

British government your bankers, for it would place you in a proud and independent position to act thus. Now this advice suited our Southern Johnnies to a notch, and Mr Archibald gets a vote of thanks, and his scheme was pronounced just the thing, and from that time forth they turned their backs upon Portland affairs, finding them to be rickety at home; and from that time we saw no more extracts from American papers.

Now, Messrs. Wilmot and Gray, for reasons of their own, joined the government, when the southern press sent forth its anathemas, and could they be believed, these gentlemen would be tossed into oblivion. But the people at length recorded their opinions, and Messrs. Wilmot and Gray were sustained by an overwhelming majority. Hear what the Morning News of the 7th of November says, "Wilmot is returned by the strongest vote which a constituency ever polled." And again he says, "but it is done; it is the accomplishment of the anythings and nothings and neutrals of St. John." What a compliment to the great city! After a long tirade of abuse for not taking his advice, the Editor winds up as follows, "What becomes of New Brunswick; poor, unfortunate New Brunswick! Heaven be with us at this the most trying epoch in our history." I trust the worthy editor's prayers will be answered, notwithstanding the exertions of himself and his associates to carry out their vile imposition, in defrauding the people of their rights; and indeed it is little wonder that the heads of the people of St. John are turned, when they have such teachers. One writer finds fault with Howe for being a meddling fellow, in looking after the affairs of New Brunswick, and the editor of the paper praises him for his manliness. Another finds fault with the steam boat company on the river St. John, and another with the gas company, all tending to show the arbitrary rule of private companies on a small scale; yet in the face of all these facts, and many others that might be adduced, they wish to place the destiny of the whole Province in the hands of a company. But as our southern philosophers have quit the polar regions for the coast of Greenland, and given us a branch line to Miramichi, it would be but justice to them to inform the Lords of the Admiralty that in the south of this Province there are people who know more of the arctic regions and frigid zone than they do of the province they live in, and who would make efficient officers to go in search of Sir John Franklin.

I quite agree with you, Sir, and your correspondents, that there is no use in boxing the air with these fellows, for their politics and reasoning are alike unsound and erratic. At one time they advocate the most arrant torism, at another the most extreme radical opinions; now staunch protectionists, and again wholesome free traders; at one moment attacking petty monopolies, and the next advocating the most gigantic and dangerous of all monopolies; now holding forth the most harrowing picture in the shape of taxes, ruin and misery on all sides, if the people have anything to do with Howe's railway scheme, quoting all the croaking extracts they can find, and every age and country is blessed with plenty of those. The celebrated Franklin, who has rendered such service to the people of the present day, was met by one of those worthies in his early life, who nearly drove him to despair, although, said the Doctor, I had the satisfaction of seeing him pay five times as much for a house as he could get one for before. Next they speak of the golden treasures awaiting on any enterprising company, promising them six per cent. the instant the work goes into operation. If the Portland line will pay six per cent., sure I am the Eastern route will pay ten per cent., for you will observe, Mr Editor, our crop is a yearly one, and can be extended to almost any bounds, whereas the great lumber trade of St. John gives but one crop, for when once a tree is cut down and carried away, succeeding generations may not see another in its place. The Portland route will also have to compete with the several American lines already built and in course of construction to their several ports, and Jonathan is not such a simpleton as to drive water from his own mill.

The only thing which the people of the other side of the Province deserve credit for is their inconsistency, and as they sometimes get up meetings "to take into consideration the depressed state of the province," they should now get up a meeting to take into consideration the distressed state of their Editors; but there is one thing which the majority appear to agree upon, and that is annexation.

If the people of St. John are have right on their side, they can have no objection to leave the choice of the proposed route to disinterested British Commissioners.

The objection that they will be well trained in Halifax, verifies the old adage that old smugglers make good custom house officers, and may account for the amount of money and labor spent by the Commissioners among the mountains of the South, for not until that became a hopeless case, did they resort to the North.

Yours, &c.,

A COLONIST.
Restigouche, December 24, 1851.

European News.

From Willmer and Smith's European Times, December 27.

