

er locks from the harbour, making altogether nine chambers, as it were, and the large space in the middle. These are all dry, but can be filled by water pumped into them by two steam engines. Each chamber is 270 feet long, 60 feet wide, and contains from 25 to 37 feet of water, at pleasure. A large ship may be floated into an upper lock, all the water can then be let off, and the ship left in her cradle as dry as if on shore. The docks, with their magnificent masonry casings of gigantic granite blocks, steam-engines, and iron grates, with the aqueducts for bringing down water from the Tchernaya, cost £20,000,000 sterling. One sight I saw filled me with horror. In a ruined house, fifty or sixty bodies were thrown in a heap, all swollen and disfigured, in every stage of decomposition, exposed to the gaze of every passer-by. It was too bad to leave them so for an hour. Nearly 500 bodies were found in this state in a cellar the day before yesterday, and as they were removing the bodies for burial, a wretched wounded Russian, from the midst of the horrible group, staggered to his feet, and implored protection. It was instantly accorded to him. At Fort Paul, which was blown into the air, crowds of wounded are said to have perished in the ruins. It was reported that the Russians have 40,000 sick, and the French and ourselves being unable to take care of them, we are obliged to leave the Russians unmolested, lest these and more should be thrown upon our hands.—*Naval Officer.*

Sept. 13.—It is one of the finest towns I ever had my foot in; the buildings are a pattern to our people at home. There is plenty of everything to be had here, from a needle to an anchor. The furniture is equal to any in England. We have been these five days engaged in burying the dead, and the number that we bury in the day is sometimes 3,000. They had not time to bury one of their dead during the five days before the assault, and now the bodies are lying putrid in every house in the town; we have not done yet with them.—*An Artilleryman.*

Sept. 14.—Our orders, I believe, were to be in the third parallel by one o'clock, but it was nearer four before we got there. To have been in time we would have required to leave the camp before Sebastopol at the time we left Kamara.—*A Sergeant in the Highland Brigade.*

Sept. 21.—It was beautiful to see our shells come above two miles over our heads into the town, and lay about five minutes, and then burst into a thousand pieces; one of them blew up a magazine very near me; and I found nearly against my horse's feet a looking-glass perfectly whole, which is wonderful, for I saw things fly in the air a mile high; so I have got it safe, and shall bring it home if I possibly can. I anticipate a fine star on my breast for my valuable services that day, for I was on my saddle sixteen hours, and never off. The Russians are very much afraid of our berserk caps and white feathers. As for myself, I have got as much hair on my face as would make a tidy doormat. We have a tremendous force of cavalry out here, the finest in the world.—*A Corporal in the Scots Greys.*

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., OCT. 31, 1855.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.
No communication will be inserted without the author's name, and with his name in confidence. Unless the opinion expressed by correspondents be editorially endorsed we shall not consider ourselves responsible for it.

Correspondents are respectfully reminded that short communications, as a general thing, are more acceptable to readers of Newspapers than long ones; and that a legible style of writing will save the printer time, which is always valuable, and secure a correct impression.

All Ministers of the gospel, who will send us the advance for six new subscribers, will get the "Visitor" for one year free of charge.

Young Men's Christian Association.

These associations are being multiplied in both hemispheres, and are destined, we doubt not, to exert a most salutary influence in the extension of truth and holiness. Young men are the hope of the Church as they are the hope of the world. Every young man must be regarded as a centre of influence for good or for evil. In all the relations he sustains, in all the words he utters, and in all the acts of his life he is sowing seed which must necessarily produce its legitimate fruits. Social influences may be fully illustrated by reference to particles of matter, which are indivisible and diffusive. The solitary flower, though small it may be, diffuses its odour on every hand. The light of the small taper emits its rays in a dark night for several miles distant. The sun is of vast dimensions, but compared with the immense extent that shares in the brilliancy of his light, he is only a speck.—This is accounted for upon the principle that matter is indivisible and diffusive; and if matter is found thus diffusive, what shall we say of thought? Who can place boundaries over which it may not pass? The thought thrown off by a single mind, in its mysterious and invisible progress may find a lodgement in the minds of thousands, and go on to widen in its influence through interminable ages. Young men should therefore be deeply impressed with the responsibility of their position.—Young men, all the intellectual beings with whom you come in contact, are motions for your thoughts and sentiments. You act upon their minds, and they, in their turn, transmit the impressions received from you to other minds, and in this way your influence passes on to an unnumbered extent.

