

## EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

## KOSSUTH'S LETTER TO LORD PALMERSTON.

A letter, dated Widdin, September 20th, from Kossuth to Lord Palmerston, has been published. It establishes some facts, which the public were slow to believe. The writer says:—

"Hungary has deserved from her kings the historical epithet of 'generous nation,' for she never allowed herself to be surpassed in loyalty and faithful adherence to her sovereigns by any nation in the world.

"Nothing but the most revolting treachery, the most tyrannical oppression, and cruelties unheard of in the words of history—nothing but the infernal doom of annihilation to her national existence, preserved through a thousand years, through adversities so numerous, were able to rouse her to oppose the fatal stroke aimed at her life, to enable her to repulse the tyrannical assault of the ungrateful Hapsburgs, or to accept the struggle for life, honour, and liberty forced upon her. And she has nobly fought that holy battle, in which, with the aid of Almighty God, she prevailed against Austria, whom we crushed to the earth, standing firm even when attacked by the Russian giant, in the consciousness of justice, in our hope in God, and in our hope, my lord, in the generous feeling of your great and glorious nation, the natural supporter of justice and humanity throughout the world. But this is over; what tyranny began has been by treachery concluded: on all sides abandoned, my poor country has fallen, not through the overwhelming power of two great empires, but by the faults, and I may say the treason, of her own sons.

"Russia only has gained at this sanguinary game; she has extended and strengthened her influence in the east of Europe, and threatens already, in a fearful manner, with outstretching arms, not only the integrity, but the moral basis of the Turkish empire.

"May it please you, my lord, to allow me to communicate to your Excellency a most revolting condition which the Turkish government, at the suggestion of Russia, is about to impose upon us poor homeless exiles.

"Many of my brethren in misfortune had preceded me on the Turkish territory. I followed thither in the hope that I should be permitted to pass to England, and there, under the protection of the English people—a protection never yet denied to persecuted man—allowed to repose for a while my weary head on the hospitable shores of your happy island.

"But even with these views I would rather have surrendered myself to my deadliest enemy than to cause any difficulties to the Turkish government, whose situation I well knew how to appreciate, and therefore did not intrude on the Turkish territories, without previously inquiring whether I and my companions in misfortune would be willingly received, and the protection of the Sultan granted to us.

"We received the assurance that we were welcome guests.

"Even the ambassadors of England and France, to whom I ventured in the name of humanity to appeal, were so kind as to assure me of their full sympathy.

"His Majesty, the Sultan, was also so gracious as to give a decided negative to the inhuman pretensions of our extradition demanded by Russia and Austria.

"But a fresh letter from his Majesty the Czar arrived in Constantinople, and its consequences was the suggestion sent to us by an express messenger of the Turkish Government, that the Poles and Hungarians, and particularly myself, Count Casimir Bathiany, minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary under my government, and the Generals Messaros and Perzel, (all present here) would be surrendered unless we chose to abjure the faith of our forefathers in the religion of Christ, and become Mussulmans. And thus five thousand Christians are placed in the terrible alternative either of facing the scaffold or of purchasing their lives by abandoning their faith. So low is already fallen the once mighty Turkey, that she can devise no other means to answer or evade the demands of Russia.

My answer does not admit of hesitation. Between death and shame the choice can be neither dubious nor difficult.

God's will be done. I am prepared to die: but as I think this measure dishonorable and injurious to Turkey, whose interests I sincerely love at heart, and as I feel it a duty to save my companions in exile, if I can, from a degrading alternative, I have replied to the Grand Vizier in a conciliatory manner, and took also the liberty to apply to Sir Stratford Canning and General Auwich for their generous aid against this tyrannical act.

"I am informed that the whole matter is a cabal against the ministry of Reschid Pasha, whose enemies would wish to force him to our extradition in order to lower it in public estimation and render impossible its continuance in office. It is certain, that in the grand council held on the 9th and 10th of September, after a tumultuous debate, the majority of the council declared in favour of our extradition, the majority of the ministry against it. No decision was come to, in consequence of the altercation which took place; but, notwithstanding, the ministry thought fit to make us the revolting suggestion I have named.

"As to my native country, Turkey does, I believe, already feel the loss of the neglected opportunity of having given at least some moral help to enable it to check the advance of the common enemy.

