

remains at present of the Black Sea fleet, after the sinking of the ships at the entrance of the port, of the whole there are only two perfectly armed. As to the land forces, they are at present between the Belbek and the Chernaya, guarding with great care the road from Simpheropol to Bakchi-Sarai, by which alone they receive their supplies. It is difficult, if not impossible, at present, with the state of the roads, to bring a second supply of men in vehicles, for the question of men is added the graver one of provisions. This army, largely estimated, and including the troops in the town, cannot amount to more than from 60,000 to 70,000 men. They are now making an entrenched camp on the positions of the Belbek and of the Chernaya, thinking that, because the heights of the Chersonese have become impregnable in our hands, their camp will be so likewise. Let them go on, for we know, once that the town is taken, the famous northern fort will not be able to hold out two weeks, deprived of water as it is, and soon deprived of everything, when we shall have the command of the road to Simpheropol. Such is the true state of things. Every day we are receiving reinforcements: the English are about to receive 20,000 wooden houses from England, and provisions are insured to us for four months—firewood and water are not wanting. The spirit of the soldiers is excellent, and their general health good. Give us only a few days of fine weather, such as we enjoy to day, and you will see if the town will not soon be in our hands. That will cost us something, it is true, but our object will have been gained, and 'Vive l'Empereur!'

Heroic Conduct of Capt. Low.—'Veteran,' a correspondent of the Times, tells us 'this gallant soldier entered the service in 1835, and has constantly served, on the full pay of the cavalry, since that year. Slightly above the middle size, his broad chest and shoulders, long arms, narrow girth, fine manly countenance, with the long, light, Saxon moustache, altogether form a figure of the very beau ideal of the light cavalry sabreur; and such he proved himself on that day so fatal yet so famous for the light cavalry of Britain. After that terrible charge in which he slew or unhorsed several of the enemy, dealing sabre strokes, every one of which carried death with it, he found himself almost alone among the enemy's horsemen, three of whom bore down upon the British cavalry, one on each flank and one in front.—Seizing his revolver, he shot the two first right and left, and cutting down the third with his sabre his good horse pounded over him, and, although with a jaw broken with a grape-shot, carried his heroic rider safe into the British lines.'

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 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 if 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 authorised 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.—Scolley'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, 24, Strand, London, where advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

We cannot take up a paper published in Canada, Nova Scotia, or this Province, but it furnishes intelligence from every city, town, village and hamlet, of the proceedings of public meetings held, and of concerts, tea-meetings, and of amateur performances given, for the purpose of raising funds towards this truly noble and philanthropic object. Societies, also, have contributed largely from their funds, for the same cause.

While all our neighbours are up and doing, nothing, as far as we are able to learn, has been done in the northern section of New Brunswick, with the exception of the liberal donation from the funds of the Sons of Temperance in Chatham, in this good work.

We feel persuaded, this delay does not proceed from apathy or parsimoniousness on the part of the people, but from the want of some organised plan of operation.

The following questions are put to us daily.—Should we not, do something in aid of the Patriotic Fund? What is the reason that some-

thing has not been done to get up a subscription for the orphans and widows of the brave fellows who have fallen in the war? Is it not a shame that our leading men have been so tardy in the matter of the Patriotic Fund? Others have said, I am ready with my contribution.—I wish to contribute my mite—but do not know how to do it.

Thus, for the want of a head, we appear to be lukewarm in the matter, while the reverse is the case, and a general feeling exists to do something.

We would suggest, that Public Meetings be held in the different towns in Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Westigoche, and the persons attending, appoint committees to circulate subscription lists. If this were done, we are convinced the amounts that would be realized would fully prove we are not indifferent spectators of the glorious struggle going on in the East, for the maintenance of a noble cause, or deaf to the cries of humanity, in providing for the widows and orphans of those who have nobly fallen in the conflict.

The Provincial Secretary, through the Royal Gazette, acknowledges the following contributions. His Excellency £50; Hon. Mrs. Sutton £10; Albion Lodge, Free Masons, £50; Median Lodge, Free Masons, £5; Victoria Temple of Honor, Temperance Society, £20; Police Force, St. John £12.

The St. John Courier says:—"At a meeting of Victoria Division No. 9, Sons of Temperance, held last evening, the sum of £50 was voted in aid of the above fund, and the like amount subscribed by the members of said Division, making the handsome sum of £100.

"Union (Masonic) Lodge, of Carleton, has generously appropriated £25 to the Patriotic Fund. Portland Division, (Sons of Temperance,) has also appropriated the handsome sum of £50 towards the same object."

£56 was the proceeds of the Concert given by Madame Krollman, at St. John.

Portland Division of the Sons of Temperance, No. 7, have contributed £50.

