

We learn from a Royal Gazette Extra, that William Todd, Esq., Charlotte County, and Alexander McL. Seely, Esqr., St. John, have been appointed, provisionally, Members of the Legislative Council of this Province. These, from our knowledge of the gentlemen, we should consider to be judicious appointments. We hope the Government will not forget that Carleton and Victoria are without a voice in that Body. We have as good material in both Counties as are to be found within the limits of New Brunswick, and we trust that our rights and our interests will not be overlooked. We do think that it is an act of justice which the Government owes to the people to see that every County is fairly represented in the upper or second branch of our Legislature.

It appears that a rumour is in circulation, that the woman who fell from the upper story of Powers' house, in this village, on Tuesday last, while under the influence of liquor, was engaged at the time, in throwing missiles at another woman, living convenient. We are requested to state, that such is not correct, as the female, referred to, was not near the house at the time of the accident, as can be proved by competent witnesses.

English News.

BY TELEGRAPH FROM ST. JOHN.
REPORTED FOR THE SENTINEL.

ARRIVAL OF THE "AFRICA."

The Africa left Liverpool at 11 A. M., on the 20th, and arrived at Halifax on Tuesday the 30th at 10 1-2 A. M. The America arrived at Liverpool on the 17th. The Union sailed from Southampton on the 17th for New York.

THE WAR.—There is a remarkable scarcity of intelligence respecting either the progress of the siege or progress of negotiations. Hopes are entertained that the negotiations may lead to peace, but equal apprehensions that they will fail, and that the War will assume a vaster magnitude.—Letters add the policy of the allied powers will be to protract the negotiations in hopes that in the meantime the fall of Sebastopol will happen to influence the decisions. Rumor says that Russia again expresses readiness to renounce exclusive protectorate and has a strong desire to establish peace. Austria also expresses anxious desire for peace and will, however, firmly insist on Russia accepting such conditions as the welfare of Europe demands, but will hesitate to conclude an offensive alliance with England and France, until it is exactly known what will satisfy these powers. The object of Prussia is evidently to prevent Austria from active participation in the war. Further intelligence from Berlin and Vienna.—It is stated that great efforts are brought to bear to obtain the consent of the Western Powers to armistice.

Sardinia is reported to undertake to send 15,000 men recruited from all Italy, to aid the Allies in the East. Reason assigned being that for want of an outside enterprise to engage their attention, the Italians are growing restless. The Senates of Hamburg and Lubec have issued articles forbidding foreign enlistment. It is expected that Bremen, Meclenburgh, Schenerin and Strelitz, will also prohibit enlistment.

THE CRIMEA.—Affairs remain as they were, latest dates are to the 10th.

Omar Pacha was on the 5th inst. at the camp of the Allies. He concerted measures with Razaan and Canrobert, and on the 6th returned to Varna. Reinforcements continued to reach the Allies; and over 3,000 French Imperial Guards and English Infantry are at sea on their way. Raglan has sent to India for 10th English Hussars. The Turks in the Crimea are to be made up to 60,000 before the end of January. Russian reinforcements are advancing by forced marches through Bessarabia. The weather was frosty, roads passable, although snow had fallen, but the frozen ground retarded the works of the besiegers.

The following are the latest items from all sources.—English Consul has remitted to Prince Stirbey a note calling upon him to repudiate the Russian Protectorate by a Public Act. The French Consul will send the Hospodar a similar note.—The Opinion of Turin of the 15th instant states, that the departure of the Piedmontese troops for the Crimea, will take place on the 28th February. According to that Journal, the contingent is to consist of 20,000 men, 15,000 of whom will embark on that day, and the 5,000 others are to form the reserve.

The Russians crossed the Danube at Tuttscha,

favoured by obscurity. They reached the light bank in boats and surprised the Turkish garrison; and after making great carnage among them, recrossed the river, laden with booty, and taking with them many prisoners. The loss was considerable on the part of the Russians, as the Turks fought with desperate valour. Turkia's force now in Dobradscha is not estimated at more than 30,000 men—they are raw recruits, the flower of Omar's army having gone to the Crimea, against which, it is said Omar strongly protested, and remains much dissatisfied.

BLACK SEA.—January 5th.—Admiral Bruat, telegraphs that snow had fallen heavily, but the weather since was clear with thermometer at zero, with north-westerly winds. The fleets had sustained no damage.

BRITAIN.—A malicious rumour is in circulation that Government has offered General De Lacy Evans an appointment in India to get rid of his contemplated disclosures in Parliament.

The 82nd Regiment embarked from Liverpool in the steamer Bahaina for the Crimea 700 strong. Four hundred dock labourers are sent to the Crimea to unload ships. The fate of the British ship Bernice, missing since 1852, from Shanghai, is discovered, the Europeans on board having been murdered by a Lascar crew, and the ship burned. The assassins were captured and executed.

