Prussian troops are addressed. Prince Frederick Charles is able to speak to them of a "dear native land," of the exploits of their fathers, and far from thinking that his men have no concern with the politics of the war his general order is full of them. We shall see which method most inspires its soldiery.

The career of the Hanoverian army has not been prolonged beyond the unnecessary action which was so wantonly fought on Wednesday. It was immediately enveloped by the Prussians, and has surrendered unconditionally. The King is among the prisoners.

English Opinion.

THE CONTRADICTORY DESPATCHES.

[From the London Times, June 30.]

Unless the news from Berlin misrepresents greatly the occurrences of the last two days, the Prussian arms have achieved a solid success. The battle at Nachod or Skalitz, which was described by the Austrians as a victory of their own, is now claimed by the Prussians. It is *impossible to reconcile the two opposite accounts*, and we must leave the truth to be determined by the great purifier of history—*time*. Vienna officially announces that in the battle the Prussians were completely repulsed from Skalitz, and that they lost a number of prisoners and eighteen guns. According to another narrative they retreated so hastily that they left their dead and wounded behind them. On the other hand it is announced from Berlin that in a two days engagement on the 27th and 28th, the Prussians had the advantage. We can only conclude that there has been sharp fighting on these two days between the frontier and Josephstadt. To whom the victory is to be adjudged, *or whether there was a victory at all, we have as yet no means of deciding.*

But telegraphic despatches, however partial they may be, contain an element which enables the reader to form for himself some notion of what has been done. Unless they are absolutely false, they give with tolerable accuracy the position of the armies. And though an advance is not necessarily the precursor of success, yet when we find an army maintaining its position in an enemy's country, and gradually moving forward, we have reason to suppose that it cannot have been worsted. Tried by this test, the Prussians are at least *gaining ground*. The positions they occupy must either have been won from the enemy or abandoned by him through weakness, or for strategical purposes. The Prussian despatches are to the effect that on the 28th the Guard defeated the tenth Austrian army corps under General Gablenz after an obstinate engagement in which the Austrians lost several thousand prisoners, several field pieces and a large quantity of *matériel*. The Austrian loss in killed and wounded is placed at between three and four thousand. On the same day Prince Frederick Charles, in conjunction with General Bittorfeld, captured Munchengratz after a successful engagement with the enemy in which he took eight hundred prisoners. The Austrians retired to Furstenbrück with the loss of two thousand men. These encounters prove that the Prussians had advanced considerably beyond the frontier.

Fürstenbrück, to which the Austrians are said to have retired, is some twenty-five or thirty miles from the frontier, on the direct road to Prague, and we may conclude that the main body of the Prussian army has so far found the way open to it in its invasion of the Austrian territory. But it is not in this line alone that the Prussians are advancing. Whatever may have been the result of the battle of the 27th at Skalitz, the Prussians appear to be still in full force between the Silesian frontier and Josephstadt. The Prussian Fifth corps, which is said to have been successful against the Austrians in the battle of the 27th, was again opposed on the 28th to the Sixth and Eighth Austrian corps, under the Archduke Leopold, and is reported to have gained signal advantages over it. We thus find the Prussians firmly established on the Bohemian territory, after fighting three severe actions. Whatever may be the wisdom of their invasion of Bohemia, the enemy has not as yet shown the ability to drive them from it. Field Marshal Benedek commands *one of the largest and finest* armies in Europe, and it would be hasty to suppose that because the first fortnight of the war has not witnessed any extraordinary achievement on his part, his resources, therefore, are at an end and his reputation is diminished. We can quite believe that the battles which have been fought are only the beginning of a fiercely contested campaign, and that Prussia must put forth all her strength if she would hold what she has gained, not merely in Bohemia, but even in Germany proper. The Austrian government is bringing into the field every man whom it can muster throughout its extended empire. The discipline of the army and its organization are excellent, and the soldiers are like soldiers all over the world, somewhat inclined to complain when newly conscribed; but after a few weeks zealous for their flag, their general, and even their cause. But though this war, if it continue, will probably give the world some of the bloodiest battles of the age, there is no reason to believe that the Austrians have any chance of accomplishing *the design with which they set out*—the invasion of the Prussian territory, the capture of Berlin, and the restoration of Schleswig-Holstein to independence. The promptitude of the Prussian government first deranged the Austrian and Federal plans, and the prowess of the Prussian army seems entirely to defeat them. The Austrians began with the belief that they possessed the soul of Saxony as their own, and could advance from a splendid military position over the Prussian plains. They also fancied they had allies in the midst and in the rear of their adversaries, and that Hanover, the Hesses, Brunswick, the Mecklenburgs, and a number of other sovereignties would harass and help in prostrating the Berlin government. How completely these expectations have been disappointed need not be said. The *undue haste* of Austria in demanding Federal execution from the Diet has given all her allies as a prey to her threatened enemy. The plans of her general have been deranged, the passes through which he was to issue as an invader are in the hands of the Prussians, who yet finds now on the imperial soil, whereas at any rate pretext can keep them from invading and spoiling their own territory. The fortune of war must change very much indeed before any of the objects for which the German potentates began this contest can be accomplished. As regards the military qualities of the two armies they are probably not unequally matched. The Austrians are more thoroughly disciplined soldiers and animated by a more professional spirit; but their opponents are *more educated and intelligent*, and have the material advantage *of possessing a weapon which proves its superiority on every field*. In the ensuing campaign we may fairly expect that, though the contest will be terrible, neither Power will gain any such decided advantages as will approach to conquest. We do not expect that the Prussians will conquer Bohemia or reach Vienna; there is little probability that the Austrians will take Berlin, lead back the King of Hanover to his throne, or give the Elbe Duchies to their Duke. If, then, the two Powers remain at the close of the war substantially as they are at present, the gains will be on the side of the belligerent which has obtained the earliest advantages. Prussia has only to keep what she has already acquired, and she will be the real victor in this war.

