

May 10, 1856

ARRIVAL OF THE ARABIA.

St. John, March 12.

Arabia arrived at Halifax last night. Nothing of the Pacific yet. Steamer Edinburgh passed on the 7th Feb., a large quantity of broken ice, on which a quantity of broken furniture, fine ornamental doors, &c., were seen. The Edinburgh was out five days from New York. It is not thought to have belonged to the Pacific.

CONFERENCE.—Plenipotentiaries held their first meeting at the Hotel of Foreign Affairs, on Monday 25th. Session lasted three and a half hours. Count Walewski presided, and opened by an introductory speech. Written guarantees signed not to divulge proceedings till the whole be concluded. Armistice settled until the end of March, but not affecting the blockade.

Tuesday.—No meeting.

Wednesday.—Congress held second meeting.—Nothing can be known with certainty. Rumours abound. It is now asserted that Russia, while assenting to Sebastopol, Bomarsund, and even Nicholas being dismantled, refuses to cede the Protectorate over Greek Christians. Thus far indications favour the supposition that Russia really desires peace. A Vienna letter asserts that Gortschakoff, diplomatist, had stated that Russian Government considers convocation of general European Congress, immediately after peace is signed, as the best mode of settling all questions.

France and Austria favour the idea, England does not. The evident cordiality existing between France and Austria tends to excite uneasiness in England, and a triple league of France, Austria, and Russia against England is surmised as not an impossible incident of the future.

CRIMEA.—Orders have been forwarded to the Allied Generals and Admirals respecting the Armistice. It is said that Napoleon has intimated to Generals and Admirals now in Paris, that probably they need not return to their commands. Allies were about to destroy sunken ships in Sebastopol harbour, by dropping heavy shells to explode under water. Health of army continues good. Sultans decree in favour of Christians had been read in presence of the Turkish dignitaries at Constantinople.

30,000 Russians are employed day and night in constructing triple row of piles right across the Gulf of Finland, twelve miles across, and six miles from Cronstadt, leaving within a few openings, behind which are steam fleet of 18 ships, 14 Corvettes 70 Gunboats. Great energy is manifested in Russia in advancing Railways.

BRITAIN.—Wednesday, 27th.—The Lord Mayor of London assembled a distinguished party at the Mansion House to meet the American Minister.—Unfortunately Mr. Buchanan was some day invited to dine with the Queen. Etiquette required him to accept Victoria's invitation. The Mayor made a speech regretting the absence of Mr. Buchanan, because the reception he would have met with from the leading commercial interests would have proved to him the absence of all unfriendly feeling in Britain as regards America. Similar feelings were expressed by Mr. Cobden, Earl of Elgin and others.

On the 27th the Queen held a levee. American, Brazilian, Peruvian, Mexican & Haytian ministers attended. It is reported that Government succumbs in Wensley Dales peerage, and will issue new hereditary patent. On Friday night Roebuck moved the following resolution: "That the appointment of a committee of General Officers to report on the report of Sir J. McNeil and Col. Tillock, is to substitute an inefficient for an efficient mode of inquiry, and that the effect of such appointment will be to hide the misconduct of those by whom various departments of our army have been incalculated by the commissioners appointed to enquire into their conduct." This motion was intended to defeat the ministry on a division, but after discussion was withdrawn. The Board of Trade returns for the month of January, shows a million and a half sterling, a considerable improvement over last month's. Gillespie's Co. applied for a permanent berth in Wellington dock, Liverpool, for Montreal Ocean Steamers Co. Fog guns are to be placed at Holyhead.

FRANCE.—Paris extremely gay. Continued rounds of festivities in honor of diplomatists assembled.—It is rumored if Napoleon's child be a son, the Emperor of Austria will be god-father by proxy, and the Pope will come presently to Paris to baptise.—Rumoured break up of the Conference. Agitation in money markets. From the Morning Advertiser. It is deemed not improbable that the result of this new mode of the diplomatists of Russia may be the immediate breaking up of the Conference. A grave hitch in the Conference has already occurred, though the fifth point is the last of all, it had been agreed upon to take it up first of all, and no sooner had it been laid on the table, than Count Orloff and Baron Brunow took objections to its being taken into consideration, with a view to its being decided by the Conference. They proposed it should be referred to a congress of the representatives of all the crowned heads of Europe. If so referred they pledge themselves in the name of the Czar to abide by whatever decision that Congress might come to.

