

LATE WAR NEWS BY MAIL.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAM-SHIP CITY OF PARIS.

The Inman steam-ship *City of Paris*, which left Liverpool Aug. 18, and Queenstown Aug. 19, reached this port last night. The regular supply of papers which reached us are later by two days than those at hand by the *Calabria*.

NEUTRAL ENGLAND.

Circular to the British Representatives in North Germany.

The following is a copy of a circular which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular Representatives in Germany:

FOREIGN OFFICE, AUG. 11.

Her Majesty's Government have learned with much regret that an impression exists in Germany that Great Britain is deviating from the attitude of neutrality which she has announced her resolution to observe, by giving France facilities for obtaining certain articles useful to her for war purposes, such as munitions of war, horses and coal, while such facilities are not accorded in an equal degree to the allied German States. It is not unnatural that, in a moment of excitement like the present, the German people should be more than ordinarily sensitive in watching the attitude of nations which are taking no part in the struggle; and it cannot be wondered at that they should for a time accept as facts unfounded rumors, and that they should somewhat hastily condemn as breaches of neutrality proceedings which, at a calmer season, they would not hesitate to pronounce, with that impartiality of judgment for which they are distinguished, to be strictly in accordance with the usages of international law and comity. Her Majesty's Government lost no time, after the declarations of war had been exchanged, in announcing the determination of Great Britain to maintain a position of neutrality between the contending parties; and this position has been hitherto faithfully observed. It is not true that any facilities have been given, or any restrictions imposed, which are not equally applicable to both belligerents. The steps taken by Her Majesty's Government have been strictly in accordance with precedent and with the principles by which neutral nations, including Prussia herself, have been guided in recent wars. But it now appears to be wished that Great Britain should go further; and that she should not only enjoin upon British subjects the obligations of neutrality, but that she should take it upon herself to enforce those obligations in a manner and to an extent wholly unusual. It is demanded that she should not only forbid, but absolutely prevent the exportation of articles contraband of war; that is to say, that she should decide herself what articles are to be considered as contraband of war, and that she should keep such a watch upon her ports as to make it impossible for such articles to be exported from them. It requires but little consideration to be convinced that this is a task which a neutral Power can hardly be called upon to perform. Different nations take different views at different times as to what articles are to be ranked as contraband of war, and no general decision has been come to on the subject. Strong remonstrances, for instance, are made against the export of coal to France; but it has been held by Prussian authors of high reputation that coal is not contraband, and that no Power, either neutral or belligerent, can pronounce it to be so. But, even if this point were clearly defined, it is beyond dispute that the contraband character would depend upon the destination; the neutral Power could hardly be called upon to prevent the exportation of such cargoes to a neutral port; and if this be the case, how could it be decided, at the time of departure of a vessel, whether the alleged neutral destination were real or colorable? The question of the destination of the cargo must be decided in the Prize Court of a belligerent, and Prussia could hardly seriously propose to hold the British Government responsible whenever a British ship carrying a contraband cargo should be captured while attempting to enter a French port. Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that, when the present excitement has subsided, the German nation will give them credit for having, however, and in the duty of neutrality to the best of their power; and they are confident in this conviction by the recollection that, when Prussia was in the same position as that in which Great Britain now finds herself, her line of conduct was similar, and she found herself equally unable to enforce upon her subjects stringent obligations against the exportation even of unquestionable munitions of war. During the Crimean war, arms and munitions were freely exported from Prussia to Russia, and arms of Belgian manufacture found their way to the same quarter through Prussian ports; it was a decree issued by the Prussian Government prohibiting the transport of arms coming from foreign States. Reflection upon these points may make the German nation inclined to take a juster view of the position now occupied by Her Majesty's Government. As regards the export from this country of horses and ammunition, it appears from the latest tables which have been obtained from the British Customs that the number of horses exported during the months of July and August to Germany and Belgium is approximately 413, and to France 553. As regards the amount of munitions of war exported during the same period, it appears from the official reports that none at all have been exported to France, and only the following exports have been made to Germany, Belgium and Dutch ports: To Belgium, ordnance stores, &c., to the value of £269; shot-lead, or iron, 1 cwt.; to Hamburg, shot-lead, or iron, 5 cwt.; to Holland, shot-lead, or iron, 32 cwt. It is not irrelevant to this matter to quote the views recently expressed to a foreign Minister at Washington by the Secretary of State of the United States respecting the duties of neutrals in regard to trade in articles contraband of war. He is reported to have said that arms and ammunition had always been considered to be articles of legitimate commerce by neutrals during war, and that the United States claimed the right to supply them to all belligerents without distinction, adding that, during the civil war in America, quantities of these articles had been bought from England, France, and Belgium. It may be well also to observe that the Belgian Government, though by a recent decree it has provisionally prohibited the transit and exportation of arms and munitions of war, excepts from this prohibition articles which can be clearly shown to be destined for the neutral Government, and to be for the future, in great truth, your most obedient, humble servant,