At other points the good fortune of the Prussians does not seem to fail. The King of Hanover has reaped the reward of his obstinacy in refusing to accept the alliance which was offered him a few days since. He might then have saved *his throne* and transmitted to his children the inheritance of his fathers. It would be unreasonable to believe that *he has any longer such a hope*. He has maintained the Austrian alliance to the last, and within forty-eight hours after rejecting the Prussian terms his army has surrendered at discretion. The Hanoverian territory and its people are now entirely in the hands of the King of Prussia, and may henceforth be looked upon as a part of his dominions. By this surrender the Prussians are freed from the necessity of keeping any troops in the north of Germany. They may now turn their whole strength against the Federal army. And the levies of the minor States, under Prince Charles of Bavaria, make up a formidable force. The last news is that they are advancing from Frankfort, no doubt with the intention of occupying Hesse-Cassel, and that an engagement is expected. To meet these designs, Prussia has decided on striking another blow, and the Duke of Nassau is to be the next victim. The Governor of the Rhine provinces announces that in consequence of the acts of the federal government, of which Nassau is an ally, he shall be obliged to consider the duchy as hostile territory. So does this great national drama unfold itself. The immediate future may be doubtful; this Power or that may win victories, according to the talents of its generals or the discipline of its soldiers. But the ultimate future can only be the union of Germany, and eventual victory must be on the side of the Power which supports so beneficial a cause.

The London *Post* believes the rejoicings at Berlin are premature.

The London *Army and Navy Gazette* remarks that the time has now come for Benedek to show whether or not he is a general.

The Latest Despatch.

LONDON, July 1, 1866.

There is nothing later from Bohemia.

HANOVER.

The Hanoverian Army Surrounded by the Prussians—A Battle and Defeat of the Hanoverians.

Berlin advices of the 28th of June (evening) report:—The Hanoverians are being surrounded by Prussian corps.

Fresh negotiations are in progress for a capitulation.

DEFEAT IN BATTLE.

The Paris *Moniteur* of June 29 publishes an account of the engagement between the Hanoverians and the Prussians near Langensalgt, which it states to have been without result. The Prussians lost two guns.

The *Moniteur* adds that the Hanoverians, however, withdrew in a northerly direction; they asked for a fresh armistice, but were refused by the Prussians, who were gaining reinforcements.

A Berlin despatch of the 29th of June says the Hanoverians were being surrounded by Prussian corps, and fresh negotiations were in progress for a capitulation.

THE SURRENDER AND TERMS.

A Berlin telegram of June 29 says:—The Hanoverian army surrendered at discretion to-day.

A despatch from Gotha, dated on the 29th of June, says:—It is stated that the King and Crown Prince of Hanover and the officers of the Hanoverian army have pledged their word not to fight against Prussia during the present war.

By the terms of the surrender the Hanoverian officers retained their side arms and the men were disarmed and sent to their homes.

The war material was given up to the Prussians.

The Royal Family Leaves Gottingen.

Letters received from Gottingen give the following accounts—The first Hanoverian troops arrived here at night on the 16th of June, with the King and the Crown Prince. On the 16th and 17th the entire army gradually came in, followed by ammunition wagons and military stores. The King and Crown Prince, with suite, took up their residence at the Crown Hotel, which they occupied exclusively during their stay. The troops were quartered in Gottingen and the vicinity. Nearly all the Hanoverian railway engines and carriages had been brought on here. A proposal is said to have been made to the King to move southward at once towards Cassel and Fulda to join the Hessians and Bavarians, but not to have been accepted on account of the confidence felt of specdily receiving large reinforcements from the Southern States, and of their returning to the north.

But the long expected help never came, and the King and Crown Prince therefore left on horseback at five o'clock yesterday morning on the road for Heiligenstadt to effect a junction with the Bavarian and Hessian forces.