FRANCE.—The force of an election in France, by universal suffrage, has succeeded the tragedy of the massacre of the Boulevards; and no matter how, or by what means, the returns of the secret ballot go to show that a vast majority of voters approve of the *coup d'état* of the 2nd December, and prefer the naked despotism of one single will to the uncertainty of anarchy or the quiet tranquillity of constitutional government. We wish we could throw down the pen with which we record this fact, and exclaim, "It is no affair of Englishmen if the French prefer military rule and Bonaparte usurpation to the solid advantages of a free government." But it does most deeply affect the inhabitants of this country that the only nation of Europe which possesses the power of asserting the principles of freedom should abnegate the cause of liberty, and bow down before the idol of military power. Each day now develops fresh cause for alarm, at these deplorable events. Whilst the Bonaparte organs delude the public with trumpety promises respecting the Constitution (!) which they give out that the usurper intends to grant to the people of France, thousands of respectable men are hourly seized and hurried on board the vessels of war at the outposts, and as we said from the first, will be hurried off to rot in the pestilential marshes of Cayenne; and these deeds are applauded as acts of vigour! M. M. Duverzier de Hauranne and Bixio have been liberated, and General Cavaignac through the interests of his bride's family, has been released, but a perfect reign of terror exists throughout France, and the same remorselessness which marked the perpetration of the deed of usurpation is daily exhibited by the Dictator and his reckless associates to maintain themselves in power.—No doubt they will for a time succeed; but as the entire scheme of tyranny depends upon the life of one man, the present regime does not furnish the slightest degree of stability. The worst feature is, that the ultramontane party, the Jesuits, and the absolutists of all countries are in raptures with praise of M. Bonaparte. Already M. Montalembert has issued a manifesto against the Sardinian Government on the subject of the concordat with the Pope; and if the King of Sardinia dares to refuse to sign away the liberties of his kingdom, it needs no great prophetic skill to predict that M. Bonaparte, who annihilated freedom at Rome, will be too delighted to seize upon the states of the House of Savoy, under the plea of promoting the cause of religion. Some persons entertain the vain hope that the army of France will have full occupation in keeping down the French people at home. We have no such expectations. It is at variance with the experience of all past history, and still more with the notorious inclinations of the ruler of France. In the meantime, M. Bonaparte's emissaries are on the road to the capitals of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, where the concordat sympathies of these despotic monarchs will no doubt secure them a cordial welcome. And whilst all these events are occurring, the English public is stunned with the news that Lord Palmerston has been compelled to resign the seals of office, and Earl Granville has succeeded him. In the appropriate language of the Hon. Robert J. Walker, the ex-Secretary of the United States Treasury, "These Islands alone remain to breast the fury of despotic power; and already it is intimated that it may become necessary to re-establish against England the continental system of the First Napoleon." The assurance given of American sympathy will no doubt be echoed from every State in the Union. In France the people for the moment will probably sink submissively into political servitude, from the tedium and misery of which they will seek solace and variety in a war with some of their neighbors. Louis Napoleon is, they say, about to form a matrimonial alliance with a princess of Sweden, under the auspices of the Emperor of Russia. The official declaration of the election returns, will be published before the first of January; all the pomp and ceremony with which Napoleon knew so well how to delude the French, and make them forget his tyranny, will be resorted to on the occasion, and the Parisians will try to forget, in the splendour of mock imperial grandeur, their insane follies and their political crimes. The Pope has written to M. Montalembert an autograph letter, full of joy at the result of the *coup d'état* in Paris, and his official letter to the Papal Nuncio in Paris undisguisedly applauds the feats of Louis Napoleon. We have very little trustworthy news from the departments.—The iron heel of the tyrant crushes all opposition in every quarter; and to such an extent is military despotism carried, that a decree has been issued by the officer commanding in the Allier, which sequesters the property of nineteen persons, wealthy proprie-

tors, under the plea that they directed as leaders some of the acts of pillage in that department.