"No friends to the Turkish government would spring up from my blood shed by her broken faith, but many deadly foes.

"What steps it may be expedient that you should take, what we have a right to expect from the well known generosity of England, it would be hardly fitting for me to enter on. I place my own and my companions' fate in your hands, my lord, and in the name of humanity throw myself under the protection of England.

"Time presses—our doom may in a few days be sealed. Allow me to make a humble personal request. I am a man, my lord, prepared to face the worst; and I can die with a free look at heaven, as I have lived. But I am also, my lord, a husband, son, and father; my poor, true-hearted wife, my children, and my noble old mother, are wandering about Hungary. They will probably soon fall into the hands of those Austrians who delight in torturing even feeble women, and with whom the innocence of childhood is no protection against persecutions. I conjure your Excellency, in the name of the Most High, to put a stop to these cruelties by your powerful mediation, and especially to accord to my wife and children an asylum on the soil of the generous English people.

"As to my poor—my loved and noble country—must she, too, perish for ever? Shall she, unaided, abandoned to her fate, and unavenged, be doomed to annihilation by her tyrants? Will England, once her hope, not become her consolation?"

**RUSSIA AND TURKEY.**—Although the Porte persists in refusing the extradition of the Hungarian and Polish refugees, it has still refused to remove any of them from Widdin, except in the case of some French and English subjects, reclaimed by their respective ambassadors. The liberation of General Guyon and Messrs. Longworthy and Macdonald, has been demanded by Sir Stratford Canning, and these gentlemen will be set free.

The *Journal de Constantinople* has the following on the subject of the Hungarian refugees:—"Nothing new has taken place relative to the question of the extradition of the political refugees who are at Widdin. Things remain *in statu quo* until the return of Faud Effendi, who has proceeded to St. Petersburg with the reply of the Porte."

The Hungarian generals who had submitted at Arad had already been sentenced (it is said) to the extreme penalty of death, and the sentences had been transmitted to Vienna for confirmation. The fatal list included the names of Generals Auwich, Nagy-Sandor, Leingen, Darjanich, and the poet Augustus Bayer. The papers teem with heart-rending accounts of the desolation of Hungary.

**MR. COBDEN ON TEETOTALISM.**—At a recent temperance meeting in Exeter-hall, a letter was read from Mr. Cobden, who said:—"Put my name down for a guinea to your excellent project. I don't know how it is that I have never made the plunge, and joined the teetotallers. Nobody has more faith than I in the truth of your doctrine, both in a physical and moral point of view. I have acted upon the principle that fermented and distilled drinks are useless for sustaining our strength; for the more work I have had to do, the more I have resorted to the pump and the tea-pot (laughter). As for the moral bearings of the question, it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that all other reforms together would fail to confer as great blessings upon the masses as that of weaning them from intoxicating drinks."

**ABSTINENCE TEA PARTY.**—On Thursday evening a highly respectable company of the friends of Temperance took tea together at the Temperance Hall, Bond-street. The object of the meeting was to present a testimonial of respect, from the Liverpool Sons of Temperance, to Captain G. King, of Pugwash, Nova Scotia, for his kindness and attention to the cause since his arrival in England. The chair was occupied by James Fisher, Esq., of St. John, N. B. The room was well filled, and a great number of ladies were present.—*Liverpool Journal*, Oct. 13.

**PRINCE ALBERT A JUDGE OF CATTLE.**—The first prize in bulls was gained by an animal named Boatwain, at the recent meeting of the North Lancashire Agricultural Society at Lytham. When this animal was exhibited among the short horns at the Royal Agricultural Society of England, held at York in 1848, Prince Albert was so struck with his beauties that he walked up, and patting him, said that however the prize might be allotted, that was his favourite.

**ABERDEEN CATTLE TRADE.**—There were exported from Aberdeen in 1828, 150 head of cattle. In 1848-9 the number was 18,300. If we estimate the return for these at £20 a-head, the gross receipts from the London and Yorkshire markets are shown to have been £3,300,000. Fifty years ago, £3,000 would have paid for all the cattle sold to the southern drovers. Twenty years ago, perhaps, £10,000 was the value of the surplus stock of the country; but what prodigious advances have been made since a direct communication with London was opened up.

**PETER-PENCE.**—In Germany, says the Paris Archives, not a cent has been contributed for the Pope, though heaps of gold have been collected to repair and finish the cathedral of Cologne. The German Catholics seem to have little sympathy with their holy father.

