

News of the Week.

From the London Weekly Times.
THE WAR IN INDIA.

The accounts from Oude and the North-western provinces of India, brought by the Bombay and Calcutta mails just in, come down to the third week of November. They announce a series of successes, at the head of which stands the relief of Lucknow, and although we have still to deplore the loss of brave men who have fallen in battle, we see in every direction that the tide of victory has turned on our side. The anxiety felt respecting Lucknow was so intense, and the rebound caused by the successful operations of Sir Colin Campbell is so great that we cannot wonder at the enthusiasm of some of our contemporaries, who proclaim that the Indian mutiny is at an end. The capture of Delhi was "the beginning of the end," and the relief of Lucknow is a great advance towards the conclusion, but we are yet far from the final consummation. The strength of the revolt has been broken, and it has been made plain that the mutineers and rebels, whatever advantages they may have in number and position, are unable to stand before the indomitable resolution of European troops. Wherever the enemy have been met, they have been defeated, but the result of each victory was only to change the scene of conflict. In numbers the British forces, as compared with the insurgents, were scarcely hundreds to thousands. The provinces over which the revolt had spread are equal in extent and population to two or three European kingdoms. The small bodies of troops which only could be brought into action up to the end of November were entirely inadequate to act on all points. Blows had been struck at Delhi, Agra, Cawnpore, Lucknow, and other central points of the insurrection, but the rebels held together in many places in large bodies, and their total subjugation had yet to be accomplished. In fact, if we confine our attention to Oude alone, we shall find that in relieving Lucknow Sir Colin Campbell had only opened a long campaign. In Oude we have to deal with a popular as well as a military insurrection. The whole people, excited by the feudatories of the late king, are in arms against us, and with them are united nearly all that remain of the Bengal mutineers. In Oude almost every man is a soldier, trained to arms from his youth. The whole character of the people is warlike, and the country represents a vast garrison. In order to maintain his authority, the late king kept up an army of sixty thousand men, and the nobles or great landowners, who were nearly always in opposition to the royal power, retained an equal number. From Oude our Sepoy levies were mainly drawn, and to that province they returned. At the outbreak of the revolt there was a native army of one hundred and twenty thousand men, which has been swelled by the mutinous regiment from Bengal and the adherents of the Nena Sahib. Sir Colin Campbell relieved the beleaguered garrison of Lucknow, but he did not and could not annihilate the rebel forces, or prevent them from retiring upon some other fortified place. When the last dispatches left the Commander-in-Chief he was waiting for reinforcements before taking the field. It seemed probable that the rebels would make a stand at Fyzabad, a city of one hundred thousand inhabitants, with fortifications nearly as strong as those of Delhi, and there in all likelihood, the last great battle would be fought. The ultimate result cannot be doubtful, but we must be content to wait some time for the complete restoration of tranquillity throughout British India.

The details of Sir Colin Campbell's operations at Lucknow are still incomplete, but we have enough to form a near approach to a regular narrative. On the 3rd of November, Brigadier Grant's column, numbering three thousand five hundred men of all arms (of whom about 12 hundred were Sikh and other native auxiliaries), with twenty guns, crossed the Ganges, and marched on the road to Lucknow. On the morning of the 4th they came upon a large body of the enemy posted in a walled village and defeated them severely. Next day the column halted and pitched a camp on a level plain in and about the village of Nawabgunge. Here the enemy again showed in some force, and were again attacked and defeated. On the 5th, Col. Leith Haie, of the 92nd Highlanders, left Cawnpore with seven hundred and fifty men and four heavy guns to join Brigadier Grant. This body was followed up on subsequent days by detachments from the 93rd, 53rd, 84th, 5th, and other regiments, the whole augmenting Gen. Grant's column to at least five thousand men. On the 9th of November, Sir Colin Campbell crossed the river, taking with him a portion of the 9th Lancers, some Punjaub Irregulars, and Peel's Naval Brigade, with several heavy guns and four large mortars. He joined the main body on the 10th, and moved forward at once on the Alambagh. On the 12th he captured a square fort called Jellalabad, to the right of the Alambagh, and there prepared for his advance through a portion of the city to the Residency. In order to make the narrative of his movements as clear as possible, we copy a pen and ink sketch of the ground, supplied by one of our correspondents.

