

The House next in importance to that of Messrs. Robin on this side of the Bay, connected with the Fish Trade, is that of Messrs. Le Boutillier, Brothers. About seventeen years ago Mr David Le Boutillier, M. P. for the County of Bonaventure, was a clerk in the first named Firm, but, having disagreed with the then manager, he left his employers and established the House which now bids fair to rival the once all-powerful and dominant Firm—for in those days it was thought little short of madness, to attempt to compete with a monopoly which was only to be surpassed by that of the Hudson Bay Company—every obstacle was thrown in the way of the new concern—their speedy annihilation was proclaimed, both on this coast and at home, but sixteen years have sufficed to place the Firm of Messrs. Le Boutillier Brothers, in a position but little inferior to that of the Messrs. Robin. In addition to their head-quarters at Paspébiac, they have two large establishments on the Labrador Coast, one on the Island of Bonaventure, and another on the Island of Miscou, though the fishery was not carried on at the latter during the last summer. They have also six square rigged vessels, and four smaller craft, employed in the trade, and last season they chartered two vessels to load fish for the Mediterranean Markets—the quantity collected by them being one third less than their neighbours—that is Messrs. C. Robin & Co. about 30,000 Qrs., and Messrs. Le Boutillier 20,000 Qrs. In addition to their extensive business and fishing rooms, &c., Messrs. Le Boutillier are large landed proprietors, and their farm at Paspébiac will ere long be the largest and most valuable this side of the Bay. They have now about 100 acres of cleared land, and when the whole is rendered fit for the plough, they will have about 300 acres in one block, or what in England we term within a ring fence. Upon this Farm, the Messrs. Le Boutillier have erected a handsome four storied brick dwelling, a gentlemanly residence, replete with every comfort and convenience. The blending of the useful with the agreeable has been carefully studied, the House being within musket shot of their business premises, so that the proprietors can from their windows, see what is passing on their establishment or on the roadstead.

On Tuesday, the 11th instant, our enterprising member gave his House Warming—and a house warming it was sure enough! invitations had been sent to some 80 friends far and near, from Dalhousie to Gaspé Basin—but the state of the roads and the distance to be travelled, prevented many from attending, still there was a goodly muster of some 50 guests, all of whom appeared to have met, determined to enjoy themselves, and do justice to the good cheer and hearty welcome of their Host. We shall not attempt to describe the many costly and good things we saw, and partook of, suffice it to say, there was a superabundance of all that the most fastidious palate could fancy, or shall we presume to give even a faint outline of the fair forms which graced the Ball Room. We shall merely say with the Poet that

"He who knows his heart is weak  
Of Heaven should pray—  
To guard him from such eyes as those."

In a word, we believe we can confidently assert that our Member's house warming has surpassed any thing in the shape of festivity ever yet seen in the District of Gaspé, and we would *en passant*, advise those wise acres, who, at the last General Election, widely proclaimed him as a fool, some no doubt as a grateful acknowledgement for the many acts of kindness they had received at his hands, to do in the whole course of their natural lives, what he has accomplished in sixteen years.

MERCATOR.

Hopetown, February 18, 1854.

#### COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir,—The Liquor Law which passed the Legislature last Session, although mutilated from the original Draft, was quite sufficient for the purpose intended, if men were honestly inclined, and not biased by appetite or pecuniary considerations. Petitions for a more stringent Bill have been got up by the various Temperance organizations in the Province, and it must be gratifying to every friend of the cause, lately to have learnt through this Paper, the amount of signatures obtained in your neighbourhood. Several Petitions for this purpose were forwarded from this County, but the Sons of Temperance being chiefly Mechanics, could not devote the time necessary to obtain signatures generally, throughout the County.

It is with pain I have to inform you that certain "Rummies" in St. John, forwarded blank petitions, for a total repeal of the present Liquor Law, addressed to one of our highest and most influential Public Officers, who employed emissaries to go up and down the County to obtain signatures thereto. The argument this sagacious old gentleman furnished his myrmidons with, was this, "that unless the Liquor Law was repealed, and the Magistrates could, as heretofore issue Licences, the County would be heavily taxed to make up the deficiency." The bait took, and in very many instances this appeal was successful, being the

very feeling one to the pocket. As our petitions in General Assembly, will cut but a sorry figure, in a numerical point of view, beside those now referred to, it is but an act of justice to the cause we espouse, to ourselves, and the public, to state how signatures were obtained. Several persons signed the names of their sons and relations, absent either in Canada, the States, or elsewhere; whilst the signatures of the Temperance Petitions were obtained fairly and openly, and without the use of any fallacious argument; on the other hand, paid emissaries were employed, furnished with a lie in their right hands, to urge and entreat signatures, several persons however gave a noble refusal.