**SAVINGS-BANKS.**—In Great Britain are 334 savings-banks, having 1,054,663 depositors, and deposits amounting to \$135,542,030.

**CHOLERA PANIC IN SCOTLAND.**—On Monday week the well frequented sea bathing village of Millport, in Scotland, was the scene of much excitement, in consequence of a sudden outbreak of cholera. Some affecting incidents have occurred. One young lad took ill on Sunday, died in a few hours, and was buried on Monday. His mother, influenced by the panic that had now seized nearly the whole population, prepared to leave Millport by the steamer in the afternoon, taking a child with her that was labouring under hydrocephalus. While waiting on the quay the arrival of the steamer, the child expired. When the steamer *Invincible* was lying at the quay, and the people were eagerly crowding into her to escape the pestilence, a female became so absorbed in the idea of her own preservation, that she forgot a young infant folded in her bosom, and getting into the thickest of the crowd, where every one thought only of self, she was so crushed that, on being relieved and unfolding her shawl, the child was found to have been killed by suffocation. The frantic state the people were in is described as having been most painful to witness. The bell of the Free Church commenced ringing between two and three o'clock, summoning them to send up a united, fervent petition to the Almighty; and while some few were wending their way to the house of prayer, the majority were hurrying about, getting their furniture in readiness for removal by the steamer, while every cart and barrow, and porter's hack was put in requisition.

Mr. Cranshaw, an English iron master, has subscribed \$2500 as the nest egg of a fund to be collected by the gentlemen of England in aid of the Sultan, should war be declared against him by Russia for refusing to betray the Hungarian refugees.

**REDUCTION OF THE NATIONAL DEBT.**—The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the reduction of the British National Debt, at a meeting on the 10th inst., on examination of the amounts of revenue and expenditure for the year ending July 5, 1849, certified that the actual surplus revenue of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, beyond the expenditure, was £41,398 0s. 8d. Notice was consequently given according to law, that one quarter of the said sum, £10,349 10s., would be applied to the purchase of stock for the extinguishment of the debt.

We take from a letter in the *New York Tribune* a view of San Francisco, as it appeared to one newly arrived and just landing:

The Ohio's boat put us ashore at the upper landing, at the foot of a steep bank, for which a high pier has lately been built into the bay. A large vessel lay at the end, discharging her cargo. The barren side of the hill before us was covered with tents and canvas houses, and nearly in front a large two story building displayed the sign "Freemont Family Hotel."

We were only in the suburbs of the town: crossing the shoulder of the hill the view extended all around the curve of the bay, and hundreds of tents and houses appeared scattered all over the heights and along the shore for more than a mile. A furious wind was blowing down through a gap in the hills, filling the streets with clouds of dust. On every side stood buildings of all kinds, begun or half finished, and the greater part of them mere canvas sheds, open in front, and covered with all kinds of signs in all languages. Great quantities of merchandize were piled up in the open air for want of a place to store them.

The streets were full of people hurrying to and fro, and of as diverse and bizarre a character as the houses; Yankees of every possible variety, native Californians in serapes and sombremos, Chilians, Sonorians, Kanakas from Hawaii, Chinese with their long tails, Malays armed with their everlasting creeses, and others in whose embrowned and bearded visages it was impossible to recognize any nationality. We came at last into the plaza and made for the Parker House, a two story frame building on the lower side. At the corner above, the American flag was flying from a pole in the front of the custom house.

No place was to be had, but through a friend we succeeded in obtaining lodgings at the City Hotel, at \$12 a week each, board \$20 dollars a week additional. A room containing two cots, two chairs and a table, was given to two of us; some of the passengers less fortunate, paid \$3 in another place for the privilege of sleeping on the floor. The fare was ample and of excellent quality—fine fresh bread, cream, capital butter, and California beef, which is the best in the world.

Speculation commenced with the moment of landing. The most ingenious and successful operation was made by Mr. Fitz, of New York, who brought 1,000 weekly and 500 daily Tribunes. He sold the whole lot in less than two hours, at one dollar apiece. Hearing of this, I took about a dozen papers, which I had used to fill up crevices in packing my valise, and sold them for \$10 to a man who wanted to retail them. I was satisfied

with the wholesale price. Papers of a late date, I am told, bring \$5 at the mines.

