

but, instead of the rapidity and decision that were expected, they evince a tardiness and caution highly advantageous to the enemy. They have wasted three months almost in vain. What have they done? They have taken three or four places, at the cost of an immense body of troops. In marching, with the situation, as far as Balkan, they have left behind them places occupied by numerous garrisons, whose sorties cannot fail of harassing their rear guard, and threatening their lines of operation.

The stationary position of their armies for the last month—the checks they have received on so many points—joined to many other circumstances, have made that a problem which lately appeared to be considered by the world as a certainty, and in some measure lead the way to the intelligence that Nicholas has retreated towards Varna to direct in person the final operations of the siege there. It is added, that after the capture of that place the Emperor intends closing the campaign, and returning to St. Petersburg; his army will take up its position on the banks of the Danube, at the principal passes to those provinces which they have evacuated, and in such strong holds as have yielded to their power.

These reports are repeated in most of the German Papers, which appear to have received them through various channels; they wear a pretty authentic character, and accord with the advanced period of the season: the time approaches when the coasts of the Black Sea will no longer be navigable, and before long the passes of the Balkan, which at present protects an army of more than 100,000 men, will have for their protection those torrents and snow storms which in winter render the defiles of those mountains almost inaccessible to the movements of an army.

It is needless to remark on the importance of this news, if it should be confirmed. If it is true that Nicholas no longer intends pursuing his present operations, it is more than likely that the Porte has escaped from the dangers which threatened it. One of two things must be true: either Russia is apprehensive of consequences, in which case European diplomacy will intercede with the pacific intentions of the Emperor; or she has come to this pause to take breath—she is desirous of re-assembling her troops to recommence the strife with greater vigour. But next year the war will be ten times more in favour of the Turks. If, taken by surprise, they have acquitted themselves thus creditably, what may not be expected after six months' preparation?

The European Powers will also be differently situated. From being mere spectators at present, they will then become actors on the scene, and we shall not be surprised if they finally become the firm supporters of Turkey.

Other consequences may also be expected. Our situation in the Morea will become more complicated than ever, if the Porte be delivered from the Russians; and from what we know of the character of the Sultan Mahmoud, can it be doubted that he will hasten to take advantage of his situation? He will hurry his troops from the Russian frontier to the Grecian scene of action, and what sacrifice can be made to prevent the irruption of 40,000 barbarians in the Peloponnesus, where there are but 15,000 soldiers to withstand them?

The mere possibility of such a danger ought to be sufficient to awaken the concern and vigilance of the French Government. Its duty requires it to foresee all such events as may happen—to foresee all—and to adopt such measures as may tend to support the national dignity, at the same time that proper care is taken of the preservation of the public money, and of the blood of our soldiers.

MADEIRA, SEPT. 4.

[FROM A PRIVATE LETTER.]

We made the Bay of Funchal on the morning of the 20th of August. I was of course anxiously looking out on deck nearly the whole of the night; and as day dawned I discovered nine vessels of different descriptions to leeward, which we soon made out to be the Portuguese squadron. We also discovered another vessel to windward, and much to our satisfaction soon found she was the British sloop of war Alligator, Captain Canning, only arrived the preceding evening. The visit boat came off to us about seven o'clock, A. M.; and I learnt that the squadron had come in five days before—had sent on shore a flag of truce, demanding the delivery of the Island to Don Miguel, and giving the Govern-

nor three days to consider of it. The Messenger was immediately sent back with his answer, that he did not require three minutes—his mind being already made up to keep the island for Don Pedro to the last; and they might commence bombarding as soon as they pleased, being quite prepared for their reception. This happened four days before we came in, and the squadron had until then remained off the port without attempting anything. I went on shore with the visit officers in their boat, and on our way we met the boat from the packet, which had just then made its appearance. She was only nine days out, and had eight officers on board, come to join the Constitutional cause, and brought despatches to the Governor from the Brazilian Ambassador in London, stating that the Government (Brazilian) would give them every assistance in the way of funds, arms, and troops, and that a frigate was setting out at Falmouth, and might be daily looked for. This news on arriving on shore of course caused a great sensation; rejoicings, and acclamations took place in consequence, and every thing wore an air of determined warfare and defiance. Every person capable of bearing arms was accoutred in regimentals, and the greatest apparent enthusiasm prevailed. The vessels had all removed their births from the accustomed anchorage in front of the town; and all the forts were well manned and armed, sufficient, in fact, to have blown every vessel of the hostile squadron out of the water.

