

tions, has now, thinking herself sufficiently powerful, made a bold dash for universal empire. The subject is now before Austria and Prussia for their decision, and on their determination hangs perhaps, the destiny of the Old World. They must either be the willing, abject tools of the mighty despot of a nation of barbarians, as ignorant and illiterate as the Huns and Goths of old, or be the allies of the most enlightened nations of the world. On their choice rest their existence as free and independent Nations. Who is there that has read the history of Russia that will doubt this? Witness her dealings with Poland and with every other nation she has had a chance to crush. What guarantee have they, that after she has with their assistance, conquered Turkey, defeated the united armies of England and France, with garrisons in all their towns, with armies along all their frontiers, and in their very midst, she will not treat them as she has done all the other nations that have fallen within her grasp, or asked her for succour and assistance in time of need? But on the other hand, what have they to expect, nay, what will inevitably take place, if the efforts of the Allied arms are crowned with victory, a thing far from being improbable. Will not Poland and Hungary again be raised from their living graves, and rank among the nations?—Will not Italy be revolutionised? Will not their great German Confederation be broken up, never more to be united under their dictatorship and control? The choice is now before them—the evil or the good—liberty or slavery—and on their selection rest their existence as nations of freemen, or the provincial serfs of a mighty despot.

We have devoted a very large space to the news from the seat of war, and it is cheering to witness the rapid change that has taken place for the better, in all the departments and the state of the allied armies.

We give below the latest Despatches received from Lord Raglan:—

“Before Sebastopol, March 13, 1855.

“My Lord,—The enemy commenced working upon the Mamelon in front of the tower of Malakoff in the night of Friday; but the nature of the work, from the thickness of the atmosphere, could not be distinguished. Great progress, however, had been perceived on Sunday, and that night a strong working party of the British troops was occupied in commencing a parallel from the advanced point of our right attack, with a view to form a junction with the corresponding parallel to be made on their side by the French, who began it on the following evening; and much was done to forward the operation before daylight this morning, it is hoped the object will be completed to-night.—The weather is generally fine in the early part of the day, but towards the evening heavy sea fogs come rolling in, and wholly obscure the views of the place. The enemy have shown a battalion and some Cossacks on the heights above Balaklava, and towards Kamara, probably with the view to interrupt the French and English wood-cutting parties, for the construction of gabions, in the immediate neighbourhood, but the allied detachments have not been obliged to discontinue their work. I enclose a return of casualties to the 10th instant.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

“Before Sebastopol, March 17, 1855.

“My Lord,—The progress of the parallel, which I reported to your lordship in my despatch of the 13th inst. (No. 205), has not been as rapid as was anticipated, the ground being extremely rocky, and the difficulty of procuring cover excessive, and rendering it almost impossible to carry on the operation during the day. Both the English and the French have now, however, succeeded in establishing the communication between them. Her Majesty's troops have not been assailed; but our allies have been kept constantly in action, and they have succeeded in driving the enemy from the rifle pits, in which they had established themselves in their immediate front, with distinguished gallantry and great perseverance. They, however, have sustained some loss, though not equal to that which they have inflicted upon their opponents. A steady fire has been maintained upon the Mamelon in the occupation of the enemy, from the guns in our right attacks and the practice of both the navy and the artillery has been conspicuously good, and reflect the highest credit on those branches of her Majesty's service.

“Although no positive attack had been directed against our works, our approaches are carried on so near the enemy that the casualties are greater than they have lately been, as your lordship will be concerned to remark in examining the returns I have the honour to inclose; and it is my painful duty to announce to your lordship the death of Captain Craigie of the Royal Engineers, whose zeal and devotion to the service cannot be surpassed, and who was

killed on the 13th, after he had been relieved from the trenches, and was on his way to the Engineer-park, by a splinter from a shell, which burst close to him. I have the honour to report the arrival of Lieutenant-General Simpson, who joined my head-quarters yesterday, and that of Sir John McNeil and Colonel Tukoch, who reached Balaklava a few days before.