GRANVILLE.

SECRET NEGOTIATIONS.

Count Bismarck on the "Project" Relating to Belgium.

Not content with divulging the *project* which appeared in the London *Times* of Aug. 16, in the *Official Gazette*, Count BISMARCK has communicated it to the Powers. The note containing it is as follows:

BERLIN, AUG. 10, 1870.

My telegraphic dispatch to the Ambassador of the North German Confederacy in London respecting the draft treaty published in the *Times* of the 25th ult., has induced Count BENEDETTI to give his version of the origin of that draft in the *Journal Officiel de l'Empire* of the 30th ult. In my dispatch of the 29th ult. I have given a more detailed account respecting the said draft and its bearing upon French politics generally; since which the circular dispatch of the Duc DE CAMBRESIS, dated the 3d of August, has been communicated to the world at large. In replying to these French utterances I have no intention to give any reply to them; the abundant matter they afford for criticism has been fully ventilated by the Press of all countries, France not excepted. The only object of the present communication is to transmit you a fresh piece of evidence, and to request you to bring it to the cognizance of the Government to which you are accredited. If I have not made use of it before, this was owing to my reluctance, even in a state of war, to drag the person of a monarch into the discussion of the acts of his ministers and representatives, and also because, considering the form of Government which avowedly existed in France up to the 2d of January last, I was not prepared to hear that the draft treaty and the other proposals and arrogant demands alluded to in my dispatch of the 29th should have been submitted to me without the knowledge of the Emperor NAPOLEON. But certain statements which appear in the latest French utterances necessitate my having recourse to a different line of conduct. On the other hand, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs assures us that the Emperor NAPOLEON has never proposed to Prussia a treaty having the acquisition of Belgium as its object (*que jamais l'Empereur Napoléon n'a proposé à la Prusse un traité pour prendre possession de la Belgique*); on the other, Count BENEDETTI gives out that the draft treaty in question emanates from me; that all he had to do with it was to put it on paper—writing, so to say, from my dictation, (*en quelque sorte sous ma dictée*), which he only did that the better to apprehend my views; and that the Emperor NAPOLEON was made cognizant of the draft only after its completion at Berlin. Statements such as these render it indispensable for me to make use of a means at my disposal calculated to support my account of French politics and to establish the supposition I have previously expressed respecting the nature of the connection between the Emperor and his Ministers, envoys and agents. In the archives of the Foreign Office at Berlin is preserved a letter from Count BENEDETTI to me dated Aug. 5, 1868, and a draft

treaty inclosed in that letter. Copies of both are appended to the present communication. The originals, in Count BENEDETTI's handwriting, I shall submit to the inspection of the representatives of the neutral Powers, and I will also send you a photographic *fac simile* of the same. I beg to observe that, according to the time from the 28th of July to the 7th of August, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I had with Count BENEDETTI in consequence of this letter, he supported his demands by threatening war in case of refusal. When I declined, nevertheless, the Luxembourg affair was brought upon the carpet, and after the failure of this little business came the more comprehensive proposal relative to Belgium embodied in Count BENEDETTI's draft treaty published in the *Times*. I request you to read this dispatch to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and to transmit to him a copy or a translation of the same, as also a copy of the documents inclosed. You will also be good enough to lay before him a photographic *fac simile* directly inclosed to hand. On behalf of the Chancellor of the Confederacy.