Young men, from your ranks, must there come forth those who shall be instrumental in guiding the destinies of the future in all that concerns the present and the eternal happiness of the race. The world, in its commercial, political, social, and religious aspects, fifty years hence, will be just what it is made by the young men of the present generation. How responsible therefore is the position

which they occupy, and how important that they should realize it in all its solemnity.

Impressed with this thought we cannot but feel an intense desire that the movement made towards getting the young men of the City united in an association having reference to their intellectual, moral, and religious improvement may be attended with increasing success.

The Association, being purely unsectarian in its character, presents a broad platform upon which Christians of all evangelical Churches can boldly take their stand, and combine their labors in the accomplishment of an object of immense magnitude, as it regards the general interests of our common Christianity. We respectfully say, therefore, to Christians of every name, let this infant institution, which has risen up in our midst, have your most fervent prayers and your most devoted efforts. Let the strongest affections of our nature gather about the young men of our city, and let us seek to guide them one and all in the right path.

Ministers and Churches.

We are informed that Bro. John Francis has come to old Kentucky, on an agency for the Bible Union. We hope he may return before the winter sets in, for his services are much required in these Provinces.

Bro. William Hoben, now in New York, has received a unanimous call from the 1st Baptist Church of Dover, New York, to become their pastor. It is painful to have our young men of promise leave us when we have so many openings for them in the Province. He expects to be home in the course of two or three weeks.

Bro. Davis, of Yarmouth, has received a call to the pastorate of the Church at St. George. We hope he will see it his duty to accept it. He may be assured that the ministering brethren in New Brunswick will give him a cordial greeting.

Bro. Emmerson, of Margerville, in a business note of the 27th inst., says:—"The work of God is still going on here. Ten have been added, and several more received for baptism. Truly God is good to Margerville. Last fall his power was mightily felt here, and then suspended for a season. It is now again gloriously displayed in the salvation of souls."

We extract the following remarks from a letter just received from Bro. William Hoben, dated New York City, Oct. 25:—"The meetings held during the recent Anniversary of the Bible Union came off gloriously, far exceeding in interest my most sanguine expectations. I had a distant hope of meeting you there, but in this was disappointed. Some of the speeches were masterly productions. Dr. Eaton, of Hamilton, delivered one of the most powerful addresses to which I ever listened. It was the concluding speech, and occupied over two hours in its delivery. It was an able vindication of the truth, and an unanswerable argument in favor of revision, and reflects much credit upon the head and heart of its author. The address came home with power to the conscience, meeting with a warm response from friends, and carrying conviction to the minds of those who stand opposed to the great work. I am glad to hear that they contemplate publishing this address entire, as the friends of revision in the Provinces will have an opportunity of reading it for themselves."

Elder David Crandal in a letter of the 23rd inst., says:—"Among the several destitute churches I have visited since the Association is the church at Sussex. I found this branch of our Zion in a depressed state; but a brighter day is dawning upon them. After labouring for a short time, our meetings became very interesting. Backsliders are returning to the fold of Christ, mourners in Zion are being comforted and the unconverted are seeking the salvation of their souls. Three believers have followed the Saviour in baptism. My time was so occupied here that I was unable to attend the Quarterly Meeting at St. Martins. Will the brethren lift their hearts in prayer to God for his injured cause in Sussex?"

