The aspect of the war has undergone but little change in the Crimea since last we noted up its progress. Notwithstanding the severe check of the 18th of June, and the death of the British chief, mourned by both armies, the Allies did not relax for a moment in pushing forward their works. The stern determination which enabled both armies to sustain the labours and the sufferings of the winter campaign is now combined with a resolution to retrieve and to revenge the late disaster. It is felt more acutely by the armies than by their fellow countrymen at home. The British and French troops were accustomed to victory, and they never retired from the Russians before the 18th. They feel it like a loss of reputation, but we, while we mourn the loss of so many gallant lives, know that they covered themselves with glory, and that in the unequal contest they nobly sustained the honour of the combined flags. We have no military operations to relate since the 18th ult., except the progress of the trench and the sap, and the construction of new batteries by the Allies. During the attack on the Malakoff the Russians received important aid from their shipping. Some steamers came out and discharged their broadsides into the French columns, manœuvring with great skill. General Pelissier says:—To prevent a repetition of this and to command the shipping generally, our brave allies have been engaged in constructing heavy batteries above Careening Bay. One of our letters mentions a rumour of two twenty-inch mortars brought up into the French works, with a view, it was supposed, of trying to destroy the Russian ships of war at their moorings. These terrible missiles, wherever they are directed must do immense damage. The English batteries opposite the Redan were so far forward on the 9th of this month that General Simpson was able to telegraph to the Government that

he would open fire on the next day. We have since learned that the bombardment was renewed on the morning of the 10th, and kept up with great spirit during the day. The opposing batteries are now so close that the cannonade must inflict great damages. The Russians seem to have made a brisk return in the early part of the day, but towards evening their fire slackened, and many of their guns were silent. The Russians are well versed in all the tricks of war, and they may only have been practising a ruse, as they did on the 17th June. Many embrasures that then did not show a gun were fully armed on the following morning. Still we are more inclined to believe that the Allies are gaining, or rather have gained the ascendancy in artillery. The resources displayed by the Russians have surprised every one, but there must be a limit to them. The Allies have been constantly supplied from home. On every renewal of the bombardment they have shown themselves stronger, and the fire of the Russians has grown weaker. The large addition of mortars to the English and French batteries has done much to alter the character of the siege. The horizontal fire of heavy guns does not appear to produce much effect on massive earthworks, however quickly it demolishes stone walls; but the shell discharged vertically, and falling into the enemy's works, shatters guns and parapets. This was very plain in the Mamelon redoubt, in which also was discovered one of those devices that do credit to Russian ingenuity. In the centre of that work they had dug a deep funnel shaped pit, into which the shells rolled, and exploded at the bottom. They had also constructed bomb-proof excavations into which they could retire for shelter. These precautions, however, go to prove that the fire was heavily felt, and that the shells inspired them with terror. In the course of the long siege the losses of the garrison in men must have been very large, and although we know that constant reinforcements have been poured in, they cannot, in all probability, have renewed their skilled gunners. What ever the cause, it has been remarked in the recent artillery engagements that the Russian guns were not so well directed as at first. All things considered, we feel confident that the superiority of artillery is at last decidedly with the Allies, and we earnestly hope that it will be employed to economise life.

