

RUSSIA.

Prince Gortchakoff's Circular to Earl Granville.

Complete Text of the Russian Demands and Argument.

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PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF'S NOTE.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Complete Text of the Russian Circular—Why the Treaty of Paris Should be Abrogated.
The concluding portion of Prince Gortchakoff's note to Earl Granville, communicated through Baron Brunnow in London, having reached us by telegraph from the point where our special despatch was interrupted yesterday morning, we publish to-day the complete text of this very important document. The Russian note reads as follows:—

PRINCE GORTCHAKOFF TO EARL GRANVILLE.

TSARSKOYE SELO, Oct. 19, 1870.

BARON.—The successive alterations which the compromises considered to be the foundation of the equilibrium of Europe have in these last years undergone have obliged the Imperial Cabinet to examine the influence upon the political position of Russia resulting therefrom. Among these compromises which interests us most directly is the treaty of the 18th-20th March, 1856. The special convention between the two Powers bordering on the Black Sea, annexed to this treaty, contains an engagement on the part of Russia to limit her naval forces to inconsiderable dimensions. In return, this treaty offered her the principle of the neutralization of that sea.

In the view of the signatory Powers, this principle was to remove all possibility of conflict, whether between the Powers bordering on the Black Sea or between them and the maritime Powers. It was to increase the number of territories called by the unanimous agreement of Europe to enjoy the benefits of neutrality and so to protect Russia herself from all danger of aggressions.

The experience of fifteen years has proved that this principle, upon which depends the security of the whole extent of the frontiers of the Russian Empire in this direction, rests only on a theory. In fact, while Russia, disarmed in the Black Sea, has even by a declaration recorded in the protocols of the conferences legally denied herself the possibility of taking effective measures of maritime defence in the adjacent seas and ports, Turkey preserved the right of keeping up unlimited naval forces in the Archipelago and the Straits. France and England preserved the power of concentrating their squadrons in the Mediterranean.

Moreover, by the terms of the treaty the entrance to the Black Sea is formally and forever prohibited to the flag of war, whether of the Riparian Powers or any other Power. But by virtue of the convention called the Straits convention the passage through these Straits is closed to flags of war only in time of peace. It results from this contradiction that the coasts of the Russian empire remain exposed to all aggressions, even on the part of less powerful States as soon as they possess naval forces, to which Russia would be able to oppose only a few vessels of small dimensions.

The treaty of 18th-20th March, 1856, moreover, has not escaped the infractions to which most of the European compromises have been subject, and in presence of which it would be difficult to affirm that it was founded upon respect for treaties as a base of public law and rule for the relations between States, has preserved the same moral sanction which it may have had in other times.

We have seen the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, the fate of which had been fixed by the treaty of peace and by the subsequent protocols under the guarantee of the great Powers, effect a series of revolutions as contrary to the spirit as to the letter of these compromises, and which led them first to union, then to the summoning of a foreign prince. These events occurred with the consent of the Porte and the acquiescence of the great Powers, or at least without the latter having thought it necessary to make their decrees respected.

The representative of Russia was the only one to raise his voice to point out to the Cabinets that by this toleration they would put themselves in contradiction to the explicit stipulations of the treaty. Beyond doubt, if these concessions, granted to one of the Christian nationalities of the East, had resulted from a general understanding between the Cabinets and the Porte, by virtue of a principle applicable to the whole of the Christian population of Turkey, the Imperial Cabinet would have had nothing to do but applaud. But they were exclusive.

The Imperial Cabinet then could not but be struck with the fact that it had been possible to infringe with impunity the treaty of 1856, but a few years after its conclusion. In one of its essential clauses, in the face of the great Powers assembled in conference at Paris, and representing, as a whole, the high collective authority upon which rested the peace of the East, this infraction was not the only one. At several intervals, and under various pretexts, the entrance to the Straits has been opened to foreign ships of war, and that of the

Black Sea to whole squadrons, the presence of which was a violation of the character of absolute neutrality accorded to these waters, in order to secure the repose of the East and the European equilibrium.

