

## Miscellaneous.

**THE SARDINIANS AND THEIR CAMP LIFE.**—The gallant army Sardinia sent out here was fortunate in having a general of great ability and resources, and a staff of officers who ably seconded his views. They looked around, saw what materials the country yielded, and profited by the hints afforded them by Tartar dwellings. They went into the woods and cut quantities of thin branches—they dug holes in the earth to the depth of about two and a half feet—above these holes they wove the twigs into walls and roof, and making use of the clay extracted, they erect neat warm huts of what is vulgarly called "wattle and dab." and found themselves well prepared to meet the winter. In this manner is nearly the whole of the Sardinian army lodged. In one camp only, on the side of a rocky hill, excavation was impossible, and above ground huts were built of stone. This was the work of some time. The *gourbis*, as the clay and branch huts are called, were very quickly erected. The materials once collected, six men could build one in three days, and some of the camps were entirely completed in that time. The six men took up their abode in the edifice they had constructed, and thenceforward they had nothing to do but to add as many little comforts and conveniences as possible to the shelter thus rapidly provided. To this end they have not been sparing of their labour. It would be difficult to point out anything that their means and circumstances permitted which has been left undone. The huts of the infantry contain six men but are estimated to hold seven if necessary. Some however, are only for five, and those of the cavalry for four. The officers live by twos and threes in a hut, and with far less space at their disposal than would appear sufficient to an English subaltern. Each field officer has a hut to himself; so has the fourrier or non-commissioned officer intrusted with the accounts of the company. Most of the officers huts are built above ground, but they are chiefly very small, and colonels of battalions are found dwelling in closets that afford but just room for a bed, chair and table—the orderly room and regimental officers being under the same roof. The doors of some of the officers' habitations are very neatly constructed, and provided with lock and key and the owners have decorated and arranged the interior so as to make the most of their scanty space. Most of the huts have well contrived little tables or sideboards to write at, and various convenient bits of impromptu furniture manufactured out of boxes, barrels and the like, and some have receptacles in the roof for stowing away baggage. It is to be observed that the Sardinian officers do not mess in their huts which indeed are not large enough to admit of their doing so comfortably. The officers of each battalion have a large common hut, where they dine and breakfast, and often pass the evening. In some of them are newspapers, and in others chess and other games. The diversions of the men must be chiefly out of doors. On a fine day scarcely a man is in his hut, and they are to be seen running and jumping, and amusing themselves in various ways. Some of them are preparing to compete with their English comrades in the foot races and other athletic games that are shortly to take place. It is evidently part of the system in the Sardinian army to keep the men employed in a healthy and agreeable manner. Thus, gardening is very much promoted. Even at this early season with snow covering the mountains and lying here and there in sunless nooks of the plain, the Sardinian camps are green and pleasant to gaze upon. Raised earthen platforms have been constructed, with a turf table in the centre and circular seats of the same material, and others are being made. There are gardens—some for flowers, and in which hyacinths are already blooming; and others for vegetables, where little is as yet visible, save a few pot herbs. Near the excellent residences of the commanding officer of a battalion—a double tent, well dug out, and impervious to wet and cold—stood a row of flower pots, in which seeds were planted, with cleft sticks and tickets bearing the botanical names of the plants, all as neat as in an English nursery ground. But the order, cleanliness, and good taste observable in every detail of the Sardinian camp are such as to leave an extremely favourable impression of the army, and of the nation from which it is drawn, upon the mind of any one who devotes a day to its careful inspection.—*Crimed Correspondence.*

**THE PRUSSIAN MARRIAGE.**—It is understood that Prince Frederick of Prussia has formally asked and obtained the sanction of the King to his requesting in marriage the Princess Royal of England. The publicity of this proceeding is supposed to imply a

knowledge that the English Court will approve of the union proposed. A choice in every way more suitable and satisfactory, we think could hardly be suggested; and we are at a loss to account for the indignation felt or assumed some time ago in one isolated quarter by the rumour that such an alliance was in contemplation. At that time, it is true, Prussia—or rather the Prussian court—was generally suspected of an unfriendly feeling towards this country, and a leaning towards our then enemy. Yet, even then, report affirmed that both Prince Frederick and his father looked with suspicion upon the designs of Russia, and were favourably inclined towards the Western Powers.—It would have seemed, therefore, that in proportion to the mischievous effects we felt and apprehended from the family influence brought to bear by Russia upon the mind of the King, should have been the diligence of our endeavours to cultivate to the utmost the friendship of his probable successor.—Now, at all events, when the prospect of peace seems certain and immediate, we cannot but rejoice at the announcement of a marriage which will cement our alliance with the only protestant power of Europe.—*Economist.*

**THE TEMISCOUTA ROAD.**—The grant for the improvement of this Road was made about two years ago. In 1855, the Public Works Commissioners informed the Board of Trade that the work on the Road was then under contract, and that the Contractor had made arrangements for carrying on those portions of the work which could be performed in winter such as getting out timber for Bridges &c.—and added "the whole of the work will be commenced as early as the season will permit."—Our remarks in Saturday's *Chronicle* were based upon the communication to which the editorial article referred, and we trust, may have the effect of directing attention to the work and causing a prompt fulfilment of the contract.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

**INVITATION TO THE QUEEN TO VISIT CANADA.**—In the House of Assembly, the Hon. J. H. Cameron, M. P. for Toronto, has given notice of motion for an address of Congratulation to the Queen on the restoration of Peace, and expressive of the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects that she will take an early opportunity of visiting her Provinces in British North America.