I set out for a walk before dark, and climbed a hill back of the town, passing a number of tents pitched in the hollows. The scattered houses spread out below me and the crowded shipping in the harbour, backed by a lofty line of mountains, made an imposing picture. The restless feverish tide of life in that little spot, and the thought that what I then saw and would see, will hereafter fill one of the most marvellous pages of all history. The feeling was not decreased on talking with some of the old residents, (that is of six months standing), and hearing their several experiences.

**BRITISH AND AMERICAN RECIPROCITY.**—A correspondent of the *Baltimore American* explains how far our carrying trade is to be affected by the British Navigation Act, which goes into operation on the 1st of January next, and the Act of Congress passed in 1817. Under the joint operation of the two acts, British vessels may, after the 1st of January next, share not only in our direct but in our indirect foreign trade; and on the other hand, American vessels may participate not only in the direct but in the indirect foreign trade of Great Britain. Our vessels may also carry cargoes from any part of the world to any port in any British Colony, and there unload and take in a fresh cargo, and proceed with it thence to any port in any other colony, or to any other country; thus enjoying the full benefit of the inter-colonial trade. But there is no mutual participation or reciprocity in the coasting trade of this country and the united kingdom—that is to say, our vessels cannot engage in carrying from port to port in Great Britain or Ireland, nor can British vessels engage in carrying from port to port in the United States. With the consent of the Queen in Council, however, any British colony may open its coasting trade to American vessels.—[*Boston Post*, ...]

**FROM CUBA.**—The *Sun* and *N. O. Delta* hint at secret movements still going on in Cuba, and the *Sun* promises in a short time "stirring and glorious news from the beautiful Cuba." The same paper also says that the celebration of the Queen's birthday (10th of October), was any thing but enlivening. An inquisition, it says, was held by Gov. Talquera for disrespect to the occasion, upon five young Cubans. Sr. Don Calisto Soronto, Sr. Don Francisco Sorondo, Sr. Don Joaquin Delgado-Loraz, Sr. Don Ignacio Alvarez. The two first are owners of haciendas; the two last are employees in the government offices at Matanzas. A few days after they were transferred to the Moro castle at the Havana, and the 20th of October they were placed on board a Spanish Packet, and banished to Spain. They were not allowed to take leave of their families nor even permitted to take with them a change of wearing apparel.

Another letter says that the five young men had secretly printed and forwarded circulars to the parties expected to "assist" at the entertainment, in honor of the Queen, that the ball would not take place. On the night of the 10th, every thing was prepared for the National Ball—orchestra, decorations, door-keepers, attendants, &c. were there, but no company—one or two families, with the Governor, excepted. At 10 o'clock, finding themselves alone, they quitted the ball room, still in great perplexity as to the cause of the non-assembly of the Matanceros for the enjoyment of their favorite amusement. One of the young men is connected closely with the family of Don Francisco de Ximenes, a name well known to the United States as among the most distinguished and influential in Matanzas.

We quote from the *Clamor Publico*, of Madrid, of August 22d, some interesting remarks upon Cuban matters:

"The situation of Cuba requires that decisive and efficacious measures shall be taken to destroy the germs of discontent which hold in constant alarm the inhabitants of the island. In vain have political institutions of the Peninsular, and of the adjacent islands, been changed; in vain has the despotism of the inquisition disappeared, if not in fact, at least in law.—The inhabitants of that unfortunate province suffer all the harsh consequences of a tyranny, aggravated by a state of seige, which weighs them to the earth, ever since the death of Ferdinand VII.

"Our opponents, far from having bettered this situation, have at all times aggravated it, by sending thither inexorable Governors, instead of lenient and indulgent ones, who might, by their conduct smooth down the asperities of the law. Their conduct has exasperated the poor islanders. They groan under their burdens, and look to the future with sadness, when they behold the rapacity of the Fiso, by a blind avarice, convert into prohibitory duties, such duties as were before liberal—when they consider that they have no security for their lives, their persons, and their property."

**FROM PORT AU PRINCE.**—The brig *R. Russell*, Capt. Mayo, from Port au Prince, Sept. 28th, arrived Saturday morning. There was general complaint of the scarcity of coffee, and in fact nothing was plenty save titles of nobility, which bid fair to rival the paper money of the Island in profusion and worthlessness.