VON THILE.

THE CONTEST.

The Battle-Field of Woerth After the Struggle.

Correspondence of the Daily News.

The swift and skillful movements against Wissembourg, resulting in complete success to the German arms, was but a foretaste of the storm which threatened the northern part of Alsace. On the second day after Wissembourg came the battle of Woerth, and the Crown Prince gained a great victory over the ablest General in France. It is admitted that the French fought with reckless courage, and that they inflicted heavy loss on their opponents; but the fact of this hard fighting and of this heavy loss shows how serious a defeat was sustained by McMAHON. I traversed the battle-field while the dead still lay unburied on the trampled ground, and could form a good notion of how the fight had gone by the ghastly evidence which remained. Woerth is at the bottom of a fertile valley, between two ridges of cultivated ground. There is a quantity of woodland in the neighborhood, and especially behind the French position, or on the western side of the valley, there is a strip of forest which forms a cover for retreating troops. The little river Bruder, not deep enough in Summer time to float a skiff, flows through the village, and a high road comes winding down toward it on the eastern side of the valley, flanked by trees. Here was the German position, stretching far to right and left. Along this road were heaps of spiked helmets to be seen, and cart-loads of needle-guns collected under the trees. At a distance the French musketry fire had told more heavily than the German, and I heard that the French artillery had been very well served. But though the burying parties were busy with the German dead on this eastern side of Woerth, there was more than an exchange of slaughterous work on the western side. Here the Prussians and Bavarians had pushed forward in strong force, and their fire had told fearfully upon the French. The high spirit and rigid discipline of the one army had been more than a match for the desperate resistance of the other. While the Prussian and Frenchmen had been mowed down in their wild attempts to check the enemy's advance. It had been a tolerably equal fight in some places, for the ground was strewn with German dead. But more and more Frenchmen had fallen in proportion. Black Turcos and wide-trowered Zouaves lay thick at many points, and the Cuirassiers had suffered much. There were steel breast-plates and brass helmets scattered thickly on the line of the retreat, while the dead horses in all directions might be counted by hundreds. And so, westward, through the woods, went the troops in increasing disaster; officers and men lying grimly where they had fallen, some of them in quiet, slaty spots as though they were picnickers asleep; pools of blood where the wounded had been found, knapsacks, rifles and overcoats, either thrown away in flight or left by the wounded on the field. Then came a spot where the French had rallied, and where the dead of both sides lay thick. Turcos might be seen who had evidently fought to the last, and had tried to fire their pieces as they lay. Frenchmen of the line regiments had here and there fallen in numbers, and they had halted and faced about in regular order. But the aspect of the fields beyond the wood seemed to indicate a hasty retreat. Wagons were overturned, baggage was thrown out upon the roadside, and many knapsacks were to be seen. No one who had passed over that battle-ground of Woerth when I did could have failed to realize that a great disaster had befallen the French arms, though at a time when most of the wounded had been removed, and on so large a scene of action it would have been impossible to judge of the exact loss sustained. However, I see no reason to doubt the official return on the German side, which gives about 10,000 Frenchmen and 7,000 Germans *hors de combat*, and about 7,000 prisoners taken by the victors—4,000 in the battle, and 3,000 more in the pursuit. These losses, with the further loss of cannon and colors, made Woerth an evil day for France. Well might the wounded Germans raise themselves to cheer the Crown Prince as he passed, and cry that Germany was safe. It will often be told how the armies met on the 6th of August, and how McMAHON made his unsuccessful effort to repel the invasion of Alsace, how the Prussians held the left of the line, how the Bavarians and Wurtembergers the right, and how a few Baden troops, held in reserve by the Crown Prince, were brought up just in time to share the honors of the day. There was a fierce attack on both sides, it being difficult to say which party began, and gradually as the German troops pressed round upon their opponent's line of retreat, the French were forced to make so hasty a retrograde movement that the retreat became very nearly a rout. The *Landwehr* proved itself to be fully the equal of the Chassepôt, and something more; so equal, say the German soldiers, with apparently good cause. Then, moreover, the Prussians knew their weapon better, having long been accustomed to it, and the Crown Prince banded his army so as to make most of the deadly fire of his infantry. The cavalry was not used for an attack in the first instance, but was sent in pursuit when the enemy began his retreat. It was a victory due to the patriotic ardor of the German troops, as much as to anything in their discipline or tactics; but we must not forget that the French showed ardor likewise, and that the scale was turned for the Germans at Woerth by the something more under standing of the breech-loader drill, and by their steadiness in firing. These matters take time to learn, and I hope that our volunteers will have a chance of learning them before they are called upon to face a foe who may have learnt the new weapon at his leisure. We see the glorious results which Germany is reaping from her careful preparation.