"Alambagh stands south of Lucknow about three miles. A direct road runs due north, crosses the canal at right angles in a point called the Chabagh Bridge, and diverging slightly to the westward, cuts through the heart of the city, and stops at the Balleegard, or Residency. The canal, which runs nearly east and west falls into the Goomtee at a point north of the Mar-

tinieri college (founded by a French general for the instruction of christian children). The Muchee Bawun and Residency abut on the river, which flows almost due east, and parallel to the canal; but at some distance the course of the stream alters and winds south, joining the canal above the Martiniere college. Thus Lucknow, the Muchee Bawun, the Residency, and other buildings are enclosed north, south and east by a barrier of waters, which bathe an area forming almost a rectangle. Near the junction of the canal and Goomtee, and consequently near the Martiniere, several bridges are built on the canals, that which is nearest the river leading to a group of buildings called the Mahals. These Mahals are the residence of Wajid Ali's three hundred wives, and are an extensive structure built of bricks, affording excellent covering positions to infantry, but incapable of resistance to artillery. Near them are Secunderbagh, the barracks and messhouse. Troops occupying the Mahals and other buildings just named are under fire south-eastward from the Residency. Artillery placed on the canal in front of the Martiniere could fire on them in a north-westerly direction. It is, then, obvious, that by an advance of our troops from the southward or Martiniere direction the occupants of the Mahals would be under a double fire. At no great distance in the rear south of Martiniere is Dilkosha, literally Heart's Delight, a palace of brick, composed of two rectangular blocks of buildings, half a square."

In this sketch the route is delineated by which Sir Colin Campbell actually advanced, turning the city to the right. On the left he would have had to pass through continuous streets and narrow lanes, while on the side chosen the ground was covered only by detached edifices and enclosures, which, although capable of being strongly held, did not present such close cover. In the comparatively open space, also, he was better able to bring his artillery into play, and being strong in that arm, it will be seen that he used it to spare his infantry. He began his operations, as we have stated, by clearing the ground around the Alambagh. On the 15th he moved eastward, and occupied the Dilkosha, and the Martiniere College after a running fight of two hours. At noon he was strongly posted in this position, and in the afternoon the enemy returned and attacked in force. They were heavily repulsed, but not without loss on our side. Next morning, the 16th, Sir Colin Campbell advanced across the canal, and after a desperate struggle, in which the enemy suffered enormously, he occupied the Secunderbagh, which is probably a large walled garden. From this place a heavy cannonade was opened, and kept up for three hours, against a large building, near the Mahals, which was supposed to have formed part of the barracks. This post was stormed and carried at dusk, after what Sir Colin Campbell, who has seen many a hard fight, calls "one of the severest fights ever witnessed. The morning of the 17th opened with a cannonade on the Mess-house, which is described as a very strong position. In the afternoon it was carried at the point of the bayonet, and the troops rushing on stormed the largest of the palaces, called the Motee Mahal, which they occupied before dark. This last movement completely opened communications with the Residency, and Outram and Havelock came out to meet the Commander-in-Chief on the field of battle, so well and so dearly won. No account has been received of what took place on the 18th and 19th. On the 20th the garrison moved out of the Residency, in which they had been so long confined, and on the same day the women and children, the sick and wounded, were forwarded under escort to Cawnpore. A broken telegram suggests the inference that on the 21st operations were commenced for the purpose of driving the enemy from the western part of the city, and that a severe action ensued, but we are without particulars.

The reader will be struck with a strong similarity between the operations at Delhi and at Lucknow. At the latter place there were no walls to be breached, or gates to be blown in, but the enemy were strongly entrenched with a vast number of guns. In both places or troops had first to cannonade and then to storm a series of strong positions, and in both the Sepoys and the rebels fought desperately while any cover remained to them. At Lucknow the disproportion between the numbers of the insurgents and of the British troops was greater than at Delhi. No account that we have seen estimated the Oude forces at less than from fifty thousand to seventy thousand men with three hundred guns, and a letter by the present mail states that there were one hundred thousand of the enemy in and around Lucknow when Sir Colin Campbell advanced to the attack. Another point of similarity with Delhi is, that on the 19th of November, when the fighting was going decidedly against them, large bodies of rebels marched out of Lucknow; probably to rally at Fyzabad. It was thought that the future movements of the Commander-in-Chief would depend in great measure on the rapidity with which reinforcements were sent up to him by the Calcutta Government. We fear the statement that there were twelve thousand men with Sir Colin Campbell after the relief of Lucknow has been made without allowance for the casualties of six days' fighting with a desperate enemy, who had to be driven at the point of the bayonet from a series of entrenched positions. Neither was it to be expected that the Commander-in-Chief could proceed in pursuit of the enemy without allowing his troops some breathing time after much severe exertion. However the necessity for pressing haste and for headlong and deadly assaults no longer ex-