Good News from Burnham.—The Chronicle learns by a letter just received from Burnham, by Bro. Colgate, that, within the past eighteen months, one thousand four hundred and fifty have been immersed at Tougou, one of the provinces of the Borman Empire, about 150 miles above Ava. This place has never been visited, except on one occasion, by Bro. Mason, by any of our missionaries.

Rev. Mr. Bennett, in a letter from Maulmain, speaks of one of the native Karen preachers as follows:—

San Quila, an ordained Karen preacher of Tavoy, was left in charge of the new mission at Tougou, by Dr. Mason, less than two years ago. It was an experiment of the most interesting character, and its results have exceeded all expectation. Nearly fifteen hundred persons have been baptized, and formed into churches, under his labors and guidance. San Quila has proved himself equal to all emergencies, and one of the most fruitful missions in the world is wisely and nobly conducted by a Karen home missionary.

The New York Chronicle says:—"That Rev. Henry W. Bort, formerly a member and minister of the Methodist church, was, after due examination by a council of Baptist ministers, who assembled at the call of the Baptist church at Truxton, N. Y., on the 3th inst., regularly ordained as a Baptist minister."

A correspondent of the Watchman states that Rev. Wm. Hurlin, late pastor of the Freewill Baptist church at Amesbury Mills, Mass., together with his wife and daughter was received into the Baptist church at that place on the 8th inst. A careful investigation of God's Word, has led him, from conviction of loyalty to the truth, to this change in his denominational conviction.

The church which he leaves passed resolutions speaking in the highest terms of his personal and ministerial character, and cordially recommending him "as an intelligent, pious, and faithful minister of Jesus Christ."

Zion's Advocate chronicles the baptism at South Berwick, Me., by Rev. J. Richardson, of Rev. William Bevis, formerly a Methodist preacher. The Advocate states on the authority of its informant, that Mr. B. "is a man of piety and of very respectable talents."

The Visitation of Mercy.

The Lord's ministers and people have long been praying for the general outpouring of his Spirit upon Zion's thirsty hill and barren wastes; and the occurrences of the last few months are adapted to strengthen our faith in Jehovah as one who hears and answers prayer. The Spirit has descended in majesty upon many of our churches, and converts to the truth are being greatly multiplied as the result. It will be seen by reference to our first page, that among other places, Hopewell is sharing gloriously in the renewing power of the Spirit. Twenty were baptized by Brother Foshey last Sabbath, and this seems but the earnest of what is likely to follow. Many are seeking the Lord in penitence of heart. In all that region men and women are manifesting deep concern for their precious souls. Brother Fitch tells us that at Butternut Ridge the fields are all whitening for the harvest. Other places that he has visited recently present indications of better days at hand. Margerville, that experienced such a blessed refreshing about a year ago, is again visited in mercy; and converts press into the kingdom. Surely this is the time for ministers and people to bestir themselves in the work of the Lord. The God we serve is on the giving hand, and he is perfectly willing that we should ask much more, and expect much more from the fountain of his infinite benevolence, than we have ever yet received; too many of our churches are still like the barren fig tree. The Saviour, as he has passed by, has looked for fruit; but he saw nothing but barrenness and death: still he waits to be gracious. Shall he wait in vain? What say you, ye watchmen on Zion's walls, whose emphatic business it is to weep between the porch and the altar? What say you, ye redeemed among men, who are taught to pray, "thy kingdom come and thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven"? God grant that the response of all our hearts may be

"Saviour visit thy plantation;
Grant us Lord, a gracious rain,
All will come to desolation,
Unless thou return again."
Keep no longer at a distance,
>hine upon us from on high,
Lest, for want of thy assistance,
Every plant should droop and die!"

To Our Local Agents.

We beg to call the attention of our local Agents in the country to the following directions which will greatly facilitate us in keeping a correct account of the subscriptions due to the "Visitor," and of the moneys paid by subscribers.