This new and unexpected phase in the Eastern question has created consternation in Paris, and caused a further fall in French funds. It has no less surprised our own Government. Lord Cowley is expected in London this P. M. to take instructions from his Government on the question.

SPAIN.—It is reported that Gen. Concha will be created Count or Marquis of Havannah, Stockholm is to be fortified by land and sea.

DENMARK.—The trial of the old ministry has resulted in acquittal.

INDIA AND CHINA.—A great fire occurred at Macao. Bombay Banks raised to 12 per cent—Calcutta money market improved.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

By Telegraph to the Carleton Sentinel.

FRIDAY, March 7th.—No business of importance transacted in the House during the morning. There was some discussion relating to the receiving of the petition praying for compensation in consequence of loss sustained by the operations of the Prohibitory Law. Petition not received.—Several bills received a third reading. Petition from a number of the inhabitants of the City of St. John was presented, praying that the Common Council may not have the appointment of a Police Magistrate. Petitions were presented against the removal of the Shiretown of Kings County. At 12 o'clock the House went into supply, and passed the usual amounts to the officers of the House of Assembly and Light House Keepers and Commissioners. The sum of £12,500 was also granted for the support of Schools. Mr. Boyd's resolution respecting the discontinuance of all grants to Denominational Schools taken up, and after much speech making was negatived by a large majority. Another long discussion took place on Mr. Street's bill for the destruction of Bears and Wolves. The principal of the bill was sustained and progress reported.—House adjourned a few minutes before six.

SATURDAY, March 8th.—After disposal of routine business this morning, the bill to repeal the duty on Hacmatic Knives was taken up and passed in Committee after a long discussion. Mr. Street's bill for the destruction of Bears and Wolves was again taken up and passed with certain amendments. Several petitions for the repeal of the Prohibitory Law were presented from the County of Kent. A bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Inebriate Asylum was presented by Mr. Street, and read a first time. The House was principally occupied during the afternoon with the consideration of several bills proposing amendment of the Revised statutes. The discussion was principally confined to the legal gentlemen. Progress was reported in the several bills. No other business transacted. The bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law stands as the order of the day for Monday.—House adjourned a few minutes after 5 o'clock.

MONDAY, March 10th.—After preliminary business this morning, there was a short discussion in reference to the time for taking up the bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law. Several members expressed themselves opposed to taking up the bill until the financial scheme was brought forward by the Provincial Secretary. Others were anxious that the bill should be taken up and disposed of as early as practicable. No time was fixed.—The question of the initiation of money grants was deferred as the order of the day for Monday next.—The petition from the city of St. John, praying for the repeal of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, signed by 25 Justices of the Peace and 7,600 other inhabitants, was presented by Mr. Harding a few minutes before 12 o'clock. Petitions of a like prayer were also presented from the Counties of York and Kings. Some discussion occurred in the afternoon relative to Public Accounts. The Railway papers are expected to be laid before the House to-morrow. In the latter part of the day an unusually animating discussion took place upon a bill to continue the Act to incorporate Sons of Temperance. A pungent speech was delivered by Mr. End against the Order, warmly replied to by Ryan, Gilmour & Steadman. House adjourned at half-past 5 o'clock. Needham re-elected Mayor.

TUESDAY, March 11th.—No business transacted in the morning. Friday next was set apart to go into consideration of supplies for the public service. Hon. Mr. Tilley laid before the House a statement of the finances of the Province, with Accounts of expenses for the past year, and returns, &c. There was a discussion among members respecting the expenses of the old and new Government's. At half-past 3 o'clock the Attorney General's Railway report was laid before the House accompanied with other documents. The Attorney General moved for leave to bring in the following bills which were read a first time—"A bill relating to the European and North American Railway,"—"A bill to levy an impost for Railway purposes,"—"A bill to authorize the construction of Railways in this Province,"—"A bill to provide funds for the construction of the Railways in this Province."—House adjourned at half-past 4 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, March 12th.—The several Railway bills received a second reading this morning. The bill relating to the extension of Charlotte street in the city of St. John was presented, and gave rise to a long discussion on the question of suspending the rule for the purpose. The St. John members warmly supported the suspension of the rule. Several other members strongly opposed. The bill finally received by the vote of a large majority.—The bill to extend the Jail limits in the County of Northumberland, involving the principle of the abolition of imprisonment for debt was postponed for three months. In the discussion which took place on the bill, several members expressed themselves in favor of the principal involved. Additional Railway correspondence was laid before the House in the afternoon. No time yet fixed for the consideration of the Railway bills—not expected to be taken up before next week. The House again went into the consideration of the bill to continue the Act to incorporate the Division of the Sons of Temperance. The speeches made were more in direct relation to the Prohibitory law than to the question under consideration. An article in the Temperance Telegraph of a recent date was made a subject of animadversion by Messrs. Boyd, Street, Smith and Brown, the three former spoke in opposition to it and the latter gentleman in favour of the bill. Speeches were also made in defence of the bill. The House adjourned at six o'clock.

