

WAR NEWS. THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE OLD STORY. PARIS, August 3.—The Journal Officiel declares that the present war is not against Germany nor against King William, but against Bismarck.

DETAILS OF TUESDAY'S FIGHT. LONDON, August 3.—The following details of the affair at Saarbrücken have been received:— The fight began at eleven o'clock yesterday forenoon. The French passed the frontier in full force. The Prussians were driven from their strong position by the sharp artillery fire of the French. The latter retained masters of the position which they won without serious loss. The Emperor and the Prince Imperial witnessed the conflict and returned to Metz to dinner.

IT is generally admitted by the French that their hesitancy has sacrificed their advantage. An early start might have overwhelmed Germany, but France is now compelled to act mainly on the defensive.

AN ADDRESS FROM KING WILLIAM. BERLIN, August 3.—King William, who is now at Mayence, today issued a proclamation to the armies of Germany on assuming the command-in-chief.

BERLIN, Aug. 3.—The following is official: "A reconnaissance was made yesterday by a body of Baden light horse and Prussian hussars. The force engaged a French scouting party near Stangerbrunn. One officer was killed and several wounded on the French side. Two Prussians were wounded.

A WAGER ON THE RESULTS OF THE WAR. The officers of the Union Club of this city have accepted a large wager offered by M. Thomas, of Paris, that the French will be in Berlin on the 15th of August.

ENGLAND WILL PROTECT BELGIUM. LONDON, Aug. 5.—It is understood that England has determined to make the invasion of Belgium a *casus belli*. The King of the Belgians will summon the Powers who guaranteed her neutrality to her assistance as soon as her territory is invaded, and England will respond.

ENGLAND AND THE POPE. It is reported that England will send two frigates to the Tiber to protect the Pope. Advice from Rome represent that the Jesuits are endeavoring to induce the Pope to remove to Malta.

NEW LIST OF STEAMERS. ANTWERP, Aug. 5.—The proposal for a new steamer service between Antwerp and New York, to supply the place of that recently performed by the North German Lloyd and the Hamburg American Company, withdrawn on account of the war, has been opened to bidders. The Belgian Government says it is prepared to accept the first satisfactory offer.

PORTUGUESE NEUTRALITY. LISBON, Aug. 4.—The Gazette of this city officially publishes the decree of neutrality on the part of Portugal in the Franco-Prussian war.

ANOTHER FIGHT. NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—A Berlin dispatch says another fight has taken place at the town of Gerweiler. A detachment of French crossed the line and took possession of the village. The Prussians then attacked the French and dislodged them from their position in the valley, when they retired with a loss of nine killed.

THE PRUSSIAN VICTORIES AT WEISSENBURG. A cable special to the Herald dated Karlsruhe, Aug. 4th, 6:30 p. m., says there was hard fighting at Weissenburg yesterday. To-day a large force of Prussians advanced to Weissenburg and Lautenbourg, 10 miles into the French territory, driving the advanced posts of the enemy, and destroying miles of the railway between Lautenbourg and Strasbourg, along which, it is supposed, McMahon was preparing to advance. The French loss was heavy, including many prisoners.

THE STORMING OF WEISSENBURG. BERLIN, Aug. 5.—The following has been received from Nieder Otterbach, a small village on the Oder river, near Weissenburg, dated six o'clock on Thursday evening:— "We have won a brilliant, but bloody victory. The left wing was the attacking body, and consisted of the 5th and 11th Prussian corps, with the 2nd Bavarian. This force carried by an assault, under the eyes of the Prince Royal, the fortress of Weissenburg and the heights between Weissenburg and Geisbourg. General Douay's division of McMahon's corps was splendidly defeated, being driven from its camp. General Douay himself was killed. Five hundred prisoners were taken. None of them were wounded. Many Turcos were among the captured. The Prussian General Kirchbach was slightly wounded. The Royal Grenadiers and the 5th regiment of the line suffered heavily."

THE BATTLE OF SAARBRÜCKEN. LONDON, Aug. 5.—A correspondent, endorsed by the Times as trustworthy and neutral, gives the following interesting account of the battle of Saarbrück: "The French made some prisoners but captured no cannon. They lost forty killed and sixty wounded. The French force in battle was estimated at 30,000 men, and the Prussians at only 6,000. The artillery won the fight. There was but little infantry and no cavalry engaged. It was the 5th Prussian regiment and not the 50th, as before reported, which was engaged in this battle. Three companies of the 4th held their ground against the French until the latter's force had fully developed its strength. The small force of Prussians then retired.

