

Degree improbable that Russia will accept of peace on the terms proposed. They are offered to the Czar, as the Sybil offered all her books in the first instance to Tarquin.—The obstinate pride of Nicholas will constrain him to reject the bargain as originally tendered to him, and accept in the long run a much less advantageous peace at the price of greater concessions. The importance of the treaty to the Western Powers, and to Europe in general, is that it distinctly ties down Austria to act in our sense to a certain extent. Austria has placed itself on the rails, and cannot get off again; it must go on further than it at present contemplates or take worse consequences. We have no great faith in Austria, and we could have wished a solution of the Eastern difficulties better calculated to set them at once and permanently at rest than the terms of the treaty of alliance afford.

But the existence of Austria as an independent state, is an obstacle in the way—is a fact that cannot be got rid of by a coup-d'état, whatever fervent orators and speculative politicians who re-construct the European system of states in their closets, as they would write a historical romance may say.—A rock that stands in the line of a projected road or railway cannot be pushed aside by one effort; it must be hewn, and blasted, and removed piecemeal: and so with the obstacles which the hereditary policy of a state like Austria opposes to the most desirable organization of the European system of states. The treaty with Austria—unless our information respecting it is entirely enormous—is a step in advance; it places the liberals of Europe in a more favorable and commanding position for further operations than they had ever attained before. A terrible responsibility will rest upon any liberal who would mar the prospect of so fair a political harvest by putting in his sickle ere 'tis ripe.

## Communications.

### RAPID TRAVELLING OF OUR MAILS.

The mail which left St. John on Wednesday, the 25th ult., arrived here on Monday night, in time to be delivered on Tuesday morning, the 2nd inst, being nearly six days from St. John, a distance of 182 miles. The public would like to know the cause of delay of the mails from St. John since the fall of the Hammond River Bridge, each mail has been from two and a half to three days behind its time, the Sunday's Mail arriving on the next Wednesday, the Wednesday's on Friday, and the Friday's on Sunday. While the Halifax mail which has much farther to travel, arrives near its regular time. This shows that the delay must be between St. John and the Bend, it cannot be the falling of the bridge has caused the delay all the while. Jack Frost has built a temporary one some time since.

Chatham, 4th January, 1855.

## INSURANCE.

### Provincial Insurance Company.

CAPITAL £100,000 INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT,

Head Office, District of Gaspe Agency,  
London. Gaspe Basin.

The Subscriber having accepted the Agency of this Company, is now prepared to take Marine Risks, Ocean and Inland, on Vessels and Cargoes; also Insurance against Fire, on terms as moderate as other safe offices.

JOHN EDEN.

Gaspe Basin, 25th November, 1854.

### FIRE ENGINE FOR SALE.

No. 4 ENGINE, of the City of St. John, is now offered for sale to the highest bidder, as the company is about to purchase a first-class Engine. She is in good repair at present, and the company will warrant her to throw water 100 feet. Application to be made to ALDERMAN KEAN'S, Chairman of Fire Committee.

P. MULLIK, Engineer of Company.  
JAMES O'CONNOR, Foreman  
JAMES T. O'CONNOR, Assistant Foreman.  
St. John, N. B., December 15, 1854.

### CORN MEAL, &c.

For Sale by the Subscriber

CORN MEAL,  
SUGAR,  
MOLASSES,  
TOBACCO,  
RICE,  
CHEESE,  
HAMS,  
CANDLES.

THOMAS VONDY, Jr.

Chatham, 25th November, 1854.

### BURNING FLUID, &c.

700 Gallons superior BURNING FLUID; 40 gross PINE WICKING, and a variety of Tubs and Lamp Lamps, complete with Globes, Shades, &c.,

WM. A. LETSON, Commercial Buildings.  
Chatham, 29th December.

### NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Highland Society of New Brunswick at Miramichi, will be held at Sweet's Hotel, Chatham, on SATURDAY, the 13th day of January, 1855, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

ALEXANDER MORRISON, Secretary.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1855.

TERMS.—New subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 12s. 6d. in advance, or 17s. 6d. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent is the only authorized Agent for this paper, in the Cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His Offices are:—

BOSTON.—Scollay's Building.  
NEW YORK.—Tribune Building.  
PHILADELPHIA.—N. W. Cor. Third & Chestnut Streets.

This Paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge, at Holloway's Pill and Ointment Establishment, 244, Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

### UNITED STATES.

PRIVATE letters received from the United States, as well as the newspapers, give a very gloomy account of the state of affairs throughout the Union. Trade was depressed, banks breaking, failures frequently occurring, large manufacturing closing, mechanics daily being discharged, and great distress existed among the labouring classes. The New York Tribune says—that hundreds were daily enlisting in the army.—Another paper says.—“Great numbers of workmen have been discharged at New York in consequence of financial difficulties. Distress and beggary prevail among the working classes.”