Advices from Heiligenstadt to the 23d of June say:—We have been without telegraphic connection with Gottingen and Cassel since the beginning of last week, and have had no postal communication with Gottingen since the 18th. Matters grew worse when the Hanoverians, some 20,000 strong, marched in from Gottingen on the way to Mülhausen. The King and the main body of the army were here last night. Reliable information states that they are now between Mülhausen and Langensalza, after their junction with the Bavarians had been prevented by our troops (Prussians), which have hemmed them in on all sides. The Hanoverians behaved very well, but seemed depressed and discouraged.

English Sympathy.

[From the London Post, June 29.]

* * * The inseparable association which in this country links the house of Hanover with constitutional government would naturally lead one to suppose that the institutions of the German kingdom closely resembled our own. Such, however, is not the case. Constitutional government in no sense of the word can be said to exist in Hanover. The sovereign, by the aid of ministers who are perfectly irresponsible, wields not only the executive but the legislative power. Parliament, in the English acceptation of the term, there is none. There are, it is true, two Chambers, the former composed of princes of the blood, certain nobles and government officials, and members elected for the period of six years; and the letter of deputies elected to represent the towns and country districts. But the province of these Chambers is not to make laws, but simply to advise the sovereign, and to lend their co-operation in conducting the business of State. The budget submitted to the Chambers does not include the civil list of the King nor the expenditure occasioned by the Court—the latter being never accounted for to the Chambers, and being supplied from the revenues of domains alleged by the sovereigns of Hanover to be the private property of the Crown, but not admitted to be such by the Parliament. William IV. introduced changes in the system of government, with a view to rendering it somewhat similar to that of Great Britain; but on his death the Duke of Cumberland, who succeeded to the throne, protested against the innovation, and the ancient order of things was re-established, and remains in existence to the present day. Such, then, is the kingdom, with its institutions, which is not improbably on the point of disappearing forever. Its fate in this country must inspire a feeling of painful regret.

For the sovereign himself every one must feel the deepest sympathy. Afflicted from infancy by Providence with one of the greatest calamities to which man is subject, he has cheerfully performed all those duties which, both in his public and his private capacity, have devolved on him. As a Sovereign he has always secured the respect and affection of his subjects. In domestic life his character has been above reproach. Incurable blindness, if it did not generate a taste for music, probably induced him to cultivate the science with assiduity, and both as a performer and composer his fame stands high. The sanguine may hope that he has not permanently quitted his throne, and in this country the wish will be unanimous that those hopes may be realized. We cannot, however, close our eyes to the fact that Hanover is in the grasp of Prussia, and time alone can tell when, if ever, that grasp will be loosened.

SAXONY.

The King and Queen in Exile—Prussian Levies in Dresden, &c.

A communication from Prague of the 23d of June, in the Paris *Patrie*, says:—This morning I, in common with all those now staying at the Hotel of the Golden Angel, was awoke by an unusual bustle and movement. It proceeded from an immense crowd, who, collected round a lady and gentleman, were shouting joyfully. They soon disappeared under the gateway of the hotel, and I found from the moving of furniture in the room above me that I was going to have them for neighbors.

I inquired who they were, and was informed they were the King and Queen of Saxony. Such is the fortune of war, which gives me a king as a neighbor.

His countenance was pensive, and was, it appeared to me, paler than when I saw him two years ago at Dresden.

PRUSSIAN LEVIES IN DRESDEN.

A communication from Dresden says:—This city, being the capital, is the place on which the heaviest contributions have been imposed. After having had to support the eighty thousand men quartered there, she has further been required to furnish two thousand pieces of cloth, of forty metres each, and eighteen thousand pairs of shoes. The *chefs d'œuvre* which the galleries of Dresden contain would probably have already been set to enrich the museums of Berlin, if a fictitious sale, suggested by the foresight of the King of Saxony or his Ministry, had not made them the property of the Queen of England.

MILITARY TERRORISM.

Another letter from Dresden says:—The Prussians, who, in their proclamation, said they entered Saxony as friends, and who at first suspected in any respect for the army, are now far from doing so. For instance, the magnificent freestone quarries down numbers of them, transported under foot the fields of corn in order to encamp there, carried off a large quantity of horses and bullocks, and raised heavy contributions. The burgomaster of the city had great difficulty in obtaining from the Prussian commander permission for the country people to cross the lines to bring provisions into the city.

The majority of the shops are closed. One incident, the authenticity of which I can guarantee, does not tell in favor of the conduct of the Prussian soldiers. Mme. de Beust, wife of the Prime Minister here, had retired to a villa she possessed in the environs of Dresden. A few days back a detachment of Prussian hussars, in quest of forage, arrived there. She declared that she had not a single truss of hay or straw; on which the soldiers, in mere wantonness, commenced breaking the magnificent Dresden china in the château, and trampled under their horses' feet the ornamental gardens around it. At the first news of that unjustifiable act, M. de Forth-Rouen, the French Ambassador at the Court of Saxony, went in a carriage to carry away Mme. de Beust.

No Fire in the Rear.

[Berlin (June 27) correspondence of London Times.]