isted, and Sir Colin could afford to take his time. In future we hope to hear that, with larger means, and by a judicious use of artillery, the expenditure of men may be spared, and victory won at a smaller cost of life than purchased the capture of Delhi and the relief of the Residency at Lucknow. Troops were arriving in large numbers at the capitals of the three Presidencies, and the Calcutta Government were at last showing considerable activity, although their preparations for transport had been culpably delayed or neglected until just before the arrival of reinforcements. A Calcutta Correspondent censures the authorities for not having remounts ready for the cavalry, an arm of the service most in requisition. The 1st Dragoons, unable to obtain horses in the capital of Bengal, had been sent to Madras. As Lord Canning had ample warning and plenty of time to obtain horses from Australia or the Cape, this mismanagement is unpardonable. It is thus that we are forced to pay with the lives of our soldiers for the blundering of the officials.

While the Commander-in-Chief was engaged in raising the siege of Lucknow, Cawnpore was menaced by the Gwalior mutineers. These battalions, forming, a compact and disciplined force of about five thousand men, with powerful field and siege artillery, have always been watched with considerable anxiety. They committed themselves beyond redemption by the murder of their officers, but from the moment that they broke into revolt they showed themselves singularly irresolute. Had they exerted the same activity as the Bengal Sepoys they might have turned the scale against us, either at Delhi or Lucknow. It is said that they were kept stationary, or nearly so, by dissensions amongst their leaders, but whatever the cause of their inaction, it was most fortunate for us, and must in the end prove fatal to them. Previous mails stated that they were encamped at Calpee on the Jumna, and that they were about to join the Oude rebels. We now learn that in the first days of November they crossed the river into the Doab, and advanced within fifteen miles of Cawnpore by the 16th or 17th of the month. General Windham, collecting the reserve under his command, went out to offer them battle, but they retired quicker than they came, without firing a shot, and the general was not in a condition to pursue them. It was believed that they had been joined by the Dinapore mutineers, and that the Nena Sahib was at their head, and it apprehended that they would make an eruption into Bundelcund, or move upon Saugor. There can be no doubt that they had the means of making mischief but there could be as little question that their career would be speedily checked. At Agra some fears were entertained of an attack from the Rohilcund mutineers, but the garrison were made prepared. Brigadier Showers, after making a circuit over a large tract of country, occupying four forts, taking seventy guns and eighty laes of Rupees, returned to Delhi on the 9th of November. Intelligence received three days afterwards caused a fresh column to be formed under the command of Colonel Gerard. He marched rapidly to Rewarree and then upon the town of Karnal in Jhuggur, where he found the enemy awaiting him in force. The Jondpore Legion, which had been lost sight of for some time, was there, in addition to a native force, headed by a native chief. The enemy numbered altogether about five thousand men with six guns. Colonel Gerard attacked without hesitation, and, after a fiercely contested battle which lasted several hours, completely routed the rebels, capturing all their guns. On our side the loss amounted to seventy killed, and Colonel Gerard was amongst the number. Another great success was achieved at Neemuch on the 22nd of November, when General Stuart completely dispersed the Mundesore rebels, taking all their guns. In Bombay there had been some disturbance caused by the insurrection of a hill tribe, but it was without importance. Holkar was still in some danger at Indore from his mutinous troops, but a British force was rapidly moving in his assistance. In running over various accounts of detached operations, we find that in the settled districts the natives welcomed the British columns as friends and protectors. All danger is over, and although months must elapse before Oude can be reconquered, or the various guerilla bands spread over India can be dispersed or destroyed, the end is at last within view. Our next consideration must be the use we will make of our victory and our experience.

CHINA.

War Preparations at Hong-Kong.—The Overland China Mail of Nov. 14, says:—The most important occurrence of the fortnight has been the arrival, on the 5th, of Mr Reed the United States minister, and suite. Beyond what is already known at home about the peaceful intentions of the Americans with regard to China, nothing has transpired to give us an inkling of the peculiar policy to be pursued by their plenipotentiary.

In Hong-Kong, everything wears the aspect of busy preparation; and it is confidently affirmed that the first step towards the investment of Canton will be taken on Tuesday, upon which day the Calcutta, accompanied by the gun-boats and steamers now here, will proceed up the river. The greater part of the small military force here will likely be required to assist in the attack upon Canton, and upon the naval force will principally devolve the protection of the colony.

