

The Carleton Sentinel.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

In the absence of any later intelligence from England than that furnished in our last issue, we copy the following comprehensive view of affairs in the East from the Liverpool *European Times* for which we are again indebted to Charles Perley, Esq. —

Attention is at present divided between Vienna and Sebastopol, between the proceedings and negotiations of the diplomatists, and the opening of the thunder which is destined, it is to be hoped, to knock the granite walls of the great Black Sea fortress about the ears of the Czar's myrmidons. For whatever results may follow in either case we must wait patiently. Patience is a virtue, and it has been largely drawn upon by our rulers during the last few months. But the time is coming which must speedily decide the great question of peace, or an extension of the war on a scale which will throw all we have yet seen into dark shadow.

With respect to the ultimate views of Russia all is uncertainty. The writers in the daily press exhaust their ingenuity to furbish out of conjecture and imaginary reasoning the probable turn, which may arise; but however ingenious and clever some of these speculators may be, there is no star in the firmament which enables the most skillful political navigator to steer with certainty. Not an observation—in the nautical, not the political sense of the term we mean—can be made which can be relied on. We hear much of Alexander the Second's desire to bring hostilities to a close—that he has called to his councils the most pacific and enlightened of his late father's advisers—that the Russian nobility are sick and tired of the war, and restive at the forced exactions which it entails on them—all very likely true, for these statements, reasonable in themselves, impress the mind favorably, and satisfy the intellect. But on the other hand, we are assured that the battle of diplomacy will turn upon the dismantling of Sebastopol, the throwing open of the sea which waters its shores to the commerce of the world, and the reduction of Russian power there to an ebb so low as will enable the Sultan and his successors, in all future time, to sleep without dread of the Muscovite nightmare—conditions which Alexander dare not agree to without danger to his throne and even his life. If the first string of assumptions be feasible, surely the other string must be pronounced extravagant, for the nobles in Russia, after the Czar, are everything—the people nothing. Alexander the Second does not fear strangulation from his serfs, but from the serfs' masters; and peace cannot be looked for so anxiously by the Russian nobility if they entertain the notion of either deposing or murdering him provided he makes it. In truth, we know little or nothing about Russia and the real feelings of the nobility, or these palpable contradictions would not find their way into organs which profess to direct public opinion. It would be a positive blessing to the Czar and to the world if Sebastopol were to fall during the sitting of the Vienna Conference, for such a result would relieve all parties from the painful and embarrassing position in which they are placed. It would make the new Czar an independent agent, which perhaps he is not at the present moment. It would satisfy the feelings of Napoleon the Third, who dare hardly forego the conquest of Sebastopol by patching up a peace. It would heal much of the irritation which prevails in England at our Crimean disasters; and it would put an end to all doubt and jealousy as to the ultimate intentions of Austria. In fact, the event occurring at the present time would prove the best of all peace-makers, for there would be then literally nothing to squabble about. In the beginning of the present week the leading journal intimated that something decisive might be speedily expected—that the final assault had probably taken place a week previously—and that every hour the electric wires might be charged with the most important despatches. But the article which elaborated these views at considerable length was rather desponding in its tone, and another article in the same paper yesterday is very reserved in its prognostications of success. The weather, however, at the latest dates was everything which could be desired—a fact which we gather from Lord Raglan's despatch, and the great Printing-House-square censor very candidly admits that the health and spirit of the troops had improved with the weather—that Balaklava had become, under the management of Colonel Hardinge, quite a new place, the contrast of which to its previous deplorable condition was most gratifying—that the men were well fed, well clothed, and in excellent condition—that the hospitals were partaking of the general

