


# THE CARLETON SENTINEL.



DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE LITERATURE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

SAMUEL WATTS, EDITOR.]

"Our Queen and Constitution."

[A. C. & J. A. McLAUCHLAN, PUBLISHERS.]

VOL. IX.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1857.

NO. 23.

## General News.

### THE SWISS DIFFICULTY.

The quarrel with Switzerland, which has been raised by the King of Prussia in consequence of the abortive insurrection of his hot-headed friends in the Canton of Neuchâtel, presents no difficulty that any man of common sense and honesty could not settle in five minutes. But the obstinacy of the King of Prussia and the stupidity of the Emperor of the French—or of those persons who make use of the *Moniteur* in his name—bid fair to surround this simple question with endless exasperation and entanglements. The ultimate result may be the disturbance of the peace of Europe. The present result is a state of uncertainty and disquiet, and preparations for war are almost as costly as war itself.

The personal rights claimed by the King of Prussia over the canton of Neuchâtel are not in dispute. The political rights of his Majesty, shadowy in the extreme, might, after proper appraisal, be purchased from him by Switzerland without derogation of dignity. To the thinking of many they would be amply paid for by the shadow of a five-france piece. But whatever their worth—and no one, however much inclined to take the part of the King of Prussia, values them at more than a merely nominal sum—it is disgraceful and monstrous that a Sovereign who, during the war against Russia, would not stir a finger in defence of a cause which he admitted to be rightful, should, for a trumpety point of supposed self-interest on which the verdict of the world is against him, raise armies, put them in motion, and threaten a general disruption of Europe. When there was a great and just war to be fought out, the King of Prussia was the "Angel of Peace." When peace is declared, and a question arises in which his own self-love is involved, the Angel of Peace is transformed into the Demon of Discord; and, for the paltry objects he expects to gain in a small corner of a small Republic, becomes as fierce, as reckless, and as insatiable as Nicholas was in pursuit of the prize of Constantinople. Frederick William will listen to no terms or compromise, unless Switzerland will consent to abandon the trial of Count Pourtales, and the other conspirators who, in his interest, if not at his instigation, took up arms, committed treason against the Republic, and murdered unoffending Swiss citizens. Switzerland cannot yield upon this point without a sacrifice of her independence and dignity. The point is vital. To abdicate her function as judge in the case of rebels against her authority would be to commit political suicide. The weaker she is in men and money the more jealously she ought to maintain her indefeasible rights. It is by her legality, far more than by her strength, than she exists in Europe, and that her independence is guaranteed to her by the consent, and by the express stipulation and solemn compact, of the Powers.

But it is the conduct of France far more than that of Prussia which has complicated the question. Prussia, unaided and uncounselled, would not have dared, however much she might have talked and intrigued against Switzerland, to have attacked her with an army. But, supported by France, there is no knowing what folly or wickedness the King might not commit in pursuit of his visionary claims on Neuchâtel. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the French Emperor will see the error which he has either committed in his own person or allowed others to commit in his name, and, without favour or prejudice, lend himself to the settlement of the dispute. If it had not been for the independence of Switzerland, which Switzerland knew how to

maintain, amid difficulties quite as great as those which now menace her, the mighty Emperor of the French might never have become an Emperor, or even a President, or anything but an exile. He cannot put his hand upon his heart, if he still have one, and deny that but for the generous aid which Switzerland afforded him in the days of his adversity he might perhaps have ended his troubled career on that place where other conspirators against strong and established Governments have so often displayed their heroism, or entitled themselves to be enrolled among the martyrs of liberty. If any one owe Switzerland a debt of gratitude it is Napoleon III.; but, as the gratitude of Princes is even more phantasmal and shadowy than the rights of Prussia over Neuchâtel, it is to the good offices of Great Britain rather than to those of France that Switzerland and Europe will look to muzzle the warlike Sovereign of Berlin, and bind him over to keep the peace, of which he was once, and very lately, so doatingly enamoured. We do not imagine that the personal relations already established, and about to be still more intimately cemented, between the Royal families of Windsor and Potsdam will form any impediment to the action of the British Government in this matter. It was the Premier of England who once insisted—when he was not a Premier—that nations had no cousins; and he is not a likely person to forget at the present time that cousins are not the only relatives of which nations are happily unconscious; that they neither marry nor are given in marriage; and that their only durable or valid alliances are those founded upon political necessities. The King of Prussia is moving his armies towards the Swiss frontiers, and is said to have secured the consent of the petty Sovereigns of Bavaria and Baden to a military passage through their territories. If so, Great Britain has only to declare such an attack upon Switzerland to be a *casus belli*, and the King of Prussia will become prudent and peaceable. In such a declaration, if rendered necessary, France, notwithstanding the opinion expressed in the *Moniteur*, would be certain to join. The *Moniteur* may detest freedom in Belgium, and coerce the Belgian press; and it may also detest freedom in Switzerland and denounce the jealous care of the Swiss to guard inviolate the precious heirloom of their independence; but, notwithstanding all these things, the Emperor of the French will not allow the outbreak of a new war in Europe, to please the morbid vanity or exaggerated susceptibility of the King of Prussia, or any other potentate. Ugly, therefore, as it looks, we suspect that means will be found to put out the fire which has been kindled at Berlin, and that the Swiss difficulty will be allowed to blow over.—*Illustrated London News*.