In forwarding moneys please to state the names of the persons from whom they were received and the amount paid by each person. Be careful also to state the exact name of each person, as well as the precise locality where he resides, and if there are two or three persons of similar names in the same locality, let it be stated whether they are termed "senior," "junior" or "1st," "2nd," or "3rd."

Unless these directions are carefully complied with, it will be utterly impossible to keep a correct statement of the accounts.

In several instances our agents have forwarded money, but have not stated from whom they were received. We should be much obliged to such if they would forward the names, and the amount paid by each, in their next communication.

We see by a letter which appears in "Zion's Advocate" of last week, from the pen of the Rev. Nathan Butler, that that gentleman has tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Maine Home Missionary Society. The reason he assigns for this course is the want of adequate co-operation on the part of the ministers and churches of Maine, in pushing forward the interests of the Society. We were expecting great and glorious results from the appointment of one so eminently qualified for the position as Bro. Butler; and cannot but deeply regret that he should so soon feel himself compelled from untoward circumstances to resign the important trust committed to his care.

Autobiography.

We are permitted to publish this week No. 1 of a series of letters written by Rev. David Nutter, having reference to his experience, and labors in the Christian Ministry. As the author has been long favourably known in these Provinces, these letters will be perused with interest. They will bring up items of denominational history, which will touch the hearts of many, and be invaluable to the future historian.

FEARFUL OCCURRENCE.—A man by the name of John Clark, one of the inmates in the Insane Asylum, Carleton, who had been there since 1852, while engaged yesterday, with others, in doing work at the door, seized an axe, in a paroxysm of insanity, and before he could be secured killed two of the under keepers on the spot. Dr. Waddell came very nearly being injured by him, but fortunately made his escape. We are informed that the names of the keepers killed were Mills and Carroll.

THE WATCHMAN & REFLECTOR.—This able and judicious journal comes to us this week clothed typographically in a new and beautiful dress. An editorial in the last number tells us that the consistency of the paper numbers ELEVEN THOUSAND, substantial and trusty friends, and thinks that proper exertion on the part of its friends will enable them to enter upon the year 1856 with a weekly circulation of 15,000. We have only to add that the "Watchman & Reflector" is in all respects worthy of this extended patronage, and we trust its most sanguine expectations may be more than realized.

Bro. Todd, of Woodstock, in a private note, says:—"Our meetings are still encouraging. I have had baptism since the association, and more are expected."

INCREASE.—A letter from our agent, Bro. Fillmore, dated Saint George, adds 20 new names to our list. Will our ministering brethren and our local agents do what they can to enable us to commence the year 1856 with a circulation of 4,000 copies? Let us all resolve to do it and act accordingly, and the result is certain.

REV. CHAUNCEY LEONARD has resigned the charge of the Meeting Street Baptist church, Providence, and is about to become the Principal of the Saratoga Street Institute, Baltimore.—[Watchman and Reflector.]

European Intelligence.

The last English Mail has brought us intelligence from the Seat of War, down to the 11th inst. The most important item is the bombardment of Odessa. On the 9th ult., the Allied Fleets anchored before Odessa, and the bombardment was expected to commence immediately.

It is said that the citizens, since the fall of Sebastopol, have lost all confidence in their means of defence and are consequently fleeing from the place.

The next Mail will probably announce the capture of that doomed city. It will be remembered that some fifteen months ago the military section of the city was assailed by the Allies; but the commercial portion of it was spared. On this occasion it is not probable that any such clemency will be shown. In regard to the land movements but little information is given. The Allies find it necessary to observe the strictest secrecy, in reference to their plans of operation. General Simpson, and Marshal Polissier, as well as the Sardinian General, strongly denounce exposure, and insist upon the greatest possible privacy.

General Simpson speaks of the state of things at Sebastopol as encouraging. Active preparations are being made there for winter accommodations. The fire of the enemy from the north side had given some trouble, but had occasioned but little damage. The soldiers find themselves so comfortable in Sebastopol, that those whose term has expired have no wish to leave the service.

