

to the Woronzoff-road; this is about seven miles from Balaklava. There is also a branch about one mile long, to accommodate the Third and Fourth Divisions and left siege train. The railway daily takes up about 112 tons supply of provisions, consisting of biscuit, salt meat, groceries, corn, hay, and fuel to the front. To the 23rd ult. it had taken up as nearly as can be 1090 tons of shell and shot, 390 tons of small arms, 3600 tons of commissariat stores (fuel and forage), besides upwards of 1000 tons of miscellaneous—viz., guns, platforms, huts, Quartermaster-General's stores, &c. The railway was commenced on the 8th of February by the navies, it conveyed commissariat stores to Kadikoi on the 23rd, and on the 26th of March it conveyed shot and shell to the summit at headquarters, 4½ miles from Balaklava; which with the Diamond Wharf branch and the double line from Balaklava to Kadikoi, makes upwards of seven miles of rail laid down in less than seven weeks.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The Independence Breeze publishes the following:—

Hamburg, May 3.—The number of English ships of war in the bay of Kiel is daily increasing. Yesterday the gunboats Snapper, Pincher, Snap, Gleaner, and Cuckoo passed up the Belt, towed by two new steam corvettes. These gunboats, mostly armed with two Lancaster guns of the largest calibre, navigate by means of eight sails, adapted to very strong masts, and advance, when the wind is favourable, with prodigious rapidity. Our last accounts from Finland are of the 23rd of April. The coast along the Gulf of Bothnia is still lined with ice from two to four feet in thickness. A deputation, chosen by the four Estates of the country, had just left for St. Petersburg, to congratulate the new Emperor on his accession to the throne. The Finnish population, but particularly the classes engaged in maritime commerce, inhabiting the towns on the coast, are still greatly excited against the English, whom they stigmatise as incendiaries. The General-in-Chief, de Berg, is actively inspecting the fortifications. The staff of the new army now being organized in Finland is still at Helsingfors, where the division of grenadiers and a regiment of the guard, have kept garrison since the beginning of the last campaign. Helsingfors and Sweaborg are considered in that part of the empire, to be impregnable; in order to carry them by force, it would certainly require a long and fatiguing siege on the land side, where the Russian military engineers erected, after the departure of the fleets in 1854, additional fortifications, which must be captured before a regular and methodical siege could be laid to the two fortresses. A French colonel of the staff lately passed through Hamburg on his way to Stockholm, via Copenhagen. The object of his mission is to obtain leave from Sweden to land troops and establish a camp on some point of her territory. Should this demand not be granted, as is very probable, Bomarsund and some of the adjoining islands, will be again occupied by the allies, and entrenchments thrown up to protect the troops and depots of provisions against the attacks of the Russians.

May 4.—You have learnt by telegraph the departure of the entire English fleet from the bay of Kiel. On the 1st inst. the Admiral had received despatches from London ordering him to remain there eight days longer, and on the 3rd another despatch enjoined him to penetrate immediately into the Baltic. The departure accordingly took place with a certain degree of precipitation. It was believed at Kiel that the fleet would first proceed to the Swedish island of Gothland.

According to the last accounts, the ice still firmly adhered to the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia and of Finland, at Abo, Sweaborg and Helsingfors. Letters from this last town of the 26th ult. state that the 20 battalions of Finnish troops, the levy of which had been ordered by the Emperor Nicholas, were then nearly organized, having received their equipment and arms in the month of March. These troops were stationed at Wasa, Abo, and in their localities along the Gulf of Bothnia. All the old retired officers had re-entered the service, and a number of civil employees had likewise obtained commissions in these battalions. The advance guard of the English fleet has already advanced a considerable distance into the Baltic. On the 19th ult., two large steamers arrived at Fohra Sound, the most northern port of the Island of Gothland, where during the summer of last year a number of vessels belonging to the fleet of Admiral Napier remained stationed. A Russian vessel, which had wintered there, and was preparing to continue her voyage was obliged to desist on the appearance of the two steamers, and will no doubt, remain blockaded in the sound until the close of the year. The English have already made several prizes.

Meditated Attack.—According to advices from Peru, says the Courier du Havre, "the French and English fleets are uniting at Callao to enter into combinations for a fresh attack on Petropaulovski."

The Politician.

THE BRITISH PRESS.

From the London Times.
THE WAR.