At a moment when the prospects of everything appertaining to Ireland have so materially improved that the country appears to be gradually becoming one of the most desirable fields for commercial enterprise, it is gratifying to be enabled to allude to an industrial pursuit—the utilization of peat—which, although perhaps of somewhat less importance than some other great interests, is calculated to render assistance to, and greatly benefit the community. In our Journal of last week we published a report of the adjourned general meeting of the shareholders in the Irish Peat Company, who, with the greatest patience and perseverance, have for a very lengthened period been expending a large amount of capital unprofitably in the perfecting their novel manufacture—the obtaining of useful products from peat. That products of the most valuable description might be evolved was placed beyond a doubt by the numerous and careful experiments of eminent chemists, both in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, but the problem necessary to be solved was, whether these products could be obtained to a profit, and this is decided to be both possible and practicable. The Irish Peat Company have been steadily progress-

ing; and it now appears that, after having gradually surmounted various difficulties which they have encountered—as the cutting and saving of the large quantity of peat required, the drying of it by artificial means, and, more especially, the nice process of working it chemically on a large scale—they have at last arrived at the desirable position for a commercial undertaking, in being able to show a profit.

The oil produced is used by some of the first manufacturers and spinners of both cotton and flax in the United Kingdom for lubricating their machinery, and is unhesitatingly pronounced to be one of the best produced for that purpose; and no doubt, as the company progresses, other instances will be discovered in which it may be advantageously employed. Their naphtha is perhaps, the best and sweetest produced, and we learn that it enjoys an excellent local and increasing demand. Another article of their manufacture—paraffins, which for some time has been attracting the attention of the scientific world, from the extreme beauty of the candles manufactured from it, and from the various hygienic purposes to which it may be applied, is now made by them an article of commerce. They have also other available products, such as sulphate of ammonia (largely used in agriculture) and peat charcoal, which is one of the best deodorisers hitherto discovered.

The extent of bog land in the sister kingdom, which has hitherto been merely the source of fuel for the peasantry, may now be looked upon as the substratum of a new branch of scientific industry, and not the least remarkable fact is, that this vast and hitherto-considered prejudicial deposit of vegetable matter should now become the means of producing a new oil, replacing for all lubricating purposes that of the sperm whale. In another column we refer to the paraffine candles which have been already made, and in a future Journal shall allude more fully to the manufactures from peat, and its application to the production of articles of commercial utility.—*London Mining Journal*.

WAR WITH PERSIA.—Copies of the following, in large placards, are being posted in Manchester.—Another war! War with Persia! Fellow-countrymen.—another war!—more bloodshed?—and, if possible, more taxation! are to be the doom of the Englishman. How long shall the madness last? How long shall the Premier be permitted to repay the confidence of a generous people by picking quarrels with half the world! In less than three years the policy pursued by Lord Palmerston both before and since he became Prime Minister has produced—1st. War with Russia, which destroyed upwards of 600,000 human lives, and cost the people of England alone, above one hundred millions of money! And what has it done? Let the increased suffering of the Christians in Turkey answer the question. In addition to the Russian war we were nearly driven into a war with America in defence of conduct that we should have been the first to denounce had it been attempted by any other government than our own, and we were almost as near a war with all the petty despots of Europe, as the consequence of our bluster with the foolish King of Naples. But now we have, 2nd. War with Persia. And for what purpose? The Bombay Times distinctly affirms that "nine-tenths of the thinking men of India deem it one of the most insane ever undertaken, and which half of those composing it (the expedition) regard as piratical." The London Times of Tuesday (December 15) states as distinctly that the object of the war "is more imaginary than words can put in," and that "England does not know what she is fighting for. We are going to make war, we neither know why nor venture even to pretend why." Fellow-countrymen—Has Persia done us the slightest wrong?—or, are we to become the national prize fighter on behalf of every petty state that chooses to embroil itself with some more powerful adversary? If so, when shall we cease from fighting? When will the toiling million of Great Britain obtain relief from the grinding taxation which deprives life of half its pleasure, by robbing industry of half its gains? But you will never have bet-