His Majesty is convinced that these and that equilibrium will have a stronger guarantee when they shall have been placed on a more just and solid basis than those resulting from a position which no great Power could accept as a normal condition of existence.

You are desired to read this despatch to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and leave a copy with him. Receive, &c. GORTCHAKOFF.

General Presentation of the Note to the Great Powers—How the State Paper Was Matured in St. Petersburg—Popular Approval of the Prince's Position.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

A HERALD special correspondent at St. Petersburg on the 12th inst. says:—

Prince Gortchakoff's letter was presented simultaneously at London, Vienna, Constantinople, Florence and Tours on Wednesday last.

After the knowledge of the delivery of the note in London, Gortchakoff called in person last night at the English Embassy and offered to show the despatch to Sir Andrew Buchanan, explaining that he had chosen to communicate directly with the respective Courts rather than with their representatives here, to avoid all misunderstandings, rumors and exciting telegrams.

The news first became generally known to-day, the new Turkish Ambassador having learned it at the English Embassy. Comparatively few know of it even yet. At the English Club, the rendezvous of the governing classes on Saturday nights, scarcely any one had heard of the action taken. An Assistant Minister was equally ignorant.

Prince Gortchakoff's demands are generally approved by the Russians; all others are greatly excited. It is confidently believed that Austria will fight if England will.

The Russian government must feel prepared for any event, or it would not have ventured on a step so bold. The Russian officials say they have carried out for fourteen years the humiliating conditions of the treaty with scrupulous fidelity, and that now is their time or never. They believe that England will not fight. The Queen's messenger is expected on Thursday with Earl Granville's reply.

None of the morning papers speak of a possible collision between England and Russia. The Exchange Gazette alone has a little paragraph about some important despatches having been received by the British Embassy. Their silence is probably at the request of the government, as the editors knew of the fact.

BRITISH OPINION OF THE RUSSIAN CIRCULAR.

Public Canvass of the Cabinet Position—Can the Nation Support the Ministry for War?

Russian Diplomacy with Bismarck—Review of the Situation After the Issue of the Note.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

Earl Granville's circular is approved in very opposite quarters. Its firmness of tone has occasioned astonishment, especially among the Tories, whose organ this morning is quiet.

The leading Liberals are scarcely less surprised. Yesterday they expected an acquiescent policy and were prepared to defend it.

To-day there is no such indication. Earl Granville has gone beyond the point where public opinion will support him. It is equally difficult to see how his cabinet can go to war or take steps leading directly to war without being first reconstructed, nor is it yet the opinion of the Foreign Office that Russia means to bring on, or that England will be bound to accept, the conflict. They say the situation is undoubtedly grave, but before an opinion can be formed the answer of Gortchakoff must be known, which cannot be for several days. Probably it will not be for a fortnight. Earl Granville's despatch was delivered by the Queen's messenger to Sir Andrew Buchanan at St. Petersburg on Tuesday, and by him to Prince Gortchakoff on Wednesday. It is not expected he will reply instantly, nor is it believed he anticipated an answer like that he has received.

It is also affirmed that although an understanding is believed to exist between Gortchakoff and Bismarck, the former did not consult Bismarck's wishes as to the time of promulgating this declaration, and that Bismarck desired it to be postponed, but Gortchakoff thought himself in a position to force the Chancellor's hand.

A SECOND AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION—HOW DOES RUSSIA INCLINE.

The second element necessary in estimating a probability of war is a knowledge of Russia's exact position, which may not be obtainable immediately. Bismarck was advised of Otto Russell's mission, and it has since been announced that he would be obliged to leave the headquarters for a short absence, on account of his health and to meet the Countess.

Both at St. Petersburg and Versailles, therefore, probable delays may occur.

THE AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

Anxiety is expressed to know whether the American government was privy in this step, of which the Legations at London and St. Petersburg are reported to have been utterly unaware.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS ON THE CRISIS.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

A HERALD correspondent in St. Petersburg telegraphs that the Russian note is universally approved there.

All the city papers contain strong articles, expressing the hope of a peaceful result, but stating that the country is ready for war if necessary. The *Golos* demands a national subscription to build a Black Sea fleet.

