

News of the Week.

From the London Weekly Times, Dec. 20.
THE CAMPAIGN IN INDIA.

The full details from the seat of war in India, which we give in other columns, fill up the outline of recent events which the telegraph enabled us to present in our impression of last week. We have now passed through the period when the arrival of every mail from India was awaited with fearful apprehension that it would bring intelligence of some fresh horror, some new tragedy, combining every feature of lust and cruelty. We no longer dread to hear of barbarous massacres or wide-spread disaster. The Sepoys are no more masters of vast provinces, free to gratify their appetite for plunder and murder. They have been driven from their stronghold, and they have been brought to bay. A fortunate concurrence of events has collected the main strength of the rebels in Oude, where they must fight and die. The tide is fairly turned, and the British in India are now able to act on the defensive and to hunt down the insurgents wherever they may seek refuge. The small bands that so gloriously held isolated stations against a multitudinous foe, are swelling into armies. The reinforcements from England are now in India, and we have advanced from a time of desperate peril to a season of regular military campaign. Sir Colin Campbell is in the field, and by this twentieth day of December he has a numerous force of British soldiers under his command. Long before this he has fought his first battle under the wall of Lucknow, and we have no doubt that the next mail will inform us of his decisive success. With the relief of Lucknow his campaign began, and although there may be many months of hard work to be done before the last mutinous Sepoy has disappeared, there can be no question of the complete restoration of British authority on a new and firmer basis.

For the moment our chief interest is concentrated on the capital of Oude. Sir Colin Campbell's brief announcement—"All right at Lucknow"—has already sent a thrill of relief and hope through the heart of the country. But there were and are fears that the brave soldiers under Havelock and Outram, with their helpless companions, would suffer extreme privations before the rescuing force could arrive. For weeks nothing had been heard from the troops surrounded in the Residency by at least fifty thousand of the enemy, and when the mail left Calcutta the absence of information had caused the utmost anxiety. The Indian Government had absolutely no news later than the 21st of October, when it was said that the garrison had begun to slaughter the gun-bullocks, and it was hinted that they were beginning to use the horses for food. A letter, which seems not to have been made public at Calcutta, has reached us here. Lieutenant Moorson, the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General of Sir Henry Havelock's force, contrived to send through the beleaguering host a brief communication dated the 27th of October. He states, what we already knew, that Havelock's force having relieved the garrison of Lucknow from their instant peril, were themselves blockaded with those to whose succour they had come; but they were in no extremity. They had "abundant food, ammunition, good quarters, plenty of fighting men, stout hearts, and their God on their side; on the other, their enemy numerous, but cowardly, with a scarcity of iron and lead for guns." Were it not for the number of women and children, sick and wounded, the besieged force could have easily marched out; but, adds Lieutenant Moorson, "as it is, we can hold our own, and steadily make small advances until reinforcements arrive." From this letter we learn that the troops were no longer confined within the entrenchments defended by the original garrison, but occupied a more extended position. We can also infer that although blockaded, and unable to communicate with the Allumbagh, they were clearing the ground around them, and making some advance towards obtaining possession of the town. The most gratifying portion of Lieutenant Moorson's letter is that which assures us that the troops were not suffering from want of provisions. A few days after he wrote Grant and Greathed arrived at the Allumbagh, and on the 9th of November Sir Colin Campbell crossed the Ganges at the head of additional reinforcements.

Before coming to the movements of the Commander-in-Chief, it will be interesting to revert to Sir Henry Havelock's account of how he entered Lucknow and relieved the garrison, only to stand himself in need of the relief which was rapidly approaching at the date of our last intelligence from Cawnpore. In reading of these operations we must bear in mind the small number of Sir Henry Havelock's column—not three thousand in all—and the vast numerical superiority of the enemy. After having defeated the enemy in a pitched battle, and having followed them up with a celerity that allowed no halt, he crossed the Sye on the 22nd of September, by a bridge which the enemy in their flight had not time to destroy. On the 22nd he found himself in presence of the rebel forces, strongly posted, with their left resting on the Allumbagh, and their centre and right on low heights. At that time his troops "had been marching for three days, under a perfect deluge of rain, irregularly fed, and badly housed in villages, and they had to encounter ten times their own number. Still they did not hesitate to give the attack. They were obliged