improvement—that the Commander and his staff now show themselves in the staff and along the lines—and that a vigour and energy have been infused into every military department, which brings the memory of past lethargy and indifference, and its horrifying mortality, vividly before the mind's eye. This happy change is attributed to the sitting of the Roebuck Committee, to the remonstrances of the Government, to the comments of the press, and to the indignant feeling which now moves the British nation at calamities which might have been prevented. Nevertheless, the question still remains—why were not these exertions made sooner? for it seems very like locking the stable-door when the steed has been stolen. The approach of spring in the Crimea must, of necessity, lead to great military movements, for nature does not favor the allies exclusively—the same sun which shines upon them descends in its impartiality on the enemy, and the reinforcements which the Russians are now daily receiving are glanced at in Lord Raglan's last despatch. From all that we have seen during the week, we are confirmed in the view we put forth in our last, namely, that throughout this protracted and most extraordinary siege, the Russian engineers have displayed the highest order of talent; and some of the works which they have recently thrown up in front of our batteries may make the assault difficult, if not impracticable. The attempt to destroy one of these outworks cost the brave Zouaves very dearly, as we narrated in our last publication.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written, respecting the mismanagement of the war through favoritism and routine, the evil, if we are to credit the *Times* of yesterday, is as rampant as ever; and the Horse Guards are, as usual, the obstructives. The new Turkish contingent of 20,000 men, to be fed, clothed, and paid by this country, is to be officered by Englishmen, and several Indian officers—excellent soldiers, of established reputation, who have earned a name in the field, such men, for instance, as Brigadier Mayne, whose exploits were familiar to most readers—were anxious to take service in it, on the special invitation of the Horse Guards. But when they proceeded to that "source whence wrong opinions flow," they found to their surprise that their services could only be accepted by their agreeing to serve under officers who had never smelt powder in the field, men of no recognised talent as practical soldiers; and in consequence they declined the honor. How long the Horse Guards will presume to trifle with the feelings of the country we know not; but if these statements are correct, and if this system is to continue, the sooner the public voice puts down such an anomaly the better.

CONFERENCE AT VIENNA.—Much anxiety is felt relative to the result of the proceedings at Vienna. The question before the Plenipotentiaries of the different governments is one big with importance—no less than that of peace or war. We have no hopes that an amicable settlement can be effected. It is stated in some of the English papers that "Lord John Russell and M. Bourqueney had agreed upon the terms which England and France consider necessary for the treaty of peace, and if these terms are correctly rendered they are not such as the new Emperor of Russia ought to decline to accept, for they merely propose a limitation of the Russian power in the Black Sea, the transforming of Sebastopol into a commercial port, and the destruction of the fortress. These are not very humiliating terms, but they ought to be accompanied by another and still more stringent condition—namely war." We have no idea that Russia will consent to this. We do not think that Austria is very sanguine of peace resulting from the consultations of the Conference, as the *Augsburg Gazette* and the *Journal de Frankfort*, contain the following distinct and decisive statements as to the course to be immediately taken by Austria in case the conferences should be broken off without a pacific solution.

The *Gazette* say,—"Austria has declared to the Western Powers that if the Conferences should not result in the re-establishment of peace, the situation provided for by Article 5 of the treaty of the 2nd of December, would be in force," that is to say that Austria should declare war against Russia. The *Journal de Frankfort* says—"In fifteen days, or in three weeks at most, the question of peace or war will be decided." The Constitutional adds, that the Austrian envoy at the Diet is already furnished with instructions to enable him at the proper time to claim for Austria the aid of Germany in an offensive war against Russia. The *London Morning Advertiser* of 24th March had a despatch from Vienna, stating that the Conference had broken up on the question of dismantling Sebastopol. This must have been a hoax.

THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

One of the most arduous and practically useful Sessions that ever occupied the attention of the Legislature of this Province has been brought to a close. Principles have been enunciated and Laws enacted that cannot fail to be productive of happy results. The Tariff, the Election Law, and the Bill for the creation of a Board of Works were strictly speaking government measures; and while it cannot be denied that objectionable features are to be found, more or less, in, perhaps, all of these measures, yet principles have been established that experience and the practical working thereof will prompt the necessity of having modified and improved. The resolutions to make the office of the Post Master General political, and to give the initiation of the money grants to the government were not only desirable, but will afford, we hope, a basis to carry out other measures of reform that are really necessary to advance the interests of this flourishing colony. We would have liked to see the initiation of money grants by the Executive preceded by a Law making it imperative upon every County to adopt the principle of Municipal institutions, as then the appropriations could have been made in gross to each County Council; and the people could, through their representatives, have expended where most required.

These subjects will occupy our attention at a future day.

The Education question is one of vital interest, but has been laid over until another Session. It is to be hoped that it will occupy the attention of the government in the mean time, and that they will come prepared next winter with a well digested scheme adequate to the wants of the country.

We regret to perceive that the St. Andrew's Railway Bill has also been laid over; and the probability is that another year will elapse before much progress can be made with the works on the line.

ANGLO-AMERICAN MAGAZINE.—The April number of this well sustained periodical has been received, and is equal to any of its predecessors. "The Eastern War" by an Anglo-Canadian is an admirably written article; and we regret that its length prevents our appropriating it to our columns. "The New Gauger or Jack Trainer's story" is continued, and as laughable as ever. The "Editor's Shanty" is as usual amusing and instructive.

Our Composer omitted to insert a short communication, in which it is mentioned that the "Poetry" on our fourth page was the production of a young gentleman in London about eighteen years of age.

The ice in the Meduxnakik ran out last Wednesday, and portions of that in the main river moved on Thursday.

