

## Europe.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 12.

## RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

From a bulletin of the Russian army, dated Schoumla, August 7, we learn that since the departure of the Emperor for Odessa on the 2d, nothing remarkable had occurred. During that interval both parties seem to have been employed in reconnoitring and strengthening their respective positions. General Madatoff, on the 5th, with a strong reconnoitring party, ascertained that the left wing of the Turks, from the village of Maino to Booula, is flanked by a chain of heights, with vast entrenchments flanked by bastions. On the 6th it was observed that a detachment of about 2000 Turks, chiefly cavalry had quitted the fortress and proceeded towards Ichalykavak, with the intention, it was supposed, to escort the supplies intended for Schoumla. Lieut.-General Rudigar took up a position at Esta Stomboul, and expected to cut off the enemy's return. From this statement it appears that Schoumla is to be blockaded until reinforcements arrive, and the siege of Varna is brought to a close. It is probable, however, that Hussein Pacha will make vigorous efforts to clear the road for the reinforcements which have been sent him.

Another bulletin describes the operations against Varna, and is dated August 11. Between the 5th and 11th the Russians constructed six redoubts, which completed the line of blockade on the northern side. On the 7th the Turks made a vigorous sally, but, after a conflict described as murderous, and which lasted till sun-set, they were repulsed with great loss. On the night of the 7th, Admiral Greig sent a detachment of boats against the Turkish flotilla stationed under the fortress, which, after a desperate resistance, succeeded in towing away fourteen vessels, two armed boats, five pieces of cannon, a great quantity of ammunition, and 45 prisoners, with the commander of the flotilla. The Russian loss was 4 killed, and 27 wounded; that of the Turks was much more considerable, for, besides those killed in the action, the greater number of those who attempted to swim ashore were drowned. On the 9th, the Turks made several sorties, in all of which they were repulsed with great loss. The Russian losses in these affairs are said to have been inconsiderable, whilst the Turks are represented to have been engaged for two whole days in burying their dead.

The intended visit of the young Queen of Portugal, Maria da Gloria, to her Grand Father's Court, which has been already announced, is confirmed by an extraordinary courier from Rio de Janeiro. A hope is expressed that she is to be a bond of reconciliation and internal peace to Portugal.

Advices have been received from St. Petersburg, which announce that the Russian Government has expressed its decided disapprobation of Don Miguel's usurpation, and its positive determination to adhere to its recognition of the rights of Don Pedro to the Throne of Portugal.

SEPTEMBER 11.

(COURT CIRCULAR.)

*The Duke of Clarence.*—The answer given yesterday, at His Royal Highness's residence, in Bushy Park, to all inquiries, was, 'His Royal Highness is much better.' The Duke has been enabled to leave his chamber during the last two days. His Royal Highness was engaged, yesterday afternoon, for a considerable time, with Captain Spencer, his Private Secretary, who arrived at Bushy from the Admiralty.

Last night we received the Paris papers by express, and, in due course, *Lisbon Gazettes* to the 1st inst. The latter merely contain documents relating to the late troubles, but of no interest to the English reader.

The *Sun* of this evening announces in the most positive manner that the Duke of Clarence retires, and is to be succeeded by Lord Melville. I have ascertained that the authority upon which the *Sun* makes this statement is good, though, perhaps, not conclusive. At the Admiralty, the only information I can obtain is, that nothing new has transpired, and I have ascertained some circumstances connected with Mr. Croker which would lead me to doubt the statement in the *Sun*.

I can now inform you, upon very good authority, that the Emperor of Russia will not consent to the proposals of Lord Heytesbury for cessation of hostilities until he has obtained possession of Varna; but he has agreed not to march upon Constantinople after the capture of Varna, until new terms, which he can then propose without loss to his own dignity, have been made to the Sultan. This information comes from Odessa to a gentleman here, who has a close connexion with the Russian Court.

## LA PEROUSE.

From the following extract from the *Sydney Gazette*, a file of which has just been put into our hands, we learn that the East India Company's discovery ship, *Research*, commanded by Captain Dillon, arrived at New South Wales in January last, on her way back from the Manicolo Islands, whither she had been dispatched by the Bengal Government about eighteen months ago, to ascertain, if possible, the fate of the French navigator, La Perouse. Captain Dillon, it appears, has made numerous discoveries, and has in his possession many proofs of the fate of the unfortunate Count and his companions:

[FROM THE SYDNEY GAZETTE, JANUARY 25.]

The *Research*, though it is so great a distance from the town, is daily thronged with visitors, who are laudably anxious to witness and examine those remains of the wreck of the two French ships, under the command of the unfortunate La Perouse. Captain Dillon has a cabin set apart as a depository of those valuable articles, which the moment they are seen, strike conviction into the mind of the most sceptical, and satisfy all those who are privileged to examine them, of their undoubted identity, as forming a part of the wrecked ships. Of all the articles that chiefly engaged our attention, that of the decayed part of the stern was most interesting. It is impossible for any one, whilst beholding that piece of decayed timber, not to be occupied with the most interesting thoughts. The mind is insensibly led to the retrospection of forty years, and the wood itself wears all the appearance of forty years old. The *Fleur-de-lis* are very plain, and there can be no doubt but the piece of timber formed a part of the ornamental work of the stern of one of the ships, though whatever gold might have been upon it has vanished during the vicissitudes of nearly half a century. We have a small piece of this decayed relic, which we took the liberty of seizing upon, for the purpose of placing it amongst numberless other curiosities that we intend to hand over to the Colonial Museum as soon as it is organized. We hope Captain Dillon will not prosecute us for the larceny, as we acknowledge it was any thing but given. It appears to us to be a piece of fur, and must have been from that circumstance purely ornamental. We confess we could not manage to secrete the bell, with the words "*Bazin ma fait*," that is, "*Bazin made me*," else we should much like to have enriched the contemplated Museum with that article also; but we have no doubt, that, with hundreds of others also, it will be recognised by some of the old Frenchmen, who may have been fortunate enough to escape the guillotine axe, or the conscriptions of the immortal Napoleon.