FRANCE.—1,800 Imperial Guards were embarked at Marseilles on the 13th for the Crimea.

SPAIN.—The new Constitution was submitted on the 13th to the Chambers, the main features of which are, the sovereignty emanates from the nation. The religion of the nation is Roman Catholic, but toleration is allowed. The Press shall be free. Confiscation and death, the penalties for political offences, are abolished. The National Guards are re-established. The Legislature shall consist of two Chambers. Senators are elected for life on property qualifications, one representative for every 50,000 citizens. The Cortes shall meet annually in October for four months. The Cortes shall regulate the strength of the army, give assent to Royal marriages, and appoint a Regency when occasion requires.

RUSSIA.—A six fold land tax, payable in 24 instalments, is to be imposed on Polish proprietors.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS.—Leading circulars report that Breadstuffs have assumed a firmer tone, although without much activity.

Wheat advanced 2d. and Flour and Indian Corn to 6d, dearer than last quotations.
Consols, 91 7 8.

English and Foreign.

WAR

It is impossible that any man, or any body of men, should have expected that our troops could fight one or more battles against a foe at least numerically equal, and having the advantage of entrenched positions, and then proceed to the reduction of one of the strongest fortresses in the world, without suffering tremendous loss. In war no decisive advantage can be gained without a lamentable sacrifice; and we are far from urging that any considerations should have withheld ministers from making the attempt, and ordering the expedition to the Crimea. But they were bound to take care that they had a reserve ready and within reach to supply the inevitable losses.—They were bound, in duty to the nation, to do this—for the army belongs to the nation, not to them, and the nation will not suffer it to be wronged.—Did they perform that duty—did they exercise that care? No—to their eternal shame and infamy be it written—no! They had no reserve available, or within reach. Had the battle of Inkermann gone otherwise than it did, we should have lost the flower of our army; and where then would have been our hopes of German co-operation? We implore the country, we entreat all honest-hearted and patriotic men, whatever be their political creed, to think over and ponder this.—We have been brought by the improvidence, negligence, and divided councils of this precious coalition ministry, with the old acquaintance of Nicholas at their head, to the very verge of ruin. They staked the whole credit, power and position of Britain on a single throw—not necessarily, but because they had grossly failed in their duty, and omitted to provide a reserve in case fortune should be against us. And by so doing, or neglecting to do, they have prolonged the war, changed the attitude of our army from a besieging force to that of one partially besieged and lessened the probabilities of the capture of Sebastopol. These are not accusations to be made lightly. It would be shameful, it would be unpatriotic, it would be scandalous to hazard them if the proof were not

lying before us. But it would be even a deeper defalcation, if, with the convictions we entertain, we should hesitate to point out the immediate danger to which the country has been exposed by the wretched administration of this cabinet.

On the whole, then, it would appear to us, that no unprejudiced person can fail to arrive at one or other of the following conclusions—either that the ministry have been guilty of gross neglect in not providing a sufficient reserve, and the necessary supplies for the troops engaged in the field—or that they had entirely miscalculated the nature of the enterprise, and most foolishly underrated the power and resources of their antagonist. It is for them to say upon which horn of the dilemma they prefer to be impaled.—Blackwoods Magazine.

Constantinople letters of the 10th, in the Constitutionnel, state that the Duke of Cambridge was going to the Crimea again, instead of coming to England.

Four sons from one family, in the neighborhood of Maidstone, have been engaged in the war in the Crimea, all of whom have been killed.

The Marquis of Breadalbane has presented the Crimean Army Fund with 425 gallons of whiskey.

RUSSIAN MANIFESTO.—St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—An Imperial manifesto has been issued. It contains the following—"Our duty as a Christian forbids us to desire a further shedding of blood and certainly we will not reject any propositions and conditions of peace, providing they be compatible with the dignity of our empire and the welfare of our subjects. But another and no less sacred duty bids us, in this obstinate struggle, to exert every effort and prepare for every sacrifice which the greatness of the means of attack brought against us demands. We will all, if necessary, show a bold front to our enemies, with sword in hand and the cross in our hearts."

BASSWOOD PAPER.—The Albany Evening Journal has been printed on paper made from pulp produced from Basswood shavings. The inventor of the new paper is George W. Beardlee, of Albany. The paper, though stiffer, yellower, and more brittle than that commonly in use, prints well, and will doubtless be brought to perfection. Some of it has already been made so fine as to answer for transferring fine line engravings. The Journal hopes soon to publish on Basswood altogether. The new paper will be (comparatively) cheap.

A SOLDIERS WIFE.—O. Sunday last, the wife of a Private Hunter, of the Royal Sappers and Miners, presented to the military chaplain, at Liverpool, for baptism two children, of which she has recently been confined. When the minister asked the sponsor to "name the child," the answer was "Inkerman;" and when he took the second, asking the same question, the answer was "Alma."—The former was a boy; and the latter a girl, and their genuine military mother wished them to bear the names of the great battles which their father had witnessed on his march to Sebastopol.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM OUR REPORTER.