The *Buffalo Republic* says—"that every day serves to confirm our belief that flour will be sold in this market on or before the first day of June next, for five or six dollars a barrel."

Professor de'Avray has retired from the Editorial chair of the *Head Quarters*, and rumour has it that Mr. Thomas Hill takes his place. We should judge as much from the spicy articles in the last two numbers of that paper.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Saturday April 17th.—The House was chiefly occupied in supply; the motions that drew forth the greatest discussion were those for the Reporters, and the grant of £600 (in addition to £750 passed last year) for procuring a map of this Province for schools.

Monday, April 9th.—The House got through with supply. They then went in Committee on the St. Andrews Railway Bill, which provides for the transfer of stock from class B. to class A. shareholders. Objections were taken that if the stock was transferred, the Province had no guarantee that the road would be completed, and that it would be unconstitutional and unjust to compel all the class B shareholders to surrender their stock, because a majority of them wish to do so. Some important facts were elicited during the debate.—A motion to postpone the bill until next session was carried by the following divisions:—*Ayes*—Hon. Messrs. Johnson, Ritchie, and Smith, and Messrs. Partelow, Kerr, Harding, Botsford, McClelan, Stevens, Steadman, Ryan, Cutler, Ferris, and End.—*Nays*—Hon. Messrs. Fisher and Brown, and Messrs. Street, Rice, Hayward, Taylor, Wilmot, M'Adam, Connell, Tibbits, English, Boyd and Gillmor.

The House passed the St. John Sewerage Bill, without the Provincial guarantee.

Tuesday, April 10th. The House passed a large number of bills of a local nature, and to continue expiring acts, &c. A bill to incorporate a Telegraphic Company, who intend to lay down a cable from Ireland to Newfoundland, thence to Prince Edward's Island, and through this Province to the United States, was committed, and elicited a warm debate; but from the fact that there was a bill on the files to incorporate another company having the same object in view, the House feared they would be doing injustice to pass one bill without the other, and reported progress with the understanding that both bills should lie over until next session. A bill was committed for the Province to loan to the Grand Falls Railway Company the sum of £5000. After considerable discussion it was lost by a division of 15 to 11.

The House then went in Committee and passed a bill to make the office of Postmaster General political; there was no real opposition. The arrangement was left solely to the care of the Government. The officer is to have a salary of £600 a year, and must have a seat in the Executive, and in the House. An attempt was made to reduce the salary of the Postmaster at St John from £400 to £300 but was negatived by a vote of 14 to 7.

Hon. Provincial Secretary, by command of his Excellency, laid before the House a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying in warm terms her Majesty's thanks for the £4,000 appropriated early in the Session to the Patriotic Band, and the address which accompanied it—*Head Quarters*.

April 12.—The odds and ends contingent upon the close of a Session have been in progress all day, and a great number of resolutions have been passed; re-considered, rejected and re-passed, during the day. The quantity of local Bills agreed to in some haste has also been great, and of these and some others remaining, not less than a dozen have been passed in the Legislative Council.—The most important of the latter is the Post Office Bill, which escaped in the Council with only a majority of one in its favor.

Gonnell and Harding are named as the candidates for the Post Office; and End, it is said will be clerk of the Board of Works, under the Hon. Mr. Steves.

FREDERICTON, April 12.

Both Houses were engaged during the day in the preliminaries consequent upon the close of the Session. At ten minutes past five, P. M., His Excellency came down and read the Speech in his best manner.

The Bills assented to are fifty-nine, the whole of which are ordered to be enrolled, except a Bill on Mining, which is simply assented to.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: You have been engaged during the present Session in the consideration of many subjects of great importance. I acknowledge, with thanks, the assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties.

The laws which regulate the election of Members to serve in the General Assembly; the disputed questions by which the prosecution of Mining operations has been hitherto impeded; and the system of management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province, have successively occupied your attention.

I trust that the measures you have passed may give satisfaction and promote the public interests.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the public service. You may be assured that I shall exercise care and economy in the outlay of the sums which you have placed at my disposal.

The establishment of a responsible department, for the management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province, will, I confidently expect, afford a new security for the judicious expenditure of the money appointed for the maintenance of these works.

The Act for raising a Revenue will, I trust, be found sufficient to provide the necessary funds; and I hope that the recent revision of the import duties may prove advantageous to commerce.

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: I congratulate you on the termination of the labors of the Session. In releasing you from further attendance, I desire to express to you the satisfaction which I have derived from your attention to the public business of the Session. I assure you of my cordial good wishes for the success of the private pursuits to the prosecution of which you