



EUROPE.

FOUR DAYS LATER NEWS.

THE IMPENDING WAR.

FAILURE OF THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE.

WAR CONSIDERED INEVITABLE.

THE POSITION OF THE OPPOSING ARMIES.

THE REFORM QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

Sir Morton Peto's House to Resume Business.

Another Heavy Failure in London.

United States Five-Twenties, 64 and 64 1/4; Consols, 85 7/8 and 86.

The Italian steamer City of Paris, Capt. Kennedy, which left Liverpool at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 6th, and Queenstown on the 7th, arrived here at an early hour on Saturday morning, bringing four days' later news.

THE IMPENDING WAR.

Abandonment of the Proposed Conference.

AUSTRIA'S RESERVATIONS. The Paris conference has failed, and the Austrian reply, in principle, the invitations to a Conference, but with such reservations and conditions as necessitate the exchange of further communications between the neutral Powers and the Austrian Government.

The Memorial Diplomatique says: "Austria will not ask for territorial changes, but will not oppose a free and loyal discussion upon the pretensions of other States."

The London Times says: "It would be deplorable if the obstinacy or ambition of the Governments representing civilized and enlightened States should hurry Europe into war without even the preliminary trial of pacific discussion, and yet such is the present prospect of affairs.

The armed powers have each, in turn, attempted to withdraw so much from the cognizance of the Conference, that little importance would be left for the Conference to consider. A large share of the responsibility for war will rest with Austria if she rejects the opportunity the Conference affords her of coming to terms with her enemies. It is by no means certain that the result of war will leave Austria with even so much as the Conference would undoubtedly adjust to her.

The following was published before the announcement of the failure of the negotiations:

"The Ministerial Osterreichische Zeitung publishes an article in reference to the programme semi-officially stated to have been proposed by Austria as the basis for the deliberations of the Conference at Paris, in accordance with which no extension of territory or increase of power would be allowed to any of the States invited to the Conference. This programme, says the Osterreichische Zeitung, does not render impossible an exchange of territory. Negotiations might be entered into for the cession of Venetia if Italy was to offer Austria a completely corresponding territorial compensation. In the same way the acquisition of the Elbe Duchies by Prussia could form the subject of discussion if that power were ready to cede to Austria territory equal to the Duchy of Holstein. Until this is the case, the treaty stipulations will be adhered to by the Austrian Government."

FLORENCE RUMORS.

The Florence journals are of opinion that as Austria's resolution not to discuss the Venetian question was foreseen, it will not prevent the meeting of the proposed Conference, the object of which is to determine the respective share of responsibility in the present difficulties which devolves upon each of the antagonistic powers. The Conference will provide the basis for a subsequent settlement of pending questions.

WHAT THE LONDON TIMES SAYS.

The London Times of the 5th inst., announces the abandonment of the proposed Conference. It says: "It is with the deepest regret we announce that the hopes of settling, by a Conference, the disputes which now agitate Europe, must be abandoned. The French Government has telegraphed to our own that in consequence of the persistence of Austria in imposing conditions, which would make the discussions nugatory, the Conference will not be held. It would, indeed, be a mockery to call together the Representatives of the great Powers on terms which would necessarily involve their immediate separation. We fear that matters stand as they stood three weeks since, and that it now rests with the armed Powers to compose their disputes by negotiation between themselves, or to resort to the final arbitration of war."

OTHER REPORTS.

This announcement by The Times was afterward confirmed from other sources, and the general feeling was that the last hope of peace had vanished.

FRENCH ACCOUNTS.

A Paris telegram of the 5th says: "The French Government has sent a note to Vienna in reference to the reply given by Austria to the invitation for a Conference." The French Government regrets that this reply must be considered as a refusal to take part in the Conference, and, therefore, as frustrating the efforts for the preservation of peace.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

England and Russia have declared, through their representatives in Paris, that, in their opinion, the reservations made by Austria in her reply to the invitation of the neutral Powers would prevent the Conference from having a useful result.

NO HOPES OF PEACE.