The *Invisible Russe* states that between the 17th of August and the 8th of September, the losses of the Russian army in Sebastopol, amounted to 32,000 men. Another account exhibits a still higher rate of mortality as may be seen by the following table:

August 16th.	8,600
Bombardment 17th.	1,500
From the 18th August to 4th Sept.	17,000
(1,000 per day.)	
5th, 6th, 7th of Sept.	7,500
(2,500 per day.)	
8th of Sept.	11,700

Grand total, 46,300
Add to this the loss of the Allies, and we have not far short of 60,000 immortal beings hurried in a few short days from the scene of bloody conflict into the presence of their Maker and their Judge.

Report says that the Russian ships which were sunk in the harbor of Sebastopol, can be raised. If so the Allies will find in them an immense prize.

Four of Her Majesty's ships had been sent to the coast of Italy.

Alexander, the Emperor of Russia, had made a flying visit to Odessa on the 22nd of September, and proceeded next day to Nicolaieff to attend a Council of War and infuse new life into his Generals in that place. Nicolaieff, before the fall of Sebastopol, was regarded as the second strongest fort on the Black Sea. All that remains of the Russian navy in the Black Sea is sheltered there, and the most active exertions are being made to fortify it in every possible way. So soon as Odessa is disposed of, the Allies will probably pitch their tent before Nicolaieff.

The War in Asia is moving on slowly. Poor Kars was still holding out, but in an awfully distressed condition. The men are without an adequate supply of food, clothing and ammunition. The poor fellows have not been paid for the last two years service. 10,000 brave fellows are in this perilous condition with General Williams, a distinguished English officer at their head. It is to be hoped that relief will soon come to them from some quarter. Omer Pasha was on his way to their rescue.

All parties seemed determined to prosecute the war with vigor. The Commander on the Danube has received orders to make provision for 50,000 French troops, who have probably reached Silistria by this time.

Perekop is trembling in the prospect of an attack by the Allies.

The following from our English papers will be read with interest.

POSITION OF THE HOSTILE FORCES.

The relative position of the Russians and the Allies is thus described by the *Daily News*:—"The Russian army, amounting to probably not less than 150,000 men, occupies the forts on the northern side of Sebastopol, and a line to the eastward of some twenty five miles in length, extending along the precipitous heights of Mackenzie to Axtodor, and thence north-eastward to Albat, on the Upper Belbek. Along this enormously strong ridge, strengthened by field works and a numerous artillery, the Russian main army is posted; but in front the Russian commander has thrown forward strong outposts towards Tchernaya and the Valley of Baidar, to give timely warning of the movements of the enemy. Besides this main army, and a division in the neighbourhood of Kerch of some 14,000 men, there is another division watching the Allies, towards Eupatoria, of probably 20,000 men. On the other hand, the Allies have determined upon a plan which they are now endeavoring to carry into effect, namely, to threaten the Russian communications with Perekop and the Tchongar-road. These roads, which fall into the great road to Simferopol, are, it is well known, the only roads by which the Russians are supplied with provisions, or by which, in case of necessity, the army can retreat. In furtherance of their object, the Allies have already transported some 30,000 men to Eupatoria, who will be reinforced from time to time until a corps d'armee is collected there sufficiently strong to take the field. Indeed, according to the latest accounts, a cavalry affair has already taken place between the French, under General D'Altonville, and the Russians, under General Korff, in which the former appear to have been victorious. The object in thus taking the field must of course be to intercept the reinforcements, to cut off the convoys of provisions, and, in short, to starve the main Russian army. In this way the Allied Generals hope, no doubt, to compel the Russian Commander to assume the initiative, and in fact to put him under the necessity of attacking the Allied Army in the position which its commander may select as most advantageous. But while the Allies are concentrating their forces about Eupatoria, in order to occupy the attention of the Russian commander, it was requisite that