A large and very enthusiastic meeting was held at New York on the 15th of last month, to take into consideration the propriety of adopting a congratulatory Address to William Smith O'Brien, on his return to Europe. The Mayor of the city, Mr Westervelt, presided.—Numerous speeches were made denunciatory of the British Government. At the conclusion three most enthusiastic cheers were given for the Emperor of Russia.

We trust the ebullitions of feeling that have recently been given by the people of the United States on several occasions, in favour of Russia, as well as the tone of a large portion of the Press, and the ambiguous conduct of the Executive, will prove a salutary lesson to the people and government of the Mother Country. They have for years, strenuously courted the good-will of our tricky neighbours, and in their endeavours to secure it, have not scrupled to sacrifice the best interests, and trench on the acknowledged rights of the loyal subjects of the North American Colonies.

We would instance two recent acts—the Boundry treaty, and the Reciprocity treaty—falsely so called. In the first, a large portion of the territory of Canada and New Brunswick was given away without any equivalent, and in the latter, our invaluable Fisheries.

We trust also, that it will not be thrown away on the sympathisers and annexationists in the Colonies, who, a few years ago, when Mr Howe propounded his noble and ably-concocted scheme of Emigration, and the building of a Railway for uniting the British Provinces, which was backed by the British Government, thwarted it by devising another, which was to make the said road traverse a country bordering on the territories of the United States. When the Novascotians and the inhabitants residing in the Northern section of the Province, pointed out the suicidal policy of constructing so important road in such an exposed position, that in the event of hostilities ever breaking out between the two countries, it would be an easy matter for the Americans to destroy the work, these gentry combatted their objections, by contending, that there was too much British feeling in the Union, and the Commercial interests of the two nations were too intimately blended, to admit of any circumstance occurring that could by any possibility, lead to the breaking up of the harmony that had so long existed between them.

Where is now that British feeling—and what has become of this strong bond of union?—No sooner does Britain go to war in a holy and righteous cause—to secure the territories of a weak power from the grasp of a tyrant, and

secure the liberties of the European nations—than the people of the union manifest their hostility in various ways. The government also assumes such a questionable attitude, as to engender much distrust in the minds of British statesmen. A heavy expense is entailed on the British exchequer, too severely tasked already, by forcing the government to send out a large fleet to the West Indies, to watch her proceedings, and to prevent her from perpetrating similar acts of atrocity against British subjects, as she was recently guilty of at Greytown.

We are gratified to perceive that several leading British Journals have turned their attention to this matter; and we refer our readers to our Political head, where they will find an able article from a London paper on the subject.

### ADVENTURE IN AUSTRALIA.

By the last British mail we obtained a letter from a young man who served his time in the Gleaner Office, and proceeded some time ago to the land of gold, in the hope of speedily acquiring a fortune. From this letter we take the following extract, giving the particulars of a very serious adventure which befell him in the woods of Australia.

“I had not been on the diggings more than three weeks when our party moved to a distant diggings, about sixty miles in the bush; we have remained there ever since, and it is only now that I am on the Bendigo Diggings, that I am able to post this.

“Our party having a good claim in one of the rich Gullies, we were doing our best to get it worked out before the rain set in heavily, having a night and day party at work; but it was no use, one thunder storm fixed us for a while at least. The ground we were working, lying low between two ranges, one night's rain deposited about twenty feet of water over it, besides doing us a considerable deal of damage otherwise. However, we were not the only ones that suffered; those who were unfortunate enough to be tented near the bed of the Gully, had the luxury of a cold bath and a swim for life, for when it rains here, it rains to some tune, and as the water runs off the high ranges it concentrates in the narrow gulches below, sweeping along, carrying everything before it, so that there is a perfect torrent in the gullies a short time after it commences to rain, and giving little or no warning of its coming. Well, we could do nothing with the ground for water, so one of the party and myself made up our minds to speculate a bit, and as horses were bringing a first rate price in Melbourne—on account of the high rate of cartage to the diggings, we determined to speculate in ‘horseflesh.’ We accordingly purchased four good draught horses, paying £100 each for them, on which we calculated realising 75 or 100 per cent; and having hired a man to assist in taking them to town, we started. For the first two days all went well, and being well armed, we felt pretty secure, sleeping with our revolvers under our heads, and the horses picketed close by the tent where we pitched. The third day—to accomplish our usual distance—would bring us to about the centre of the Black Forest, a locality we were by no means anxious of stopping in; and as it was impossible to push through, our only alternative was to move on about fifteen miles, or go into the bush. For the sake of time, we resolved to tent in the bush, and after a ride of about 20 or 30 miles, we pitched our tent at the base of a cliff.

“Who that has been in Australia has not heard of the Black Forest, of bushranger notoriety, and who that has passed through its deep ravines, and over its steep hills, has not felt a vague dread, and a mistrust of almost every one he meets within it. It is in this forest so many diabolical murders and robberies have been perpetrated. It is here that many a traveller enters, never to emerge from it again. Here it was, that the Gold Escort was attacked by the rangers, the troopers shot, and 40,000 ounces of gold carried off, but a short time ago: but since then, the numerous gangs have been in a manner exterminated, the Government not till then thinking these bands capable of such temerity.