To return to the bombardment of the 10th we infer from the conclusion of the telegraphic despatch that it was not preparatory to an immediate attempt at assault. It was stated that the success of the day's fire would allow the English works to be advanced, and we presume that the fortifications will be attacked by regular approaches. This is the more necessary as the Russians have again had a long interval for preparation, and we may be assured that it has been actively and skillfully employed. It was believed in the camp that ranges of formidable batteries have been constructed behind the Malakoff works, and that the Redan fortifications cover a earth-work star-battery in which a great number of guns have been mounted. The allied generals seem to be badly informed of what is going on within the Russian lines, while their plans appear to be well known by Osten-Sacken. The more caution, therefore, is necessary in the approaches when there is no knowledge of what may be found behind the outer works. The fertile invention of the Russian engineers has been made manifest during the siege, and whatever may be the deficiency of their nation in the arts of peace, it is evidently skilled in all that belongs to war. It is for this reason that we press our recommendation of the use of artillery. From the beginning, and after the failure of the first bombardment, when our contemporaries demanded that the armies should go in with the bayonet, we steadily maintained that the true course was to send our artillery and projectiles to overmatch the stores of the enemy in that arm. We regret to have such a confirmation of the correctness of our opinion as was given on the 18th of June, but we now observe that some of the most powerful advocates of the bayonet at all risks have come over to our side. There has been perhaps too much impatience, both at home and in the camp, and it may have led to the precipitation we have so much to lament. The bayonet is a powerful weapon in the hands of brave men, and when wielded by the strong arms of British soldiers, it has decided many a well contested battle. But after all it is a rude instrument, an aid to pluck and physical force, but only good when a hand to hand conflict is necessary or unavoidable. It did good service on the heights of Inkerman, but a few guns in position would have saved hundreds of lives. In attacking a strong fortified position like that of Sebastopol we should employ the skill of the engineer, and the means offered to us by science. As we advance civilization the chances of war will be on the side of those who make the best use of modern discoveries. England is the most scientific nation in the world, and with, perhaps, more inventive genius than any other; yet, after forty years of peace, she began the war with

the Peninsula. The present war may be a long one, and we shall do well to avail ourselves of the aid tendered by our men of science.

The Allied enemy in the field remains inactive, beyond an occasional reconnaissance. We long ago expected an advance would be made against the Russian forces at Buktshcheri and Simpheropol. If successful, it would put an end to the campaign, and in any case it would operate as a diversion.—Notwithstanding the German statements of large reinforcements have been received by the armies of Russia in the Crimea, it is said by deserters they can muster no more than 110,000 men, including the garrison of Sebastopol. This statement is confirmed by accounts derived from other sources, and as the allies number upwards of 200,000 men it seems strange, at the first glance, that they should make no attempt to cut off the communications between Sebastopol and the relieving army. Such a movement was spoken of with confidence about the time of our successes in the Sea of Azoff, but difficulties have been discovered, the chief of which are the want of transport and of water. A correspondent on whom reliance may be placed writes:—"To understand the difficulties in the way of what is called at home 'taking the field,' one must come out and stay out here. It would be much easier to take Sebastopol than to take the field. There are only three accessible passes, up the precipitous wall of rock which rises on the north side of the Tchernaya, to the plateau on which the Russians are encamped, and the precipice runs round to the Belbek. These passes are so steep that an army would have some difficulty in ascending them at its leisure, without resistance from any enemy.—But they are occupied wherever engineering eyes detect the smallest weakness—they are commanded by batteries, interposed by positions threatened by overhanging cliffs all ready for the lever. March round and turn them! Where and how? We have no transport even if we could march, and we cannot march, because Napoleon himself would never lead an army into such defiles as guard the Russian position. Whether we are not strong enough to detach a great corps of 40,000 or 50,000 men to operate against the Russians north of Sebastopol is not for me to say; but it is certain that the base of operation for any such corps must be the sea, till ample transport is provided. The Crimea is to all intents and purports a desert—a Sahara, waterless and foodless before an invading army." So far stay-at-home tacticians have been at fault, and it may be that we must be content with the capture of Sebastopol for the present campaign, if it be taken.