FREDERICTON, FEB. 1, 1855

At a few minutes past 2 o'clock, his Excellency arrived at the Council Chamber, and after being seated on the throne, by command, the members of the House of Assembly, with the Speaker at their head, made their appearance, when his Excellency read a very able and long Speech—after which the members returned to their room.

The Speaker then read the speech, when a number of the usual committees were appointed.

Mr. Ryan then read the answer to the speech, which was seconded by Mr. McPhelin. A motion was then made that the answer to the speech stand for the order of the day on Monday next.—Several members spoke in favor of the motion, while others thought that the subject had better stand as the order of the day for Saturday, which, on an amendment being made, was agreed to—after the Hon. Attorney General had stated that the speech would be printed during the day.

Hon. Mr. Smith moved that a committee be appointed to make arrangements for reporting and publishing the debates during the present session. Mr. Partelow moved as an amendment that the house will make no appropriation for such purpose. After a considerable discussion both were lost. For the motion, yeas 14, nays 16—for the amendment, yeas 13, nays 17.

Mr. Partelow brought in a Bill relative to the port of St. John.

Mr. Cutler brought in two Bills, one relative to certain lands in the County of Kent, and the other to prevent certain persons from holding seats in the Legislature.

House adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

RAILROAD AFFAIRS.—On Thursday afternoon last, a number of Shareholders in the St. Andrews & Quebec Railway, waited on Mr. Byrne, Secretary to the London Board, for the purpose of ascertaining the true position and prospects of the Railway, and also to hear from him, whether any offer had been made by the Board of Directors in this Province, to the London Board "to give up to Class A all claim to the Road Land, Government guarantee &c., providing they would build it to Woodstock and pay all liabilities"—Having explained the object of their visit, Mr Byrne in courteous terms gave them a lucid statement of the position and prospects of the Road; which we now publish from memory as we took no notes.

He observed, that a Resolution embracing the above mentioned offer, had been passed by the Board in December 1853, an official copy of which was received by the London Board.—That another Resolution renewing the offer, had been passed by the Board so lately as in October last, and requesting that a delegate from the London Board should be sent out with full powers to confer with the Government and the Board thereon. Mr. Byrne then read his powers from the Class A Shareholders, and stated that the Board here now declined to carry out the arrangements they had before been anxious for. Upon receiving this refusal, he went to Fredericton and had conferred with the Executive Council, the result of which was, that he was willing on behalf of the Class A, to take the Road and its liabilities, and build it, having good reason to believe that he would receive effectual aid from Government. He therefore addressed another letter to the Board here renewing his offer, and suggesting to them to call a public meeting of the Shareholders and lay the matter before them for their approval or rejection, and which suggestion was again rejected!

Mr. Byrne observed, that the transfer of the Line into the hands of class A must be made by a majority of the Class B shareholders, and this must be confirmed by an Act of the Legislature, and that unless the Act passed during the next Session, it would retard any further work on the Road, during the present year—in fact, that the work on the Line was at a stand still.

In reply to a question from a shareholder, he stated that Class A were willing that as many of the Class B shareholders, as would pay up their stock within a reasonable time should retain it, and that an arrangement would be made with those parties, who paid calls on their stock, and wished to give it up. He also informed the shareholders that new stock amounting to £240,000 must be raised to complete the Line, which would be done, and that as a guarantee of the good faith of the Class A shareholders to carry on the work placed in their hands—they had already paid £100,000 against £4,000 paid by Class B. He also said that unless the Road was completed within two years, Class A would not only lose the large amount they had paid, but that the Act would expire!—therefore there was no time to be lost. He would be happy to give every information to any shareholder who might think proper to call on him while he remained in the Province.

The shareholders thanked him for the information he had given them, and stated that they would get up a requisition calling a special meeting of stockholders, lay the matter before them, and use their efforts to get an Act passed by the Legislature. The requisition is now in course of signature, and we understand that there is every prospect of the meeting being called within a short time,—when, we do not hesitate to predict, a large majority of the Shareholders will cheerfully, and thankfully confirm the acceptance of the Class A, to take the Road and build it, upon the terms stated.—St. Andrews Standard.

PENALTY FOR ASSISTING A SLAVE.—MILWAUKIE, Jan. 23d.—S. M. Booth, convicted of aiding in the escape of a fugitive slave, was yesterday sentenced, in the U. S. District Court, to pay a fine of \$1000 and imprisonment one month.

John Reynolds, for same offence ten days imprisonment and a fine of \$200.

We regret to learn, that Mr. George Moses, son of Capt. Thomas Moses, and Mr. Kay his brother in law, were drowned by the upsetting of a boat on Friday last, near Campobello. We in common with many others, deeply sympathize with the family in their bereavement.