The Toronto Colonist contains the following paragraph:—

"Though we cannot generally itemise the gifts for the widows and orphans of the soldiers who die in the Crimea, we must congratulate the City of Hamilton on its spirited course. A donation of £500 was proposed in the Municipal Council, but in view of the heavy rates chargeable upon the inhabitants, it was thought advisable to call a meeting of rate payers. One thousand persons attended, and the original proposition was almost unanimously superseded by an amendment, that double the sum first suggested, and gave £1,000 to the Patriotic Fund. Well done, Hamilton!"

A number of ladies and gentlemen in England have offered to educate orphans of soldiers that have fallen in battle.

We find the following in an exchange paper.

"The whole of the convicts at present undergoing sentence of transportation at Gibraltar, have requested that they may be permitted to give up a portion of their food for several weeks, with the hope they may be able to assist the contributions to the Patriotic Fund!"

COUNTY GLOUCESTER.

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT.

Gloucester General Sessions, January Term, 1855.

The Grand Jury present the following matters, and respectfully solicit the attention of the Court thereto. In the first place, the Grand Jury have much pleasure in stating that on due examination they find the accounts of the Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes, to be satisfactory, with the exception of an item of the Overseers of the poor for the Parish of Bathurst, of having paid J. T. Carter for sick sailor £8 13s.; which they consider, and are unanimously of opinion, should be paid out of the Seaman's Fund; likewise, a charge of having paid Dr. Bishop for medicine and attendance on a Miss James, of Tettigoche, and at the same time, the said Dr. Bishop tendered his services to the Overseers of the Poor in the Parish of Bathurst, to attend to the sick under their charge, for the sum of £8 10s. per annum, as per his tender attached to the Overseer of the Poor account. There is also an item of 8s. on the account of Wm. Hadley, overseer of the poor for the Parish of Beresford, which we consider should not be allowed, it being a per centage charged. There is also an item of five per cent in the Collector of Rates account, for the Parish of Shippigan, which we consider illegal. We also beg leave to remark to the Court, that no return from the Collectors of Rates for the Parish of Bathurst has been made or duly filed.

We further beg leave to submit to your attention, the following remarks, with regard to the Commissioners of Roads. There is a charge in the account of the Commissioner of Roads for

the middle district of the Parish of Bathurst, of a barrel of flour given to one Hannery, by G. & A. Smith, which the Commissioner himself protested against, and therefore is illegal and incorrect. There is no return from John Eagan, Commissioner of Roads; also, John Morrison, Commissioner of Roads, his returns are very unsatisfactory. The other Commissioners of the Parish of Beresford, have made no returns. There are no returns from the Commissioner of Roads for the Parish of New Bandon. James Walsh, Commissioner of Roads for the Parish of Saumarez, his road returns are very imperfect.

The Grand Jury have much pleasure in observing, that they visited the County Gaol, and carefully examined the same, and found it in a healthy, cleanly and praiseworthy state, and recommend that two pairs of blankets be furnished, and the bedsteads be repaired. They likewise recommend a new fence or paling to be put round the Gaol Ground, and a coat of paint be given to the Gaol, and that the present aqueducts or spouts be taken off the Gaol, and new ones be made, with iron hooks, suitable to be taken down in the fall of the year, and put up in the spring.

We most respectfully beg leave to draw your attention to the present Law appointing Parish Officers, which we unanimously disapprove of, and strongly recommend that the old Law for appointing Parish Officers, be adopted, so far as regards this County.

We most respectfully beg leave to draw your attention to the present distress in this County, on account of the failure of last year's crops, and solicit your attention particularly to the matter, and that you will direct forthwith, a petition to be drawn out by the Clerk of the Court to His Excellency, the Council and Assembly, praying that a grant of money will be allowed this County to enable the poor to procure seed, grain, and potatoes for the ensuing Spring.

We also recommend that the office of High Constable be done away with. We would strongly recommend the appointment of an Auditor of all Public Accounts, and a methodical and systematic form be pursued, to avoid delay in the examination.

On due examination of the Public Accounts, we have much pleasure in stating that they are highly satisfactory.

We also recommend that the outhouses on the Gaol grounds be purchased for the County, and also an additional allowance for the maintenance of prisoners.

We also beg leave to draw your attention to the Grand Jury System, and recommend that an allowance per mile may be paid those coming from a distant part of the County, and those near the shire town be paid so much per day payable out of the County funds. We also recommend that all Collectors of Rates be made to enter into Bonds in a penal sum, for the performance of their duty.

JOHN WATERSON, Foreman.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

THE Legislature met for the despatch of business on Thursday last. By telegraph we have obtained the Governor's Speech at the opening, which we copy below:—

"Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

"Your joint address of congratulation to Her Majesty, on the success achieved by Her Majesty's arms and those of Her Allies, at the Almas, has been laid before the throne, and I have much pleasure in signifying to you, in accordance with the instructions which I have received, the gratification which Her Majesty has derived from this loyal and dutiful address.

