

Italy to participate in the action on the Suez Canal, and it is probable that in the next 24 hours Italy will be invited to co-operate with Great Britain in restoring order in Egypt.

The apartments of a brother of the Khedive at Ramlah Palace were broken into and his trunks burst open and looted by English troops, and the general behavior of the British enables me to chronicle this as a singular exception to the good conduct of the troops.

MONTREAL, 26.—On Sunday last Archbishop Taschereau, of Quebec, caused to be read in all the churches of his diocese, a pastoral letter denouncing *Le Courier des Etats Unis*. The principal French paper in New York, and forbidding Catholics to read it. The cause of the action was the publication of a free thinker's letter.

ALEXANDRIA, 26.—The British have mined the railway embankment at Ramlah as a precaution against a night attack.

LONDON, 26.—A detective of the Irish constabulary will be sent to Cairo to receive O'Brien, held on suspicion of being one of the murderers of Lord Frederick Cavendish.

ALEXANDRIA, 26.—It is believed that Arabi Pasha receives daily communications from friends in London giving accurate accounts of the measures to oppose.

It is stated that the first detachment of troops sent to Egypt will number 16 battalions, and arrangements are made to send 64 battalions if necessary.

The Governor of Damascus has been ordered, as a precaution, to arrest several sheiks just arrived from Egypt.

The Porte denies that there has been rioting at Smyrna.

Isma'il Pasha has just returned from Arabi's camp. The latter's proposals are regarded as preposterous. He seems to have his offences condoned and on this condition he consents to disarm the portion under command of General Allison. He will not listen to the demand, and drawing closer to Arabi's camp has considered measures to prevent hardships if the water supply fails.

The Khedive was informed that Arabi had sent orders to the prefect of police at Cairo to send all the police officers to his camp and fill their places with refugees from Alexandria, who now have quarters at Geizrah.

A dispatch from Constantinople says that four British ironclads and five transports are ready to start for Egypt. In spite of the preparations and doubts expressed the expedition will actually be dispatched.

The Times correspondent at Alexandria confirms the report that Arabi Pasha has regular communication with parties in England. The correspondent also says the Khedive has ordered a commission to inquire into the reports of looting by the English. General Allison insists that an investigation be made.

The Egyptian soldiers at Aboukir refused to embark upon Charkieh. At the last reports a flag of truce was flying there as a vessel was leaving Aboukir a train was seen carrying troops in the forts.

LONDON, 26.—The Times in a leading article says: Neither as Sovereign, Suzerain nor any other title will there be room for the influence of the Sultan in Egypt, after the responsibilities of the sovereignty have been cynically thrown aside in the hour of trial. The Sultan may have amused himself by forming new alliances and complimenting his new allies with decorations, but it remains to be seen what help these sympathizers can or will give the Porte. England by acting alone will acquire and assert her right of controlling in the future the country she saved. Those who object to that prospect have even an eleventh hour opportunity of sharing the labor and obtaining a voice in determining events; but if England is left to act alone, the engagements she took when the situation was wholly different will be brought to naught. We must plainly show the Sultan to the Powers. We intend to work thoroughly to retain control. When that is done Gladstone and his colleagues must yield to the compulsion of events. Our commanding naval force and well organized army will insure the establishment in Egypt of a strong government under English protection, if the Ministers do not hesitate entering upon the path which lies straight before them.

The Pall Mall Gazette says there is not an excuse for charging one penny of the expense of the Egyptian expedition upon the finances of India, except temporarily. If the

Government is weak enough to yield to this temptation, it will break up all its members. They cannot be expected to swallow their words and believe the whole spirit of their previous utterance about the only legitimate application of the Indian taxes.

ALEXANDRIA, 27.—A tremendous conflagration broke out in Alexandria at 2 o'clock this morning. As seen from the harbor the fire seems to be larger than any since the bombardment.

An official telegram from the rebel government, dated Cairo, July 26th, says: Armaments continue on an extensive scale and that volunteers are arriving from Upper and Lower Egypt. Some chiefs of Bedouins who, prior to the bombardment, were known as partisans of the Khedive, have promised fidelity and all the best class of Mussulmen, including the princes and princesses of the Khedive's family now in Cairo, are aiding the government. The ladies formed a committee for preparing lint. The British have been defeated in two engagements, leaving 40 killed. The *Official Gazette* publishes a letter from Arabi Pasha which declares that any person found in possession of a proclamation dismissing Arabi Pasha or the ministry, circulated by the Khedive's emissaries, will be court-martialed.