their army on the Tchernaya should advance its outposts so as to threaten the Russians occupying the Mackenzie plateau and the Upper Belbek. So long as the main body of the Russian troops occupies this line, it is by no means probable that any attempt will be made to force it, for whether we estimate its strength from private letters, from the best maps, or from the photographic representations of Mr. Fenion, it seems a position little less than impregnable. Unless, therefore, the Russian line is greatly weakened, the Allies will probably content themselves by merely threatening it by the display of such an imposing force as will demand the presence of the Russian army in their strong position along these heights. Accordingly, we learn from St. Petersburg that the Allies have pushed forward a detachment of some 30,000 men as close as possible to the Russian outposts, that they are making daily reconnaissances, and indeed that they have already had a successful affair with the enemy at Urkusta; and it is even said that the pass through the mountains has been forced. It thus appears that the Allied armies are engaged in a double movement, one on the north and the other on the south of Prince Gortschakoff, each dependent on the other; and the grounds upon which the scheme of operations proceeds are obvious. It is of course necessary for the Russian General to keep his line of battle along the heights unbroken; for, once pierced, the Russian army is lost. At the same time, it is essential for him to keep his communication open with Perekop; and, therefore, it is impossible he can endure a corps d'armee in his rear. His position, therefore, is obviously full of peril; though, at the same time, that of the Allies is not without peril also. The peril to the Allies is, lest the Prince, detaching 50,000 or 100,000 men, should suddenly fall on the Allied corps at Eupatoria, and annihilate it. In this way, the Prince may, from time to time, attack the divisions of the Allied Army separately, and thus succeed in repeating the exploit which has immortalized the great Napoleon—when, abandoning the siege of Mantua, he destroyed the Austrian divisions in succession. To carry such a scheme into effect, requires certainly a consummate general, of a genius to strike a blow with an almost marvellous celerity and with overpowering vigour, nevertheless, as it seems to us, some such scheme as this must be adopted, if the Russian army is to be saved. For, since Eupatoria is distant from the great road but twenty-five miles, it is utterly impossible that any rational commander should allow an army of 40,000 or 50,000 men to establish itself in his rear, and in the line of his communications, without making some effort to dislodge or destroy it. At the same time, it may cost Prince Gortschakoff dear, should the Allies learn that his line along the heights had been materially weakened; for then, of course, the army from Baidar would at once push on, seize the plateau, and so fall on the rear of the Russians. If, therefore, we have rightly interpreted the plans of the Allies, it seems that the contest is now one of pure generalship; and a few weeks must determine whether or not the Crimea is destined to be in the hands of the Allies before the close of the present season."

DESPATCHES OF PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF.

A despatch from Prince Gortschakoff, dated the 6th inst., received at St. Petersburg, says:—"The enemy's fleet is in motion in different directions. His gun-boats are considerably increased in number. The camp between the Tchernaya and Balaklava has been partially broken up. Some of the enemy's forces descended the Valley of the Belbek again to-day." Prince Gortschakoff announces on the 7th, that nine ships, twenty-eight steamers, and several other vessels, weighed anchor at 11 a.m. on that day. They sailed in a north-western direction. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 27th ult., publishes the following telegraphic despatch from General Gortschakoff of the 25th:—"The enemy, after having repulsed the advanced posts of Cossacks on the crest of the hill which separates the valley of Baidar from the left flank of our positions, and from the upper valley of the Belbek, are engaged in the construction of a road on this side of the slope. They are, at the same time, establishing redoubts on the pass of the mountain. 30,000 men have been landed at Eupatoria."

DESPATCH FROM GEN. SIMPSON.

