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General News.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF BARBADOES.

We have great pleasure in announcing that the Queen, upon the recommendation of Sir William Molesworth, has appointed Mr. Hincks, a distinguished member of the Canadian Legislature, to the Governorship of Barbadoes. This appointment is not so simple a matter as it would appear to be at first sight. It is the inauguration of a totally different system of policy from that which has been hitherto pursued with regard to our colonies. We only trust that it may be carried out to its legitimate extent, and that the more distinguished among our fellow-subjects in the colonies may feel that the path of Imperial ambition is henceforth open to them. They are not Canadians, nor Australians, nor mere denizens in Jamaica or at the Cape, but Englishmen above all, and before all—Englishmen who have the same legitimate right to hold the highest office in Church or State, at home or abroad, as any person born within the four seas. It is the feeling of Englishmen at home that this ought henceforward to be the rule of policy. The wonderful facilities of communication which now exist between the various quarters of the globe will tend indefinitely to ease its operations. Nor let it be said for a moment that a young colonist, or a middle-aged colonist, or an old colonist, has any greater difficulties to contend with than we have ourselves.—If a subject of the British Crown, born in the mother country, determines to enter upon a political career, and is at the same time unconnected with any of the great families or political cliques, his battle, till he has made a position for himself, is just as severe as that of any colonist could be.—In point of fact, the balance of chances is rather against him; for if a British subject, born in an important colony, such as Canada or Australia, he has the power of obtaining early distinction in the local Legislature, which is denied to his competitor born in the mother country. We trust that this appointment of Mr. Hincks to a colonial governorship will show that at home we are really in earnest in the matter, and ask no better than to call into the service of the country talent—home-grown or colonial—in fact, talent wherever it may be found.

THE AMOOR RIVER.

If the statement which was made to the allied fleet at Petropaulovski, that the Russians had 8,000 or 10,000 men at their fortress on the Amoor river, and we are inclined to think it true, we shall not be surprised to hear of a place, up to this time entirely unknown to the world, which will bid defiance to the formidable fleet that has been sent to destroy it.

Among the great rivers of the world, the Amoor Amur, or Saghalien of Northeastern Asia is perhaps the less known. Yet we know that of all the streams in Northern Asia, boundless as that region is, it is the only one that empties itself into a navigable ocean which is open to commerce. All the other great rivers of Northern Asia discharge their waters into the Polar Sea, and are thereby lost to commerce. The Amoor cannot properly be called a river of Siberia, but of Chinese Tartary or Manchuria. It rises in about longitude 109 east, and latitude 49 north; and after a very winding course of about two thousand miles reaches the lower part of the Sea of Okhotsk, opposite the great island of Saghalien. It may, therefore be called the only highway of nature that directly connects the central steppes of Asia with the rest of the world. It receives several large streams which rise in Mongolia, and Manchuria; and the

country watered by it is said to be extremely rich in furs.

The Chinese and Russians formerly had many settlements on its upper waters, but during the latter part of the last century the latter withdrew. As early as the year 1636, the Russians began to establish colonies on both banks of the Amoor, intending to annex the country to theirs but coming in contact with the Chinese, they relinquished what they had acquired, and fell back to about the 55th parallel, near which is the southern boundary of Siberia. The Chinese took good care, during the last century, that they should not again obtain a foothold on the lower parts of the river, for which purpose they not only established forts, but kept armed boats there. But it now appears that during the last forty years, while Europe had been at peace, the Russians have quietly possessed themselves of this country and erected strong fortresses near the mouth of the great river. So little is known of this stream that we can find it nowhere what its magnitude is. Judging, however, from its length, its numerous tributaries, and the vast region drained by it, it must be as large as the Mississippi, independent of the Missouri.

The people of Manchuria have considerable civilization, and from it comes the present dynasty of Chinese Emperors. If therefore the Czar has been enabled to enlist the natives in his cause he may with the aid of iron and timber, which are said to abound there, have erected a more formidable fortress than is to be found on the whole coast of Eastern Asia.—*Providence Journal.*

BROCK'S MONUMENT.—The new monument to the memory of the illustrious General Brock, on Queenstown Heights, is now raised to about 140 feet high, and the workmen are at present busy with the fine Corinthian shaft. This with the crowning entablature of the column, will probably be completed this Fall; though the entire work will not be finished before next summer. There will be but one column in the world superior in height to Brock's monument, and probably not one exceeding it in beauty and position. The ground in the neighborhood is covered with massive pieces of work, stone statues of warriors, lions, and elaborate carved work, that are to adorn the cornice of the pedestal capital and entablature of the column. Among these stands a colossal statue of General Brock, seventeen feet in height, which will be placed on the top of all. The figures are of the same kind of stone which forms the monument, and are executed in a bold and flowing style that will give an aspect of much animation to the monument. They reflect much credit, indeed upon the architect and workmen engaged. This magnificent column will be an ornament to the Province, and a fitting testimonial of a people grateful to the memory of the most beloved Governor and victorious defender of Upper Canada, and who gave his life for her security. In comparing the monument now constructing, with the old one we could almost thank the infamous Lett, for having been the occasion of so noble a work being erected on the battle ground at Queenston.—*Niagara Mail.*

A HARD CASE.—It may not be generally known that immediately a Russian officer is taken prisoner his pay ceases, upon the principle that a man who could not die for his country rather than be taken must be utterly unworthy of support from the public purse. A poor officer on board one of our men-of-war was deeply lamenting this cruel regulation. "My wife," he observed, "who was lately so comfortable, and daily expecting my return after the completion of my military period, is now compelled to live penniless until this war shall end, and even then I may be deprived of my commission by the Emperor."