To guard against any *émeute* being stirred up in their rear by the partisans of M. von Beust, the Prussian generals operating in Bohemia have caused a state of siege to be proclaimed in Saxony. Under this stringent enactment any attempts at public commotion, espionage, or the like, will be summarily punished with death. There was nothing in the attitude of the inhabitants to occasion this Draconic decree, unless, indeed, a row said to have occurred at Bautzen was regarded as an earnest of what might follow.

Only a day before yesterday a fresh regiment on entering Leipsic was received with hurrahs and greeted with a perfect shower of flowers from the windows.

HESSE-CASSEL.

The Elector to His Subjects.

Before leaving for Stettin the Elector of Hesse issued the following proclamation:—

WILHELMSHOHE, June 23, 1866.

On the eve of being led into captivity the feelings of my paternal heart compel me to address this farewell to my faithful subjects. May the Almighty take them under his fatherly protection, and may the present calamity now visited on me and my family prove a salutary trial, efficacious alike for my own peace and that of my people. At the same time, being compelled to quit the country of my fathers, I beg all those functionaries and servants who find themselves in such parts of the Hessian territory as are occupied by the enemy to continue the discharge of their functions, in conformity with the established rules of their respective offices and the terms of their oaths, but preserving at the same time their fidelity to me. It is thus that, under all circumstances, they will best maintain the rights of their country and avoid being troubled by scruples of conscience.

May God soon vouchsafe us better days!

FREDERICK WILLIAM.

THE FEDERAL ARMY.

Prince Alexander of Hesse, its Commander.

[Frankfort (June 26) correspondence of London Times.]

Prince Alexander of Hesse is an officer whose military reputation has already attracted attention. He first took service in Russia, following the fate of his sister, who is married to the present Czar, and soon won his spurs in the Caucasus. A morganatic marriage entailed his retirement from the Russian army, and he then tendered his sword to Francis Joseph. The Austrian Emperor has had no cause to regret the day when he accepted his services and commanded his friendship. At Montebello he earned the Theresien-Kreutz, the highest and most valuable military decoration in Europe, and at Solferino he covered the retreat of the Austrian centre when few but himself had retained their self-possession.

He has now retired from the Austrian service expressly, it is stated, in order to take command of the left wing of the Federal armies. It must be acknowledged that no fitter man could have been found. Related or connected with the leading members of most of the royal families of Europe, a native of these parts, with ample military experience, forty-three years of age, cool and confident, he unites in himself almost all the qualities required for the peculiar command to which he is now called.

HOW HIS TROOPS ARE PURCHASED—AN ODD CONNECTION.

If the opportunity is one which seldom favors the individual more than once in a lifetime, it must be conceded that no small difficulties attend it.

Austrians, Bavarians, Wurtembergers, Badeners, Nassauers, Hesse-Homburgers, the soldiers of Hesse-Darmstadt, Hesse-Cassel and Prince Reuss are congregated in the Eighth Federal *corps d'armée*, which he has the honor to lead. It is needless to say that each of the sovereign States to which these several contingents belong has its own military system, its own weapons, ranging from Brown Bess to the needle rifle; its separate staff and *impedimenta*, to many of which the rust of ages appears to cling. Nevertheless, their regiments are composed of splendid material.

UNIFORMS AND ARMS.

Nothing strikes the looker-on so much as the variety of uniforms. How are these corps to distinguish each other amid the din and smoke of battle and the intricacies of a battle field? The troops of Baden and Hesse-Cassel so closely resemble the Prussians in dress that little distinction but the cockade exists. The latter, indeed, are armed with the needle rifle, and report says, perhaps with a spice of satire, that they depended entirely upon Berlin for ammunition. The horses are of mixed quality, some all that could be desired, others evidently collected in haste from very doubtful stables. The demand in Baden was so urgent that even foreigners residing in the queen of watering places have been compelled to respond to the *Zwangs-Remontirung*, giving up their horses to the State for a fair remuneration, payable in six weeks. A fine field would appear to be open here to an enterprising contractor in this article after the first engagements.

OFFICERS.

The officers in command of regiments and the field officers generally are rather ancient in appearance, though certainly not more so than in Prussia, where until recently it was not unusual to find subalterns of twenty and more years' standing. On the whole, the appearance of these Federal contingents, emerging from a period of peace which has lasted fifty years, favorably surprised me.

CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY.

If the appointments of the cavalry and train are not exactly what we are accustomed to see in England, it must be remembered that the notice which has summoned them to the field has been short, and that the money expended upon them is scanty. Concerning the artillery I can offer no remarks of value; the only batteries I have seen were rifled and very fairly horsed. Uniformity of language certainly diminishes the evil of want of harmony in other respects, and the material of which the infantry is composed is decidedly superior to the greater portion of that which forms the Prussian army.

It must also be borne in mind that the countries which have furnished these troops are still abounding in further supply, should it be required.

The German Bund.

MARCH OF THE FEDERAL ARMY FROM FRANKFORT—CONTINUED SECESSION FROM THE CONFEDERATION, ETC.