to advance along a narrow road, bounded by morasses, exposed to the fire of the enemy's artillery, but as soon as the first regiment could be deployed the position was carried, and the rebels left five guns in the hands of the victors. That day no further advance could be made, owing to the fatigue of the troops. The right of the little army was lodged in the Allumbagh, and the left was withdrawn, and even then they were cannonaded throughout twenty-four hours. The enemy's cavalry, 1,500 strong, swept round to the rear and attacked the soldiers of the 90th Regiment, who formed the baggage guard. This body of horsemen, nearly as numerous as the whole British force, was repulsed and put to flight, but not without loss on our side. It was found necessary to allow the troops, worn out with marching and fighting, to rest on the 24th. On the morning of the 25th the assault on the city was commenced. The baggage and tents, with the wounded, were left under escort at the Allumbagh, and the rest advanced to the combat. Sir James Outram, heading the first brigade, drove the enemy from a succession of gardens and walled enclosures, and gained the bridge over the canal, where the whole force was united. From this point to the Residency the distance in a direct line was little more than two miles, but the road had been cut by trenches and crossed by palisades, while the houses, strengthened and loop-holed, presented a series of fortresses. It became necessary to take a circuitous route, and the column advanced along a narrow path skirting the banks of the canal until it came to the king's palace, where there was an entrenchment, from which a fire of musketry and grape was poured, under which nothing could live. After awhile partial shelter was obtained under some neighbouring buildings, and there it was proposed to halt for the night. Fortunately the energetic Havelock would not delay. "I esteemed it to be of such importance," he says, "not to leave this beleaguered garrison without knowing that succour was at hand, that I ordered the main body of the 78th Highlanders and the regiment of Ferozepore to advance." We know from previous accounts that at the very moment when Havelock took this resolution, the enemy were pushing their mines under the Residency, and a night's halt might have been fatal to all. The Generals Havelock and Outram, with two officers of their staff, headed the column, which rushed forward with irresistible impulse. Every obstacle was overcome, and the garrison were saved, but it was not until the evening of the 26th that the whole of the little force, with the guns, sick, and wounded, could be brought in, "step by step," exposed to the incessant fire of the enemy. The success of his daring attempt seems to have astonished Havelock himself. "To form a notion of the obstacles overcome," he says, "a reference must be made to the events that are known to have occurred at Buenos Ayres and Saragossa. Our advance was through streets of flat-roofed and loop-holed houses, each forming a separate fortress. I am filled with surprise at the success of operations which demanded the efforts of ten thousand good troops." And this heroic achievement cost, us dearly. The number of men who fell was probably greater than that of the garrison relieved. More than four hundred were killed and wounded in the final attack, and amongst the killed was the brave and accomplished Neill. Still more gloomy is it to reflect on the "missing"—wounded soldiers who fell into the hands of a pitiless foe. Sir James Outram was wounded early on the 25th, but, though faint from loss of blood, he continued to the end of the operation to sit on his horse, which he only dismounted at the gate of the Residency. A more desperate adventure or a more heroic achievement than the relief of Lucknow is not to be found in the annals of warfare. When we have regard to the mighty efforts of the relieving force, who literally passed through the fire as they cut their way into the place, and when we consider the vast disparity of numbers between the British column and the countless hordes of the rebels, there is no ground for surprise that Havelock, Outram, and their companions, were instantly hemmed in. They cannot be said to have defeated the enemy, but they hewed a passage to the beleaguered garrison whose fate they were destined to share. The force of the Oude insurgents is variously estimated at from fifty thousand to seventy thousand, with three hundred guns. The number of guns appear incredible, but it is explained by the fact that hundreds of armed forts existed in the kingdom, and the guns have been brought to Lucknow by the revolted Talookdars. With these numbers a close and vigilant blockade was established, and for nearly six weeks no communication took place between Lucknow and the Allumbagh. The deep anxiety that prevailed at the beginning of November was relieved by a message communicated in some way to Sir Colin Campbell, and Lieutenant Moorson's letter completely reassures us as to the safety of the garrison. From the 25th of September downwards the road from the Allumbagh to Cawnpore appears to have been open, and during October about a thousand men and large convoys of provisions had reached that post, which would be the rendezvous for the troops to be headed by the Commander-in-Chief.