PARIS SCENES.

General Depression—Foreigners in France—Perils of Strangers.

Writing under date of Aug. 15, the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, says: "Paris is in great need of a little good news, for it has been very dull and sad of late. Last night, at 10 o'clock, the crowds which usually at that hour on a Sunday evening flock along the boulevards and principal thoroughfares, on their return from their weekly holiday in the country, were nowhere to be seen. This is not surprising, for a friend who was yesterday at Enghien, a very favorite resort of the Parisians on Sundays, tells me that no one was there. I am told that the population of this capital has diminished by one-fifth within the last three weeks, and I have little doubt of the correctness of this information. The exodus has especially been within the last eight or ten days. Besides the troops, the Gardes Mobiles, and the numerous volunteers, numbers of Parisians have gone into the country and to parts of France more remote from the scene of war. Then the Germans have been sent away in great numbers, and other foreigners have gone of their own accord, and I should think the floating population was now reduced to a very small number. I know not to what extent Germans married and settled in Paris have been able to obtain leave to remain, but I suspect only in rare and special cases, and I know of many having departed before they were ordered off because they feared ill-treatment. It would suffice for an evil-intentioned person to point out a man in the street and stigmatize him as a Prussian for the individual thus denounced to be in considerable danger. According to the latest statistics, France contained 635,495 foreigners, of whom 106,606 were Germans. The number of English was only 29,856. In Paris alone there were 30,456 Germans. Of these the greater part must now have gone, and most of the others will have to go. The passport offices at the Prefecture of Police, for natives as well as foreigners, are open daily from 8 to 6 and the rush and work are incessant.

STEFAN TURR.

Sketch of the Emisary of Bismarck and Napoleon.

From the Pall Mall Gazette, Aug. 18.

STEFAN TURR, the emissary of BISMARCK and NAPOLEON, seems to have led rather a chequered life. He is the son of a shoemaker, and was born in Baja, in Hungary, in 1822. In 1846 he was "assented" into the Austrian Army, advanced after some time to a corporalship, and in 1848 went with the Imperial Regiment of Infantry.

Archduke FRANCIS CHARLES, to Italy. He had been proposed for a Lieutenantship, when with some of the men he deserted over the bridge near Buffalo to the Sardinians. There he was made Colonel of the newly-formed deserters' legion, the so-called Caplani. When after the battle of Novara Austria particularly insisted on having TURR given up, he escaped into Switzerland, whence he went to Baden, and there joined MIEWSLAWSKI. He now reappeared as Lieutenant-Colonel, and MIEWSLAWSKI promoted him to a Colonelcy. After the ill-fated affair in the Bergstrasse, he returned to Switzerland with 103 men, whom he dispatched to America, himself remaining behind. He was next sent to Constantinople, and during the Crimean war obtained British naturalization, and went as British agent to Bucharest. There on neutral ground he was arrested by the Austrians as a deserter, sent home and brought before a Court-martial at Karlsruhe, in Transylvania. Almost on the eve of being led out to execution, the Judge declared to him that Queen VICTORIA had interfered on his behalf, as a naturalized British subject, and that the Emperor had in consequence commuted his sentence to eternal banishment from the Austrian States. In 1859 he joined GARIBOLDI, became Commander of the Chasseurs, received a wound and was promoted to a Generalship. Since 1861 he has sojourned chiefly in Paris, being now one of the most intimate friends of Prince NAPOLEON, and in September, 1861, married ADELA WYSE BONAPARTE, second daughter of Prince LETITIA BONAPARTE, sister of PIERRE NAPOLEON, and nominal daughter of the English Consul WYSE, but born in 1842, long after WYSE's actual separation from his wife. The first legitimate daughter of WYSE was the wife of RATAZZI, the Princess SOLMS.