A despatch from Frankfort of June 28 says:—The whole Federal army in Frankfort and its environs has set out upon the march. An engagement is expected shortly.

In to-day's sitting of the Federal Diet, after a discussion on military affairs, the Representative of the Fifteenth Curie announced the secession of Anhalt and Schwarzburg from the Confederation. The Fifteenth Curie, which consisted of Oldenburg, Anhalt and Schwarzburg, is now no longer represented at the Diet, Oldenburg having already declared her withdrawal from the bund.

In the sitting of the 21st the Representative of the Hanseatic towns announced that, in accordance with his instruction from the Hamburg Senate, he ceased to represent the free town of Hamburg at the Federal Diet until further orders.

SILESIA.

The Prussian Invasion, Its Object and Means.

[Berlin (June 27) correspondence of London Times.]

The Crown Prince of Prussia, with the second Army, is progressing but slowly in Austrian Silesia. Indeed, it would appear, as I anticipated some days ago, that the main strength of his corps never entered Austrian Silesia at all, but crossed, or is preparing to cross, from Glatz into the adjoining portion of Bohemia.

Thus much is certain, that if Moravia, a country of which Austrian Silesia is but a small outlying district, is to be invaded at all, the most convenient way does not lie through the mountainous region announced to have been entered by the Saxon army, but connects the southern course of the order with the open country along the river March. This latter road, being less perilous, has also the contingent advantage of shortening the distance to Vienna by a third. A few days more will settle the question.

The Latest Report.

LONDON, July 1, 1866.

There is no later news from Silesia.

NASSAU.

Prussia Declares Nassau Hostile Territory.

A despatch from Dusseldorf, of the 29th of June, says:—The Prince of Hohenzollern, military governor of the Rhine provinces, has issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of Nassau, in which he declares that in consequence of the entry of South German troops into Weilar he is compelled to consider Nassau hostile territory.

He announces that the Prussian forces will march towards the Maine, and expresses a hope that the people of Nassau will show by their attitude that they have no part in the shortsighted conduct of their government.

The King of Prussia on a Tour.

A despatch from Reichenberg, of June 29, says:—The King of Prussia and Prince Charles are expected here to-morrow.

Prince Von Teck Leaves the Austrian Army.

A London paper says Prince Teck, Queen Victoria's son-in-law, will not again serve in the Austrian army, but will be gazetted to the commission of a general officer in the British army.

ITALY.

The Latest Despatches.

THE ITALIAN ARMY ON THE MINCIO—CANNON ROARED.

A Florence despatch of the 28th of June says:—

The original plan of operations has been relinquished, and the army under King Victor Emanuel is concentrating at Cremona and Piacenza.

The forces under General Cialdini have abandoned their positions on the Po, and are falling back on Bologna, with the view of subsequently effecting a junction with the King's army near the upper part of the river Po.

VICTOR EMANUEL'S HEADQUARTERS.

A despatch from London of July 1 says:—The headquarters of the Italian army are at Torre Malaberg.

IN THE MOUNTAIN PASSES.

The Austrians had redescended the Stelvio and occupied Bormio, driving the Italians back to Tirano.

They also occupied Volcamonica, but had not attempted to cross the Mincio.

ON THE OGLIO.

The Italians were taking up positions on the Oglio.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Garibaldi was at Lake Idro.

THE OPERATIONS IN THE VALTELINE.

Further details were received in Berne, June 27, as to the recent affair at the Stelvio Pass.

The Austrians upon the Tyrolese side of the defile had for some days been engaged in making their way through the snow still lying deep in those parts, to reach the top of the Pass. Sunday morning, as already telegraphed, they broke into the Valteline with eleven companies of Jägers and sharpshooters, drove out the Italian National Guard occupying the fourth *cantonniere* after a sharp engagement, pressed forward then without meeting any further resistance as far as Spondalonga, and occupied the so-called "Alte Bad," in the neighborhood of Bormio. This place, especially when the bridge is burned—as was the case in 1859—is said to be a very strong position, only capable of being turned from the Tonale Pass when the snow melts, which may not happen for several weeks.

All that is known about the Italian volunteers in Berne is that a body about four hundred strong, with seven small guns, are concentrated at the Ponte del Diavolo, about fifteen kilometres from Bormio, and have taken up a strong position.

Heavy artillery and supports are expected.

The Battle of Custozza.

THE ITALIANS TAKING POSITION.

[Castiglione delle Stiviere (June 27) correspondence of the London News.]

The position occupied by the First division of Durando's corps on the 24th, after crossing the Mincio, was that which from Sahonze extends to the village of Oliosi. General Sirtori was placed with the Fifth division between Monzambano and Salionze, while Pianell (Second division of the corps) had been directed to march from Ponti, following the Pozzolengo and Monzambano road, and to try to effect his junction with the rest of the First army corps.

This corps had been ordered to occupy Castelnuovo, and cut the railway above the Strada Lugana, with the object of intercepting the communication between Verona and Peschiera.

