

val, on account of the north east monsoon. The first notice Mr. Brook will have of his appointment as governor will be on his landing in England. This, however, will not, we trust, be the only token he will carry back to the land of his adoption of the admiration and respect of his countrymen.

From the London Times. THE WAR IN MEXICO.

It had been anticipated that the accounts from the United States and the seat of war in Mexico would put an end to the long period of suspense and perilous inactivity in which General Scott's army has passed several weeks, and would probably announce either the entry of that General into the Mexican capital or the discomfiture of his scanty forces. The intelligence bears much more resemblance to the latter than the former of these alternatives. Although the American journals record another victory, they acknowledge that the honours of the day were disputed with great resolution by the Mexican army. They publish a list of officers killed and wounded, which shows the extreme severity of the action; and, above all, they announce an armistice proposed, not by the Mexicans, but by Scott himself. This last circumstance demonstrates that, although the spirit and firmness of the little American army eventually prevailed over the numbers and the field fortifications of the enemy, they were not in a condition to take any political advantage of the contest, though they remained masters of the field. Indeed, considering their feeble numbers, the immense difficulties of transport, and the imperfect organisation of their supplies, which have prevailed throughout the war, it is evident that six thousand men isolated in the heart of a hostile country, decimated by fatigue, fever, and actual fighting, and cut off from reinforcements by the conditions of this armistice, are much more likely to capitulate to the enemy they have insulted and despised than to hoist the American flag on the towers of the city of Mexico. The moral effect of a decisive action and a tremendous defeat, might indeed have paralysed the Mexicans, and induced them to accept the terms they had hitherto rejected; but if the particulars are to be believed which reach us through American channels, the battles of Contreras, and Churubusco are more likely to raise the confidence of the Mexicans than to destroy all faith in their cause or their commanders. The Mexican generals are said to have taken up a very strong position, on which they had concentrated a large amount of artillery, within sight of the capital. The batteries of St. Augustine and St. Antonio were served with great activity and effect, and their fire was especially directed against the position occupied by general Worth and his corps. On the 19th August an attack was made by the Americans on these points, which, as may be inferred from our accounts was altogether unsuccessful. The American field batteries were soon silenced by the heavier guns of the enemy, and we observed that the loss of officers in the artillery corps was unusually great. For six hours this terrific cannonade lasted, and at the close of the day General Scott and General Twiggs retired, 'completely exhausted, not anticipating the great strength of the works of the enemy.' The troops were obliged to bivouac on a tempestuous night, which must ill have prepared them for the renewal of such a battle on the morrow. On the morrow, however, the state of things seems suddenly to have changed. Early in the morning of the 20th, the position of Valencia, at Contreras, had been attacked by general Smith with complete success; and upon the precipitate retreat of the Mexicans from this point, General Worth fell back upon San Antonio. A second most severe engagement took place, which lasted some hours, until the Mexican troops retired in disorder upon the city, leaving their heavy guns and a large number of prisoners in the hands of the invading army. The forces of the Mexicans in these actions, are stated to have been three times as numerous as those of general Scott's army; and although defeated to a certain extent, it is probable that the Mexican generals have still a body of men under their command sufficient to repel any open attack on the city. In fact, having arrived under the walls of Mexico by dint of extraordinary perseverance and hard fighting, it is by no means clear that General Scott is nearer the grand object of his gallant efforts than when he started from Vera Cruz; whilst on the other hand it is evident to the merest tyro in military affairs, that an army of six thousand men, at such a distance from its base, and so inadequately supported from home, is in reality in a position of great peril. Conferences for the negotiation of peace, have it is said been opened, the alternative being another battle of a still more perilous character than the last, for it must be observed, that in General Scott's present position the least reverse must be annihilation. He has absolutely no retreat. We should, therefore, not be surprised to learn that he is willing to conclude a peace by no means flattering to the vanity of the United States. But the moment we arrive at this point we are met by various political considerations peculiar to the institutions of the United States, which render the solution of the question extremely complicated. Mr Polk undertook this war on his own account, and it has proved to be the principal affair of his presidency. The attractions of military adventure and the pride of military success have induced the people of the United States to endorse his bills and to recruit his armies; and we have accordingly seen the chief magistrato of what was once the chief model of pacific governments indulging himself in the royal luxury of a bloody

war. All this may be of some temporary advantage to Mr Polk and his adherents; but they must be well aware that advantages so dearly bought by the nation will prove fatal to those who have speculated in them, unless the burdens of the war can be terminated with this campaign, and unless this campaign can be closed with an amount of success sufficient to screen the enormous injustice of the invasion. In the present state of public opinion in the world, we should have thought it extraordinary if the most absolute of European monarchs had dared to embark in such a war; but that a man, temporarily invested with a limited power like that of the President of the United States, should by his own will and pleasure, have plunged his country into a series of embarrassments, is, without exception, the most extraordinary event which has ever occurred in the history of any modern republic. The sequel will show whether the mere prestige of military achievements is sufficient to overthrow all the principles on which the constitution of the United States is professed to be founded; and even in this affair of the armistice and the alleged negotiation for peace, we shall be curious to learn how far General Scott's conduct will be approved and supported by his government, which, no doubt anticipated a more brilliant result from the march to Mexico.