SPAIN AND THE POPE.—The Spanish Government has published the whole of the recent correspondence respecting its relations with Rome.—A Ministerial exposition to the Queen and Royal Decree precede the notes which have passed between the Spanish and Roman Governments and their agents on the subject. The following are the principle passages:—

"The Government is ready to confide its defence to publicity—the most complete publicity. In order to attain this object there is nothing more opportune than to give to light all the documents relative to the late negotiations, all the protests of the Cardinal Secretary of State and the Charge d' Affairs of the Holy See, and all the despatches and notes in which your Majesty's Government and its Minister Plenipotentiary at Rome have repelled the charges & proclamation brought against its conduct.

"Your Majesty's Government desires that even the confidential charges and instructions (documents which it is not customary to publish) should see the public light on this solemn occasion.

"Its impartiality will thus be notorious, and the admonition of his Holiness, unjust in its substance and violent in its form, will receive the most complete reply in everything relative to ecclesiastical matters.

"With respect to the other subjects which the admonition embraces, your Majesty's Government for its own dignity, and for respect to the dignity of the Church, must limit itself to make a solemn protest.

"The Government does not recognise, as no independent Government has ever recognized, the right which the Holy See seeks to arrogate to itself of declaring null the laws made by your Majesty, with the concurrence of the Cortes; of appreciating falsely the state of our country, establishing a sort of divorce between your Majesty and the nation and the Government; of placing in doubt the legitimacy of the acquisitions of the estates which were ecclesiastical, alienated in virtue of civil laws to which the Holy See itself had already given its assent and approbation."

MEXICO.—The last revolution in Mexico, though it has succeeded in getting rid of Santa Anna, has installed a new government which renders a new revolution necessary before those who started the last accomplish their object. Carrera the provisional President, seems determined to hold on to the reins of power, but the real revolutionists are disposed to "brush him out." He has adopted some vigorous measures and introduced some important reforms, and purposes that the National Guards shall again become the bulwarks of the nation's liberties. He has re-established commercial communication; granted unlimited freedom to the press; abolished title of seigneur highness; recalled all exiles; deprived the commanding Generals of authority over the revenues; has prohibited the registering or detention of correspondence; and re-established mails. He has convoked the Constitutional Congress conformably to the law of 1841, agreeable with the requirements of the Ayuba plan. This looks like assuming the reins of power in reality, and whether he will be disposed to resign authority to either Alvarez or Vidauri, the leaders of "Young Mexico," and rivals of each other, is a question which time will test. The Federative form of government seems to be that favored by the mass of the people. There have been other plans which contemplated the establishment of several distinct republics which were formed by the Texans, but the jealousy against foreigners has caused Vidauri to repudiate the "auxiliaries" who lent him assistance, and now the Mexican leaders of all complexions are against any foreign interference.—*Phil. Ledger.*

Over 100,000 bushels of wheat passed the Chattanooga depot, from Tennessee, during the month of August, and the Nashville Banner says that the depots in that vicinity are "still cracking under the weight of grain deposited in them." A year or two ago, before the railroad was built, wheat was imported largely every year from Cincinnati.

[From the New Brunswicker.]

VICTORIOUS OARSMEN.—Mr. Editor, Sir,—I shall feel much indebted by a small space in your valuable journal for a short notice of one of the most pleasant evenings I have had the good fortune to spend in this city. The occasion was the fête given to the oarsmen of the Union Club in honor of their late victory over the Boston Crew in that City. On their arrival home, they were received by a salute of 21 guns; a coach and four greys were in attendance to parade them through the city, accompanied by a band of music. In the evening a most sumptuous dinner was prepared at the Victoria Hotel, which went off with great eclat. The room in which the repast was prepared was calculated to seat 84 persons comfortably, and was decorated in a manner which did credit to the artist engaged. At the head of the table over the chair was a full length portrait of her Majesty, and numerous mottoes and devices around the walls.

The chair was taken precisely at 8 o'clock by J. A. Harding, Esq; Mr. Walter Walsh acted as Vice. After the usual loyal toasts had been given, the song, the catch and the glee went merrily round during the rest of the evening, and a more social, pleasant, and jovial meeting I never witnessed.

With regard to the dinner, I must say that although I have been at many, I never yet saw one got up in a more superb style. There was everything, and everything in its place. Being a stranger, I wish through this means to testify to the St. John men my appreciation of their ability as rowers, and their principles and feelings as men.

Yours, most respectfully,

A BRITISHER.

FRUITS OF DRUNKENNESS.—The *Westmorland Times* says:—

We have received a telegraphic despatch from Miramichi to the following effect:—On Monday last a man named Craik caused the death of his wife by inflicting a violent blow on her forehead, in an affray resulting from the continued use of ardent spirits, to which it appears both parties had for some time been addicted. The unfortunate woman only survived the blow a few hours. An inquest was held, when a verdict of Manslaughter was returned, and he was committed for trial.—Five young children have thus been left in a state of comparative destitution, victims of the abominable and iniquitous practices of their unhappy countrymen.

The issue of this contest can in no way affect the existence of the present government. All who are conversant with the state of parties in the House know that more than two thirds of the members will support the present government.—*Morning Courier.*

Now we happen to know something of the state of parties in the House, and we believe that the issue will seriously affect the existence of the government, although it will not have the effect to destroy it, if the government return to the straight and open course—leaving the intricate and narrow paths into which they so foolishly strayed.—*Freeman.*