The pattern of the broken china is old-fashioned, and the shape and thickness are as old-fashioned as the culinary articles, of which we never saw such patterns before: indeed, if we had seen La Perouse himself we should not be more convinced of the reality of these articles having been on board the ships which he commanded. The silver bottom of the candlestick, the sword-handle, the silver salver, the Spanish dollar, are all indubitable proofs of the fate of this regretted Navigator. From the French gentleman on board the *Research*, we were casually informed, that the utmost praise is due to Captain Dillon, for the coolness, intrepidity, and skill, which he displayed at the Island of Manicolo, as it was with the greatest difficulty, and unabated attention, that the *Research* was saved from being lost on some of the many reefs, which render the island dangerous to approach. Captain Dillon's attention to his crew, too, at the time when sickness and death began to stare them in the face, was more like that of a *pater familiaris*, than that of an imperious commander. The reefs were carefully examined, and correctly laid down by Captain Dillon, though the latitude and longitude of Manicolo continue a secret, but which, no doubt, at a future day, will be exploded, with many other interesting facts appertaining to this expedition—one

that has been crowned with such extraordinary success, and one that will not fail to diffuse universal interest throughout the civilized and scientific world.

The *Research* proceeded on her voyage to Calcutta on the 1st of February.

## EXTRAORDINARY SWINDLER.

Extract of a Letter from the *Bagnio of Rochefort*, dated June 20.

One of the most audacious and successful *chevaliers d'industrie* to be met with in the history of swindling is now a convict here. He is named Anthelme Collet, and was condemned eight years ago to twenty years hard labour. The son of a working cabinet-maker at Belloy (department de l'Ain,) he was brought up at the Pritanie, and has since appeared in the world under the following various characters: First, a lieutenant, then a captain and major of the 47th regiment, deserter, thief, bishop, inspector-general, ambulatory surgeon, brother of the Christian doctrine, and now a galley convict at the age of 43. In his military career he owed his commission more to intrigue than bravery. Not liking the profession of arms, he deserted, threw off the military uniform, and assumed the clerical black cassock, which he soon after changed into a violet-coloured one, forged a bull nominating himself to the episcopacy, and was, as a Lord Bishop, received in the most flattering manner, sed, and almost sanctified at Nice, where, by way of doing him honour, the bishop of the diocese allowed 33 priests, and as many deacons and sub-deacons, to receive ordination at his hands. To make a suitable return for those compliments, he mounted the pulpit and preached a sermon of Bourdaloue's (this being the eighth time he had preached the same sermon in different places,) which got him the reputation of a most eminent preacher. Shortly after this, a party of gendarmes, who had got a description of his person, came to arrest him, but he supported his ecclesiastical character so well, and gave them his episcopal blessing with so much dignity and unction, that they dreaded they were under some mistake, and allowed him to pass. On his quitting Nice, several pious persons made a collection amounting to 3,000 francs, which they intrusted to him to employ in works of charity. Some time after, considering the dignity and revenues of his ecclesiastical character precarious, he renounced it, and again returned to the enjoyment of military honours. In 1810 he conferred upon himself the appointment of Inspector-General, and in that capacity called upon a Commissary of War to submit his registers to him for inspection, got from him a considerable sum of money, under pretence of organizing an army in Catalonia, and left the Commissary enchanted with the promise he had made him of procuring him the Cross of the Legion of Honour. At Nismes, by similar practices, he got into his hands government money to the amount of 300,000 francs, (12,000*l.*) and at Montpellier other large sums. But his stay in this last town proved fatal to him. One day he reviewed the troops at six o'clock in the morning, then called upon the prefect, whom he complimented upon his excellent administration of the department, and promised to have him made a superior officer in the Legion of Honour; but, unfortunately, two hours after, he was arrested, together with 22 officers who formed his staff. His adventures, however, did not close here; a few days after his arrest, the prefect, having a numerous company to dinner, wished to let them see this famous swindler. He was accordingly brought to the prefecture by two gendarmes, and placed in a room contiguous to the dining-room, until he should be brought in along with the deserter. Finding in this room one of the cook's cotton night-caps and apron, he put them on, and, taking a dish full of some viands or other in each hand, he kicked, as if in a great hurry, against the door, which was opened by the gendarmes, and the pretended cook walked boldly into the dining-room, and in a few minutes was clear out of the house. When the ex-inspector general was called for, he was, of course, absent without leave. Great was the confusion of the prefect and the disappointment of his guests; and the former, in the first moment of his anger, offered a reward of ten thousand francs to any one who would bring him, the fugitive, alive or dead. This, however, proved useless, though the object of his pursuit was concealed in a house next to the prefecture for an entire month.