The Prussian Government, in reply to the Austrian invitation to attend at the Commercial Congress to be held at Vienna on the 2nd January next, enters into an elaborate statement of the position and negotiations of the Prussian Zollverein, which it declares to be in progress of completion, and until this is the case, M. Manteuffel declines to take any part in the negotiations at Vienna. As far as we can judge from the German papers, the usurpation of Louis Napoleon has caused a deep sensation throughout all Germany; but we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact, that in the Bavarian Palatinate, and in the Westphalian Prussian provinces, the mass of the people would readily take refuge under the despotism of France out of pure revenge for the miseries they have suffered from their own arbitrary rulers. In the same manner that the Red Republicans of France prepared the way for Louis Napoleon's success, out of hatred to the absolutist faction in the Assembly; so the people in Rhenish Prussia and Bavaria would follow the same fatal example. What then, if this be correct, can prevent Louis Napoleon from pushing the French frontier to the Rhine, by which movement free Belgium would be absorbed in one campaign; and Antwerp once more in the hands of the French, England would be menaced on her Eastern coast. The ensuing year bids fair to be pregnant with fearful events.

The Queen of Spain gave birth to a Princess on the morning of the 20th inst.

The retirement of Lord Palmerston from the Russell Cabinet is, of course, the event of the week. Some say that he withdrew voluntarily, others that he was unceremoniously ejected, but the fact is undoubted that he no longer holds the seals of the Foreign-office; that his successor has been appointed, and that a minister who has played so prominent a part in the politics of Europe and of the world during sixteen or seventeen years, has retired into the comparative obscurity of private life—if, indeed, obscurity can be associated with a name and a career, hitherto so deservedly popular with his countrymen. It is needless to add that an announcement so important at a time so critical has produced a wide spread sensation. It was previously known that differences existed in the Cabinet arising out of the freedom with which Lord Palmerston spoke his mind to the Finsbury deputations connected with the Kossuth displays, in which language was used not very complimentary to the absolute rulers of Europe. But then came the startling events in France, the magnitude of which no one underrated. These events, it was believed, had added to the cohesion of the Cabinet, had caused old feuds to subside in the presence of so formidable a danger, and to a Ministry which was notoriously tottering, people were inclined to attribute new strength and vigour from causes altogether new and unlooked for.

It is quite clear that the danger must have been imminent which ended in the retirement of Lord Palmerston. His colleagues could have no desire to sacrifice him, for he was the Atlas of the Cabinet. But although we have long been ardent admirers of his lordship, we should be the first to condemn on his part any premature step at all calculated to jeopardise the peace of Europe. A greater calamity than a general war at the present moment could not be imagined.—Its effects on every existing interest would be most disastrous, and there is no telling when or where it would end, or what institutions it would upheave or lay prostrate. To preserve the peace of Europe at any expense short of national honour we deem to be the first duty at the present moment of a British statesman. Lord Palmerston might not possibly think that his policy was calculated to produce such a contingency; but the Crown and his colleagues might think otherwise, and the crisis has been so alarming that the Queen is said to have taken a prominent part in the pacific policy which led to the withdrawal of that nobleman from her councils. It may be all very well to mark our sympathy with the progress of constitutional principles on the continent, but our interference in the affairs of other nations ought not, as we conceive, to go further. We have clearly no right to become the propagandists of Liberalism at the risk of an appeal to arms. Our insular position does not bring us into immediate proximity with despotism to the endangering of our own national liberties, and beyond the discreet exercise of our moral power on behalf of enslaved and struggling countries we must not step. It is neither to the interest nor to the consolidation of our power.

At the same time we hope the British Government and nation will always have spirit enough to resent any attempt which the northern powers may make to prevent us from giving a home and an asylum to the persecuted of every land. Any conditions which compromise this sacred principle ought to be treated as impertinent. We can readily conceive that the Kossuth demonstrations in this country were most unpalatable to Russia and Austria, and even to Prussia. But we cannot permit the sacredness of our soil to be interfered with even with crowned heads, some of whom have sought our shores in their hour of need, when flying from the wrath and burning scorn of their own subjects. An island that knows no distinction in the case of a runaway monarch, an expatriated president, or a pseudo patriot,—which receives each with kindly welcome—is at least impartial in its hospitality, and ought to command the

respect of all who can feel for misfortune, even when it has been merited.