It is lamentable to see an elderly gentleman high in office, father of a numerous family, lend himself to such demoralizing work.—Is it not a deliberate insult to the majesty of Heaven, for such a man to teach his children to pray, "thy will be done on earth." He is aware of the facts, that upwards of five thousand pounds are annually spent in this County for intoxicating drinks, that men are continually swept off into an untimely grave by the use of them, and that others who might be valuable members of society, are daily degrading themselves below the brute creation.

I know not a more palpable illustration of being "penny wise and pound foolish," than in continuing to waste £5000 annually, in order to save a paltry tax of £100 to make up the deficiency of the non issue of Liquor Licences.—I hesitate not to affirm, that the man who could put such a specious argument into the mouths of his agents, cannot be desirous either of the moral, social, or religious advancement of the community in which he resides. Such a one is an enemy to both God and Man, and can lay no legitimate claim to the character of a christian or a philanthropist.

One of the agents employed to get signatures, is an aged man, a constant sacramental communicant, and an elder of the kirk, when asked, how he could be so inconsistently employed, he replied, "he was to be well paid for his time and labour."

At our Agricultural, Cattle, and Grain Shows, &c., liquor is plentifully supplied, but whether at the cost of the funds of the Society, I cannot say; but this I will affirm, that if the influence of the grog-bottle be abrogated by law, then will the party, which for years has ruled this County, be like Sampson, when shorn of his locks.

The language I have made use of may be considered strong, but the facts of the case, I think, fully justify me. A supineness on my part, to show up such disgraceful proceedings, would render me chargeable with lukewarmness to the cause I espouse, and unfaithful to my pledge, as

A SON.

P. S. If the Editor of the Temperance Telegraph will copy this, he will oblige.  
March 6, 1854.

## News of the Week.

Selections from late English papers.

### EUROPE.

THE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR BY ENGLAND AND FRANCE.—Though peace may yet become a fact, instead of a vague rumour, the British and French governments are actively preparing for war, on a scale of magnitude which will enable them to cope successfully with the vast fleets and armies of the Czar, even if the German powers should refuse to render them any armed assistance, or even throw overboard all their peaceful professions. A powerful fleet, composed of British and French ships, is preparing, which will, by the month of March, form one great fleet strong enough to take naval possession of the Baltic sea; to defeat the Russian fleet, if it should show itself out of the harbour of Cronstadt; and to place the Russian capital, St. Petersburg, in a state of close blockade. It is stated that the steam division of the fleet is to be ready to sail for the Baltic on the 6th of March next. It will consist of fifteen powerful screw-steamers of from 50 to 130 guns each, and probably of an equal number of steamers of a smaller class, which will be joined as soon as possible, by a strong division of English sailing vessels. The French Baltic fleet will consist of eight or ten line-of-battle ships, and a proportionate number of frigates and steamers. Together these various naval divisions will form one great combined fleet. Those of the Baltic and the Black Sea will be closed against the Russians.

Owing to the great activity which has been exhibited in appointing all the officers, with the exception of the captain to the Nile, 91 screw steam-ship, at Devonport, it is expected that fine ship will be selected as the flag-ship of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K. C. B. on his being appointed commander-in-chief of the North Sea fleet, and the gallant admiral will have the selection of his own flag-captain, which would account for the delay in appointing an officer of that rank to the Nile.