THE AUSTRIANS ON THE ALERT.

It seems that the Austrians had so closely watched the movements of the Italian army during the 22d and 24th that they were enabled to occupy the village of Castelnuovo with a division of infantry, two battalions of Tyrolese Jaghers, and a large number of artillery, which they had placed on the hill between Castelnuovo and Oliosi. This hill is flanked on the left by a road; on the right by the valley of the Tagione.

The Austrian reserves were besides ready to support their main body on the strong positions of Somma and Somma Campagne, from which they could easily hasten to throw the weight of their battalions where their aid was required.

GENERAL CERALE MOVES AND IS SURROUNDED.

Cerale's division which began its forward movement at half-past three in the morning, unfortunately thought it unnecessary to reconnoitre minutely the ground. Once arrived at the outskirts of Castelnuovo, this division found itself almost surrounded by an Austrian corps—four Hungarian regiments and three battalions of sharpshooters—and it was obliged to fight, unsupported, for several hours against terrible odds.

TERRIBLE FIGHTING.

The Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Fifth and Sixth Italian regiments composing this division were decimated by the powerful artillery the Austrians brought to play from the commanding positions they had occupied the evening of the previous day. In spite of the terrible firing brought to bear against their right flank these two brave regiments succeeded at last in carrying the hills close by, which were defended both by the artillery and by the Tyrolean sharpshooters. While thus fighting, General Cerale was dangerously wounded by a bullet, and taken to the ambulance in an almost dying state.

Durando, galloping to the front of the charging columns, soon took the lead, and succeeded in forcing the mass of the Austrians into the valley. But Durando's exertions led to nothing, because the Austrians were sending fresh battalions to the rescue, and he was himself wounded in the right hand and his horse shot under him.

SUPPORTS.

Sirtori was by this time hastening his march towards Salionze, and had indeed occupied Oliosi when informed of the critical position in which Cerale's division stood. He advanced to his support, and was, indeed, so far successful as to enable the rest of Pisa's brigade, which had dreadfully suffered, to retire from action. This General, who fought the whole of the day with great daring, carried the village of Santa Lucia, which his force could not, however, maintain, overwhelmed, as it was soon afterwards, by the reserves of the enemy hurried up against it.

GENERAL PIANELL COMES UP.

Meanwhile General Pianell, commander of the Second division of the First corps, made aware by the roar of the guns of the action then being fought at Castelnuovo, had hastened his march. Passing through Monzambano and Salionze, he marched on Cavalcaselle, and tried to get possession of it. But his columns had scarcely debouched from the road leading to it when an advanced fort of Peschiera opening a tremendous fire upon them, he was obliged to fall back on Salionze, which movement he executed in perfect order, though it had to be accomplished under the cross-fire of the Austrian infantry.

THE STORM ALONG THE LINE.

Pianell's division had scarcely accomplished this movement when the action became general all along the line of those hills which extend from Valleggio to Castelnuovo. This cluster of hills was enveloped in a dense cloud of smoke from Valleggio down to Villafranca, in the plain.

THE ITALIAN PRINCES IN ACTION.

It was in the last named town that Prince Humbert, the eldest son of Victor Emanuel, showed himself worthy of the illustrious name he bears. The Prince, who was at the head of a battalion of the Forty-ninth regiment, belonging to his division, had pushed a reconnaissance towards Villafranca, when on a sudden he found himself enveloped by two regiments of Austrian lancers. Drawing his sword and crying out to his soldiers, "Form square, my boys, and teach these Croats how we defend the flag of the regiment," he placed himself in the centre of the square and at last succeeded in dispersing the enemy. I have been told that two of his aids-de-camp were wounded near him, but fortunately the Prince escaped unhurt.

I am certain the Austrians themselves will do justice to the admirable behavior of Prince Humbert and his brother, Prince Amadeus of Savoy, not yet twenty years old, who was also wounded in the chest while leading the Lombard grenadiers to the charge.

THE END.

But neither the valor of the generals nor the courage of the soldiers could insure a victory. The Austrians had brought into action no less than sixty thousand men. The Italians had matched the whole of the previous day, and, from what I heard, had had nothing to eat since the middle of Saturday. At one moment the division of General Pianell, which, as I have said before, had been compelled by the guns of Peschiera to fall back on Salionze, found itself surrounded by such a swarm of Tyrolians that it was generally thought it could not escape.

Not only did it succeed, however, in reaching Salionze in perfect order, but assuming on a sudden the offensive, it made such a desperate charge on the Austrians that it took a whole battalion of them prisoners. It was then four o'clock, and fresh Austrian troops could be seen coming in haste from Peschiera on one side and from Verona on the other. Coming is scarcely the right word; I ought to say that they came pouring in from those places. The assault of these newcomers was sustained by the Italians with the same stubborn resistance as before.

A RETREAT IN GOOD ORDER.