**ANCIENT STRUCTURES.**—Nineveh was fifteen miles long, nine wide, and 40 round, with a wall 100 feet high, and thick enough for three chariots abreast. Babylon was sixty miles within the walls, which were 75 feet thick, and 300 feet high, with 100 brazen gates. The temple of Diana, at Ephesus, according to Pliny, required 220 years to complete it, and was supported by 127 pillars, 60 feet high having been raised by as many kings.—The largest of the pyramids is 480 feet high, and 653 on the sides. The stones are about 30 feet in length, and the layers are 208. It employed 300,000 men in building. The labyrinth of Egypt contained 300 chambers, and 12 halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins 28 miles round, and had 100 gates. Carthage was 25 miles round. Athens was 25 miles round, and contained 250,000 citizens and 400,000 slaves. The Temple of Delphos was so rich in donations, that it was plundered of £100,000, and Nero carried away from it 200 statues. The walls of Rome were 12 miles round.

**WHAT THE GREAT PYRAMID OF EGYPT COST.**—An English architect, Mr. Tite, has been "figuring up" the cost of the great Pyramid near Gizeh. Its original dimensions, at the base (he says) were 764 square feet, and it had a perpendicular height of 480 feet, covering 43 acres, 1 rood, 22 perches of ground. It consumed 89,020,000 cubic feet of stone; and Mr. Tite adds, that it could not now be built for less than 30 millions sterling! The joints of the large casing blocks of granite was so one as to be scarcely perceptible, not thicker than paper; and the mortar was so adhesive, that the stones in some cases broke through their substance rather than give way at their jointing. The cost therefore, of this structure, reduced to Federal currency, was 145,000,000 dollars! A sum large enough to build and put in running order six good substantial railroads between New York on the Atlantic and San Francisco on the Pacific. But where did all this money come from?

The hired transport *Lady Amherst* arrived on Wednesday, from London, with a detachment of 83 Artillerymen, to fill the place of those who left here for service in the Crimea. They were commanded by a young Officer, who had on his breast a Crimean Medal. The ship proceeds to Quebec with Government stores.

A man of sense may love like a madman, but never like a fool.

The following is extracted from Wilmer & Smith's European Times, and relates to the alleged unanimous decision of the British Ministry to continue Mr. Crampton.

"We have no means at present of affirming or denying the correctness of this statement; but assuming it to be a fact, we certainly cannot congratulate Lord Clarendon on the decision at which he has arrived, nor the British Cabinet in supporting him in that conclusion. While expressing unreservedly this opinion, we are free to admit that the Minister for Foreign Affairs may possibly be in possession of information of which the world at large is ignorant; but if the statements which have appeared in the American papers respecting the conduct of Mr. Crampton in the discharge of his official duties be correct,—statements, by the way, which have been copied into the English papers without a word of contradiction,—then we assert unhesitatingly that this resolution is a very foolish one, and may be productive of immense mischief hereafter.

We should have thought Lord Clarendon would have visited with his highest displeasure one act of Mr. Crampton—to go no further—arising out of the omission of that gentleman to read, according to the instructions from his own government, an important despatch to the American Minister, until two or three months after he had received it. A minister capable of such gross, such intolerable negligence in the discharge of the highest duties of his station, is a very unworthy vehicle to embody two great nations which have so many interests in common."

**A REBUKE TO EXTRAVAGANCE IN DRESS.**—When George Faulkner, the printer, returned from London, where he had been soliciting subscriptions for his editions of the Dean's works, he went to pay his respects to him, dressed in a laced waistcoat, a bagged wig, and other fopperies. Swift received him with the same ceremonies as if he had been a stranger.

"And pray sir," said he, "what are your commands with me?"

"I thought it was my duty, sir," replied George, "to wait on you immediately on my arrival from London."

"Pray, sir, who are you?"

"George Faulkner, the printer, sir."

"You George Faulkner, the printer! Why you are the most impudent, barefaced scoundrel of an impostor I ever met with! George Faulkner is a plain, sober citizen, and would never trick himself out in lace and other fopperies. Get you gone, you rascal, or I will immediately send you to the House of Correction."

Away went George as fast as he could, and having changed his dress, he returned to the Deanery, where he was received with the greatest cordiality.

"My friend, George," said the Dean. "I am glad to see you returned safe from London. Why here has been an impudent fellow with me just now, dressed in a laced waistcoat, and he would fain pass himself for you; but I sent him away with a flea in his ear."