“We pitched our tent about two thirds of the way through, and my partner and I discharged our revolvers, and handed them to our man to load afresh, while we fastened the horses securely. Nothing disturbed us till nearly daylight in the morning, when I imagined I heard the horses moving. Crawling to the door of the tent I could see through the grey of the morning, a man fastening the horses together. Waking my partner with as little noise as possible, I drew on my boots, and putting on a thick pea jacket, I snatched up the pistol that was lying under my head. As I jumped outside the tent, the fellow was just riding off with two horses on one side of him and one on the other. Calling on him to stop, I ran on and came up close to him, and presenting the pistol at him: I told him if he moved on farther I would fire. ‘Och then, fire away and be d—d to you, for by the powers, I don't think you're much of a shot anyway,’ was all the answer I got, as he commenced

switching the horses. Good shot or bad I had not much chance of testing the accuracy of my aim, for the pistol would not go off. I tried the six chambers, but the only report was that occasioned by the breaking of the caps. ‘Pitching the pistol down in vexation I muttered—‘That stupid ass has not loaded them.’ ‘Troth then, I just did, but for fear you didn't know which end to howld when you fired them off, sure, devil the taste of powder I put in them at all.’ Sure enough, it was the very man we brought with us, being nothing more or less than an out-scout of some of the gangs of bushrangers. I comprehended all in a minute; and although Pat was riding leisurely off, we had not the means to stop or follow him. All this took place in less time than it takes to tell it. In the back ground was my companion, calling down benedictions on his pistols for not going off; and it was not till now I thought of a small double-barrelled pistol I had in the pocket of my coat, which had been loaded for about a week: starting after the thief again, he pulled up the horses, as if to let me come nearer, exclaiming, ‘sure, do you want to try your hand at it agin, och then! you can fire them kind of charges at me all day for sixpence a shot.’ ‘Indeed,’ I said, levelling the pistol at the fellow, ‘I'll commence now then.’ He saw his mistake, and pulling a pistol out of his pocket cocked it, at the same time urging on his horse. I pulled the trigger, but the pistol hung fire. He was watching me, and threw himself on one side, as he heard the cap break, setting up again on the horse he took a cool deliberate aim at me, just as I pulled the trigger of my second barrel. My bullet struck him in the shoulder, still he had strength enough in his arm to fire his pistol, although when I fired, I noticed the muzzle of his pistol drop; as it was, the bullet struck me on the thigh, splintering the bone, and leaving me incapable of moving. A little further on, we found the fellow's pistol where he dropped it, but he managed to get the horses off. That evening, a passing cart took us up, and the next day we came into Forest Creek Diggings. On reporting our case, a company of troopers were sent out, and although they scoured the bush for some days, we never heard any thing of Pat or the horses since.—My leg laid me up for three months, and I occasionally feel it yet.

“I can tell you very little to interest you. The old Gold Fields are dull, but there are new and rich ones continually opening up, in fact, I believe there is no end to gold in this country, its presence is to be found almost any where you try for it.”

### CANADA.

THE Legislature of this Province has been adjourned to the 23rd February. The day previous, the members of both houses waited on His Excellency the Earl of Elgin, with the following farewell address.

May it please your Excellency,

“We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Legislative Council and Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency for the purpose of expressing our sincerest regret at Your Excellency's departure from the Government of this Colony, which you have for so many years administered with honour to yourself and advantage to the country, and to congratulate Your Lordship on the happiness and prosperity of the Province which has attended the able discharge of the high trusts reposed in Your Excellency by Our Gracious Sovereign, and in the dignities which have been conferred on Your Lordship, as marks of Her distinguished favor and in appreciation of the services rendered by Your Excellency to Her Majesty's Crown. And further to assure Your Excellency, that we shall ever feel the highest esteem and respect for your exalted character, and an anxious solicitude for your future welfare and happiness, and that we sincerely hope your Excellency may long live to enjoy the favour of your sovereign and the approbation of your country.”

To this address His Excellency made the following reply.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

“The expression of your approbation and regard at such a moment, is in the highest degree grateful to me. I am conscious that I brought to the discharge of the functions of Governor General of Canada, few qualities except an earnest desire to do my duty to my sovereign and the people of the Province, and a just appreciation of the magnitude and importance of the trust confided to me.

“If any success has attended my endeavours, it is mainly due to the fact that I have been throughout enabled to co-operate cordially with the other branches of the Provincial Parliament and with the public men enjoying their confidence.

“The testimony which you bear in this address to the improvement which has taken place in the happiness and prosperity of the province is of the greatest value. I pray God that Canada may advance with an accelerated speed in all the lines of progress, material and moral, during the years that is to come, and that this