Count Della Rocca, the commander of the Third army corps, had fortunately extended by this time his line of battle from Pozzuolo to Valleggio, and directed General Govone to carry Custozza at the head of the Ninth division. Govone not only succeeded in carrying Custozza but held it until night came, and he was then ordered to retire slowly towards the Mincio. Montetorre and Montecroce were likewise carried at the point of the bayonet by General Cuggia, commander of the Second division of Della Rocca's corps.

Night was coming on fast when the order was given to General Bixio to advance, in order that the First corps (Durando's) might slowly fall back to the position assigned to it. Bixio, who was burning with the desire to *mesar le mani*—i. e., to fight—advanced so vigorously with his division (the Seventh of the army and First of the Third corps), flanked by two regiments of cavalry, that the Austrians were for a moment compelled to fall back on their reserves. Thus ended the glorious battle of Sunday last. I say glorious, for both parties fought bravely to the last. Beginning at half-past three in the morning, the action lasted till late at night—more than sixteen hours; at the end, the Italians and Austrians remained masters of the positions on which they had so long fought.

A French Report.

[Paris (June 29) correspondence of London Times.]

A letter from Goito, in the *Journal des Débats*, from its war correspondent, Signor Petrucelli de la Gattina, gives us the first eye witness' narrative which has yet been received of the battle of Custozza. He was not an eye witness, however, of the actual fighting, having been stationed at Curtatone and Montanara, and he professes to have got only incomplete information.

GENERAL DELLA MARMORA'S ADVANCE

The Italian army on the morning of the 24th of June was encamped from Montanara to Somma Campagna, having passed the Mincio the day before at Goito and Borghetto, and stretched out on this long line, holding the left bank of the river. General Marmora's purpose was to establish himself between Peschiera and Verona, but he assigned for the task too few troops; a portion only of the divisions, Bixio and Cuggia, with four squadrons of cavalry (two of lancers and two of hussars) and two batteries of artillery, in all 10,000 or 12,000 men.

The order to march was given at one A. M. to the troops which had just pitched their tents in the districts of Salionze and Oliosi.

Before their eyes there arose at a distance, illumined by the rays of the moon, that succession of ascending plateaus which stretches from Peschiera to Verona.

At three A. M. the Italians were on the western slope of the Somma Campagna, while the Austrians were on the eastern slope, face to face with Verona.

HIS OBJECT.

The object of the Italians was to press upon the Austrians, push them into a hollow at the foot of the hillock, and there cut them up and beat them.

The plan succeeded.

The Austrians were dislodged from their position by the Italian artillery, aided by an attack of Bersaglieri, in spite of a vigorous resistance with the bayonet and grapeshot from batteries placed on a more elevated plateau.

AUSTRIAN CONFUSION AND A FLANK MOVEMENT.

Descending into the valley one portion of the Austrian force fled, another shut itself up in country houses, but the remainder ascended the higher plateau, where another Austrian battery was unmasked. It was mid-day, and fighting had been going on since three in the morning.

THE ITALIAN DEFEAT AND RETREAT.

Taken in flank the Third and Fourth Italian regiments lay down behind the walls of the farm for an hour, when General Cugia came to their assistance. His soldiers, leaving their haversacks in the corn, ascended the hillock three times at charging pace, to take possession of the fatal battery, but were three times repulsed.

The Third and Fourth regiments then got up to resume the struggle, with the help of a battery placed on their flank to protect them but at this moment an officer of the staff brought the news that a column of fresh troops from Verona was approaching. There was no sign of an Italian soldier coming to their aid, and the order to retreat was given.

The protecting Italian battery was overwhelmed and dislodged by another Austrian battery, and the retreat was unprotected.

The Italians stepped back quickly, leaving their haversacks where they had been placed some hours beforehand in order to assault the hillock.

Austrian Trophies—The Austrian Army—Reprisals.

Up to June 28 four thousand prisoners and fourteen guns had been taken from the Italians by the Austrians.

INSPECTION OF THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.

The Archduke Albert had inspected the Austrian army under his command and was received with enthusiastic cheers.

THREAT OF REPRISALS AFTER BATTLE.

It is officially stated that three Austrian prisoners having been hung on trees by the Italians, the Archduke Albert wrote to the Italian Commander-in-Chief to the effect that in the event of a repetition of this course a system of reprisals would be adopted.

Austrian Rejoicings.

[Bomisch Trubau (June 25) correspondence of London Times.]

The news of a victory at Custozza, in Italy, has filled this army with joy and pride. We hear that two thousand prisoners were taken, and Prince Amadeus wounded.

Field Marshal Benedek himself announced the glad tidings to a group of excited hearers this morning, since when little else has been talked of.

MARSHAL BENEDEK'S CONGRATULATIONS.

To the telegrams from Italy Field Marshal Benedek made the following reply in the name of the Army of the North:—

TRUBAU, June 25, 1866.

Field Marshal Benedek and the whole Imperial Northern Army, full of joyful admiration, send their hearty felicitations to the brave Army of the South and its illustrious commander for the late glorious day of Custozza.