**A REMARKABLE ADVENTURE AND NARROW ESCAPE FROM DROWNING.**—A remarkable incident connected with the storm of Saturday night last, is told of a woman at Havre de Grace, wife of the captain of a small oyster boat which lay at anchor in the river of that town. She had been across the river in a small boat, and was returning, having nearly reached her husband's vessel as the storm overtook her. Her frail skiff was driven before the wind like a feather, and wafted rapidly away from the oyster boat out into the bay. She could do nothing but sit at the helm and keep her little boat before the wind, while the surging waters were lashed into commotion around her. At the mercy of the wind and the waves (or rather of Him who controls both,) she was driven through the darkness and gloom of the night entirely across the Chesapeake, to Gove point, at the mouth of the Sassafaras river, a distance of about 23 miles.—There she landed and passed the next day, Sunday, and was taken off by a steamer for Baltimore on Monday, where she arrived on Monday night.—On Tuesday morning she took the cars for Havre de Grace, where she arrived unharmed to the great joy of her husband.—*Elkton. Dem.*

**COOLNESS OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.**—Of the duke's perfect coolness on the most trying occasions Colonel Gurwood gives this instance. "He was once in great danger of being drowned at sea. It was bed time, when the captain of the vessel came to him and said, 'it will soon be all over with us.' 'Very well,' answered the duke, 'then I shall take off my boots.'"

To study men is more necessary than to study books.

**ARTLESS SIMPLICITY.**—One of the sweetest incidents we have noticed for many a day—and one which shows the effect of early training, assisted by a simple and undefiled imagination, has just fallen under our observation. It is thus related: A lady lately visited New York city, and saw one day on the sidewalk a ragged, cold, and hungry little girl, gazing wistfully at some of the cakes in a shop window. She stopped and taking the little one by the hand, led her into the store. Though she was aware that bread might be better for the cold child than cake, yet desiring to gratify the shivering and forlorn one, she bought and gave her the cake she wanted. She then took her to another place, where she procured her a shawl, and other articles of comfort. The grateful little creature looked the benevolent lady up full in the face, and with artless simplicity, said, "Are you God's wife?" Did the most eloquent speaker ever employ words to better advantage?

A clergyman the other day, while stopping at a Detroit hotel, missed his umbrella from his stand, whereupon he helped himself to a similar one, and went on a walk up and down the streets. After noticing that the "natives" seemed quite pleased at his white cravat and his umbrella, as if they ought not go altogether, at last he took a look himself at the outside of the "borrowed umbrella" and there he found painted in large white letters:—"I stole this umbrella from J. C. Kingsley."—Our clerical friend took a look at the clouds, with a look "more in sorrow than anger," and concluded there wasn't rain enough to make it worth while to spread an umbrella, or not that one at all events.

"My dear," said an affectionate spouse to her husband, "am I not your only treasure?" "Oh, yes," was the cool reply, "and I would willingly lay you up in heaven."

**A PRETTY GOOD JOB.**—The disciples of Robert Owen intend to hold a "preliminary Congress for the reformation of the world," to commence in London on the 14th of the present month.—Wouldn't it be a good idea for them to take some small town—say London or New York—first and then have a dash at the outside barbarians?—*N. Y. Herald.*

**"IT AMUSES HER AND DON'T HURT ME."**—The Duke of Argyle once made a speech against Lord Derby, to which the latter did not reply. Thereupon the Duke claimed victory and crowed lustily until Lord Derby extinguished him thus:

"My Lord," said the Earl of Derby, "a short time since there was one of those persons called 'navvies,' who was in the habit of allowing his wife to beat him. He was a very large man, and she was only a small woman. The neighbours asked him why he permitted her. 'O, never mind said he; 'it amuses her and don't hurt me.'"

Shouts of laughter greeted this allusion.

**A GOOD PRACTICAL JOKE.**—An English paper tells the following story of a scientific lecturer, whose popular discourse on medicine, and the various sciences therewith connected, had given off to the more "orthodox" members of the profession:

"A couple of embryo M. D.'s resolved upon testing his medical skill. They accordingly called upon him, and one of them, a fine, healthy young man, with a roguish eye, complained of certain pains in the chest, a cough, night sweats, &c.—The doctor heard his tale, asked a number of questions, and after a long diagnosis, declared him to be in a deep consumption. This was just what was wanted and the young gents could hardly control their mirth while Dr. Mill wrote his prescription, sealed it up in an envelope, and directed it to one of our first chemists, pocketed his fee, and bowed them out of the room. To the chemists they rushed to enjoy the pent up laugh, and handing him the note he read: 'This young man is suffering from cerebral hernia in the region marked 'self-esteem' by phrenologists. Pray, therefore, give him common sense 2 grains; wit, 1 drachm; horse-whip, ad libitum.—J. M.'"

**A HINT.**—A Scotch boy had delivered a message to a lady, but did not seem in a hurry to go.—Being asked if there was anything else that his mother bid him say, Jock whispered out, "She said I was not to seek anything for comin' but if ye geid me't I was to tak' it." The hint was taken.

Mankind are split into companies, which follow their captains, but see little of their generals.

A wise lady has said, "If a woman would have the world respect her husband, she must set the example."