

position of our army. The enemy in our rear are not in strength certainly, but it is quite practicable for them at any time to march over from Bakshiseraï, or from the Belbec, in considerable force, and we can have no intimation of their arrival till they are seen streaming down the sides of the mountains by the paths from Khutor Maczenkia almost into the very valley of Bala-klava. The road from Baidair is impracticable, and our position on that side, if properly defended, is capable of resisting any force that can be brought against it. There would be great difficulty in marching any large number of men from Bakshiseraï towards Bala-klava if the country is in the same state along the roads as it is around our camp.—The mud, trodden by innumerable feet and hoofs has been worked up here into a sticky, tough, nasty compost of the most determined character, and of the greatest tenacity, and it would be no easy matter to move artillery, ammunition, or stores, until the ground becomes in better order. From whatever side the attack may come, if it be made at all, our troops will meet and repel it with unabated courage and vigour, unless they are led into some trap or are sadly mismanaged; and I own I have little doubt of the result of any effort the Russians may make to dislodge the allies from their position, as long as this fine weather lasts. That an attempt of some kind or other will be made shortly no one can doubt, after the information we have received and the demonstration of last night. A sortie from the town is the most likely shape for the attack to assume, as the Russians can collect their columns, and make their dispositions for the assault under cover and also under the protection of their guns. They have the shelter of deep ravines during their advance, and a rapid run on the heels of the pickets bring their men right up to the trencher. But there the advantages they possess terminate very abruptly. The parapet, and the guns, and the men are before them, and the only chance the enemy has lies in vastly superior numbers, which would enable them to overwhelm our batteries, and sweep round into them by the flanks, till reinforcements arrived to expel them. The Grand Duke made a reconnoissance of our front yesterday.

Communications.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

SOIREE—RESTIGOUCHÉ.

Mr. Editor,

Will you be kind enough to give insertion to the following short account of a Soiree, got up by Dalhousie Division, No. 61, Sons of Temperance, in aid of the "Patriotic Fund."

On Thursday; the 15th instant, a goodly entertainment was provided and spread in the Sons of Temperance Hall, at which about 150 persons attended, admission being obtained by tickets at two shillings and six pence each; and I may mention, (what few public meetings can boast of) that among this number no less than four generations of one family were present, the venerable great grandmother at the head, and not the least active among them.

When the tables (six in number) were ready, a blessing was asked by a choir singing an appropriate verse; and after all had partaken of the good things provided, thanks were returned in the same manner, the tables removed and benches set out.

Charles Simonds, Esq. having been previously appointed to occupy the chair for the evening, referred briefly to the object of the Soiree, the cause of the war, and the progress of the Patriotic Fund; and then informed the meeting that the future entertainment of the evening would consist of addresses from clergymen and other gentlemen who had been requested to speak on the occasion, and of appropriate anthems and songs by the choir; and though the only musical instruments were a Piano, Flute, and Bass-Viol, I am happy to inform you, that the company seemed pleased and gratified with the exertions made by the Sons for their entertainment; and the singing—for amateurs with but a few days practice together—was certainly very creditable. The room was very tastefully decorated, and the beauty of it (beyond what was done by the division) was much enhanced by transparencies with appropriate inscriptions and other ornaments.

About 11 o'clock the choir concluded by singing the National Anthem, when three cheers and one cheer more, were given respectively for the Queen, the Emperor of the French, and the Sultan, and one prolonged cheer for the Allied Armies; three cheers were then proposed by one of the company, and heartily given with the thanks of the meeting to the Sons of Temperance of Dalhousie Division, and the meeting separated.

The entertainments was provided exclusively out of the funds of the Division, the tables being presided over by the wives and mothers of the Sons of Temperance; and the amount realized by the sale tickets—eighteen pounds and upwards—will be forwarded through the proper quarter, to the commissioners of the Patriotic Fund.

I may mention, that in addition to the foregoing, Restigouche Division at Campbellton has done some thing, (how much I cannot say.) A Public County Subscription has been got up, and is being filled up. Dalhousie Division has also a subscription for individual members who wish to contribute in that way, and I doubt not that the full amount contributed in various ways in the County of Restigouche is published, and the sum total seen, the "Black North" will have reason to be proud of the loyalty and generosity of her sons and daughters.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
 CHARLES SIMONDS, Chairman,
 Dalhousie, Restigouche, N. B., March 19, 1855.

POSTSCRIPT.

Gleaner Office, 1 o'clock, P. M.

St. John, March 31.

Halifax, March 30.—The Asia arrived at 9 o'clock P. M. yesterday, brings dates to the 17th instant.

The Union sailed from Southampton on Wednesday, the 14th inst, with 50 passengers.