The London Times of the 6th says: "Daily, almost hourly, the chances of peace fade away. Should the sword be drawn it is from the Elbe Duchies that we shall probably hear of the first serious event of the war, but the contest in this quarter cannot compare in importance with that which is impending on the frontier of two monarchies. At any moment the Austrians may burst into Silesia. It is not unlikely that the first great move of Austria will be an attempt to possess herself of this province. It would almost seem to be the prize of the conqueror in the coming campaign. The Emperor has probably been led to look for compensation in the province that was wrested from his home in the last war. This is to counterbalance the loss to make up for Venetia, if Venetia should be lost. Here Prussia must defend herself, for there is no one to help her. Even if she had a Western ally she could not penetrate into the heart of Europe. The only aid must come from Prussia, and the Czar is now quite indisposed to take up arms on behalf of the Northern Power. If Prussia seized Holstein it is therefore not unlikely that Austria will at once cross the frontier. The Emperor is naturally desirous to show his strength and to gain reputation at the outset by a decided success. Whether Benedek will advance through Saxony or Berlin, or content himself with a provincial campaign

THE IMPENDING WAR IN EUROPE

THE GEOGRAPHICAL, POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION.



G. SEARS 66 FULTON ST. N.Y.

THE SITUATION.

STRENGTH OF THE CONTENDING POWERS.

I.—PRUSSIA. The area of Prussia is at present 198,212 English square miles, or about equal to the combined territory of Georgia and Florida. The population, according to the census of 1854, was 19,304,843, falling but little below that of the Northern States of the Union. The great majority of the population are Germans; the total number of persons belonging to non-German nationalities being 2,504,173. A considerable portion of the latter are feeble remnants of small tribes, which are rapidly being absorbed by the German nationality. Within the last few years the Government of Prussia made several important additions to the former dominions, acquiring first the two Principalities of Hohenzollern, next the important seacoast district of Yabde, which it purchased from Oldenburg, and more recently the Duchy of Lauenburg which was ceded to it by Austria for a pecuniary consideration. It holds, moreover, possession of Schleswig, and avows its intention to permanently annex to Prussia both this Duchy and that of Holstein. In point of administration, Prussia is not inferior to any other country of the world. Its finances, unlike those of Austria and Italy, are in a sound condition; its army discipline has long been the admiration of the entire civilized world. The army, on a war footing, numbers 700,000, and its fleet consisted, in 1865, of 37 steamers, 8 sailing vessels, 40 rowing vessels; total, 85 war vessels. The reigning King is William I., born in 1797, who succeeded his brother Frederic William IV., in January, 1861.

II.—AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Empire, as at present constituted, is divided into nineteen Provinces, the area of which is 226,311 English square miles, with a total population, according to computation, of 36,725,000 souls. This population is divided, with respect to race and language, into no fewer than twelve different nationalities, namely: Germans.....8,200,000; Servians.....1,470,000; Bohemians.....3,000,000; Hungarians.....5,000,000; Moravians, &c.....3,000,000; Italians (exclusive of Slavaks).....2,200,000; Latins (Friuls).....3,050,000; Russians.....2,800,000; Eastern Romans.....2,700,000; Slavonians.....1,210,000; Members of other races.....1,300,000.

Austria is one of the great military powers of Europe, her army on the war footing being over half a million of men. The navy, however, is comparatively small, consisting, in August, 1864, of 39 steamers with 639 guns, 11,730 horse-power, and 20 sailing vessels with 145 guns. Great efforts have been made within the last few years to raise the Imperial navy to a state of high efficiency by the substitution of steam for sailing vessels, and the gradual formation of an iron-clad fleet of war. Austria has become a constitutional monarchy since 1849, the main features of the constitution consisting, first, of the Federal Diet, representing the various States of the monarchy; secondly, a Central Diet, or Council of the Empire; and thirdly, a reduced form of the latter, or Partial Council of the Empire, as it is called. The public debt of the Empire, which

at the commencement of the French revolution in 1789 was \$174,500,000, had grown in 1863 to \$1,210,222,085. From 1789 to the present time there has not been a single year in which the revenue of the State has come up to the expenditures. The present Emperor, Francis Joseph I., was born August, 1830, and was proclaimed Emperor and King in consequence of the abdication of his uncle, Ferdinand I., and the renunciation of his father, Francis Charles, December 2, 1848. He was Commander-in-Chief of the Austrian army in the Italian campaign of 1859.

III.—ITALY.