General Simpson, under date of Sept. 25, transmits the report of the principal Medical Officer, which shows, that the health of the army is all that can be desired; and the marked improvement since the arduous night duties have ceased is very apparent. The troops continue to be employed in the construction of the roads, and in making preparations for the winter, which are greatly facilitated by the fineness of the weather. The enemy have commenced firing into the town, and the troops stationed there for the purpose of performing fatigue duties have been, in consequence, withdrawn. Large quantities of timber and building material are daily taken from the houses by our troops.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor was to pass three days at Nicolaieff before returning to Odessa. It is uncertain whether he will take Warsaw on his way back to St. Petersburg. Placed in the dreary steppe, forty miles from Kherson, and seventy-seven from Odessa, on the left bank of the Dnieper, at its confluence with the Ingoul, and twenty-two miles from its mouth, Nicolaieff, since its foundation in 1791, has been destined to succeed Kherson as the great ship building establishment of the Black Sea. The Dnieper is a mile and a half broad, and with such a depth of water that the largest ships of war can come close up to its quays, taking out their guns for the channel is never less than four fathoms deep, and opposite to the town, between it and its suburb Miashevska, no less than nine. Here the Russian ships of war are built, the town itself being simply a huge dockyard—the population often or twelve thousand souls being entirely connected with, and supported by, the government establishments. The ships, mere hulls, are moved down to Otchakof, where, in consequence of a shoal off Kiborun, they are placed in carvels (huge pontoons), and so floated into the Black Sea. They then proceed to Sebastopol to be fitted. Such is the place now honored by the presence of the Emperor; and it is easy to see that it is intended to convert it into a second Sebastopol.

PUBLIC FEELING IN ST. PETERSBURG.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Press* writing on the 25th ult., says:—"Since the whole of the Court, quitted our capital, and the principal ministers accompanied the Emperor to Moscow, there has been received here no news respecting events in the Crimea. Complete uncertainty and melancholy sadness prevail; and it is at St. Petersburg especially that the boyards most manifest their discontent. Reviews and parades cherished their warlike ardour. These have ceased, and the absence of the high functionaries, civil and military, who have followed the Emperor, leave the nobles at leisure to consider the difficulty in which Russia has been placed by the war of the East. Hence their discouragement, which manifests itself openly in their words. Moreover, adding to their discontent, certain pamphlets pass more easily from hand to hand, and cherish these melancholy feelings. The discontent, it is impossible to deny, has reached the lowest class of the population, and the peasants are now seeking to escape the conscription. This is not all. A practice which has been rare in the Russian army is extending itself on a large scale. I mean the desertion of officers, which has become so marked that the government has considered it necessary to adopt measures and apply penalties which are quite unusual against those who desert their colors."

BOMBARDMENT OF RIGA.

A Russian letter from Riga, of September 28, alludes as follows to the recent bombardment:—"At six o'clock in the morning of yesterday the inhabitants of this town were startled by a heavy cannonade. Four ships of the line, two corvettes, and one brig, had arrived in the night before our port, and for the space of an hour they bombarded the batteries at the mouth of the Duna. Afterwards these vessels sailed westwards, and took up a position opposite the Eulien Column. There the bombardment recommenced and lasted for an hour and a-half. The batteries at the mouth of the Duna did not suffer much, but those of Bullen, as the 'Riga Zeitung' has announced, were much injured. Part of the enemy's squadron has been seen at Alt Salva, 11 miles from Riga. On the 25th three frigates anchored at the north of the Salva river. A boat with seven men and an officer took soundings, and, approaching nearer, the crew (English) found means to set fire to about ten barges, which were lying half a verst from the river's mouth."

PRUSSIA.

VIENNA, Oct. 7.—It is reported that the cabinet of Berlin has recently proposed to that of Vienna the conclusion of an alliance of armed neutrality, which Austria is said to have rejected. A letter from Berlin states, that preparations are being made at the Russian Embassy for the reception of a member of the Imperial Family; and it is said that the Grand Duke Nicholas, on his return from the southern provinces, is to proceed to that city to visit the Prussian court, and to invite the King to Warsaw.