THE TURKISH ARMY.—According to a letter from a German army-surgeon, at Wieden, published in the Cologne Gazette, the

strength of the Turkish army of the Danube, was as follows: namely, 65,000 regular troops, 98,000 irregulars, and 32,000 militia; total 195,000. This was the strength of the army, according to an official report made to headquarters the day previous. The writer adds, that the army was abundantly furnished with artillery, and was in the highest spirits, in consequence of its recent successes. There seems to be little, if any, doubt that a strong French and English military force is about to be sent to Turkey. In another column will be found a list of twenty-two Regiments which, it is said, are to form the English portion of the expedition. The strength of the French force is uncertain; some accounts fix it at 40,000 men, others at 60,000. It is said that Colonel Dieu, the aide-de-camp of General Baraguay d'Hilliers, recommends that the troops be landed at Enos, outside the Dardanelles, at the mouth of the river Maritza, from which point there is tolerable river navigation up to Adrianople.

It is intended early in March that a camp, consisting of 30,000 English militia, shall be formed either at Cobham, or such other place as the general in command of the army shall deem fit.

THE BLACK-SEA.—The *Presse*, of Vienna, quoting from *L'Ami du Solaat* says:—"the consequences of the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea, are already showing themselves. Fourteen thousand men have been landed at Holburgas, below Varna, from on board transports, which had previously been carefully watched by the Russians; now, the Turks are completely at liberty in the Euxine. These 14,000 men are to move upon Varna, and reinforcements from Constantinople and Adrianople are to take the same direction.—The Ottoman forces from Pregonia to Nicopolis, amount to 18,000 men over and above a reserve of 36,000 at Sophia. The Russians have 41,000 infantry, 12,000 cavalry, and 120 guns, with a reserve of 15,000 men." By a letter from Constantinople, dated the 25th ult., we learn that her Majesty's steam-sloop had returned with her despatches, having been unable to enter Odessa on account of the ice. Her trip proves that nothing can be done with the fleet in the Black Sea at the present moment. Admiral Dundas must "bide his time."

The shipwreck that occurred during the last month were greater in number than have been known to have happened in so short a period for sixteen years. Upwards of 300 losses were announced in Lloyd's book, with the sacrifice of 700 lives.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—The majesty of England walks abroad, self-relying, confident, but prudent. Great Britain courts no danger, but shuns no danger when it comes. Partial to peace, she fears no war; and there is a noble value in the vast preparations now being made for encountering the foe. The mind grows large in the contemplation of the calm and dignified manifestation of the might of a great and a free people; and every one feels proud that he is part and parcel of a community which, without ambition, bids defiance to all the world, and which sends its armies and navies to protect the weak against the strong, although the weak have the smallest possible claim to their support. True, she sees beyond the ignorant present, and sees her interest in obstructing the unprincipled progress of despotism; availing herself of an obtruded contest to aid the spread of civilization where hitherto it had encountered a formidable obstruction—for we must not retire from Turkey without having provided effective security for the Christian.

The latent power of England was never so suddenly manifested as on this occasion. As if by a stroke of the wand of a political harlequin, her navies crowd the ocean, and before her numerous ships and steamers of other navies fade into comparative insignificance. To provoke the British navy is to invite destruction anywhere, everywhere; and as we can produce a steamer of 100 guns every month, have produced seven in the last seven months, we are in a condition to defy and advise all Europe. We desire peace, not battles; but if battles be inevitable, the folly of entering into it will appertain to the enemy.

"The sounds of hammers closing rivets up" are now heard in every arsenal in the kingdom in every military store from Woolwich to Spike Island. Instead of "armourers accoutreing the knights," tailors are busy making uniforms, shipwrights are ceaselessly getting vessels ready, and engineers are constantly preparing those "dread instruments" which "Jove's thunder counter-teit;" and one spirit now runs like electricity excited through all the people. Man is, indeed, a fighting animal; that is his proper definition. Six months since "peace was the dear delight" of every man in England; but we may now reasonably doubt if even Mr Cobden himself has not grown pugnacious—for every body talks of war, and grows impatient for the fight. Ireland rejoices that the militia are to be called out; volunteers hasten to be enrolled, and the fishermen around the coast crowd upon the officers appointed to enrol marine guards. Twenty-two regiments, now in Ireland, are ordered for embarkation; and they will depart amidst the cheers of the people. In England all is bustle. The Morning He-

rald yesterday—a good authority on naval matters—says:

Not a minute is lost in any of the military departments in evoking the resources of the country; and we are glad to perceive that the government appear to be fully alive to the necessity of making such a demonstration as shall leave no chance for disaster or defeat. The eyes of the whole world are turned upon the gigantic scale of our armaments and the alacrity with which each department springs to the demand for the munitions of war.