The army will do its duty and defend the country to the last extremity. If the commercial and political interest of the powers do not induce them to stay the British invasion, a terrible struggle must ensue. Some Italians, Swiss, French and Germans remain in public administration and continue to receive marks of confidence notwithstanding the British intrigues to depopulate Egypt.

Eight hundred soldiers are now being landed from the troop ship *Orontes*. The *Orontes*, after their disembarkment, will proceed to Port Said and land marines. There is great activity in the enemy's line. Egyptian soldiers disguised as Bedouins carried off ten cases of gun powder from Fort Mukbebe near Mex. Emissaries from Arabi Pasha have been preaching in Mosques at Mukbebe almost daily. It has been therefore decided to occupy the port and also the Shore of Lake Marcotis near which the patrols of the enemy are frequently seen. The fire here is in the native quarter. It is believed to have been started by incendiaries.

Alexandria, 27, 1 p. m.—The threatening activity of Arabi Pasha's line is increasing.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 27.—The Sultan has decided to denounce Arabi Pasha as a traitor.

The Sultan received Dervish Pasha, on his return from Egypt, very coldly, and complained that he did not persuade Admiral Seymour to delay the bombardment.

The Turkish delegates declared their readiness at the conference yesterday to despatch Turkish troops to Egypt at once, under the conditions of the identical note. The Porte has no counter proposal but merely some wishes as to details. The first detachment leaves in the next few days.

The Khedive receives daily intelligence from the interior apart from the military element. The officials and respectable classes have not faltered in their allegiance to himself and he is convinced that as soon as the military terror is broken the nation will gladly rally around his authority. The Khedive now recognizes the impossibility of granting any terms to Arabi short of unconditional surrender. In consequence of the falling of the water in the canal, a proclamation was issued, enjoining the strictest economy in the use of water.

A well known Bedouin sheik who saved many lives and much property during the bombardment, states that the head sheik ordered him to go to Arabi's camp. The minor sheiks are in favor of the Khedive, but Arabi bought over the chief.

A block of houses on the enemy's side of the canal was destroyed with gun cotton as it might have afforded cover to for Arabi's soldiers.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Germany is preparing for another international exposition. This time it is to be one of musical instruments. It is to occur at Berlin, and will be held next year.

Fortress Monroe is the largest single fortification in the world. It has already cost \$3,000,000 of money. The water battery is considered to

be one of the finest pieces of military construction in the world. Models of it have been sought often by European Government.

The story of Mrs. Lincoln writing, when a young girl, a letter in which she expressed a determination to become the wife of a President, is confirmed by the production of a document said to be now in the possession of General Preston, of Lexington, Ky. It was addressed to the daughter of Governor Wickliffe, and contained a playful description of the gawky young Lincoln, to whom she was betrothed. She said: "But I mean to make him President of the United States all the same. You will see that, as I always told you, I will yet be the President's wife."

A reporter of the *Elmira* (N.Y.) *Advertiser* interviewed the druggists of that city with a view of obtaining some statistics concerning the use of opium. He found that there are one hundred and fifty confirmed opium eaters, and fifty to one hundred more persons who use morphine frequently, and are in danger of becoming habitual users of the drug. The probability is that these figures are rather under than over the truth, for the apothecaries would not be likely to exaggerate their business in this direction. If anything like the same ratio exists in other parts of the country, the opium habit has assumed alarming proportions.

A correspondent of the *Sun* describes a new variety of cotton plants grown in Georgia, which he believes will become valuable. He says that for many years Mr. A. A. Suber, of Macon, has experimented to hybridize the cotton plant, which grows wild in Florida, with the common okra. The new plant contains the okra stalk and the foliage of the cotton but the flower and fruit are said to be quite unlike either cotton or okra. Each boll produces about two pounds of very fine long staple cotton, superior to the sea island, and at the bottom of the boll there are from four to six seeds, resembling persimmon seed. It is added that this cotton needs no ginning.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says: The bulk of a collection of about 300 specimens of inscribed tablets arrived at the British Museum from the neighborhood of Babylon, are of unbaked clay, and principally belong to that now familiar class of monuments known as contract tablets. One considerable tablet, however, of the age of Cyrus, is a treasure, as giving a fragmentary history of Babylon from the fourteenth to the ninth century B. C., and as being a copy of the original document from which the very valuable synchronous history of Assyria and Babylonia was prepared. The collection is the result of a purchase from a Greek firm at Bagdad, who occasionally collect the antiquities of the surrounding district.

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