From the Edinburgh Express. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

In looking over the list of the principal bankrupt houses, the causes of their fall do not seem so reconditae as many imagine who are clamouring on the profound subjects of gold, currency and banking acts. The real original fault appears to have been a miscalculation of the amount of food existing in the country. We were alarmed on high authority with the fearful news that we had not half subsistence to keep us alive till harvest; and that it was very doubtful whether even foreign countries could supply us; and that it was probable famine prices would run even into 1848. Any newspaper file will display the rapid succession of alarms that came upon us.—Probably in most cases the alarmists were sincere—in some they were undoubtedly scheming speculators. At all events they excited public terror. Prices doubled, corn was held back, and markets abroad were swept bare for our benefit. The harvest came and it was found that there was actually at its date as much home grown stock of the former crop extant as there was at the date of the preceding harvest. The quotations immediately declined a half, and speculators who had bought at a high figure were forced to sell at a low, if, indeed, in some cases they could sell at all—for it is an actual fact that consignments of grain were in some cases not taken up. This was the origin of the evil. The houses that had imported largely in grain, rice, Indian corn, or provisions, were obliged to give way. Then there was another class of houses which had speculated in sugar for breweries and distilleries, under the impression that barley would remain at an exorbitant rate; these followed.—Then came the houses that depended on these, and all who held largely in their bills and obligations. The consequence was a general alarm, and a ran was made on all concerns in the stability of which the public had any distrust. This, of course created a demand on their part for ready cash, and as they could not at once realise their assets, they had to try credit, and it is precisely in a time of panic and pressure that it is most difficult to be had. The interest of money rose, probably swallowing up the margin of profit on the transactions of many merchants. The weaker houses succumbed, and their dependant; and then firms in any way embarrassed, though they might have weathered the storm had delay been given them. Under these circumstances, railway calls began to pinch those who would not have felt them in ordinary times. It is all very well to tell us that reproductive investments cannot be a source of national distress; but we need only appeal against the dictum to this grocer, or that draper or that merchant, who has to pay up railway calls in addition to finding capital to meet the ordinary demand of his business. If we add to this that the manufacturers were forced, by the high prices of cotton to stop their mills and forego their ordinary income; and probably also, to some extent though, it is not easy to guess how far, that the gold basis of our money system is just narrow enough for practical purposes, and excites exaggerated fears in the frightened watchers of the Bank Returns, we have a pretty good idea of the sources of the prevailing difficulties. A Glasgow gentleman gave us one curious illustration of the effect of panic. Failure commenced in the top flat of a tenement there, and went regularly down through all the flats to the bottom. The different firms were in no way connected—nor, perhaps, were they much worse off than many business houses—but the public attention was concentrated on that locality; and the consequence was, a run upon them, under which they succumbed. That mere panic has had a very great deal to do with the distress, is made evident from the fact of some of the houses which have yielded having been at the date of their fall perfectly solvent. It is this that makes the deputation from the Newcastle coal-merchants and miners appears somewhat imprudent and hasty, both in the movement itself, and in the special statements made. We do not doubt, as Sir Charles Wood says, that we have seen the worst, and that matters have already begun to mend. The Bank Directors have adopted no more stringent measures in respect to loans or discounts. The grain markets are becoming more steady. The

price of cotton has receded. Above all, the different Railway Companies are evincing a laudable anxiety to press as lightly as possible on their shareholders. Everything considered, it is probable that patience and coolness on the part of the public, and a prudent determination not to run firms to earth in a fit of suspicious terror, will permit commerce to come gradually to rights.

Editor's Department. MIRAMICHI. CHATHAM, TUESDAY, NOV. 2, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for advertising in the Gleaner, and for Printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH, otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

THE LATE ACCIDENT.—Last week we noticed the melancholy accident which happened to Mr. HENRY R. SMITH on the morning of our publication, and it is our painful duty to day to announce that the wounds then received proved mortal. After suffering much agony, he expired at nine o'clock the same evening, the medical gentlemen having about four o'clock amputated his right leg above the knee, taken off the little fingers on both hands, and the first joint of the fourth finger on his left hand. He was perfectly sensible during the whole operation, which he stood with unusual nerve and resolution. This gave his friends considerable hopes; but he began speedily to sink, and complained of other wounds on his body, and about the time mentioned above he ceased to exist.