At the Horse Guards, and at the Admiralty at the Ordnance Office and Somerset-house, the work of preparation is incessant; early and late the officials are to be found at their posts, and everybody seems to be working "double tides."

It is now well known that a considerable number of troops are to be sent to the Mediterranean and Constantinople forthwith.

We have stated that a battalion of Guards are under orders for service in the East. Report sends them away on the 18th instant.—The precise army force, however, we believe is not yet determined upon.

It has been also whispered that three battalions of marines, if so many can be mustered, are to be sent to the eastward.

The stores of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, are now being picked out and fitted for active service. That which was Mr Cobden's horror, the great number of guns and gun-carriages in store there, is now the country's best protection.

The navy, it will, be seen, has a treble duty. Not only ships and sailors have the Admiralty to provide, but they have to furnish marines, coast forces, and transports for the conveyance of the army.

The coast-guard force is being collected from the respective stations, and berthed on board the ships at present fitting out at the ports.—Clothing, hammocks, kit, &c., are to be provided for this fine and most efficient body of gunners and sailors. Here is the nucleus of the complements of ten efficient ships of the line.

To replace these men in the coast-guard the Greenwich out-pensioners are to be enrolled.—They will serve on the coasts, and will be supplied with the necessary clothing. Fifteen hundred only, we hear, are to be enrolled at the present time.

The fleet is being equipped with the greatest possible haste, and we trust very soon to see in the Downs of Yarmouth Roads, such a specimen of the gigantic strength of England that will delight our countrymen, astonish our foreign friends, and make the enemies of the peace of the world tremble.

The Admiralty are in daily communication with the Earl of Dundonald—the hero of a hundred fights, and who was never beaten; and it is said that Sir Charles Napier will command the Baltic fleet, and, if so, we shall hear a good account of the Russian ports, on the sea.

It is mentioned that Admiral Corry's fleet is to assist the French Toulon fleet in conveying the French army to Turkey.

There is something grand and gratifying in the preparations now in progress, but we shall all rejoice if they are not required.

TROOPS ORDERED TO CONSTANTINOPLE.—The regiments under orders for Constantinople, together with the dates at which they are directed to hold themselves in readiness to embark, are as follows:—4th (King's Own), 22nd March; 7th (Royal Fusiliers), 25th; 9th, 6th 14th, 3rd; 17th, 4th; 21st, (Royal North British Fusiliers), 15th; 17th (Inniskillen), 10th; 28th, 17th; 35th, 13th; 38th, 25th; 39th, 2nd; 42nd (Royal Highlanders), 30th; 50th (Queen's Own), 18; 62nd, 5th; 63rd, 7th; 79th (Cambronian Highlanders), 29th; 82nd, 16th; 88th (Connaught Rangers), 27th; 89th, 1st; 90th (Perthshire Light Infantry), 9th; 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders), 21st; 95th, 24th. The following regiments will be all remaining in the United Kingdom to do home duty:—The 34th, 20th, 97th, 46th, 33rd, 77th, 91st, 12th, 19th, 23rd, and the Rifle Brigade.

PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords on the 10th Feb., the Earl of Clarendon laid on the table the papers relative to the suspension of diplomatic relations with Russia.

I reply to the Earl of Ellenborough.—The Earl of Clarendon said, that Sweden and Denmark had announced their intention of preserving strict and perfect neutrality, and that they had furnished to government a list of those ports to which they would not admit ships of the belligerent powers. Her Majesty's government had sent an answer approving of his resolution.

Letters received in Paris from the Danubian principalities gave a deplorable picture of the misery which exists among the agricultural population, who are torn by the invaders from their homes in order to transport troops, build barracks, and to perform other forced duties.—The distress of this portion of the Wallacian population is so great, that they emigrate in masses into the Austrian and Turkish Provinces, or take up arms to resist the outrages of which they are made the victims.

ATHENS, Feb. 3.—An insurrection has taken place in the province of Arta, and in the adjoining districts. The notables have issued a proclamation. Four hundred insurgents have sworn to die in defence of the Cross and of the Greek Church.