“I have, &c., RAGLAN.”

A letter dated at the Crimea on the 14th, furnishes the following interesting information:

“It is stated that, at a council of war held, it has been unanimously resolved not to attack, but to invest, the enemy's fortress. The army of Liprandi will be attacked without loss of time, and so of that of the other generals.

“In the mean time the destruction of Odessa has been determined on, and a large fleet both of English and French, have been named for the work. Odessa fallen, the occupation of Perekop, Anapa, &c., will ensue, and the enemy be thus cut off from the means of sending troops to the assistance of Sebastopol. The names of the vessels to be engaged in the destruction of Odessa are, according to correspondence of the Portafoglio Maltese, the St. Jean d'Acree, flag of Admiral Sir E. Lyons, Agamemnon, Hannibal, Princess Royal, and Royal Albert of the line: and the frigates Highflyer, Niger, Tribune, Terrible, Sidon, Wasp, Curacoa, Vesuvius, Sphinx, Inflexible, Valorous, Diamond, and Leopard.

“It is very currently reported here that no important operations against the enemy will take place until the Sardinians have reached the East.”

Letters to the 17th, add the following:

Omar Pacha arrived at the camp of the Allies on the 12th. On the 13th the Russians opened the fire of their batteries on the heights of Balaklava. The English assisted by General Vinoy, routed them. On the 17th the Russians attacked the whole line of the Allies, and were driven back with great loss.

A late London paper thus notices the destruction of the Russian fleet:

It would appear that the self destructive performance of Sebastopol are to have their counterpart in naval suicides in the Baltic. Despatches have been received, announcing that some Russian ships of the line, and other vessels have been sunk between piles in the navigation way at Cronstadt; this is certainly purchasing obstruction of attack at a frightful cost. The naval predominance of Russia in the Black Sea has already perished under her own hands.

If the following extract of a letter received at Paris from St. Petersburg, gives a true and faithful account of the sayings and doings of the new Emperor, we think there is but little prospect of a speedy cessation of hostilities.

“The acts of the government and especially the official words of the new Emperor, tend to show more and more clearly the line of conduct which he purposes to follow. All these allocutions addressed at the present moment to the representatives of the different bodies and administrations of the state, may be resumed in those two words, ‘Je maintiendrai; or in other words, ‘I am firmly resolved to march in the way traced out by my father. The evening before he addressed the diplomatic corps the Czar appeared at the council of state.—There, for more than half an hour, he spoke on the present situation of affairs with an eloquence and precision of language which struck every one present. His warlike address to the officers of the Guard, who assembled to take the oaths of allegiance to him, was also much remarked. And the deputation of the nobility having presented themselves, in order to render an account to his Majesty of the election of the Chiefs of the Militia, were harangued in their turn with much warmth. This discourse terminated thus:—‘I solemnly declare that I will not give up a single inch of Russian territory to our enemies. I shall take good care to prevent their penetrating further on the soil of our country—and never, never—may my hand wither first! affix my signature to a treaty which shall bring the slightest dishonour on the national honour.’ These words were spoken with a tone of energy and vehemence which excited among all present the most rapturous applause.”

EUROPE.

Our files by the America, are to the 31st March. From the Commercial and Monetary article of Wilmer and Smith's European Times, we take the following extracts:

“The Vienna Conference is the point to which the commercial and general public look for the solution of the question of a protracted war or an early peace. Rumors, favorable and unfavorable, have been in circulation daily, but on one point all agree—that the chief obstructions to a settlement of the dispute hang upon a reduction of the Russian power in the Black Sea; and we fear there is very slight probability, under the existing aspect of affairs, of any satisfactory concessions being made by Russia. The news from the seat of war is unimportant.

“The money market was easy. It is hinted that the Bank of England, in consequence of

the large increase of bullion in her vaults, will likely reduce the rates of discount. The bullion market was dull, and prices barely supported.—Bar silver had been quoted ½d. lower, at which rate it finds buyers.