TAKING A HINT FROM PRUSSIA.

An imperial ukase, signed yesterday and published to-day in the *Official Journal*, orders the Russian army to be recruited on the Prussian plan.

PRUSSIAN HOPES OF PEACE.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

A HERALD special correspondent telegraphs from Berlin on the 17th inst.—

In official circles a peaceful solution of the Black Sea question is looked for. It is freely admitted that an understanding exists between Prussia and Russia, that, in case of war, they will co-operate.

The news from London and Vienna caused a panic on the Bourse.

Expression of the Berlin Journals—The Idea of a European Congress—Peace and Conciliation Advised.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

The Berlin city journals, of yesterday, issued during the day until evening, are for the most part silent on the Russian question.

The Vienna correspondent of the *National Zeitung*, of Berlin, says that Austria is determined to side with and stand by England, and that Turkey proposes the assembling of a European congress in a note addressed to the Austrian Cabinet.

The *Provincial Correspondenz*, a semi-official Prussian paper, believes that the signing Powers will consent to modify the treaty of Paris of 1856.

The *Fresse*, of Berlin, is conciliating in its expression, relying for its assurance of a continuance of tranquillity in Europe on the peaceful opinions of the present Cabinet of England.

The *Neue Freie Presse* attacks the Russian position violently. The editor appeals to England directly, and asserts that "Great Britain is bound to consider an infringement of the treaty of 1856 a *casus belli*."

TURKEY AND THE GREAT POWERS.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Protest of the Sultan Against the Russian Demands—Imperial Call on the Signers of the Treaty of Paris.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

The agitation on the subject of the Russian demand for the revision of the treaty of Paris continues in England.

Earl Granville's position as set forth in his note to the British Ambassador in St. Petersburg, which was telegraphed to the HERALD yesterday, is fulfilled to-day by the fact that Turkey protests strongly against the action of the Russian government, and calls upon the great Powers which were parties to the treaty of Paris in 1856 to enforce its provisions.

The Gortchakoff Note Officially Delivered.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 17, 1870.

The Sublime Porte did not receive Prince Gortchakoff's note until yesterday. The despatch is conciliatory in tone, but insists on the revision of the treaty of 1856. The Ottoman government will make an energetic reply.

Turkey is preparing for a desperate conflict.

RUSSIA AND EGYPT.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

The Czar's Interest with the Viceroys—Alleged Secret Understanding—Egyptian Hope of Executive Independence.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

Rumors are afloat in the city to-day to the effect that a secret understanding exists between the Sultan and the Viceroys (Khedive) of Egypt for mutual aid and support, and looking ultimately to the securing of the independence of Egypt from Turkish authority.

Russian Call to Arms.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

Exemptions from military service in Russia have been limited and all classes summoned to be ready for service when required.

THE SITUATION IN ENGLAND.

No "Peace Party" Permitted in the Cabinet—Earl Granville Firm in His Position—His People Think and Say—The Armament Continued—Threat to Russia—National Defence—Gibraltar Unlikely Provisioned.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

The peace-at-all-prices party in the Cabinet find themselves unable to resist the popular demand for a war against Russia unless she recedes from her present position.

Earl Granville told Mr. Gladstone that he chooses between yielding to the tide and going out of office. For a moment they have yielded. The members who oppose the position assumed by Earl Granville in his reply to Prince Gortchakoff are Messrs. Lowe, Childers, Cardwell, Bruce and Ayrton. The truth is that Earl Granville sent his reply to Prince Gortchakoff in hot haste, without consulting his colleagues, and then informed them that the country was committed to his position, and that he could not and would not recede from it.

There is intense excitement in government circles relative to the threatened complications growing out of Russia's attempt to secure a revision of the Paris treaty.

The general conviction is that English statesmanship is at fault. The country is wholly unprepared for war, and all its traditional arms are imperilled.

Right Hon. Mr. Cardwell, Secretary of State for War, is hastening the armament of the nation.

The London *Times* has a strong article this morning on the grave situation of affairs. It says "if the Russians put a fleet in the Black Sea Turkey will be able to sweep it off. If she is not, England and the other Powers are bound to do so."