The operations of the siege of Sebastopol ought at least to have the effect of guarding the public against either extreme of confidence or of despondency. The allied armies are engaged in a vast and wonderful undertaking, which comprises under the vague description of a siege, every species of active warfare. They have fought a pitched battle on the heights of Inkermann; they have fought a cavalry action with unexampled gallantry in the valley of Balaklava, they have outwatched the long and stormy nights of winter on our lines; they have driven forward a reconnaissance beyond the Russian outposts; and all this time the unremitting labour, the heavy cannonade, and the incessant skirmishing of the trenches and rifle-pits have been going on, slowly but steadily advancing the works of the besiegers. The inference to be drawn from this long series of efforts is, that the success of the campaign and of the Crimean expedition, depends not on any single operation, however important, or upon the systematic continuance of the siege according to the established principles of scientific warfare, but upon the sum total of all these different measures, by which the resources of the enemy must gradually be more and more exhausted and the object of the allied armies eventually obtained. Thus, when the great bombardment opened on the 9th of April, we were already aware that it could not be sustained much more than 12 days with the guns and ammunition then prepared in the batteries, and that the officers directing the siege did not anticipate more than a partial success, such as the formation of a lodgment on the Garden Battery. These expectations, which we had been led to entertain and to express, have been accurately verified. The bombardment was not followed by the immediate surrender or destruction of the place, nor was the cessation of the fire a signal to raise the siege. The practical result is, that the allied forces have gained considerable on the Russian works, that some of the most important of the Russian batteries have been silenced, that mines have been sprung, enabling the French to establish themselves within a few yards of the town, and that every inch of ground we have gained has been so manfully held and defended that the Russians have failed in every attempt to recapture what they have lost. If any one will compare the exact position of the besieging armies of the outworks of the town on the 9th of May with what it was on the 9th of April, it will be seen that considerable progress has been made. The spirited conduct of the French troops in the night of the 1st of May, when they succeeded in taking and occupying a strong counter-approach of the enemy in front of the Central Bastion, proves that the moral energy of our allies increases as they are brought to closer quarters with our adversaries; and the vigorous charge by which detachments of two British regiments forced the Russian ambuscades in front of the Mamelon, shows that both time and life may be saved by a direct attack on the outworks of the place. The garrison of Sebastopol cannot amount in numbers to one-half of the forces now assembled before the southern division of the town, and, although the defenders of the place have been relieved from time to time by fresh troops, the labour and exhaustion of defending an immense line of works under a continual fire must be in the highest degree harassing and destructive. Moreover the resources of the defence of outlying works which enfiladed the rear of our batteries, have been considerably abridged, and every fresh arrival shows that the besieged are reduced within a narrow circle. The last parallel is within 25 yards of their works and the most advanced battery 60 metres.—A siege arrived at this stage of operations can only be arrested by the destruction of the works of the besiegers, or by the successful advance of a relieving army, but neither of these results are in the slightest degree probable. The Russians have been invariably defeated in their nocturnal sorties against the works of the besiegers, and since the battle of Inkermann no attempt has been made by the Russian forces in the Crimea to do more than keep open the communication with the town. Indeed, the time is now come when we may confidently anticipate the commencement of more active operations against the Russians in the field. The reconnaissance lately made by the Turkish, British, and French armies beyond the Tchernaya has shown that the enemy is not in a position to offer any serious resistance to our advance from the east of the plateau occupied by the allies. Orders have recently been received from Paris to cause the whole French army of reserve collected at Constantinople, and amounting to about 25,000 men of all arms to embark at once in the French vessels of