THURSDAY, March 13th.—There was another discussion in the House this morning in reference to

the rule for receiving bills of a local nature. The bill provided for the amendment of the Charter of the city of Fredericton, and the decision of the House resulted in the suspension of the rule. A bill to amend the Act relating to highways, introduced by Mr. McLellan, was postponed for three months. There was a discussion similar to that which took place yesterday on a bill relating to the extension of the Gaol limits for the County of Carleton. This bill also postponed for 3 months. The bill to continue the incorporation of the Sons of Temperance, was again taken up, Mr. Stevens in the Chair. The bill was opposed by Messrs. McPhelim, Allan, Gray, J. A. Harding, Watters and End. Supported by the Speaker, McLellan, Connell, McAdam and Tilley. Mr. Allan moved its postponement for three months; lost by a vote of 11 to 22. Mr. End moved that the Charter extend only to 1859, also lost. Bill read section by section and adopted, the Charter to extend to the year 1863. House adjourned a few minutes before six o'clock.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.—It is worthy of inquiry whether the law or custom in respect to Status of Justices of the Peace in this Province, is not in need of amendment. That Magistrates who are allowed and required to adjudicate on the liberty and property of their fellows should be responsible men, will be generally admitted, and yet we are not aware that either in appointing them or displacing them the Executive is bound by any law or custom. In England, we believe, the Justices must be possessed of real estate of the value of one hundred pounds per annum, and in this Province it has been the practice to drop from the Commission those who went through the Bankrupt Court. Now, however, that there is no Bankrupt law, some new rule would seem desirable.

Our attention has been called to this subject more particularly from having observed that in a trial under the Liquor Law, in Woodstock lately, it was reported that the presiding Justice admitted that he himself was on the limits for non-payment of a debt; and from having heard that several of the Justices lately appointed are either virtually Bankrupts or men without any visible property.—Courier.

FIRE.—Another serious fire occurred on Friday morning, by which the block of wooden buildings on Union street, lately put up by Mr. Crosby, was almost entirely destroyed, and the adjoining house occupied by Mr. Henry Horton, harness maker, was much damaged. The fire originated in the Bowery Saloon, on the corner of Union and Charlotte Streets, kept by a man named Comstock, and was first discovered about half-past 1 A. M. The boy who attends the shop left the place at half-past 12, and says that then all was right. Comstock himself resided on the premises. The fire quickly spread to the adjoining shops, and Messrs. Conway, Hogan, Curran, Sharpe, and Anderson, were all "burned out," and suffered more or less seriously; Mr. Hogan's large stock of Cabinet work was much injured. Mr. T. Marter had a large quantity of oats on the upper flat of the building, and this too was destroyed. The high buildings on the opposite side of the street were for some time in much danger, the fronts being blistered and scorched, and with difficulty saved from catching fire.

Engine No. 4 was first on the ground, and the others quickly followed.

We have heard it stated that the supply of water was for a time insufficient owing to some cause of which we have not heard an explanation.

Mr. Crosby was insured for £800. Mr. Comstock for over £100, and Mr. Marter £200. The other parties were uninsured.

It was said that Mr. Crosby was severely beaten by some persons at an advanced hour of the morning. The matter will probably be the subject of enquiry.