TRADE.—For a Christmas week, when usually transactions in the wholesale markets exhibit some degree of falling off, the present has proved exceedingly satisfactory in all departments of trade. To-day is kept as a holiday in most of our produce markets, and therefore, practically, our views extend not beyond the affairs with which Wednesday night closed in, so that merchants, manufacturers, and all whose avocation would permit, might take that seasonable respite from the cares of business which the festive season at once invites and sanctions. Two great events have transpired in the course of the past few days, each capable of seriously influencing the character of all commercial operations in this country; one, the resignation of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and the other the election, by a very large majority, of Louis Napoleon as the President of France for ten years. The former caused a temporary disarrangement of our various markets, and a decline of prices in many, but no sooner had the announcement appeared that Lord Granville was destined to succeed Lord Palmerston in the Foreign Office, then confidence became restored; and, backed up by the subsequent news from France, the generally expressed opinion of merchants and capitalists inclines to the prediction of peace, and, with judicious tactics on the part of the British ministry, it is hoped that no further or serious interruption of business may occur between the present period and the ordinary session of parliament. From the manufacturing districts, the reports of the first portion of the week have been of a very cheering nature, and merchants have been making purchases, evidently in anticipation of an increasing business with the turn of the new year. In our Colonial Produce markets deliveries for home consumption continue of a satisfactory nature, but only a limited amount of business has been done for export, and scarcely any variation in price has taken place during the past three or four days; retailers, however, are known to hold but small stocks, especially of sugar, and an improvement of prices is looked for as soon as recurrence of activity shall have given the turn to the now "poisoning" balance of trade.

Launch of the Royal Mail Steam-ship Arabia.—On Wednesday last one of the new and splendid steamships belonging to the British and North American Company's line, which have been in course of building at Greenock for some months past, was launched in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators. She is called the Arabia, and will be commanded by Captain Judkins, now of the Asia, the veteran commodore of the British and North American fleet of steamships.—Her length is 310 feet; burthen upwards of 2400 tons; and she will be fitted up with engines of 1000 horse power. The regularity and precision which have so long characterized the Asia, the Europa, and the other steamships belonging to the British and North American line, reflect the highest credit on their commanders, agents, and all parties concerned. The punctual launch of the Arabia before the close of the present year, as promised, is hailed by the shipping interest on this side as another guarantee for the continuance of that promptitude which has earned for the British and North American Company and its spirited agents, Messrs. Milver & Co., so distinguished a reputation.

IRELAND.

The report is revived that her Majesty will visit Ireland next summer, and that Bristol will be honored as the port of embarkation.

Application has been made to her Majesty for a charter of incorporation to a company for the purpose of establishing steam communication between Galway and New York.

The directors of the Midland Great Western Railway have concluded a contract with a London company for the immediate laying down of the electric telegraph wires along their line from Dublin to Galway.

LATEST NEWS.

Paris, Friday Evening.—The President of the Republic visited the Grand Opera on Wednesday evening. On his entrance he was applauded slightly by the pit, but a few hisses were heard to come from the gallery.

The news of the resignation of Lord Palmerston was received as a most important event, but with general satisfaction.

This morning at 9 o'clock the votes of 61 departments, of which 23 are complete, were as follows:—

Yeas,	6,011,000
Nays,	766,000

Berlin.—Advices to the 23rd instant.—The fact that some of the German governments will send deputies to attend the Commercial Congress opened by the invitation of Austria, while Prussia declines to do so on the ground that Zollverein must be reconstructed before it can as a body enter into any further negotiations with states not belonging to it, excites some speculation as to what the result of the conference may be.

The Earl of Westmorland dined with the Emperor of Austria on the 19th inst. The express states that the Austrian ambassador at the Court of St. James's, and now at Brussels, has received orders to proceed immediately to his post.

Lord Stanley, of Alderly, has resigned his office of Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.