The Kingdom of Italy has an area of 98,784 English square miles, with a population, according to the last census, taken in the Spring of 1864, of 21,703,710 souls, being on an average 220 inhabitants to the square mile; a figure higher than that of France and Germany, but lower than that of England. There has been in some of the Provinces a rapid increase of population of late years; but the increase of wealth has been much more rapid within the last century than the increase of population. The great mass of the people are devoted to agricultural pursuits, and the town population is comparatively small. It has a seafaring population of 158,092 individuals, nearly all of whom are liable to the maritime conscription. The military organization of the Kingdom is based on conscription, and the standing army consists of more than 200,000 men on a peace footing, and more than 400,000 on a war establishment. The navy of the Kingdom consisted in 1865 of 98 steamers of 20,760 horse-power, with 2,169 guns, and 17 sailing vessels with 379 guns; altogether, 115 men of war with 2,439 guns. Italy has a public debt of nearly eight hundred millions of dollars. The expenditures are largely in excess of the annual revenue. The reigning Sovereign, Victor Emmanuel II., was born March 14, 1831, and is the eldest son of King Charles Albert of Sardinia, and Archduchess Theresa of Austria. He succeeded to the throne on the abdication of his father, March 23, 1849, and was proclaimed King of Italy by vote of the Italian Parliament, March 17, 1861.

IV.—THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

The German Confederation was organized, in 1815, upon the ruins of the German Empire which had been dissolved in 1806. The object of the Confederation, according to the first article of the Federal Constitution, is "the preservation of the internal and external security of Germany, and the independence and inviolability of the various German States." The organ and representative of the Confederation is the Federal Diet, consisting of Plenipotentiaries of the several German States, and permanently located in the free city of Frankfurt. The administrative Government of the Federal Diet is constituted in two forms: 1st. As a General Assembly or Plenum, in which every member of the Confederation has at least one vote, and the larger States have two, three or four votes each; and second, the Minor Council, or Committee of Confederation, in which the eleven largest States cast one vote each, while six votes are given to the smaller States, a number of them combined having a joint vote. The Presidency is permanently vested in Austria. The General Assembly decides on war and peace, on the admission of new members, on any changes in the funda-

EXPLANATION OF THE MAP.

A. Duchy of Schleswig, area 3,704 square miles, population 409,907. B. Duchy of Holstein, area 3,355 square miles, population 544,419. THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION. The Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, together with the little adjoining Duchy of Lauenburg, formerly connected with the Crown of Denmark, were made over by the Treaty of Vienna, signed, Oct. 30, 1864, to the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia. On Aug. 15, 1865, Austria and Prussia concluded the Convention of Gastein, in pursuance of which Austria took possession of the Duchy of Holstein, and Prussia of Schleswig and Lauenburg, both powers appointing military governors to rule over these territories respectively: Governor of Holstein, Field Marshal von Gablenz; Governor of Schleswig, Lieutenant-General of Mantouffel. The Duchy of Lauenburg was taken possession of by Prussia on the 18th September, 1865, the sum of 2,200,000 thalers, stipulated in the Convention of Gastein, as indemnity, having been paid to Austria on that day. The efforts of Prussia to prevail upon Austria to cede her claim to Holstein were unsuccessful; and the diplomatic notice of Prussia, being regarded as a threat by Austria, elicited warlike replies

and thus the present crisis was precipitated. On June 1, 1866, the Austrian representative in the Federal Diet of Frankfurt stated that his government had endeavored in vain to come to an arrangement with Prussia concerning the duchies, and would now leave the matter in the hands of the Confederation. The Prussian government maintained that this step of Austria was a violation of a convention between the two powers concluded on Jan. 16, 1864, stipulating that all future arrangements of the affairs of the duchies should be dependent upon a mutual understanding between the two powers, and especially that the succession question should be settled by mutual accord. Prussia, therefore, declared the Convention of Gastein abolished, and at the date of our latest advices, June 7, it was expected that Prussian troops would at once march into Holstein. In case of a formal declaration of war, it is presumed that the Austrian troops in Holstein will fall back into Hanover.

C. The Duchy of Limburg (836 square miles, 216,550 inhabitants), and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (930 square miles and 197,281 inhabitants) are connected with the crown of Holland, but at the same time are members of the German Confederation. The connection of Limburg is, however, but nominal, the inhabitants being Dutch and not German. The Government of Holland, therefore, demands its separation from the German Confederation, and this question was to have come before the Peace Conference at Paris. Upon the impending war it is not likely to have any important influence.

D. Concentration of Prussian troops in Silesia.

E. Concentration of Austrian troops in Bohemia and Galicia.

THE POSITION OF THE ARMIES.