Various rumours reach us from Canton; some say that Yeh has left the city to proceed

against the rebels in the north of the province; and others that he is about to go. The rebels are giving Yeh trouble. He has memorialised the emperor, requesting that no more troops be draughted from Kwangtung into the other provinces; and troops have been sent from the northern provinces in foreign vessels to Swatow, whence they will be probably sent against the rebels. Some think that these internal troubles will make the city yield to us without any fighting; but we anticipate a short struggle, and look anxiously beyond it to the state in which the province will be when, much more than now, at the mercy of the rebels.

It is still said that the French intend to assist the British force, but whether actively before Canton, or only in protecting Hong-Kong, thereby enabling us to make the best of our force, is matter of doubt. At all events, no active movement has as yet been made by the French with reference to Cochin China, and the greater portion of their fleet is still anchored at the Brothers, where Baron Le Gros also is.

EUROPE.

ITALY.—Piedmont.—It is said and credited that King Victor Emmanuel has written a letter to the Pope complaining of the party spirit and intrigue of the Piedmontese clergy, and expressing a hope that his Holiness will use his influence with the clergy to induce them to pursue a more moderate course, otherwise he (the king), as guardian of the state, will be compelled to check such conduct by the means pointed out by the constitution; and the Sardinian parliament, on the motion of Count Cavour, is to resolve itself into a committee of the whole house to deal with clerical interference in the late elections, and make moral pressure, as well as physical violence, invalidating defects in Candidates.

Venice.—Archduke Maximilian is touring in the Italian preserves of the two-necked eagle. At Venice a young man was discovered to have substituted for Austria's flag, in the square of St. Mark, the national tricolour. He is to undergo five years of *carcere duro*. Pellico told us what that is.

The Papal States.—Letters from Rome, of the 24th, state that the perpetrators of the late highway robbery of British subjects travelling in a post carriage between Civita Vecchia and Rome have been discovered. They are Neapolitans of the province of Aquila, and worked at the railway.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.—The *Principality*.—The *Etoile du Danube* states, that the Divan of Bucharest, which was to have met on the 15th, persists in its resolution not to enter into the examination of any question of internal organisation.

CANADA.

During the Election in Quebec, a riot took place in St. John's suburb, which was the battle-ground of a terrible struggle. Several persons were shot, and others badly injured. In 5 wards the government candidates polled upwards of 8000 votes, and so kept possession of the polls that the Rouges only got 120. The government candidates polled 10,000 votes, and the Rouges about 5000. The Returning Officer struck off about 5000 extra from the Rouge list, which the polling clerks said were put on without their authority. The total number of legal votes in Quebec is between 4000 and 5000.

At the nomination for the County of Quebec, a terrible fight took place between the friends of Mr Evanturel and the friends of Mr Panet.

During the election in Toronto, two wards were held by the Catholics, who attacked the Liberals and Orangemen, not allowing them to vote. Several persons lost their lives.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Burning and Rescue of the *Sarah Sands*.—An account of the dreadful conflagration on board the "Sarah Sands," the well known screw-steamer, on her passage to India, with a portion of the 54th Regt., appears in the English journals.

When about 400 miles of the Mauritius, and during a severe storm, a fire was discovered in the hold, and although all on board—sailors as well as soldiers,—exerted themselves to the utmost, the fire was not extinguished until the after part of the ship was destroyed, and nothing remained but the iron shell. All the ammunition was thrown into the sea by the soldiers, otherwise the destruction of life would have been appalling. As it was, not a life was lost. The troops were safely landed, and were waiting for another conveyance to take them to their destination.

The Provincial Parliament meet for the despatch of business on the 4th of February next. There are two vacancies in the Lower House, occasioned by the elevation of Alfred Whitman, Esq., late Member for the Township of Annapolis, to a seat in the Legislative Council, and S. S. Thorne, Esq., who has resigned his seat for the Township of Granville, consequent on his acceptance of the office of Chairman of the Board of Works. We understand that Moses Shaw, Esq., of Annapolis, and T. D. Ruggles, will be returned for both these places without opposition. Both gentlemen are supporters of the present Administration.

The present Winter has been one of the mildest ever experienced by the oldest resident amongst us. Up to the present time, January, 18th, we have not had six inches of snow.—*Halifax Evening Express*.

Destitution in Cape Breton.—We are sorry to hear, that in consequence of the almost total failure in the Fall Mackerel Fishery, there ex-