“No material change in the Grain Markets. Flour, in retail, had sold to a fair extent at 6d. per lb., and 6d. to 1s. per sack reduction. Indian Corn in good demand for Ireland.

“There appears to be a slight improvement in the Manufacturing Districts. In Manchester a fair business had been transacted in light fabrics; in the Woolen trade, prices are nominally without alteration, but on some kinds of goods, advance was obtained.”

THE LEGISLATURE.

We continue our extracts from the Journals as they come to hand.

Last week we announced that the labours of the Session were brought to a close on the 12th instant. By Wednesday's mail we obtained a copy of the Royal Gazette Extra, which contains the Speech of the Lieutenant Governor at its prorogation, from which we take the annexed paragraphs:

“You have been engaged during the present session in the consideration of many subjects of great importance. I acknowledge with thanks the assiduity with which you have applied yourself to the discharge of your public duties.

“The Laws which regulate the election of members to serve in the general assembly; the disputed questions, by which the prosecution of Mining operations has hitherto been impeded; and the system of management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province, have successively occupied your attention. I trust that the measure which you have passed, may give satisfaction, and promote the public interests.

“I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the public service; you may be assured that I shall exercise care and economy in the outlay of the sums which you have placed at my disposal. The establishment of a responsible Department for the management of the Roads and Bridges of the Province will, I confidently expect, afford a new security for the judicious expenditure of the money appropriated for the maintenance of these works. The Act for raising a Revenue will, I trust be found sufficient to provide the necessary funds, and I hope that the recent revision of the Import Duties may prove advantageous to Commerce.”

PATRIOTIC FUND.

The following list of subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund, is from the Parish of Dalhousie in the County of Restigouche:

William Hamilton	£5 0 0
Dugald Stewart	2 10 0
Hugh Montgomery	2 0 0
C. Simonds	1 10 0
W. S. Smith	1 10 0
Henry Gould	1 5 0
Joseph LaBillois	1 5 0
Donald Stewart	1 5 0
William McGregor	1 0 0
Anthony Ritchie, Senr.	1 5 0
Neil Stewart	1 0 0
Doctor Waterhouse	1 10 0
A. G. Wallace	1 0 0
Edward Delany	0 5 0
Robert Thomson	0 10 0
William Jameson	0 5 0
John Sadler	0 5 0
David Sadler	1 0 0
John Phillips	1 0 0
Thomas Almony	0 5 0
Andrew Wallace	1 0 0
William Clapperton	0 5 0
Malcolm Morrison	0 10 0
Thomas Dundon	0 10 0
James Harvie	0 5 0
Robert Watson	0 10 0
J. G. Dick	0 10 0
J. W. Campbell	1 3 4
Edmund J. Stewart	0 10 0
William Murphy	0 5 0
Thomas Murphy	0 5 0
G. B. Cowper	0 10 0
John Thompson	0 5 0
Charles Lindsay	0 10 0
John McAskill	0 10 0
John Miller	0 7 6
Alexander McKay	0 5 0
Alexander Ramsay	1 0 0
Luke Walsh	0 5 0
Charles Lloyd	1 0 0
James Fraser	0 10 0
Edmund Hoare	0 5 0
James Shaw	0 5 0
George Ferguson	0 5 0
William Ferguson	0 5 0
John Stewart	0 5 0
John Ferguson	0 5 0
John Murchy	0 8 0
H. Barbara	1 10 0
H. Laing	0 5 0
Charles H. Lloyd	0 5 0
Amount of small sums	0 10 0
	£40 13 6

D. STEWART, Treasurer. County Meeting.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER TRADE.

By the last English Mail we obtained copies of A. F. & D. Mackay's, and Farnworth & Jardine's Timber Circular of the 30th March. The intelligence they furnish respecting the price of wood, and the prospect ahead for the sale of our staple commodity is not very cheering.