The other city papers speak of the Russian demand as insolent. "England will stand firm to treaty engagements, and will not stand alone."

Throughout England the preparations for defence are extensive.

Gibraltar is being re-provisioned, and the government is purchasing powder in large quantities.

The London *Post*, in an editorial, says "the cause of France has now become the cause of Europe. All the neutral States are bound to assist her to obtain a peace and leave her intact or aid her to continue the war in order to hold Prussia engaged while England, Austria, Italy and Turkey whip Russia into submission. Either Prussia must sign an easy peace to liberate her forces or France, detaining them, will show herself once more the savior of Europe."

The London *Standard* has a bitter attack on Russia and Prussia, who, it declares, "conspired together to commit a monstrous act of perfidy and violence—an audacious contempt of public morality, introducing chaos and a series of endless wars." It proclaims that "the existence of no English Ministry would be worth a week's purchase that dare not give a right answer to this most insolent challenge."

BRITISH COUNTERBLAST TO RUSSIA.

How the "Semi-Asiatic" Nation and Treaty Violator Must Be Dealt With.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

The London *News* will publish an article to-morrow saying, "The anti-Russian feeling in England, dying away under the influence of new ideas of policy, was fast becoming an obsolete prejudice. The recent action of the Imperial Russian government has suddenly revived it in more than doubled strength. The circular of Prince Gortchakoff forces upon those who hoped better things to doubt whether, after all, the great semi-Asiatic Power which occupies Eastern Europe really belongs to our international system, acknowledging the common obligations of Christian and civilized nations. Turkey was, comparatively, the other day, brought within the public law of Europe; and now Russia seems disposed to banish herself from it. The Power which disregards its most solemn

pledges as soon as an opportunity offers goes far to place itself beyond the range of diplomatic intercourse, and the nation which does not acknowledge the force of treaties can only be dealt with by force of arms, if it is to be dealt with at all. The cool announcement which Gortchakoff makes that the Emperor withdraws from the treaty, so far as it restricts his rights in the Black Sea—that is, he declines to fulfill the conditions by which he purchased peace fourteen years ago—stands almost alone in recent times in flagrant violation of personal and political good faith.

No Collective Remonstrance With the Czar—No Charter for Russian Vessels.

LONDON, Nov. 17—P. M.

The idea of a collective note from the Powers concerned to Russia has been abandoned.

The Austrian despatch in reply to Prince Gortchakoff, however, is identical with that of Great Britain.

The evening papers concur in urging vigorous war measures. Merchants here decline to charter Russian vessels.

THE FINANCIAL ASPECT.

Excitement on the London 'Change—Decline in Securities—Breadstuffs Advancing.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

There is much excitement at the Stock Exchange, and securities of all kinds are declining. Breadstuffs are advancing correspondingly. The crisis forms the theme of newspaper comment, and there seems to be but one opinion of the Russian demand—that it is insolent in the last degree."

THE BRITISH ARMY.

Chief Commands in the Event of War.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

Major General Lord Napier of Magdala will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British army should war be undertaken against Russia.

It is said that General Lord Lucan, of Crimean fame, will have the chief command of the cavalry.

AUSTRIAN DIPLOMACY.

Council With England and Turkey.

VIENNA, Nov. 17, 1870.

Baron Von Beust, the Austrian Prime Minister, was in conference with the British and Turkish Ministers on Tuesday upon the question raised by Russia.

EASTERN DEFENCE UNION.

Egypt and the Turkish Principalities.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

In the event of a declaration of war Egypt, Serbia and Roumania will unite against Turkey for independence.

OPINION ON THE CONTINENT.

Why England Should Not Fight.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

The journals on the Continent take no pains to disguise their satisfaction that Great Britain and her colonies would suffer more severely in case of a war against Russia than France has suffered in her contest with Prussia.

THE TREATY OF PARIS.

Hopes of a Peaceful Revision.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

All the Great Powers of Europe are ready to reconsider the Paris treaty of 1856.

A EUROPEAN CONFERENCE IN PROSPECT.

Probable Revision of the Treaty of Paris.

LIEGE, Nov. 17, 1870.