ter things until the Prime Minister is bound by the law of non-intervention. Short of this he may, at any moment, plunge the people into a war that shall squander millions of their money, and sacrifice thousands of precious lives, without even asking their consent. Englishmen—The time has come to demand a total change. Exercise your prerogative as citizens of a free country, and respectfully call upon the Queen to dismiss forthwith from her councils any man who shall dare to advise a declaration of war, without first consulting the people's representatives in parliament assembled.—WILLIAM STOKES, Secretary to the Manchester Peace Conference.

THE OCEAN TELEGRAPH.—The New York Journal of Commerce says:—

"It is a matter of great moment to those interested in the proposed ocean telegraph, and especially to the proprietors of the telegraph lines between New York and Newfoundland, that St. Johns N. F. should be made a port of call for trans-Atlantic steamers; and, accordingly, we find that arrangements are in contemplation for the construction of a wharf and the erection of machinery at that place, for the express purpose of coaling ocean steamers in a rapid manner."

HON. CHARLES SUMNER.—With the greatest pleasure we record the reelection of this gentleman to the U. S. Senate, on the part of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. The ballot, which was taken on Friday, stood: 333 for Mr. Sumner, 12 for all others, 7 absent.

COSTA RICA AND WALKER.—The New York Herald states that Costa Rican Government has purchased of Commodore Vanderbilt the steamship *Falcon*, and is now fitting her out at that port on an expedition against Walker.

LIQUOR LAW.—A bill to prevent the traffic in intoxicating liquors has been introduced into the New York Legislature which provides,

1st. That any person who shall in any respect keep or sell intoxicating liquors as a beverage, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as misdemeanors are now punished. 2d. Judges or other officers wilfully refusing or neglecting to perform their official duty shall also be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and punished in the same manner. 3d. Makes witnesses of parties violating the first section, against other persons so offending, and compels them to appear.—*Boston Journal*.

PRODUCTIVE REAL ESTATE.—Up to the 1st January, 1857, Mr. Henry Dooley, of the Merchants' Exchange Hotel, has paid the "Boston Exchange Company" the sum of \$45,133.33 for nine years and four months rent.—*Boston Herald*.

KING'S COLLEGE, FREDERICTON, JANUARY 8, 1858. In a Convocation this day held, the Reverend Henry B. Nichols was admitted to the degree of Master of Arts.

E. JACOB, Principal,

Star-gazers have now an opportunity to indulge their taste, which years may pass before they will enjoy again. All of the old planets, and two of the most important discovered within twenty five years, are visible shortly after sunset, and will continue so until the end of the present month.

THE BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS.—The Roman Catholic organ of the Government, a few days since, thought proper to condemn the Hon. Mr. Tilley for advocating that the Bible should be kept and read in all the Schools in the Province. The Catholics and the Government should not presume too much upon the gentleness and good nature of the Protestants. In this opinion Mr. Tilley will be backed up by all the Protestants of the Province. The Bible and the right to read it is one of our dearest privileges, and one that we will not allow to be taken from us; and the more the Government, through their organ, attempt to introduce the idea of banishing this holy relic from the Schools of this Province, and condemn Mr. Tilley for defending its use, the closer will Protestants gather round it, and the more warmly will they defend that gentleman. If the Government, and the Catholics, wish to crush Mr. Tilley politically, they must adopt other means than condemning him for defending the Bible of the Protestants, for his friends are daily multiplying on account of his independent, fearless advocacy of the Protestant principles we all love.—*British Constitution*.