

can and will never be able to take the position to which she is entitled while England's predominance and her abuse of it can meanwhile, only be successfully combated by the Power that has become her territorial neighbour, and is now in a position to back its reasons by big battalions."—Nor is it only by quotations bearing on the position to be occupied by other Powers in the event of war that we may learn what were the feelings towards England of foreign countries and especially of Germany. The manner in which they allude to the terms of the peace to be made, and which, if we have been rightly informed in these colonies, are now nearly settled on, is expressive of a contempt that must seem to Englishmen far more bitter than even extreme detestation. The *Allegemeine Zeitung* of Munich for example, a newspaper generally more favourable to England than to Russia as we are told, writes thus:—"Call it what you like—a game, a bet, a diplomatic steeplechase, or anything else—England has as good as lost. . . . And what, then, is to become of England for having put up with Russian presumption on the banks of the Murghab and the Kushk? There can be no further limit to her yieldingness. The 'debateable ground' lies precisely between Merv and Herat, and if Russia once gets into her power the northern slopes of the Paropamisus she will also manage to find mountain passes leading to the Heri Rud—i.e., to Herat, and from Herat roads leads eastward to Cabul and southward to Candahar. Again, the Afghans, who must lose all respect for England through Mr. Gladstone's policy, will be swallowed up as Russia's vassals, and then can begin the great plundering war raid to India, whose loyalty meanwhile will likewise have received a rude shock. With every advance of the Russians, the situation becomes more serious for England, and it will be hopeless if Afghanistan chop round to Russia. Lord Dufferin has done his honest best; but his adroitness can only be successful if deeds follow on words, and if England now, at the eleventh hour, act seriously. By pouncing on Penjdeh Russia has already delivered the necessary counter-stroke to the meeting at Rawul Pindi . . . and with similar coolness she has answered the English demand for the disavowal of General Komaroff with a request for the withdrawal of General Lumsden for having misinformed his Government about the Russian onset. And poor Lumsden! . . . The Russians never so much as thought of sending Frontier Commissioners; and instead of them General Komaroff at last makes his appearance with even a larger escort than that of General Lumsden, which was so much complained of. Komaroff draws the frontier line as it pleases him, while Lumsden merely looks on and reports. And if England puts up with that, then she will have lost for the third time. . . . England's prestige in Asia, if not already lost, is endangered to a very perilous degree." That the acquisition of Penjdeh by Russia, moreover, has all the importance attributed to it by this German paper, we learn from well-informed English sources. The *Times* correspondent for example, writes from Calcutta as follows:—"It is generally felt here that it will be a grave mistake to give up Penjdeh, as its possession will enable Russia to cut off Herat from Badakshan, and practically to stop all communication between Afghan Turkestan and Cabul during the winter months; thereby giving Russia an opportunity for secretly pushing on for a descent on Cabul by the Bamian Pass, as well as for operating by the source of the Murghab, and through the Hazara country." General Hamley, again, a well-known and high authority, writes to the newspaper in question corroborating this statement and summing up all the advantages to be derived from the occupation of the position—namely, the possession of the principal road to Herat;—the power of preventing the use of the Zulfikar Pass in defence of that town; the command of the high road through Herat and Balkh to Cabul, and some others of much importance.—If the German Press were acquainted with these details, we need not wonder at their declaration, that for England to yield would be a humiliation almost beyond expression.—"The weakness of modern England," says the *Berlin Post*, "lies at many points—indeed, at only too many; but the chief cause of it is the lack of one guiding and continuous spirit in the management of her affairs, which cannot be remedied at will." The *Vossische Zeitung* writes:—"It is difficult to answer the question how Mr. Gladstone will manage to settle the difficulty in the just and honourable manner referred to yesterday. His yieldingness can scarcely go farther, and it appears to us that in the pending conflict England has only the choice between an uncertain and a fateful war and a peaceful solution, which would be little honourable to her, inflicting as it would, an incurable wound on her prestige in the Christian and Mussulman world. Of a capitulation Mr. Gladstone cannot think, or his doom would be sealed." "What is the use," asks a Vienna correspondent, "of alarming the world and disturbing the Bourses by parading your resources in four corners of the world if from the beginning you have resolved 'courageously to retire' whenever the gauntlet is thrown down?" "Russia has already gained so much," says the *Tagblatt*, "that she can now pose as a lover of peace, whilst England has now proved her inability to defend either Afghanistan or India."