The former says:

“Since our Annual Circular, dated 1st February, 32 vessels, 22,803 tons register, wood-laden have arrived from British North America, viz.,—from Quebec, 16 from St. John N. B., & 16 from other ports; in the like time last year, 34 vessels, 26,106 tons, arrived.

“Since our Circular, dated 30th Jan., there has been a great want of the usual animation in the wood trade apparent, during the last two or three years, and notwithstanding the import falls short of last year to date, the late sales effected have been at a slight decline in price.

“N. B. and N. S. Pine and Spruce Deals.—Sales from the Quay have been made early in the month at £8 5s for St. John and St. Stephen's and have since receded to £8 for best St. John cargoes, and £7 16s. 3d. for ordinary quality. St. Stephen's deals have brought £8 per standard, Pugwash £7 10s., and P. E. Island £7 5s. A cargo of Rachibucto from the Yard sold to supply an Irish order at £8 5s. per standard, the general impression being, that with fewer sales by public auction, prices would again shortly revive.”

From the latter we copy the annexed extract:

“The import of Wood goods is much less than to the same period last year, but as the demand from consumers is very limited, sales are not easily effected, and in some articles lower prices have been accepted.

“Pine Timber.—Quebec Pine.—The sales for the month have been of a retail character, common wood selling at 13½d to 14d per foot. St. John Pine.—The stock of this article is light, but consumption moderate, and the late sales show a reduction of about 1d per foot.

“Spruce and Pine Deals.—Several cargoes have arrived during the month, most of which have been sold, the later sales being at a reduction of 5s. per standard.

“Lathwood is saleable at £5 to £5 10s per fathom for the best, and £2 10s to £3 for inferior quality; with cargo it is generally sold at 40s. to 60s.

“Railway Sleepers.—The market is almost cleared of Hackmatack and Yellow Pine Sleepers—they are worth our quotations.”

THE SEASON.

SPRING makes but little progress. During the week we have had two or three rather fine days, which has helped to diminish the snow, but there is a great quantity yet in our streets. Travelling on the ice in the river is very dangerous—but person still persist in going on it. Our roads in all directions, are in a wretched condition, the mails in consequence, are far behind their time in arrival. It will require a great deal of sunshine or rain, to clear our roads of their winter covering, to give us an open river. Easterly or Northeast winds prevail, which at all times, are very disagreeable, but more particularly so at this season.

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE.

At the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Miramichi Mechanics' Institute, Chatham, held at the Room of the Institute on Monday, the 9th April, 1855, the following Office Bearers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:

President—John M. Johnson, Esq.  
Vice Presidents—John Macdougall, Esq., Mr. Caleb McCulley.  
Treasurer—George Kerr, Esq.  
Secretary—Mr. John Ritchie.  
Directors—Messrs. Isaac Mathison, George H. Russell, James Caie, John Hea, George Johnston, Robert Brown, William Sinclair, Thomas Phillips, James Firth, James Henderson, James Paterson, John Wakeham.  
JOHN RITCHIE, Secretary.

DEATHS.

In Yorkville, Canada West, on the 23rd March, of consumption, CAROLINE MATILDA WOOD, third daughter of the Revd. Enoch Wood, President of the Wesleyan Conference, aged 21 years.

On Friday morning the 20th Inst., at the residence of his father in Chatham, ALEXANDER, the eldest Son of Donald McDonald, Esq. formerly of Bartibogue, aged 21 years, after a long and painful illness, which he bore with christian fortitude, his remains will be interred in St. Michael's Church Yard, at the hour of 3 P. M., on Sunday, the 22nd instant, when the friends of the deceased are requested to attend.

THE LATEST NEWS:—Under this head the Halifax Sun contains the following paragraph:

“We are led to believe, from reliable information received from a passenger by the America, that a Telegraph Despatch had been received just previously to the sailing of the steamer from Liverpool, to the effect that Sebastopol was in flames—Supposed to be the effect of Bombardment.

The Steamer had not arrived at New York when we went to press.