THE FRENCH NATION.

Will France Submit?—Views of a French Liberal.

From the Pall Mall Gazette, Aug. 17.

A great nation does not readily acquiesce in the necessity of taking a lower place in the hierarchy of European Powers than that to which she has been accustomed, and the very best terms which France could at this moment gain from Prussia would involve much of degradation. Nothing that Lord GRANVILLE could propose could save her from this necessity, and there is not much chance that she would accept mediation if coupled with the condition of submitting to it. Even if we are over-estimating the perseverance and resolution of the French people in attributing to them this determination to go on fighting, we can hardly be wrong in supposing that they would only regard peace in the light of a breathing space in which to prepare to fight the battle over again with better fortune, and a different result. There is no talk in France of the war having been a mistake; all we hear of is that it was a mistake to enter upon it so unprepared. Take, for example, the following extract from the "*Chronique*" in the new number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*:

This war with Prussia was certainly inevitable. It must have broken out some day or other, and we will even venture to say that the late events have made its inevitableness still more apparent by reducing us so promptly to the defensive, and by bringing into relief the weakness of our frontier—a weakness already very great under the conditions of the treaties of 1815, and still greater since 1866, when Prussia presses on us with the weight of the whole of Germany, bound together in a military union. These even have shown by sinister evidence where was the aggressive force, the permanent menace. Thus the war was one of those terrible contingencies which we were bound to foresee, which we could not decline at a given moment; but it was above all necessary to know whether we were prepared, and, if we were not ready, it was needful to know how to wait. Everything depended on that. * * * War doubtless has its hazards of which no one is master. In so great a struggle reverses must happen, but when one knows the cause of them, they are half repaired, they cease to be a reason for discouragement, and become, on the contrary, an energetic stimulant. Henceforth France, fortified by experience, can fight before Europe, who watches her; she can march to the conflict with a manly confidence because she feels her force, because she knows that her banner is that of the civilization and liberty of peoples. Thus in the opinion of so moderate and sensible a Liberal as M. CHARLES DE MAZADE, the result of the war up to this time has only been to show that some addition of territory on the side of Germany is absolutely necessary to the safety of France. No doubt the chain of reverses may be so heavy and so unbroken that she may at least be driven into acknowledging that her former greatness is lost beyond the possibility of recall. But Prussia has a good deal to do before that period of exhaustion is reached, and even when it is reached we shall not readily believe that France will not be content to remain at it.

WAR NOTES.

As one of the characteristic results of the war, it may be mentioned that *La Revue et Gazette des Théâtres*, a very respectable theatrical paper of more than forty years' standing, which was regularly published twice a week, has announced that for some time to come it will appear once a week only. The change is attributed to the want of theatrical news caused by the gravity of political events. Such a notification, thinks the *Times*, would be of small significance in England; but when the important part taken by the theatre in Parisian life is considered, it may be regarded a sign of the times.

The Queen of Prussia had sent the following telegram to Gen. HERWARTH DE BIRKENFELD: "In the joyful and grateful emotion I feel at the victories of our arms, I send you today two gold medals, one for the author and one for the composer of the song, 'Die Wacht am Rhein,' in which the passionate patriotism of our citizens and soldiers has so admirably found expression, and which has become a real national song of Germany." On the face of the medals is the bust of the King, and on the reverse the figures 1870, surrounded by a laurel.