The *Journal de Liege* says Russia is about to propose a conference of the Powers at Brussels to revise the fourteenth article of the treaty of Paris of 1856, and that Austria and Italy are represented as favoring the project.

ROUMANIA, SERBIA AND EGYPT.

Their Political Condition and Military Importance.

LONDON, Nov. 17, 1870.

According to the telegrams which appear in this morning's HERALD the number of intending combatants in the general struggle soon to be inaugurated in Europe still continues to increase. Roumania (including the principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia), Serbia and Egypt are also apparently eager to join in the approaching melee; and, though none of these Powers are of any considerable military importance, the war which seems upon the eve of breaking out will be so fiercely waged, and its component elements are of such uncertain strength, that every new element in the contest ought to be fairly taken into account. It is the last chance that weighs down the scale, and in a general European contest some petty Power may, perhaps, hold the balance of military strength and turn the tide of victory according to the cause it may determine to espouse.

ROUMANIA.

is comparatively a new Power upon the map of Europe. It is still nominally a fief of Turkey, but it yields but a doubtful allegiance to the Porte. The two principalities of which it is composed, Moldavia and Wallachia, contain in all a population of 4,000,000. Wallachia can claim about two-thirds of this number, all of whom are of Slave blood and speak a language essentially Slavonic, but largely tinged with Latin. By the treaty of 1829 Wallachia was invested with the right of appealing to the protection of the Czar. If any interference were attempted by the Porte with the unlimited freedom of the Greek Catholic Church, of which nearly all its citizens are members. This protectorate, however, was abolished by the treaty of 1856, the same instrument which Russia is now threatening to tear into shreds. Moldavia contains a smaller population, four-fifths of whom are Slaves, while the remaining fifth, consisting of about 120,000 Bohemians and 60,000 Jews, are also an important political element, especially as it is different in its religious character. Moldavia first enjoyed the protectorate of Russia as far back as 1792, and this privilege, after being denied for many years, was finally recognized by the Porte by the treaty of 1829. The Czar at the same time acquired absolutely, for a pecuniary consideration, the Bessarabian provinces, which have been regarded by some as to a great extent the gage to European Turkey. This protectorate was also abolished by the treaty of 1856. The incorporation of Wallachia and Moldavia, or rather of Roumania, began in 1859, when they practically joined together by electing the same prince, Colonel Couza. The union was not, however, recognized by Turkey until 1861, when, at the instance of the great Powers, the new kingdom was allowed to adopt a constitutional form of government, the two legislatures of the two provinces being fused into a common parliament and the affairs of the whole country being administered by a single Cabinet. Since that time public affairs in Roumania have been very stormy. A violently democratic spirit has constantly been growing in intensity and power, and is now supreme. Prince Couza was driven away in 1865, narrowly escaping with his life. Prince Charles was selected by the revolutionary leaders to succeed him, but during the past two years he has been exceedingly

unpopular. Times without number he has been the subject of abusive tirades in the Legislature, and on several occasions a second revolution has seemed so imminent that the Emperor has been telegraphed all over Europe. Under these circumstances it will be seen how unfeeling must be any guesses about the part Roumania will take in the pending strife. In spite of the active exertions of Russian agents, who have been employed for years in travelling through the country to stir up a Pan-slavic sentiment, the general masses of the people look by no means with favor upon the prospect of becoming the children of the Czar. All, indeed, that Roumanians desire is to be freed absolutely from the yoke of Mohammedan Turkey. So far as military strength goes Roumania is certainly not contemptible. Her population is singularly warlike, and though it she has but a standing army of 15,000 men, these circumstances it is less treated between the ages of twenty and forty are subject to the use of arms, and are more or less treated in time of war, and are accustomed to the restraints of discipline. Roumania has no navy except a few steamers on the Danube, which are altogether too insignificant to be noticed.

