

TELEGRAMS.

(From our Daily Contemporaries.)

SINGAPORE, August 31.

On the 19th August, the Montenegrins defeated the Turks at Rutchi. The report has been confirmed. The Turks suffered great loss, having no artillery available during the engagement.

On the 25th August, the Servians and Turks were fighting before Alexnatz. Result indecisive.

Prince Milan has summoned the Consular Body to his palace for the purpose of bringing about a mediation by the Great Powers. In the meantime an armistice is proposed.

A financial crisis has occurred in Portugal. The banks have suspended payment.

The blockade of Dahomey continues. The King is defiant. He threatens to massacre the Europeans in his territory.

LONDON, August 26.

The vessel with the six escaped Fenians from West Australia, arrived at New York on the 10th August. The event caused a great sensation amongst the Irish residents, but no formal reception was given them.

The friends of Lumsden have refused to forfeit the bet of £200. Higgins has proceeded to America to row in the Centennial Regatta. His friends are urged to deposit the stakes for a match between him and Trickett.

Wheat dull. Australian is quoted at 46s to 48s; New Zealand at 43s to 46s.

SYDNEY, September 4.

Over a thousand immigrants arrived at Adelaide on Saturday.

NEW PLYMOUTH, Sept. 4.

The Taranaki footballers are much disappointed at the Canterbury team going past without calling. They have been telegraphed to at Nelson, Taranaki offering to pay their expenses if they will return by the next steamer.

NELSON, Sept. 4.

In the Interprovincial Football Match the Nelson team were overweighted and overmatched altogether. They played well, but Canterbury was far too strong. Canterbury's score was 30, Nelson, none. Two goals were scored; the rest were tries and force-downs. The two teams dine at six.

HOKITIKA, Sept. 4.

There was a terrific gale here last night. Several shop-fronts were blown in, and windows, roofs, and fences were destroyed in all directions.

The Albion, from Sydney, was ordered to proceed to Nelson.

WELLINGTON, Sept. 4.

The names of the members composing the new Ministry are gazetted. The announcement is a confirmation of what has been already telegraphed.

A TERRIBLE POSSIBILITY.

In my last communication I spoke of the insurgent leaders, and unfortunately omitted to mention the name of Golub, who has just gained a not unimportant victory over the Turks near Pebrovatz, on the Bosnian frontier, and thrown back the Turkish line at that point considerably. Golub is not what is called a very popular leader, that is, he has not the dash and élan which some of his comrades have, and which is so much liked by the fierce warlike bands which follow them. His tactics are eminently Fabian. He keeps out of reach in the mountains, but always watching his enemy, and this enforced inaction often for six weeks or two months his men do not like, and desert to other bands. In fact, Golub will not fight till he sees his advantage is certain; and his plans must be well laid, for whenever he does fight he wins, but he never attempts to follow up his victory, and is back into the mountains to renew his old game. In fact, in our prize-ringing his mode of fighting would be called the "getting down" system. He delivers his blow, and never waits for a return. If the telegrams are to be believed which say that some Turkish gun-boats are cruising off Widdin, between that and Negotin, the struggle is entering on quite a new phase. From Widdin it is but a few hours' steaming distance to Belgrade, and the gun-boats, if they have come, either mean to menace that city or to cover the movement of the Turks across the river to invade Servia through Negotin. The latter is, beyond a doubt, Servia's weak point, but still the attempt on it would now be most hazardous, and, if not successful, would mean a fearful disaster for the assailants. The authorities at Belgrade, however, are by no means unaware of the danger to the city from a gun-boat attack. When the Turks gave over the fortress they gave with it large stores of the very heaviest smooth-bore bronze cannon, all 8in. or 10in. calibre, some of them throwing shot of more than 200lb. weight. When I left, about four weeks ago, all the arrangements were complete for mounting these on the river walls of the fortress overlooking the Danube, and the same will be done, or now most likely has been done, on the side which commands the Soane. Still it has not been forgotten that a gun-boat moving quickly is but a small mark, whereas the city, rising like a small mountain at the junction of the two rivers, is a very large one, and that with long-range shells the houses would get the worst of it, and it would be poor consolation for the forts to hold their own while the city was burning behind them. To guard against this eventuality, an extensive system of dynamite torpedoes is being arranged beneath the waters over which the gun-boats must come to do anything effectual. Against a land siege I do not believe in the tenability of Belgrade for more than a few days. It has always been taken from the Karamark dan—once a Turkish cemetery—now a beautiful public garden, but always a steep bluff hill, looking down within a quarter of a mile into the very centre of Belgrade, and in rear of all its fortifications. This hill is to be cut across with breastworks and redoubts, while the summit of Mount