Greater attention is naturally bestowed on the exciting events of the siege of Sebastopol than upon the operation of the Baltic fleet. A blockade is a dull affair either to the blockaders or the lookers-on. It is a very useful, and although it is but a negative success, it affords a positive protection to our commerce and our shores. The shutting up of the Russian fleet and his destruction of the maritime trade of Russia, are mean achievements. There is something more, however, going on in the Baltic. Our flying squadrons spread alarm along the shores of that sea, and give employment to large bodies of Russian troops engaged in the task of watching. They manage to harass the enemy not a little for they penetrate his bays and creeks, knock down his telegraphs, bombard his smaller forts, destroy his barracks, and occasionally get a long shot at his landforces. The inhabitants of Finland, whatever feeling they may entertain towards us, must at least be strongly impressed with the magnitude of the naval power of England. What effect that must have on Russian prestige in the Duchy, if Sweden should with our assistance attempt to recover her ancient possession, we cannot conjecture; but there seems less probability every day that the Northern kingdoms will strike a blow for their own safety and the independence of Europe. At length we hear something of the gunboats. They are passing the Sound in threes and fours, and clustering up around the line-of-battle ships before Cronstadt. The floating batteries and mortar-flats have not yet arrived, and we cannot hear that they have been dispatched.—Without them we can scarcely hope to do anything against the heart of Russian power. Notwithstanding the delay, a buzz reaches us from the fleet that Admiral Dundas contemplates some important enterprise.—Helsingfors is spoken of, but conjecture must necessarily be uncertain. A great success in the Baltic is most desirable. The Crimea is scarcely a part of the Russian Empire. It juts out between east and west, and is valuable as an advanced post menaoning Constantinople, but even were it lopped off from the empire, it is doubtful whether we should be nearer to peace. But a blow struck at Cronstadt would be felt in the centre of Russia.—As yet the place is not impregnable, and with a proper force of mortar-boats and floating batteries, it might be possible to destroy the fleet and arsenal.

For the future progress of the war a great deal depends on the home Government. The

est, and is dispatching large reinforcements to the Crimea. In the next week the Parliament will have to decide how the war shall be carried on, and Ministers will be compelled to show that they are in earnest, or to give way to better men, if such can be found. The Government of parties is now on its trial, and may come to a speedy dissolution. At least, the country must discover what it has lost by giving up so much to party, and in the present great emergency, may be aroused to the necessity of finding the best men for every place.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1855

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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THE PIC-NIC.

The Steamer left the Union Wharf, Chatham, on Tuesday morning last, on a Pic-Nic excursion up the South West, touching at Douglstown and Newcastle on her route up, and receiving a fair compliment of ladies and gentlemen, particularly the former from each place.—The day was beautiful, with a nice cool breeze, which was rather refreshing, considering that to the merry music of the Band, and the sound of fife and fiddle, the feet of all, both "fair ladies and brave men" beat time.

On passing the fishing station of Mr. James Wolhaupter, she was boarded under a salute of three guns, by a boat, which brought as a present from that gentleman, a ten pound case of spiced salmon, which was to be presented to the handsomest lady on board the boat. We have not been able as yet to ascertain whether the question "who is she" has been answered, but we then thought as we glanced around at the fair faces which surrounded us, and are of the same opinion still, that it was not only a difficult, but a delicate matter to arrive at; and if we mistake not, the case was, after a good deal of discussion on the matter, cut into, and its contents, which could not be given to one, was at least shared among the many that formed the noble galaxy of female beauty and fashion, that promenaded the deck.

On arriving opposite to Mr Parker's farm, she was brought too and moored, and from her deck in one vast mass upon the beach, poured lads and lasses, baskets and boxes, trunks &c., &c., all of which in the course of one short hour, might be seen in clumps of trees, under the shade of bushes, and scattered around in all directions wherever there was a shade to be found, the whole of this merry, mirth-hunting party, partaking of a regular pick-nicking repast.

The meal having been ended and the remnants packed up, they moved off, some to amuse themselves with a strole among the bushes, while others wending their way towards the barn which had been prepared for their reception, enjoyed themselves on their light fantastic toe. At half-past five they all reassembled on board the boat again, and after giving Mr Parker three hearty cheers for his kind attention to them during their stay, started for home.—We have been requested by the Committee to tender their thanks to the Chatham Amateur Band for their valuable services during the day.

SPURIOUS ENGLISH SHILLING.

A gentleman has placed in our possession a Spurious English Shilling, being one of a number which are going the rounds of the County, but more particularly in and about Pokemouche, where it is supposed they have been manufactured. He informed us that he had passed it at every Ferry on his route up from that place, and it was not until he had pointed out several defects on it that the parties to whom he had passed it, could detect its baseness. It is a very good imitation, sounds well, and unless looked