It must have been a source of satisfaction to his bereaved parents and other relatives to witness the deep anxiety manifested on his behalf, and to administer relief to assuage his sufferings, and when death closed his mortal career; to pay every mark of attention to his remains. He was interred in St. Paul's Churchyard on Thursday afternoon, during the whole of which day the stores in Chatham, without any exception, were closed, and the work suspended in the afternoon at the steam mill and ship yard. The funeral was more numerously attended than any other we ever witnessed here, persons from a considerable distance being in attendance. An individual informs us that the procession embraced fifty vehicles, eight persons on horseback, and three hundred and fifty persons on foot. Had he lived to this day he would have reached his 29th year.

THE SEASON.—We think the weather for about a week previous to Saturday last, was as cold as we ever experienced here at this season; ice of considerable thickness was to be seen in the gutters, and on the standing water. The wind blew freshly and cold from the North and North West. Since then there has been a change for the better, and several vessels long due from Britain, have made their appearance. As there is much business to be done among our shipping, we hope the present fine weather may continue for some length of time.

SPECULATION.—A correspondent of the Montreal Pilot, residing at Belfast, Ireland, in writing to the Editor under date of October 2nd, gives the following account of the business transactions of "a Speculator." How can anything else than bankruptcy and distress follow such a course of action:—

A house here with very limited means, went into the grain trade, when speculation commenced. It made a clear profit of £60,000 up to a certain period, but carried on its speculations; did a business of near £400,000, and wound up with a loss on its late operations of £90,000—making a loss on the whole of £80,000. It failed, and involved in ruin several respectable men who previously had not

been engaged in speculative operations. Such are the houses that must go in these times.

QUEBEC QUARANTINE.—The following is the latest return from Grosse Isle, copied from the Chronicle of the 21st ult.:

The steamer Neptune arrived on Tuesday night from Grosse Isle, with about 50 invalids, and several nurses and orderlies. The number remaining in the hospital, when the steamer left, was only about 60, and it was expected that the Quarantine Establishment would be closed next week.

The following is the Hospital Return from the 10th to the 19th October:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Remaining on the 10th: 364. Admitted since: 54. Discharged: 297. Died: 33. Remaining: 98. The deaths were as follows: Men: 10, Women: 15, Children: 8, Total: 33.

TRANSMISSION OF THE CANADA MAIL.—The Quebec Chronicle of the 23rd ult. contains the following paragraph relating to the transmission of the British mail to Canada:—

We learn from good authority, that the English mail of the 19th instant, will come by the present route, via Boston, and that should new arrangements not be effected, in the interim, that of the 4th November will be the first by way of Halifax, to provide which, we understand the Deputy Postmaster General has given orders to have the necessary arrangements effected.

TRANSPLANTING TREES.—The following valuable hints on this subject, is copied from a late American paper:—

The time for planting trees is immediately after the falling of the leaf. The proper way is to dig a hole sufficiently large in depth and diameter to take in as much as possible of the roots; if any of them are bruised or broken, pare them with a sharp knife, so that they may readily heal. As many of the fibrous roots should be preserved as possible, as they supply the tree with nutriment. Mould composed of rotten leaves or wood, or rich garden mould, mixed with loam should be scattered over the roots by one person, while another gently shakes the trunk, keeping it in an upright position, that the earth may come in contact with all the roots. When the hole is filled, press it down gently with your foot, and then pour a bucket or two of water about the tree. It is a good plan to plunge the roots of the tree in water before placing them in the ground.

The tree should be supported from the effects of gales by three props driven into the ground in the form of a triangle, tied together and to the tree, taking care to place a wisp of straw or some other substance between the binding and the tree, to prevent chafing of the bark.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.—By the last mail the Postmaster at this place received the following notice from the Deputy Postmaster General at St. John; and as the Department is too penurious or too poor (we will not pretend to say which) to pay the printer to give it due publicity, we insert it gratuitously, for the information of our readers:—

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS. General Post Office, St. John, October 25th, 1847.

In obedience to the commands of my Lord the Postmaster General, I hereby notify all Postmasters under my control that they are not to receive Unpaid Letters and Newspapers from the United States, nor to collect United States Postage upon Letters and Newspapers posted in this Province, addressed to the United States, after the 16th of November next.

The public are recommended to advise their correspondents in the United States to pre-pay their letters to the Lines.

Postmasters are enjoined to give every publicity to this notice.

J. HOWE, D. P. M. G.

MEXICO.—The following is the only piece of late news received from this quarter, taken from an American paper: "At the latest dates from the seat of war in Mexico, General Scott was in possession of the capital, but that more fighting was soon expected.—It is reported that the Mexicans had re-taken Puebla, by which the Americans were cut off from a direct communication with Vera Cruz. Great anxiety is expressed in the American papers for further and correct intelligence from that quarter, and the fate of their army."