RUSSIA'S ARMY.

another of the Danubian principalities, occupies much the same position towards Turkey, and is peopled by the same Slave race and animated by the same political instincts as Roumania. It first declared its independence in 1859, but was forced again to come under the sway of the Porte. In 1823 its present attitude towards the Sultan was arranged. It is independent as far as its internal affairs are concerned, but is required to pay an annual tribute, to permit the presence of a Turkish garrison of 2,000 men in its principal city, Belgrade, and to submit to the investiture of its princes by the Sultan. Of late years it has been growing more and more eager for independence, and has exhibited the same democratic propensities as Roumania, though not in so marked a form. Its military strength on paper is very considerable, amounting on a war footing to five divisions of 25,000 each, in all 125,000 men. The actual forces that would be reached, however, would certainly be much lower.

EGYPT.

The third Power reported to be in a state of martial excitement, is also a tributary of the Porte, and, as we stated yesterday in the published review of the probable combatants in the coming struggle, will probably take sides with Russia and boldly strike out for independence. Her military strength, which has been vastly increased both in numbers and efficiency during the past few years, now runs up to about 100,000 men. These are officered very largely by foreigners, including a number of American veterans. The troops are splendidly equipped with breech-loaders, and are thoroughly disciplined. Egypt has now, however, no naval importance, as, by the terms agreed upon for the settlement of the recent quarrel between the Khedive and the Sultan, the former was required to immediately forward the iron-clads he had bought from England to Constantinople, to be taken possession of by the Porte at their original cost.

THE BRITISH COMMANDERS.

Baron Napier of Magdala.

By a special telegram to the HERALD we learn that Lieutenant General Napier has been appointed to the chief command of the British forces. The name of this officer has been familiar to all Americans since the expedition to Abyssinia, the storming of Magdala and the killing of Theodoros. He is a son of the late Major Charles Frederick Napier by his wife Catherine, who was a native of Barbados. The subject of this sketch was born at Ceylon on the 8th of December, 1810. In 1826 he entered the Bengal engineers, and distinguished himself in the Sepoy campaign at the siege of Moulton, at Cojpur, and at the capture of Lucknow in 1857, during which last named year he defeated the Sepoys at the battle of Pownee. For this last feat he was created a Knight Commander of the Bath and tendered the thanks of Parliament. In 1861 he participated in the Chinese campaign which resulted in the capture of Peking, and again received the thanks of Parliament. From 1861 to 1865 he was a member of the Council of India, and during the latter year was appointed Commander-in-Chief of holding this position the rank of general. While Great Britain and the Emperor Theodore, which ended in a brief war. General Napier was placed in command of the forces sent to Abyssinia, and the admirable manner in which he directed the campaign, the rapidity with which he effected the successful conclusion of the movement against Magdala form a brilliant page in the history of his military career. In reward for this service he was created a G. C. B., and on the 19th of July, 1868, was raised to the peerage as Lord Napier of Magdala. Fourteen days later Parliament passed an act granting an annuity of \$10,000 to him and to his surviving male heir for the term of their natural lives. Lord Napier has been twice married, and has had ten children, all of whom are still living.

EARL OF LUCAN.

The commander of the cavalry is said to be Sir George Charles Bingham, Earl of Lucan. He is an old officer of the British army, having entered the service nearly fifty years ago. During the Turkish campaign of 1828 he served as a volunteer in the Russian army, under General Diebitzsch, and for his services was made a Knight Second class of the Order of St. Ann of Russia. He represented the county Mayo in Parliament from 1826 to 1830, and was chosen one of the representatives of the county Mayo in 1846. He commanded a division of cavalry in the Crimea, during the campaign of 1854-5 there, and participated in the battles of Alma, Inkermann and Inkermann. The famous charge of the light brigade, which belonged to his command, will be remembered so long as the history of the battle of Balaklava remains extant. Lord Lucan was colonel of the 11th Hussars from February, 1850, when he became colonel of the First Regiment of Life Guards. He is a lieutenant general in the army, a K. C. B., a Commander of the Legion of Honor, Knight of the Medjidie, &c.

RUSSIA BIDDING FOR AMERICAN CRUISERS.