war and transports for the Crimea; and as the British steamers conveying the Sardinian contingent to the theatre of war were already arriving in the Bosphorus, about 40,000 fresh troops, perfectly equipped for the field, will shortly arrive in the Crimea. In addition to this powerful reinforcement, the British army is constantly receiving an increase to its numbers, which will enable it, we doubt not, to perform any duty it may be called upon to discharge. With these forces at the disposal of the allies, an army equal in number to that which won the battle of the Alma may advance against the Russians from Eupatoria, Kaffa, Kerch, or the Valley of Baidar, without diminishing the strength of the army already engaged in the conduct of the siege. For this purpose the formation of the army of reserve at Maslaek and the requisition of the Sardinian contingent, are judicious and important measures, for these troops, if properly handled, ought to cut off the supplies of the enemy, and to render their position in the Crimea untenable. North of the river Salghir the Crimea is in summer an arid plain, without water and incapable of supporting an army, the possession of the southern coast and of the valleys running down to Karasu-Bazaar and Simpheropol is, in fact, the occupation of the Crimea, and we see no reason to doubt that hostilities may be carried on with advantage in this district. We have taken the lead in denouncing the want of energy and ability which has been conspicuously displayed by those who were responsible for the condition and command of the army; and we have endeavoured to trace to their true causes those abuses that have left so deep a stain on the military arrangements of this country; but it has never occurred to us that two such nations as England and France could, when fairly roused, repair the temporary check which their arms have received, not from the superior valour of the enemy, but from mismanagement at home and abroad, aggravated by the rigour of the season, the prevalence of disease, and the distance of the theatre of war. We have never shrunk, moreover, from the responsibility which we assumed in urging the expedition to the Crimea upon the government and the country. Now, more than ever, when we have to look to our own strength and our own resources to bring us with honour out of this contest, it becomes us not to say one word which would seem to imply a doubt, we have never felt, of our ultimate success. If the whole history of the condition and losses of the Russians were laid open to the public criticism, we are confident that it would be found to have enjoyed no exemption from the sufferings our own troops have surmounted; and, if we could follow it into the interior of the Crimea, the casemates of Sebastopol, or on its wintry marches over the steppes of Southern Russia, we shall probably find that it has been weakened by incalculable hardships and by losses far more severe than our own. The true test of military strength and endurance is to be found in the ability of each party to enter upon the present campaign; we believe that for all the purposes of offensive warfare in the enemy's own territory the superiority is on the side of the allied armies. The world has formed a very inaccurate estimate of the power and resolution of this country if it supposed that the discovery of many abuses in our military establishments that demand reform and improvement can divert us from the pursuit of a great political object, which we believe to be necessary to the safety of Europe. On the contrary, we look to the correction of these abuses as one of the means to enable us to bring more effective armies into the field, and to prosecute with great success the enterprise in which we are engaged.

Communications.

COUNTY RESTIGOUCHE.

Restigouche, May 14, 1855.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Dear Mr. Pierce.—The public seem more pleased with my former epistle to you, than they are with my brother Sam Suke's; so I take up my pen to send you another. It is said that our ex-member is quietly canvassing the county in order to be returned at the next General Election. To obtain popularity, he has lately cried on several artificial doxies. He must have in view the unseating of our "magificent member," for surely he would not be so unnatural as to wish to displace his brother-in-law, in whom we still hope, although he has not come quite up to our expectations. It is to be wished, when the next Election arrives, that the county will not be so foolish as to return either of the two former, and will be no longer fascinated with the polite "soft-sawder" of the one, or be charmed by the noisy vulgar sycophantic twaddle of the other. They are always harping upon the money procured for Roads and Bridges: this is their only cry; their fables only play one tune. A humbug, which as it respects this county, in my next I shall expose. It is almost helpless to expect better things here, until Providence in compassion to us, shall see fit to call, may be, to the upper regions, some of our closely-linked, "doubly-died-in-the-wool" obstructives, an event most fervently prayed for by many, and by none more heartily than by

My Dear Mr. Pierce, your's truly,

JOHN SUKE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Dear Sir.—The senseless act of our Legislature, in passing the Prohibitory Liquor Law, has caused some little stir in this fair county. Our ex-member, determined to watch the interests of mankind and of trade in particular, and do all the good he can for sinful and un-deserving mortals, is at present busily securing the county to obtain signatures to a Petition, praying our Sovereign Lady the Queen, to withhold her assent to the above-named act. The petition is admirably drawn up; it sets forth the great injury that would be sustained in trade, &c., &c., which must be admitted by any reasonable or thinking mind. For was the Liquor Traffic stopped, it would injure the trade of Cloncywen, by leaving mankind in the state created by God; by which means they would not require half their services. It would injure the trade of Judges, Lawyers, Sheriffs, and Jailors, in punishing crime. I might cause a great falling off in inmates of Lunatic Asylums, and in many cases, the use of Doctors. It would cause the downfall of a host of Bacchanalian Temples. And I see no reason why Christians of the present day, might not occasionally hold on to a post, or lean against a house, and with humble reverence bawl out Bacchus, while the more devout worshippers, clothe themselves in rags, and frequently prostrate themselves in the dust; more particularly when there can be found proofs in Scripture of God's own chosen people bowing down to Baal, and tenaciously clinging to their groves and graven images, notwithstanding that God by his Prophets repeatedly commanded them to break down their images and PUT THEIR GODS OUT OF THE LAND. And besides all this, we have examples at the present day, of a large portion of mankind bowing down to a Juggernaut or some other fancy God, which fanatics are striving to prevent, first, by moral suasion, and latterly, (whether they can get it to bear) by legal measures, just like the fanatics of the Liquor Law.