Some days ago, say the London *Echo*, Marshal BAZAINE had gathered together at his dinner table at Metz the members of his family, of whom several are in the army. They were waited upon by a servant of remarkably good appearance and manner; so good, indeed, that the Marshal's wife was struck with it, and expressed her astonishment on leaving the table. The Marshal at first laughed at his wife's remarks, but then, assuring her that the servant was not a grand seigneur in disguise, but a *vrai de chambre*. Nevertheless, the Marshal's wife insisted so strongly, that the handsome-looking servant was arrested. He turned out to be a Prussian officer.

The *Journal des Débats* of Aug. 17, summarizes, without attaching much importance to it, a communication from the Havas News Agency respecting a journey which M. D'ARNIM, a Prussian diplomatist, has just made to Rome. King WILLIAM is said to cherish the design of getting himself crowned Emperor of Germany after the war, and as Germany, more especially the Southern Provinces, contains a considerable number of Catholics, he is supposed to desire the Pope's consecration. He has offered to the Holiness, it is said, an asylum in Prussia, in case he should be compelled to quit Rome. This scheme of the future Emperor of Germany is no doubt in the eyes of the German Catholics, but what will the Protestants say of it? It is added that the Pope is much irritated with the Catholic States, France especially, for recalling her troops from Rome, and that he does not conceal his friendly feeling toward Prussia.

A correspondent at Christiana (Norway) says, writing on the 8th inst. The great majority of the population here sympathize warmly with France, and all the papers, (with the single exception of the *Commercial and Shipping Gazette* of Gotheborg, which has always been an advocate of Prussia,) write in the same sense. The *Aftonbladet*, of Stockholm, repeatedly urges the Government to arm so as to be prepared for all contingencies, and the *Stockholm Post* declares that "even if it should turn out not to be necessary to go to war no one at least will be able to blame us for having done our duty in providing for the security of the country. There is a sum of about \$50,000 at the disposal of the Government for naval services, and this will probably be used in arming the fleet. The monitors *Thorden* and *Tyring* are already officially declared to be ready for sea.

A Paris journal publishes a speech addressed by Marshal BAZAINE to about 100 troops when he went to inspect the cantonnements. He said: "My children—I have but one fault to reproach you with—you fire too fast. At Wissembourg, where your ammunition failed, you had what would have lasted the Prussians three days. Let us reason together a little. Where are we? Full on our line of defense. From Thionville to Metz, and from Metz to Nancy we hold the ground. Behind this line what have we? Another line, the Meuse, behind the Argonne, behind the Champagne, behind our valleys of the Marne there is Paris, and behind Paris France. France, that is to say, four million armed citizens, a patriot heart in every breast, and a thousand millions in the treasury. *Sauveur*! it seems hardly neces-

sary to put on so many thicknesses of stuff. Let us advance gaily, without hurrying ourselves; we have plenty of time.

The following letter from the Duke of SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN appeared in the Kiel journals: "My dear Colonel: During your stay here we frequently discussed the threatening danger of war, and the position which Schleswig-Holstein should take with regard to coming events. According to my conviction it is the duty of every German in the present war. France has declared war, and the whole of Germany has accepted the challenge. It will fight in order to maintain its integrity against the foreign foe. At such a moment all internal questions which are still disturbing Germany must be thrown aside. We Schleswig-Holsteiners need not yield our rights, and will not do so. But in the present war we have but the one duty with all our might to stand up for Germany, and to strive with all the means at our disposal to secure the victory for German right. The more we Schleswig-Holsteiners recare that in the year 1864 we could take no active part in freeing the Duchies from the Danish yoke, the more joyfully shall we now join to defend the German soil against France. With the help of God this war will, if even through bitter trials, conduce to the well-being and blessing of Germany FRIEDRICH, Duke of Schleswig-Holstein."