The elections for the Prussian chamber of Deputies show the return of the two Liberal leaders, Count Schöner and M. Patow. The former is elected three times, the latter twice.

THE WOUNDED IN THE DOCKYARD AT SEBASTOPOL.

A provincial paper has published the following letter addressed by a non-commissioned officer of the 23d Regiment to his mother at Bristol, and dated Hospital, Camp before Sebastopol, September 14:—"My dear mother—Through God's wonderful mercy I still live, though after all I have seen and gone through, it is almost more than a miracle. However, I can truly say that I was one of the first in Sebastopol, nor did I leave it till I was carried out. It was on the 8th of September, between 12 and one o'clock, when the word was given, and we sprung from the trenches to double over the glacis, and scale the walls of the Redan battery. The distance to run was only about two hundred yards; but many hundred brave fellows were laid low before they got half the distance. The fire was hot at Inkermann, but it was worse here, mostly grape and canister. My comrades fell on both sides of me. One cried, 'My God! I'm hit!' the other dropped down without a word; and by the time I reached the ditch, I seemed to have lost my own regiment altogether. Then I saw one of my officers shouting for the '23d' on the parapet, and I made for him. The ditch was half full of dead and dying even then, and just as I got up to it there was a rush from above, and scores of men of the 97th and 23d were hurled or fell from the parapet down upon the poor wounded wretches who were shrieking in the ditch. Many of our men were mangled upon the bayonets of their comrades as they fell. But they still came on behind, and in another minute I had one foot in the embrasure, and was in the place. I had nothing but my bayonet, as my piece was discharged. I had just time to see that the place seemed more like a town than an open fortification, as we had supposed it to be, and the Russians were hidden, for I saw very few of them. There were, however, plenty concealed, for before I had advanced two steps, I was down, shot in the hip by a Minnie ball. I asked the mercy of the Almighty as I saw a Russian coming up to me, for we had thought that they murdered their prisoners in cold blood, but he only lifted me on one side where I lay, for it seemed nearly an hour, listening to the horrid hell going on outside. The roar of the guns and the yells of the men were awful, and every minute, more of our fellows who got into the works were shot and made prisoners."

At last we were put into stretchers, two into a litter, and moved off to the town, and taken more than a mile to the dockyard, where hundreds of wounded Russians were already lying. They seemed enough to fill all the building, though these were very large and beautiful. I was put up with scores of others into a vault under ground, where stores had been kept. Russian doctors were waiting, and they began to dress some of the men's wounds, though numbers were already dead. My turn had not come when the doctors went off, and we saw nobody but ourselves again that night. Very soon after we left explosions took place, and shook even the vaults, and all the night the mines were blowing up. I hoped and prayed that Sebastopol was taken, but scarcely dared to think such good luck possible. Getting that night through was worse than anything I had experienced before. There was a dismal sort of light in the vault, caused by the fires in Sebastopol; and the faces and mangled limbs of the wounded men around me looked more horrible than I can describe. Their cries, too, were pitiful to hear, but before many hours scores of them were silent for ever. The next day passed, and the next night came, and we seemed quite deserted, and the stench of the dead was getting insupportable.

It was about nine o'clock the next morning when some French soldiers first found us, and, as far as I could learn, only two or three in that vault remained alive, though there were other buildings full of the wounded. The Frenchmen found several of their own dead, and had them removed immediately. The first English officer I saw was Captain Heywood, of the rifle brigade, and he said he would send us a doctor, and in about half an hour a surgeon of the staff (Dr. Gregg) came in. There was very little for him to do in that place, but he sent up to the light division for stretchers. It was several hours before we could get them, but at last I was safe in our own hospital up at the front. Thank God, though my thigh bone is broken high up, the doctors say that there is no fear of my losing the leg, and now that it is comfortably splinted, I feel almost well. I hope, as soon as my leg is strong to get to England."

THE MAGAZINE UNDER THE

The following is an extract of a letter from Sebastopol professing to show how the