The *Deutsche Zeitung* is quite as outspoken:—"Russia was right in the disdain she has shown over England's fanfaronnades. All the protests and threats about Penjdeh were empty bluster. Earl Granville has secured peace for his country, but at the same time has invited Russia soon to repeat her safe promenade towards Herat, the seizure of which will be as easily arranged as the present." An unkind thrust was also that reported of the King of Sweden, who is said to have hastened back from Constantinople, which city he was visiting, in order to provide if possible for the defence, of Gothland against the establishment there of an English Coaling station. The attitude of the continental nations generally, therefore, seems to have been anything but favourable to England in her threatened straits and it may possibly have influenced, in some degree, the acceptance by her of humiliating measures for peace. Germany especially appears to have adopted an adverse part towards her, as the boldness of Russia, we say again, suggested from the beginning.

THE Irish newspapers to hand by the San Francisco ALBERT EDWARD mail fully confirm the assertion made by us last TROTTED OUT. week, and before we had received the papers in question, that the nationalist demonstrations in the South were the necessary consequence of the manner in which the anti-Irish press had spoken concerning the reception given in Dublin to the Prince of Wales. Cold politeness or neutrality had been recommended to the Irish people by their leaders, and, when they put it in practice, the enthusiasm of the ascendant and interested classes was attributed to them, and, a light cheer, here and there, absolutely irrepressible on the part of an excitable crowd met to witness an imposing pageant, was made use of to stigmatise them as false to their principles, and turbulent in their contentment merely out of perversity. The Prince of Wales himself, meantime, had at first sight fully recognised the truth, and could not avoid showing by his manner how much struck he was by the preparations made to receive him at Kingstown in contrast with those he had witnessed on former occasions. *United Ireland* indeed remarks with *naïveté* that the times were very much changed since 1863 when on the occasion of His Royal Highness's marriage £1600 worth of plate-glass was smashed in Cork alone—in testimony of the affection entertained by the populace for their Prince, for it would seem that there are occasions on which a kicking down stairs may be fully consistent with dissembled love. Their knowledge of the true state of the popular mind, moreover, was well testified to on the part of the authorities by the fact that every inch of the roads over which the royal procession was to pass had been placed under the guard of soldiers armed to the teeth and prepared for all emergencies. And afterwards the Prince again showed his appreciation of his reception by snubbing in a very marked way the Kingstown Commissioners who had been the first to present him with an address on landing. His reply was an official document issued from the Castle and which even the flunkies to whom it was forwarded refused to receive. The fact is that the reception accorded to the Prince by the people of Dublin was, as we had already said, a triumph for the national leaders. In obedience to their advice no hostile demonstration was made and any signs of cordiality shown were inevitable on the part of a people to whose character sullenness is complete by foreign and whose natural gaiety will make itself apparent on every possible opportunity. It was, nevertheless, out of this attitude, of a very contrary significance to those who thoroughly understand the Irish people, that the anti-Irish press immediately proceeded to make capital, crowing over the leaders of the people and proclaiming a great political victory for the Prince. Although it had previously been insisted upon, even in their own columns, that the Prince's visit would have no political bearing whatever. Is it to be wondered at, then, if all Ireland was provoked beyond endurance and the wrath of the people stirred up from its utmost depths? For all this, however, no hostile demonstration was still intended—a resolution only was come to that the true state of the case should be brought before the eyes of the Royal Visitors and a contradiction publicly made of the false statements and deductions that had been so loudly and triumphantly trumpeted abroad. For this purpose, therefore, a multitude, accompanied by various bands of musicians had assembled at Mallow railway station, and were prepared on the arrival of the train conveying the Prince and his suite to Cork to testify their devotion to the Irish cause rather than to the person of his Royal Highness, by the performance of various popular airs and the singing of national songs and choruses. When, while they were in perfect quietness and conducting themselves with the utmost propriety, the police under the guidance of one Inspector Carr, a candidate for Castle favour, attacked them and, with bludgeons and bayonets, drove them to some distance from the line—Inspector Carr grossly insulting Mr. O'Brien, M.P., who interfered on behalf of the people, and bullying even Mr. Butler, the Resident Magistrate, to whose moderation and good sense Mr. O'Brien afterwards attributed the fact that a very serious riot did not take place. It was in the midst of such an uproar that the Royal train arrived, and the Prince of Wales thus