THE FRENCH VERSION OF THE WEISSENBURG ENGAGEMENT. PARIS, Aug. 5.—At one o'clock yesterday afternoon three regiments of Gen. Douay's division and a brigade of light cavalry were attacked at Weissenburg by very considerable forces of the enemy, which had been massed in the woods skirting the Lauter river. Our troops resisted for several hours the attacks of the enemy, and then retired to the summit of Pignancour, an eminence which commands the line of railway to Bischel. Gen. Douay was killed. One piece of artillery, the horses having been killed and the carriage broken, fell into the hands of the Prussians. Marshal McMahon is concentrating the forces under his command at Weissenburg.

FRANKFORT, (soon), August 5.—The train has just arrived here bringing five hundred French prisoners from Weissenburg. They will be sent to Northern Prussia. The total number of prisoners taken by the Prussians in fight was eight hundred, including eighteen officers.

THE ATTITUDE OF RUSSIA. LONDON, Aug. 5.—The statement is reiterated that Russia's relations to the belligerent powers depend on the action of Austria. If the latter maintains neutrality, Russia also will remain neutral. The only event that could alter this situation would be the rising of the Poles. St. Petersburg journals repeat that Russia has no design on the Danubian principalities.

DISORDER IN PARIS. PARIS, Aug. 5, (10 p. m.).—Since six o'clock a great crowd has been collected before the shops of certain money changers, who are suspected of having sent money to Prussia. The people made threatening demonstrations, but the police protected the shops from harm. There was an immense assemblage on the Boulevard singing patriotic songs. No disorders occurred.

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HEAVY BATTLE GOING ON. LONDON, Aug. 6.—The Globe, on undoubted authority, says a great battle in

which many troops were engaged began yesterday, but interrupted by darkness. It was resumed early this morning and continued until 7 o'clock this evening, when victory was declared for the French. Similar rumors are current in Paris, affecting the bourse. The conflict between McMahon and the Crown Prince of Prussia, already mentioned, was apparently the commencement of the struggle.

WRONG PARTY. It was General Abel Douay, an infantry commander, who was killed at Weissenburg, and not General C. Douay who was commanding.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BLACKEN BISMARCK. Vienna, Aug. 6.—Gen. Turr publishes a letter to prove that Count von Bismarck was in 1866 ready to abandon Belgium and Luxembourg to France. It is said that Turr was prompted to make this publication by his friends in France.

DISAFFECTION AMONG THE FRENCH TROOPS. There is great impatience in Paris at the delay in the operations on the frontier. The Garde Mobile at Chalons are discontented. They have expressed their dissatisfaction with the provisions furnished them and accompanied their complaints with shouts for the republic and for their return to Paris.

DON FERNANDO ACCEPTS THE SPANISH CROWN. Madrid, Aug. 6.—It is said that Don Fernando, of Portugal, is now disposed to accept the crown of Spain.

KING WILLIAM'S REPORT. Berlin, Aug. 7.—King William sends the following despatch to the Queen:—"Good news! A great victory has been won by our Fritz! God be praised for his mercy! We captured 4,000 prisoners, 90 guns, two standards, and six mitrailleuses. McMahon during the fight was heavily reinforced from the main army. The contest was very severe and lasted from eleven in the morning until nine at night, when the French retreated leaving the field to us. Our losses are heavy."

PARIS, Aug. 7.—The Journal Officiel says, the defence of Paris is assured. It would require an army of half a million to invest its fortifications, while thirty thousand would suffice to defend them, and there are troops enough in and around the city to furnish the necessary garrison for them, with the sailors from the fleet, which could be procured. The Garde Nationale the municipal guard, and the firemen would make up a solid army of 100,000 men. Paris is free from danger.

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK HERALD. LONDON, Aug. 7.—The official news received here is as follows:—The Crown Prince has driven McMahon's army from Weissenburg, Lautenbourg and Geisbourg, and has advanced to Saarbrücken. The advance from Hamburg, has driven General Froissard's corps from Forbach and St. Avold, and probably rendered Bischel untenable. McMahon's corps is at present cut