Some queer rumors are afloat concerning the intention of the Russian government to purchase some of our navy yard built men-of-war. In view of the contingencies arising out of a war with England, it is well known that the United States have a number of ships of large size, built expressly for the purpose of preying upon English merchantmen in case of a war that more than once appeared likely to arise between Great Britain and our country. There were four of these craft constructed, of over 2,000 tons burthen, new measurement, and designed to carry a battery of twenty-one guns—those in broadside to be 11-inch smooth bore shell guns, and those mounted on pivot carriages to be two or three hundred pounder rifles. The engines, expressly designed and constructed for these vessels, were of immense size and power, the whole available space between decks being used for the boilers, engines and coal bunkers, leaving room only for a small crew. Their extreme length and narrow beam, combined with a beautiful model, made them just the craft for great speed. The *Wampanoag*, or as she is now called, the *Florida*, made a prolonged trial trip, and, under steam alone, logged seven trial knots—a speed that was maintained for more than twenty-four hours. The reckonings were made from landfall to landfall, and there could be no mistake as to the distance run in a given time. No such speed was ever before attained by any propeller or man-of-war of any nation. The trial and its results attracted very general attention all over the world; but as the war had not broken out, the government had no special use for that peculiar style of ship and they were placed in ordinary and have been laying up ever since. On Tuesday last, as we noticed in our naval report of yesterday, one of the vessels—the *Florida*—was hauled out of her old berth and taken to the ordnance dock in order to have her armament removed, so that the ship could be overhauled and refitted for sea service. As the United States are not likely to need these craft for some time to come, in view of the English nation coming to terms with us on the Alabama claims, we can sell the craft to a foreign Power. Russia is in need of just such vessels in case of war with the great naval Power, Great Britain, to prey upon the vessels of that country which are represented by her commerce. Destroy English commerce and you cripple England and at once reduce her to a second or third rate Power. That is what

Russia would do. But Russia has no navy in this quarter of the globe and no ships fit for fast cruises. She can buy them here, fit them out before war is declared, and send them out on the ocean to capture, burn and destroy every English craft that comes across. Russia can afford to pay handsomely for these vessels, and our government can sell them and not miss them, as long as we pursue our peaceful path. A few weeks only would be required to put them in first rate condition. They can never be caught and they can chase and overhaul the dearest merchant steamers afloat. In this war they would be invaluable to Russia and a scourge to England. They would pay for themselves ten times over in three months. We hope they will bring good prices. We can build others before we have any need for them and can be ready to replace them.

Our government is not disposed to sell to a foreign Power any of our double-barreled ironclads, though there are not a few in our navy. The ironclads that are in the market, it is believed, Russia has plenty of this class of ironclads, however, and will wish to buy. The coming war, therefore, likely to result in more of these craft.

RUSSIA'S ARMY.

Inception and Existing Causes of the Movement—Home Dangers, and the Outside No-cessities of the Empire.

[St. Petersburg (Nov. 17) correspondence of London Post.]

The trumpets of alarm sounded by the Russian press are still as vehement as ever; but the object of apprehension seems to be now more definitely admitted than before. In fact, one may say that the Russians are at present avowing one great apprehension in order to mask another and a greater, which they wish to conceal. The avowed anxiety is, of course, that old, perpetual bugbear—the annexation of the Baltic provinces—a fear which has just been roused into absolute panic by an unpleasant little paragraph in one of the Berlin reviews, which, in the course of a criticism upon a recent work on the numbers and political strength of the German races, takes occasion to remark:—"And the policy of consolidation which we are pursuing in the West, with Alsace and Lorraine, might with equal advantage be pursued in the East, where large and important tracts of country have been torn from us." Strictly speaking, this statement is not altogether correct; the *tragedy* of country in question having been torn, not from Prussia, but from Sweden and Poland; while the Prussian provinces annexed by the Empress Elizabeth were restored (at last) by her successor, Peter III. Nevertheless, the allusion to the Baltic provinces is unmistakable, and the horror of the Russian journals at this suggestion of such a contingency can hardly be called exaggerated. The greatest advantage that one nation can have over another is the possession of a free passage into the latter's territory. The three Germanic *Adler* Prussia and Russia have been long engaged in *jeu-de-bas* the ever-open gate of Calais offered a passage for English archers and English pilgrims to pour into France, and