The following day the enemy did not appear from town, but we found that they were working to windward, and concentrating their forces in front of a small village, about twelve miles eastward of the fort (Machico). On the following day, (Friday, the 22nd,) about twelve o'clock, we heard a firing from that quarter, and found they were bombarding the village, and landing their forces under the fire from their ships. All was, of course, consternation in town; at the same time every activity was displayed on the part of the Governor. All the regular troops, about 2,000, exclusive of those already posted at Machico and adjacent places, were marched off in that direction; and every one knowing the passes of the roads to be almost inaccessible, together with the unanimity apparent among the soldiers, felt convinced that not a man of the invaders would have escaped with their lives. True and woeful, however, has proved the contrary. I could not remain quiet in town, but borrowed a horse from a friend, and rode to the seat of war, and am consequently enabled to state with confidence what my own eyes beheld. I found the troops had been, and continued to land without opposition, and at the first sound of the trumpet, part of one of the regiments of militia took to their heels and scampered off helter skelter; a few shots from the sharpshooters, and a brig of war, drove others off still faster; and the cowardly, treacherous, distardly officers, were the first to set the example; they made a stand for a short time at Camacho, about five miles from town, where I remained until midnight, both parties lying on their arms. The following morning found our brave fellows scampering over the hills swifter than any goats. They arrived in town one by one, and of course every thing, in short, became anarchy and confusion. A shew was made to defend the town; but Valdez, being deserted by all his officers, found it would only bring ruin and destruction on the inhabitants. At the instigation of the British Consul he abandoned the intention, and with difficulty escaped on board the Alligator, about three P. M. of the 23d, nearly the whole of the officers in whom he had placed dependence having deserted him so early as ten o'clock in the morning. Many tried to get on board the British vessel of war, but Captain Canning turned them every one away again, refusing the cowardly rascals protection who had so shamefully abandoned their posts and their Commander. Thus ended the war, after the immense sums of money expended, the grand preparations made, and the apparent unanimity of all classes.

This beautiful island, which 100 men might have defended against 1000, has been delivered up, owing to the treachery of some, and cowardice of others, without the loss of a single life.

In the annals of history so disgraceful an occurrence never was known; but the vile wretches now begin to pay the forfeit of their villainy, although on the other hand, it is truly deplorable that so many innocent should suffer with the guilty. Arrests of almost all respectable people have taken place, and confiscations of all their property will ensue. The

town is entirely deserted, except by rabble and military, and utter stagnation of trade is the consequence. Most of the English took refuge on board the Alligator, from the 23rd to the 25th.

Valdez, Joao de Carvahal, and a whole lot of passengers, got home in the Jane, Capt. Canning having put a commissioned officer on board, and converted her into a King's ship for the occasion; so that I do not imagine any impediment in the way of her sailing. We are, however, here in a state of much anxiety and alarm. With the exception of the sloop of war above named, there is no other protection for the English in case of any outrage; she is not capable of accommodating half of them.

MR. WILLIAM YOUNG.

PROTEST.

TO JAMES ROBERT MATTHEWS, ESQ., HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSUL-GENERAL IN LISBON.

SIR—In justice to myself, to my family, and to my country, I feel myself bound, before I quit the Tagus, to present to you this my protest against the illiberal, unjust, and cruel treatment, which I, a British subject have, since the month of May last, received from the Agents, Judges, and Ministers of the Government existing in Portugal. The treaties which unite Portugal and Great Britain have been grossly and hostilely violated in his treatment, and to you, the only British Authority now resident in this country, I am bound, in duty, to present this statement of my grievances. I am about to return (being forced to do so) to my native country. I have been most unwarrantably and seriously injured. To my countrymen I look for sympathy—from my native Government I expect redress—conscious of my innocence, and persuaded that England will protect even the humblest of her sons. I, being thus driven from my family, hope that I shall not in vain seek for justice.—My case is as follows:—

I have resided in the city of Legria since the year 1814, and have obeyed the laws of the country to their full extent. I defy any one to say otherwise. I was seized in my own house on the 26th of May last, and dragged to the gaol, where I was kept confined three days and nights in darkness, and in the prison privy. I was eight days without any communication or person to speak to, except the gaoler, and those whom he, after the first three days, escorted to my presence. On the ninth day I was allowed to speak to one of my family in the presence of the gaoler and his wife. On the 18th day of my confinement I was questioned in a most extraordinary and ridiculous manner. On the 19th day I was taken from the prison at Legria, and escorted by a guard of a serjeant and seven dragoons, and lodged in the prison of St. George's Castle, where I remained until the 7th of this month, when I was conducted on board this packet, and a receipt taken of my person.

Since I have been here, I have heard that it is generally said in Lisbon, that I was liberated on account of the repeated applications of the British Government to the *de facto* Government of Portugal. I deny the truth of such a statement. These admonitions of the British Government have been treated with the utmost contempt. To one of them I know the answer was, "That the laws of the country should not be inverted for my liberation." I have, with great expense and numerous difficulties, proved my innocence, and the British Judge Conservator gave his sentence on the 20th of last month, by which I have been fully and fairly acquitted, a copy of which has been already sent to you.

In conformity with the British treaties with Portugal, the Tribunal called the Relagao is bound to confirm or annul such sentence; but, contrary to all existing treaties, my case was transferred to a political communication, by which I was, in the most arbitrary and illegal manner, pronounced guilty, and ordered to quit the country. You are already in possession of a copy of such sentence and its connected obligation.

Thus have I, in direct contradiction to all British notions of justice, been, by the established Judge, acquitted of an accusation, and immediately afterwards pronounced guilty by an incompetent tribunal, whose sentence I am now compelled to undergo. By it I was forced to sign the obligation to quit Portugal, and never to return to this country. To litigate further the affair would be attended with great expense and delay of many months in prison. Injured as well in health as in property, I signed such illegal obligation that I might obtain my liberty and breathe free air, and that I might be released