Avolu, 2,500ft. high, and commanding both the roads which lead into Belgrade, is to be heavily fortified. Still, with all these defences, if the Turks get a footing near it on the Servian side of the Danube, Belgrade must fall, as it has not a week's provisions in it, and no means of getting any. I hope, however, and quite believe that the war will never come to this. If it does' and the Servians are driven to the last extremities, they are said to meditate a vengeance which is too bad to speak of in temperate terms. Nevertheless, it is spoken of both by civil and military engineers, who discuss—guardedly, certainly—the means of doing it, the amount it would cost, the time it would require. To explain what I mean, I must digress for a few lines. Every one knows what a broad, deep, and rapid river the Danube is, but it concentrates all its force and fury below the cataracts at a pass called the Iron Gates. Here, opposite the small village of Tichevitzha, it narrows from a width of a mile to about 180 yards wide, and with a depth, as far as can be ascertained from the violence of the current, of from 800 to 1000 fathoms. The mountains on either side of this are very lofty—nearly 5000ft. high—but that on the Austrian side is a thousand feet higher, and on the river side is nearly sheer for about 3000ft. above the torrent. In fact, where it is not perpendicular it rather overhangs the water. When there is a very low Danube the sharp, craggy points of subaqueous rocks begin to show themselves above water, and between these the passage is most narrow, winding, and shallow, and, in fact, can only be passed by steamers specially built for the purpose, of light draught of water, four paddle-wheels, and immense power. At the break up of last winter the floating ice jammed among these crags, the waters backed up, laying all the Banatt and vast tracts of Hungary under water. Such a deluge was never known; and whether it was the hideous ruin which this caused put it into the heads of the insurgents I do not know—all I do know is, that the blowing up of the precipice of Mount Scieiber (the Austrian side) would bring down many million of tons of rock across the Iron Gates, and long before the obstruction could be removed a vast part of Eastern Europe would be turned into an inland lake. I cannot, however, believe that such an atrocity will be attempted. I only say that I know it is thought of. How Austria can remain idle in the face of this stupendous danger is inexplicable. She might avert it by mooring two gun-boats under the cliff; but then they must be strongly moored; and it will show how far the discussion of the plan has gone when even this eventuality has been considered, and how floating down torpedoes with the stream against them would at once get rid of their surveillance. Even the very extent of the T-shaped mine has been spoken of to me. I have told nearly all I know without excuse or exaggeration, and without any breach of confidence. I am sorry to see that Prince Karageorgevitch has appeared upon the scene of strife, for I have seen enough behind the scenes to know that his advent bodes no good to Prince Milan.—Bombay C. Examiner.

HOME AGAIN.

THE following anecdote, which is strictly true, was related to our correspondent a few days since by a very prominent and highly respected railroad official, and is based on facts contained in a letter received a short time since by Dan McCawley, at Leona, Kan.

Some time ago Mr. McCawley's father, who resides at Flat Rock, Seneca county, O., shipped a full-blooded shepherd dog by express to his son at Leona, Kan. In due time the dog arrived at his destination, and was conveyed in a wagon to Mr. McC's house, two miles from that place, where he was tied up in the barn to prevent his straying. The idea that on the following morning the dog would turn up missing never entered the head of friend Mac, and his astonishment may be imagined when he discovered, shortly after breakfast, that the dog had broken away and left for parts unknown.

The loss was deeply felt by all the family, and steps were at once taken to discover the whereabouts of the animal; but all their efforts proved unsuccessful, and the disappearance remained a mystery for nearly four weeks; indeed, no clue whatever could be obtained as to whether he had wandered, or, if stolen, who the thief was. So, after making many unsuccessful attempts to discover him, Mac concluded it was a mystery too deep for solution, and resolved to quit the search, at the same time vowing dire vengeance against whosoever should have stolen his valuable present, provided the thief was ever detected.

The disappearance occasioned surprise and comment, and created a nine day's wonder, but is hardly possible to imagine how much more surprise and astonishment were felt by Mac and his family on receipt of the following intelligence contained in a letter from Mac's father, written about four months after the disappearance of the dog.

In this letter he informed his son that twenty-two days after the day on which the dog was received at the express office at Leona, he appeared at his old home in Flat Rock, Ohio; or, in other words, that the dog, guided by his instinct, had travelled nine hundred miles in twenty-two days. The most astonishing circumstance connected with this anecdote is that the dog was conveyed the entire distance from Ohio to Kansas on his outward journey in an express car, and how in the world he ever found his way back on foot is a mystery which only that dog can solve. That he had travelled the entire distance was apparent by the condition he was in when he reached his old home, being footsore, nearly starved, and badly used up.—St. Joseph Herald.

A MOVEMENT has been set on foot with a view to having public abattoirs established in the neighborhood of Dunedin. As the want of such an institution is pressing, and the cause of much inconvenience, it is to be hoped that the motion will terminate successfully.