Both the Prussian and Austrian Governments have forbidden the publication of detailed accounts of the movements of troops. It is, however, well known that both powers have concentrated their main forces along the frontier of the Kingdom of Saxony. Prussia is believed to have about 200,000 men between Götting and Neisse in Silesia, and Austria to have more than 300,000 men ready to march into Saxony and Silesia. The armies are in positions which leave it doubtful whether Saxony or Silesia will witness the first battle, but in either case the movements of the two armies will be over the same territory which the campaigns of Frederick the Great have made memorable, and it is not likely that the lessons taught by that matchless soldier in the tremendous struggle which made Silesia a province of Prussia, will be forgotten by either army. It is given out that Austria hopes to recover the territory for whose loss Maria Theresa wept and fought in vain, but Frederick maintained it then against the entire Southern and Western frontier of Europe in arms. During the Seven Years War, the population of Prussia was 5,000,000, while 100,000,000 of people were banded against her. Prussia cannot possibly be called on now to face any such tremendous odds.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has formed a camp near Warsaw, which is said to number about 40,000 men.

VENETIA.

G. The four great fortresses of Venetia (the "Quadrilater"), viz.: Peschiera, Mantua, Legnago, Verona. CONCENTRATION OF ITALIAN TROOPS. H. The army which the Austrians have ready to operate against the Italians, is variously estimated from 150,000 to 250,000 men. It is believed that the Austrians, at the outset, intend to keep themselves strictly on the defensive. The Italians will soon have in the field an effective army of at least 400,000, who are concentrating along the entire Southern and Western frontier of Venetia. It is not expected, however, that they will make any direct attack upon the quadrilateral, but they will probably invade Southern Tyrol in order to cut the communication between Innsbruck and Venice, and land a large force in Dalmatia, and advance via Trieste for the purpose of cutting off the communication between Venice and Vienna, and operate by sea against Venice. The inhabitants of Venice are more unanimous than ever in their sympathy with the common Italian cause.

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for the conquest of Silesia itself, the first few days of the war must determine, but in either case all the resources of the Prussian monarchy must be called forth in order to make head against its late ally."

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FAILURE.

The Paris Monitor of June 4 says: "The reply of Austria, on the subject of a Conference, contains certain reservations which must be examined before the meeting of the Plenipotentiaries."

"The negotiations for a Conference have failed, and all probability of its assembling has, therefore, disappeared."

THE CONSTITUTIONAL BELGE OF JUNE 5.

The Constitutionnel of June 5 says: "We know already the impression produced in London and St. Petersburg by the Austrian reply to the invitation to a Conference. It was immediately asked, not without reason, what advantage could be expected from a Conference if Austria persisted in her present determination? According to the reservations made by that Power, two questions would disappear from the programme. We deeply regret the attitude assumed by the Vienna Cabinet. Without doubt, each Power regards its interest from its own point of view, but it appears to us that Europe had a right to expect other determinations from a great conservative Power."

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS SENT A NOTE TO VIENNA.

In reference to the reply given by Austria to the invitation for a Conference, the French Government regrets that this reply must be considered as a refusal to take part in the Conference, and, therefore, as frustrating the efforts for the preservation of peace."

THE INDEPENDENCE BELGE OF JUNE 5 PUBLISHES INTELLIGENCE.

from Paris stating that England and France have congratulated Prussia and Italy upon their unreserved acceptance of the Conference.

A BERLIN DISPATCH OF JUNE 5 SAYS:

"The French government has informed the Prussian Cabinet that, in consequence of the reservations made by Austria, the project for holding a Conference must be abandoned, and the settlement of the existing difficulties left to the three Powers at variance."

A FLORENCE DISPATCH OF JUNE 5 SAYS:

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THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons, on the 5th inst., Gen. Peel said:

"I wish to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer or the Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs whether it is true that the proposed Congress has been given up?"

The Chancellor of the Exchequer—I am sorry to affirmatively to the question of the right honorable and gallant gentleman. The first communication made to the British Government was a telegraphic message received last night from France, stating that in the opinion of the French Government a definite assurance was at an end, in consequence of the answer from Austria imposing conditions that were regarded as impracticable. We are now in possession of the Austrian dispatch upon the subject, and the substance of it is, that it should be agreed beforehand that all the Powers which were to take part in the projected Conference should be ready to renounce the pursuit of any special or particular interest to the detriment of the general tranquillity; and the Austrian Government went on further to explain that sentiment by saying that in order that the work of peace which the Cabinets had in view might be in a condition to be accomplished, it appeared to them indispensable that it should be agreed beforehand to exclude from the deliberations of the Conference anything that would tend to give to any of the States who were then invited to the meeting any territorial augmentation or increase of power. The requirement of such an engagement beforehand was regarded by the Government of France as equivalent to the refusal of a conference, and as rendering it impossible; and the Government of England are agreed in their view of the case with the Government of France. All prospect of the meeting of a Conference must, therefore, I fear, be regarded as at an end.