A young man named Sullivan, belonging to No. 2 Company, fell from a roof, the snow sliding under his feet, and was severely hurt.—Freeman.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—Another melancholy accident took place, yesterday morning, on the Railway at three mile house. The principle engineer on the road, Mr. Woodworth, was guiding the steam engine, that drew some flat cars, that carry earth, stones, and iron. We understand that about twenty men, laborers, with implements to clear the ice that accumulated on the rails, on Sunday night,—several of these were dropped here and there, on the road from the Depot to the 3 mile house, and the engine, under the control of Mr. Woodworth, which was running slowly, struck something on the western side and turned over the rail on the east side, upper side down, with the engine and a boy underneath—and broke through the ice, which was four inches thick; by which accident, before any help could be given, the engineer, who was supposed to have been stunned by the fall, there being a cut on his lip, and other contusions, was drowned, and the boy terribly scalded. It is not yet decided whether the lad will

recover from these scalds. One person jumped from engine, or car, and broke one of his legs, (which was set by a medical man present, Dr. Jennings, we believe.) Mr. Woodworth, has left a family, who will mourn his loss. He was a gentleman who had many friends in this city, and in Boston. He was a native of this Province, and much esteemed by those who were acquainted with him while here.—Hal. Sun.

INTERESTING FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.—The Steamship Star of the West, at New York on the morning of the 28th ult., from San Juan, brings the following interesting intelligence of matters in Central America:

On the 19th inst., a decree was promulgated at the city of Granada, claiming and annexing the whole of the Mosquito territory as an integral portion of Nicaragua.

The decree of President Rivas asserts that the title of Nicaragua to the Mosquito territory is notorious and incontestable, and declares Kinney, Shepherd and Haley, and all persons claiming under them, to be guilty of an attempt against the integrity of Central America.

Shortly afterwards a diplomatic corps headed by Col. Kinney, arrived from San Juan, and had audience with Gen. Walker.

On the following day Col. Kinney was placed under arrest, and subsequently banished from the territory of Nicaragua, and sent under charge of Major Martin to the Atlantic seaboard.

Col. Kinney was subsequently ordered to leave the State, and departed on the 8th for Virgin Bay en route for San Juan and New Orleans.

The El Nicaraguense says; Col. Kinney at his interview with Walker, proposed a peaceable division of Nicaragua into two states, one to be called Musquita. This Walker declined. Kinney then offered his services to the new republic, which were also declined. Walker telling him that his antecedents precluded his holding any official position under Nicaragua.

Another interview was shortly had, after which Kinney was arrested and held a prisoner of State.

Col. Louis Schlesinger had gone to San Jose as Commissioner of Nicaragua, to demand explanations from Costa Rica, regarding the refusal to hold intercourse with the new Republic.

Advices from San Salvador had been received by Gen. Walker. Gen. Cabanas was there inciting the San Salvador to hostilities against Nicaragua.

The people of the former country were highly incensed against Walker, and it was feared would adopt measures to provoke a war.

The rumors of a league offensive and defensive between Costa Rica, Guatamala, Honduras and San Salvador, causes considerable uneasiness to Walker's government.

The El Nicaraguense in an article on the subject speaks as follows:

"We have stood to the faith of nations, we have acted honorably and with a most conciliatory spirit to all the Republics of Central America, and will still pursue the same unequivocal policy, but yet we are prepared for the desperate alternative, and should discontented politicians inflame against us, the ignorant people of adjoining States, we can only adjudge then as it has been done since the beginning, 'those who draw the sword shall perish by the sword.'"

FOREIGN VIEW OF THE AMERICAN DISPUTE.—The Paris correspondent of the Independence Belge has addressed a most excellent letter to that journal on the subject of the pending dispute with the United States. He treats the subject with great moderation and most unusual impartiality. He goes so far as even to opine that justice is on the side of England; that she has done all in her power, and consistent with the avowed principles of national honour and self respect, to satisfy the United States government; and observes that there cannot be a reflecting mind on the other side of the Atlantic who must not repudiate the idea of a war pregnant with such incalculable disasters to all engaged. The writer thinks, as all rational men hope that the ambitious Pierce will alter his tone when he hears that the whole gigantic force of England is on the eve of being at liberty to act on one point. He likewise remarks that the vagueness of the Clayton Bulwer treaty shows the urgent necessity of greater distinctness.—no great compliment to Sir Henry.

A question put to the Government a few days since in the house of Assembly, in relation to the Militia force of the Province was answered yesterday by the Hon. Attorney General, who stated that the Government was at present in correspondence with the different military authorities throughout the Province, with the view of obtaining full statistical information on the subject. Nothing, he said, had yet transpired leading the Government to advise his Excellency to call out the Militia.—Fredericton Reporter.