Now as moral suasion has been tried only a thousand years, I think in justice to mankind, and for the benefit of Christianity, it should be tried for some time yet, people have not as yet had sufficient experience. No, no, away with such nonsense; there can be no law made to keep it from us, let us then have the oil of gladness, and ordained priests in the temple of Bacchus, and if they annoy not our heads, they will at least muddle our brains, and be always sure of worshippers at their shrines.

And above all, if the Liquor Traffic is stopped, it will be a dead certainty, severely injure the trade of the Devil, and prevent many a noble and good soul, from yearly entering his dominions. Seeing there is a Devil, it is but just and fair, that he should have his agents and be fairly represented; and our ex-member being clear of any other onerous duties, it speaks volumes for him, to have justice done all parties, for fair play is a

JEWEL.

Restigouche, 19th May, 1855.

P. S. It is said our ex-member contemplates being the bearer of this petition to lay it at the feet of the throne, by which means he expects to kiss the hand of Her Majesty for his valuable services. He further expects, should he go to England, to be appointed a delegate to purchase some horse flesh for the Agricultural Society, if so, no gentleman in this county from actual experience, understands all such matters better than he.

FOR THE GLEANER.

To the Editor of the New Brunswick Gleaner,

Mr. Editor.—Your Bathurst correspondent "An Enquirer," has not paid that strict regard to truth in his communication, which should at all times more particularly govern a public writer.

The Temperance community of Bathurst in common with others, did on February last, determine to use exertions to swell the Provincial contributions to the "Patriotic Fund," and a certain sum was named as the maximum at which they were to aim. To effect this purpose, a Tea Soiree was got up in aid of an appropriation from society funds; and finally small donations from members had to be solicited to complete this amount. Some weeks were necessarily occupied in these efforts, during which time the state and progress of the collections were open for inspection on every lawful day in business hours, and THREE DAYS after the required amount was secured, it was on its way to Head Quarters. Moreover as a measure of precaution against the shafts of the captious and malicious, an abstract of the receipts and expenditures (there being no local newspaper,) was posted in four or five of the principal stores of the town. Of all this I scarcely think "An Enquirer" can be ignorant.

But it was not from any apprehension that the funds alluded to were misappropriated, that "An Enquirer" was led to throw suspension on this affair. It was meant, I apprehend, as an act of "reprimand" for an attack of a similar character made by "O. P. Q." through the columns of the Morning News, upon the public or parish collectors for the Fund, who it was alleged had not accounted. This latter charge I believe to be a wanton and groundless as "An Enquirer's" and of which the Temperance body I am sure are perfectly ignorant.

Members of one community cannot sling dirt at each other without soiling themselves. It is melancholy to reflect that in this instance, the merit due the inhabitants of Gloucester for their philanthropic exertions, is marred by the venom of party spirit; for each party here seems engaged in the suicidal attempt to destroy unjustly, the reputation of his own neighbourhood for honour or honesty, before the world.

If there was a seeming rivalry in striving to excel in promoting this great national charity, it was a noble, a laudable emulation, and was conducted in most instances, I feel assured, from purely sincere and unselfish motives, highly creditable to the actors. They should be ceaten then, with the conviction of having performed conscientiously, a great duty, and leave the rest in the hands of him, who "seeth in secret," and "will reward openly."

No report ever appeared I believe, in any newspaper, of a Tea Soiree in New Bandon, as "An Enquirer" states.

Yours, &c.,

PAX.

Bathurst, 26th May, 1855.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTH DAY.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Dear Sir.—The twenty fourth of May was a clear and lovely day; scarce a ripple disturbed the surface of the water, whilst the birds set forth their carol of praises, as if rejoicing at the pleasures of nature; and as it was the birth day of our most gracious Queen, one of Britain's noblest Sovereigns, and at present engaged in a deadly struggle for the rights and liberties of mankind; a struggle, the equal of which the pages of history has not yet recorded. That being the case, it might not have been consid-