THE VIEWS OF ITALY.

The statement of the Memorial Diplomatique that Italy, in replying to the invitation for a conference, had proposed that the conference should deliberate on the means for securing and consolidating the kingdom of Italy, is officially declared to be entirely unfounded. Italy, it is added, is able to secure her own safety, and her national unity does not require consolidation.

THE FEDERAL DIET.

The reply of the Federal Diet to the invitation to a conference has been dispatched from Frankfurt. It adopts the Austrian programme, and declares that the question of the Duchies and that of Federal Reform are not within the competence of the neutral Powers. The reply also states that the Italian question is a matter in the solution of which the German Confederation takes great interest.

THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

AUSTRIA AND THE FEDERAL DIET.

The declaration made by the Austrian representative in the last sitting of the Federal Diet, is joyfully received by all the Vienna press as a German deed by which the political situation is placed in a clear light. They consider that the question of peace or war must now soon be decided. Some journals declare that the Austrian declaration will hasten the outbreak of war, and that all hope of peace being preserved by a conference must be abandoned.

CONVOCAZIONE OF THE STATES OF HOLSTEIN.

An ordinance was published at Kiel on the 9th, signed by Gen. Von Gablenz, convoking the Estates of Holstein by order of the Emperor of Austria for the 11th June.

PRUSSIA'S POLICY.

According to Vienna papers Prussia will declare that the Federal Diet is incompetent to accede to the Austrian proposal in reference to Schleswig-Holstein, and will summon Austria to abandon her intention of taking the steps proposed by her in the last sitting. Prussia, moreover, is said to have resolved to look upon non-compliance with this summons as a *casus belli*.

CONFIRMATION.

This statement is confirmed by The London Times in a special telegram dated Vienna 4th inst., which says: "Prussia has informed Austria that in consequence of her having referred the Holstein question to the Bund, the Gastein Convention becomes invalid and that Prussian troops will enter Holstein."

PRUSSIA TO AUSTRIA.

A Berlin dispatch of the 6th says: "The Prussian Government has addressed a dispatch to Vienna, declaring that the measures announced by Austria in the Federal Diet, violate the treaty of Gastein and causes the suspension of the co-possession of the Duchies."

THE TWO POWERS ARE THEREFORE RESTORED TO THE POSITION.

and rights accorded them by the treaty of Vienna which retains its European validity." AN AUSTRIAN NOTE. A circular note of Count Mensdorff, in reference to the late declarations made by Austria at the Federal Diet, had been published. It states that Austria will observe the Gastein Convention until a definitive settlement of the question of the Duchies is effected. The proposals made by Austria at the Federal Diet had no other object than that of preparing such a definitive settlement, and were only submitted to the Diet because it was not possible to obtain the consent of Prussia thereto.

PRUSSIA.

THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.

With respect to the Prussian army, The Kohler Zeitung says: "The mobilization of the army is completed. In a few days the organization of the army of operations will also be completed, when we shall have 452 battalions of infantry, 321 squadrons of cavalry, 1,086 field pieces, 72 companies of fortress artillery, nine battalions of pioneers, &c., all ready for action. This is the largest army ever Prussia set on foot."

FROM BERLIN.

From Berlin it is stated that Count Von Bismarck and several of the high functionaries, as well as the Minister of War will accompany the King as soon as his Majesty proceeds to headquarters. The Royal Body Guard left Potsdam on the 5th, after having been inspected by the King of Prussia.

PRUSSIA TO DECLARE WAR.

The Daily News of the 6th says: "Appearances indicate that the declaration of war, or the manifesto equivalent to it, will proceed from Prussia. The King's Government has issued a circular note to the neutral Powers, charging the Government of Austria with a flagrant breach of treaties by referring the Holstein succession to the Diet, and a similar accusation has been formally made in the official State Gazette. The object of both publications appears to be to establish a *casus belli*. The Austrian Government repels the imputation in another circular, and declares that it will observe the Gastein Convention until a regular *casus belli* is declared."