Our readers are already aware that after the victory at Aga Colonel Greathed marched for Cawnpore. He arrived there on the 30th of October and he was joined by Colonel Grant of the 9th Lancers, who took the command as brigadier. The column, raised by detachments of European regiments to three thousand five hundred men, crossed the Ganges on the 31st

of October, and moved on to the Alumbah. Sir Colin Campbell crossed on the 3rd of November, and it is believed that he took with him fifteen hundred Europeans. Altogether, he would find himself, on joining Grant and Greathed, at the head of eight thousand men, and such a force, so led, would be more than a match for fifty thousand rebels. The stout and energetic Commander-in-Chief travelled like a courier from Calcutta to Cawnpore, traversing the distance of six hundred and twenty-eight miles in six days, from the 28th of October to the 3rd of November. Going at such speed, he could not take an escort, and at one point of the journey he had a narrow escape from falling into the hands of the enemy. When near Shergotty, accompanied only by his personal staff, he came upon a body of mutineers who were leisurely crossing the Great Trunk-road, the men sitting on elephants, and the march flanked by parties of light cavalry. Luckily, the mutineers did not discover what a prize lay within their grasp, for it is confessed that the cavalry could have captured or sabred the whole party. The astonished staff made a wild proposal of fighting, but Sir Colin with great prudence and presence of mind, ordered a rapid retreat for ten miles, until he met a bullock-train coming up with European soldiers, who escorted him to Benares. The rest of the journey was performed in safety. Arrived at Cawnpore, he lost no time in organising such a force as would enable him not only to relieve Lucknow, but to scatter the besiegers. In all probability the next telegram will inform us that the decisive blow has been struck, and that a second centre of insurrection has been broken. Troops were arriving rapidly at Calcutta and pushing up the country with all speed. At the middle of November there were twelve thousand British troops in the capital of Bengal, and numerous ships were reported at the mouth of the river. At the time calculated on from the first—the early part of December—Sir Colin Campbell would have under his command the largest European force ever collected in India. With such means, and with our experience of utter powerlessness of the Sepoys to meet our troops in the open field we need have no doubt of the ultimate result of the Indian campaign.

EUROPE.

RUSSIA.—St. Petersburg.—The existence of a Russian dispatch, addressed to the Danish Government, on the question of Holstein, and favourable to the demands of Germany, has been confirmed. This dispatch was expedited at the beginning of the current month (December.) It is said that this has been viewed in Copenhagen as a slight from the Court of St. Petersburg.

"Go Forward."—Letters from Moscow talk of printers' work. A rich merchant, called Soldatenkoff, has started a series of cheap publications for popular instruction, on the model of Chambers. It is a pity that the mass of the native cannot read; and the beauty of the undertaking is, that the opulent merchant himself can neither read nor write. A rumour comes from that city that the Archbishop of Resan has just been stabbed by a monk.

Russia and Circassia.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg, dated the 14th of December, announces that General Keffelo Kimoff has just gained an important victory over the Tcherkesses; a great number of the latter were killed. In this affair a number of the villages of the Tcherkesses were burnt.

SARDINIA.—It is very remarkable that during the crash of commercial houses throughout Austria, Stockholm, the Hanse Towns, Copenhagen, Great Britain, and Lombardy, connected with American trade in silk or other goods, not a single house at Turin or Genoa failed. A great national bank is on foot for the Sardinian capital, and the resources of the kingdom are in fair course of development.

AUSTRIA.—Vienna.—A letter of the 10th says:—"The decree relative to the next year's conscription has already been published, and the authorities have received orders to make the necessary preparations. The contingent will be the same as last year—nearly 90,000 men. The Emperor has also ordered that all the military constructions which are not indispensably necessary shall be suspended." This measure will relieve the budget very considerably.

PRUSSIA.—The Crisis.—The effects of the crisis are now showing themselves in this country, where a great number of manufacturers are obliged, more or less, to suspend their works.

HAMBURG.—Dec. 16.—A number of new and important failures have taken place in Sweden. The Government proposes to borrow millions of thalers to assist the merchants. The Hanoverian Chambers are convoked for the 2nd of February. Commander Dockum has been appointed Danish Minister in London.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.—Constantinople.—Following up the Turkish coup d'état dissolving the Danubian Divans, the Sultan has pushed on a corps d'armee of 8,000 men on Widdin and Rustchouk, with a strong reserve at the foot of the Balkans, at Shumla, where they keep winter quarters.

Turkey is stated to reclaim possession of the Isle of Perim lately occupied by England, at the mouth of the Red Sea.

SCOTLAND.—Trade in the Manufacturing Towns.—Trade in Dunfermline is very dull. With a great number of hands already idle—by far the greater part of the remainder on short time, who are very likely soon to be idle—the prospects for the winter are very gloomy.