"I have given directions that there should be laid before you, a copy of the Proclamation, which, by the advice of my Council, I issued on the 11th November, for the admission into this Province, duty free, but under bonds, of the articles specified in the schedule of the act for given effect on the part of the Province of New Brunswick, to a certain treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America. Simultaneous concessions of similar character, were made by the Government of the United States, with respect to the corresponding articles, the production of this Province. The whole of the provisions of the act were thus practically brought into operation, without delay, and the trade of this Province with the United States, at once relieved from the uncertainty necessarily attendant on a prospective alteration of duties.

"Considerable inconveniences have for some time been experienced in this Province from the insufficiency of the Supply of Copper Coin. I am happy to be able to announce to you, that this deficiency no longer exists. The copper money of the value of three thousand pounds, currency, which has been prepared for the use of this Province, under the direction of Her Majesty's Government, has been received, and this coin now forms, under Her Majesty's Proclamation, to that effect, a part of the legal currency of New Brunswick.

"I invite your attention during your present session, to the laws which regulate the Election of Members of the House of Assembly.—

The number of instances which the validity of the return made by the Sheriffs has been impugned and scrutiny demanded, cannot fail to have attracted the notice of the Legislature.—I recommend such a revision of the law as will prevent a recurrence of serious evils and difficulties, now experienced.

"The subject of Education is of vast importance to the moral and social and well-being of the People of this Province, and I am sure that you will approach the consideration of it with that care which the magnitude of the interests involved demands.

"The report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into King's College will be laid before you.

"The course of the past year was marked by events so momentous in their character, which have exercised so wide and baneful an influence on the trade and commerce of the world, that we might with reason have expected a far more severe check to the prosperity of this Province, than any which it has hitherto experienced.—But although many circumstances have combined to decrease materially the value of the principal article of export from this Province, and to cause depression in some branches of trade, we have been exempt from any violent crisis of commercial embarrassments and distress. The future prosperity of New Brunswick greatly depends on the continued and improved culture of the soil, and the imports of the agriculture is not diminished by the increase of the commercial activity in the Province.

"The Fisheries have been successful, new markets have been opened to their produce, and we have reason to hope that this branch of industry may hereafter flourish with increased vigour.

"Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I have given directions that the accounts both of revenue and expenditure for the past year, should be laid before you. You will bear in mind, that the loan duty was remitted at the commencement of the year 1854, and that many of the products of the United States, and some other articles of general consumption, without reference to the country from which they may be imported, have since been freed from duty but you will observe with satisfaction, that notwithstanding the remission of these duties, and although the prevalence of cholera disturbed for some months during the summer, the trade and industry throughout the Province, the public revenue for the year 1854 is larger than that which was received in the preceding twelve months, and far exceeds the amount collected in any previous year. I congratulate you on this proof of the increased commerce of the Province.

"The act of Assembly under which the Provincial Customs duties are levied, will expire in the course of the present year, and this subject demands your immediate attention. In such circumstances, it is of great importance that you should have before you early and full information with respect both to the amount which you might reasonably expect to derive from the continuance of the imposition of any particular duty, and of the amount which will probably be required to defray the public expenditure of the Province. Estimates of this nature have been prepared and will be laid before you; but it is impossible to expect that these estimates can have that practical value which would be attached to them were the Executive Government subject to any special responsibility with respect to the appropriation of the public revenue, or the mode in which these revenues are to be raised.

"This is a subject worthy of your consideration, you must, I fear, be prepared to expect during the present year, a considerable reduction in the proceeds of any Customs Duties on articles of Import. But I am confident that you will uphold the credit and maintain the character of the Province, by a scrupulous regard for all existing engagements, and by making ample provision for the requirements of the Public service, while you exercise a careful economy in your appropriations of the public revenue.

"A freshet of unusual violence occurred in the course of last autumn, and I regret to say that it caused considerable damage to the roads and bridges in different parts of the Province. With the concurrence of my Council, I immediately made the necessary arrangements for the temporary repair, or reconstruction of those works. The partial or complete destruction had interrupted existing lines of communication of considerable importance. I do not doubt that you will readily sanction the expense which has been incurred for this purpose, but although the damage occasioned by this freshet, unusual in its extent, the bridges are frequently subject to injury of a similar character. Moreover, the cost of the repairs, or reconstruction of bridges consequent in the ordinary wear and tear of these works, amount annually, to a considerable sum. It is therefore, in my judgment, well worthy of your consideration, whether it would not be true economy for the future, to incur some additional expenditure in the first erection of bridges, by the careful selection of the best form of construction, and of the most durable materials, with the view of decreasing the expense of the ordinary repair of the bridges when built, and rendering them less liable to accidental injury.