The campaign in the south has opened with a brilliant victory to our brothers in arms. A second glorious Custozza is emblazoned on Austria's imperial shield of honor.

ADDRESS TO THE TROOPS.

At the foot of the order containing these telegrams Field Marshal Benedek added the following address to the troops:—

Soldiers of the Imperial Army of the North—You will hail this news with joy, and go forth to the approaching strife with increased enthusiasm, so that we shall soon inscribe on the same shield a new and glorious battle name, and announce to the Emperor a victory from the north also, for which your martial ardor is longing, and which your valor and devotion will win, to the cry of "Long live the Emperor!" BENEDEK.

THE IMPERIAL REPLY.

This evening as the Field-Marshal, many of his staff, and civilians were present at a restaurant, the reply arrived from Italy, and was handed round to be read:—

THE ARCHDUKE ALBRECHT TO FIELD MARSHAL BENEDEK.

The Army of the South and its commander give heartfelt thanks to their former General, well beloved, and to his gallant army, persuaded that they will soon be able to return felicitations upon a like success.

ROYAL RULES OF DISCIPLINE.

In a general order, dated the 13th of May, the Commander-in-Chief laid down certain principles which, as he said, were to be the Bible of the Northern Army. A few selections may serve to indicate the spirit in which he wishes the troops to act:—

He is to be addressed in all communications as "His Excellency the Field Marshal Commander of the Army," without any unnecessary titles or high sounding phrases.

Health is to be cared for both by officers and men for the sake of the Emperor's service.

No talk about differences of religion, birth or nationality; no jealousy nor unworthy rivalry. "We are one army, with but one object before our eyes—to deserve well of our common Fatherland, to show ourselves worthy of the Emperor's trust and love, and to earn his approval." Soldiers are told that they have nothing to do with politics. "And, above all, the strictest discipline is to be maintained."

The officers must hold back their troops from excesses with "an iron grasp." On entering a foreign country everything is to be paid for. "Absolutely no plunder." Officers requiring horses must never pay less than the regulation price.

All these and many other rules show that the inhabitants have nothing to fear from the presence of the *Nord Armée*.

THE COMMISSARIAT.

War cannot be made without the infliction of much suffering, but as far as possible this will be confined to the armies in the field. Nor will they be left uncared for. Droves of oxen follow the troops or are collected from the surrounding country; excellent bread is sent from Prague and Vienna; hospitals are provided for the sick and wounded, whose wants will be attended to by a large staff of surgeons. The men are, to my knowledge, well clad, and, though forced marches must try the hardiest pedestrians, wagons are not wanting to relieve the fatigue of the weary and footsore. An Austrian army in the field carries no tents, and the weaker soldiers must suffer from bad weather.

THE MEN AND ACCOUTREMENTS.

The soldier's accoutrements are light, his dress is easy, his rifle (with bayonet) weighs less than ten English pounds—much the same as our own Enfield, and his appearance is more workmanlike than picturesque. Recruits and service men still continue to arrive by train or road, yet the country is by no means drained of its resources. Plenty of stalwart fellows are still in plain clothes, ready to be called out if wanted. Indeed, the power of Austria and Bavaria to furnish men seems almost inexhaustible, to say nothing of the minor States which follow in the Imperial train.

The News in Florence.

[From the Nazione of Florence, June 24.]

The first news we receive from the camp does not respond to our ardent desires. In yesterday's battle victory did not crown the heroic efforts of our valiant soldiers. Such is the news brought by the despatches that reached us last night from the principal headquarters and the Prefecture of Brescia. The government has adopted the wise and straightforward determination of telling the whole truth to the country without reticence—the whole truth due to a people already mature, of tried patriotism, accustomed to the events, now favorable and now adverse, of public life. The despatches published by the government may, therefore, be regarded as the exact expression of the situation, without amplification and without curtailment. The country has worthily responded to the confidence of the government by not allowing itself to be overpowered by unfounded fear, just as a few days since it refused to be deluded by over-sanguine hopes.

It was the first time that an army composed of Italians from all parts of the peninsula faced the fire of the secular enemy of Italy. Every one did his duty. The enemy's fire was the crucible in which the fusion of so many different elements was fused. The brunt of the day was almost entirely sustained by the first corps alone; and it appears that the Second and Third could not reach the field in time to be of use. *The First corps was thus overpowered by a greatly superior force.* We await details in order to know to what cause the delay of a part of the army is to be attributed, and the failure of the attack upon the historical positions occupied by the Austrians. Our army has not lost ground; it is almost intact, and full of warlike ardor. It may, therefore, be imagined that the failure of yesterday has merely increased its desire to distinguish itself by a speedy victory.

Our princes were, as everybody expected, in the front rank; the wound of Prince Amadeus is a fresh title acquired by the warlike dynasty of Saxony to the affection and gratitude of the Italians. With such princes in the foremost ranks, and with an army like ours, there can be no doubt of the final victory.

Victor Emanuel To The King of Portugal.

Just before starting the King sent the following telegram to the King of Portugal:—

MY DEA