UNITED STATES.

The Nicaragua Excitement at the South.—New Orleans, Dec. 29.—The Nicaraguan meeting, called for to-night, has been adjourned to Thursday, in consequence, of the storm. All our leading papers express their indignation at the course of Commodore Paulding.

Mobile, Dec. 29.—A Nicaraguan indignation meeting has been called here. Secretary Cass' repudiation of Com. Paulding's course has had but little effect in allaying the excitement, which is intense.

Judge Gates of the Federal Court, has decided that the detention of the Schooner Susan is illegal. She was bound to Greytown, but the Collector refused her a clearance.

Destruction of Fort Bridger.—Kansas Constitution.—Washington, Dec. 29. (Tribune Correspondence.)—Intelligence from Utah, subsequent to Nov. 6, states that the Mormons had destroyed Fort Bridger, burning all the buildings, on the approach of Col. Johnston.

If the Lecompton Constitution had come here without slavery, Mr. Stephens of Ga., was to have moved its reference back to the people.

Official dispatches from the Utah Army were received yesterday by the War Department, confirming the intelligence telegraphed from St. Louis, and published a few days since. The despatches are dated November 5. Colonel Johnston writes that Colonel Smith, with the numerous trains under the protection of his command, joined him at Black Fort on the 3rd of November. His progress was very slow and tedious, the average being eleven miles a day. Colonel Johnston proposed to march on Fort Bridger on the 6th November, and dislodge any force he might find there, when he would await Colonel Cooke's arrival before further operations. The winter was so near that he would not attempt the passage of the mountains until Spring. Colonel Johnston has no doubt of the hostile intentions of the Mormons and their determination not to acknowledge the authority of the United States. Among the documents transmitted by Colonel Johnston are two letters from Brigham Young to him, with defiance and threats.

The steamship Empire City arrived at this port with later intelligence from Havana. The Empire City reports that the U. S. Sloop-of-war Saratoga, from Greytown, with Walker's men, put into Havana on the 23rd inst. for supplies. The Fashion was also at anchor in the same port.

Walker and his men captured and brought Home.—Our Readers are already well informed of the facts connected with the departure of Gen. Walker and some 180 followers from Mobile in the steamer Fashion; of their landing at Putna Arenas under the guns of the U. S. sloop-of-war Saratoga; of the assumption of supreme power in the land by Walker, as President of Nicaragua, and his sending a portion of his force up the river to ravage the country and capture the strong points. We have now the pleasure of informing our readers of the capture of Walker and all his followers, by the forces of the home squadron, under Commodore Paulding, and their return to the United States.

CHINA.

Hong Kong, Oct. 30.—Lord Elgin is here, and it is probable he will not leave the place till the results of the demonstrations against Canton are known. We understand as soon as the whole force of marines arrive operations will commence. The first detachment arrived on the 28th inst. in the steamer Imperador. The dispatch gunboat Cormorant and gunboat Banterer had arrived from Manila yesterday.

An expedition under Commodore Elliot, consisting of the gunboats Plover, Opossum, and Staunton, with some ships' boats, left Tiger Island on the 14th inst. After a cruise of several days they came out near the junction of the great west and north rivers, and arrived at Macao on the 19th inst. During the cruise several Mandarin junks and some forts were destroyed, but private property was not interfered with. The people of the towns which were passed willingly assisted in pointing out the Mandarin boats, understanding, apparently, the object of the expedition.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Suicide.—This afternoon a woman was seen to jump over the wall which separates the old Dutch Church Burying Ground from the street, and run towards the middle of the Burying Ground. On reaching this point, she cut her throat with a razor which she carried in her hand, and was dead in a few minutes afterwards. We understand that the deceased was called Mrs. Dickson, and that she lived in Lockman Street.—Recorder.

Stock in Bonded Warehouse, 1st Jan., 1858:
Rum—Punchons, 246; Hogsheds, 2. Sugar—Hogsheds, 1199; Tierces, 53; Barrels, 296. Molasses—Punchons, 2631; Tierces, 308; Barrels, 1266.

The government of Newfoundland has arranged with the Cunard Company to run a steamer fortnightly to Newfoundland during the winter season, leaving Halifax as usual, after the arrival of the steamer from Liverpool and Boston.—Recorder.

MEXICO.

Advices from Mexico announce General Comonfort's assumption of Dictatorship. It is to be hoped that the insurrections and tumults that have reduced Mexico to the present deplorable condition will now be suppressed.