The following is the manifesto of Alexander to his army, dated St. Petersburg, March 3 —"Gallant warriors, faithful defenders of the Church, Throne and Country, it has pleased Almighty God to visit us with the most painful and grievous loss. We have all lost our common father and benefactor. In the midst of his unwearied care for Russia's prosperity, and the glory of the Russian arms, the Emperor Nicholas Paulowitch, my most beloved father, has passed to eternal life. His last words were—I thank the glorious and loyal guards who in 1825 saved Russia, and I also thank the brave army and fleet. I pray God to maintain the courage and spirit by which they have distinguished themselves under me. So long as this spirit is upheld Russia's tranquility is secured both within and without—then woe to her enemies. I love my troops as my own children, and strove as much as I could to improve their condition. If I was not entirely successful in that respect, it was from no want of will, but because I was unable to desire anything better or to do more.

"May these ever memorable words remain preserved in your hearts, as a proof of his sincere love for you, which I share to the largest extent, and let them be a pledge of your devotion to me and Russia.

(Signed) ALEXANDER"

Postscript.—Present to the Guards the uniform worn by the deceased Emperor, and directs them to retain on their accoutrements the initial of Nicholas.

Manifesto concludes—"May the ever sacred memory of Nicholas survive in our ranks as a terror to the foe, and for the glory of Russia.

(Signed) ALEXANDER."

This Manifesto is considered warlike, and various reports are in circulation respecting the last words of the Emperor Nicholas.

According to English accounts, Nicholas, in addressing Alexander advised him to make peace even at the loss of Russian influence in the Black Sea, and that he, Nicholas, would take the responsibility, as he had not believed in the possibility of an Anglo-French alliance, and that Alexander's constant effort should be to detach France from England, and unite Russia with Austria and Prussia. Nicholas added—that perhaps his pride had been excessive, and that God humbled him therefore.

The above is probably manufactured for the English market.

The Russian accounts say—that Nicholas passed his last hours in the consolation of religion, having bid adieu to all the members of his family individually, he said to the Empress—tell your brother Frederick William, King of Prussia, to adhere to Russia, and never forget his father's policy.

Nicholas then took leave of Count Orloff, Golgyvounki, and Arsenburg, also of some favourite Grenadiers of the household, and personal attendants. All except the family having retired, he asked the Empress to repeat the Lord's Prayer, and at the words, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven, Nicholas fervently responded, always. Soon afterwards he added—I hope God will open for me his arms. He then became partly insensible for two hours. At noon he said something about a message to a dear friend not mentioned, and something of Alexander and the garrison of Sebastopol. A few minutes after he drew a deep sigh and expired.

His body was exposed, with the face uncovered, in the chapel Ardent, until March 16, when it was buried, with the usual Imperial Solemnities.

Rumours are current that Austria and England, would be content without the demolition of Sebastopol, but that Napoleon absolutely insists on that condition.

Sebastopol.—The Allies have resumed firing on the town.

Markets.—Cotton dull—rather declined—Breadstuffs—prices slightly advanced—2d on Wheat: 1s. on Flour, and 1s. on Corn.

NOTICE.

As my wife ELIZA TRAVIS has left my Bed and Board, I hereby caution the Public not to give her credit on my account as I will not be answerable for any debts she may contract.

Chatham, March 10, 1855. JOHN TRAVIS.

CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

75 Boxes New England Dairy CHEESE; 2 casks Brine Westphalia Sugar Cured HAMS Choice for family use by

Chatham, 23rd December. WM. A. LETSON.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 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.

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.

COUNTY BONAVENTURE.

A Correspondent at New Richmond, under date of March 19, says:

"I observe that from Bathurst to the southward, you have had heavy falls of snow. It is remarkable that at the time we had not a particle of it here. Throughout, this has been the finest winter ever experienced here.

"There is a large Ball to come off here this week, in aid of the Patriotic Fund. The proceeding of the evening will be commenced with a short Lecture by Philip Vibert, Esq., after which the youth of the country will trip it off on the light fantastic toe."

Our Agent at New Carlisle, writing to us on the 10th instant, communicates the following extraordinary melancholy accident:

"An Inquest was held on the 19th ulto., in the Township of Nouvelle, County of Bonaventure, before the Coroner, J. G. Le Bel, Esq., on the body of a young man, 17 years of age, named James McBriarty, son of Mr Jno. McBriarty, a respectable inhabitant of the Township, who was suddenly launched into eternity, under the following extraordinary circumstances. On the previous Saturday, about 5, P. M., the deceased accompanied his sister to the stable, to milk the cows. During the time she was so engaged, the deceased stood near the door, and urged her several times to make haste, as he was anxious to return to the house to hear a neighbour relate the incidents of the war in the Crimea. The Cow she was milking being at the further end of the stable, prevented her seeing her brother, but when she rose to milk another, she observed him in a strange posture near the door. As he was naturally of a gay and lively disposition, she supposed at first, he intended playing her some trick, but finding he did not reply when she spoke, she pushed him two or three times, and finally on closer inspection, she discovered to her horror, that his tongue was protruding and his face already cold. Her cries brought the father and neighbour to her assistance: the unfortunate parent raised the lifeless body of his child in his arms, to convey it to the house, but found that he drew the door after him, and they then discovered that the deceased's cravat was firmly held by an iron hook, used for the purpose of fastening the door. Hence the cause of his death. His foot is supposed to have slipped on a shovel which lay on the ground, and caused him to fall with great force, the hook catching his cravat as he fell. His death must have been instantaneous, as his sister heard neither groan or noise of any kind, and not more than eighteen minutes had elapsed from the time of his leaving the house, full of life and spirits, to his return therein a corpse. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

"A more singular and remarkable fatal incident has never come to our knowledge, and fully verifies the words of the Poet:
 "Know thoughtless man, when 'tis thy Maker's will
 A fly, a grapestone, or a hair may kill"

JOHN S. FARLOW, BOSTON.

By the last mail, we obtained a Circular from this gentleman, who has removed his place of business to No. 3, CENTRAL WHARF, BOSTON.—Mr F. has been our agent for several years, and from experience we take much pleasure in recommending him to such of our commercial friends and neighbours who wish to establish an agency in the United States. We have always found him prompt, correct and obliging.

From his circular, which is dated Boston, March 17, we take the annexed extracts.

"Many articles of foreign import can be purchased here, 'in bond,' at saving of duty, when ordered in quantities sufficiently large to justify expense of Custom House Bonds and Landing Certificates.

"An act was passed at the end of last session of Congress to refund the duties paid on all fish imported from the British Provinces since September 11th last, and on all other goods, the growth and production of said Provinces, imported since the date of the acts of their respective governments, admitting like articles into said Provinces, from the United States, free of duty, on proof satisfactory, that the articles so imported, were the growth and productions of said Provinces. Payments will be made under this act as soon as instructions are received from the Secretary of the Treasury; probably within thirty or sixty days. Advice received by the Pacific this week, state that the royal assent has been given to the Reciprocity Treaty; nothing further is now wanted to give full effect to its beneficial provisions but the proclamation of the President of the United States, which it is hoped will not be detained an hour unnecessarily, as it is the only link now wanting in this chain of "mutual benefit" that is to bind closer the bonds of amity and good feeling between brethren of one common stock."

NOVASCOTIA.

OUR readers will remember that the Hon. Joseph Howe proceeded lately, and very suddenly, on a mission to the United States. The secret, it appears is now out, but there is still some conflicting opinions on the subject.—We can hardly believe the British Government will entrust the garrison of any part of the Colonies to men that may thus be picked up in the neighbouring Republic. No confidence should be placed in them. The Church Times says:

"The mission of Mr Howe to the United States, the secret of which has been kept as well as could be expected, has at length become public. The people of Halifax may prepare to welcome the brave defenders of their country. The advance guard of the Legion raised by Mr Howe, may be expected to arrive from Boston on Monday next. There will probably be three or four hundred. Their barracks are to be at Melville Island, the buildings on which are being prepared for their reception."

The Morning Journal gives the following version of the matter:

"An Official order has been issued from Her Majesty's Commissariat Department, instructing Alderman Evans, Contractor, to be prepared with fresh beef, for five hundred additional men, who are expected to arrive this day, Monday. A contemporary says that Wier & Co's packet America, will bring down as many as she can accommodate. It is rumoured that 3,000 men are to be raised, and kept here long enough to be drilled and disciplined for the Crimea. We believe there is no doubt about it. If so, Halifax must be largely benefitted by this move on the part of Her Majesty's Government. We admire the skill and secrecy with which this force has been mustered, not one of the five hundred belongs to the Know Nothings. Good! Who will now ask the object of Hon. Mr Howe's mission to the United States. And we shall hear more too."

COUNTY RESTIGOUCHÉ.

A Correspondent informs us that "on Wednesday, the 14th February last, a Soiree was got up by the Ladies of Dalhousie, and very numerously attended, for the purpose of raising Funds for Building a Female Parish School House in the town of Dalhousie, at which the handsome sum of twenty pounds was collected, thus adding something more to the credit of Restigouche."

RECIPROCITY.

THE Gazette of the 21st instant contains the following Proclamation by His Excellency.

"A PROCLAMATION.—Whereas by the second Section of an Act of Imperial Parliament passed in the eighteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An act to carry into effect a Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America," it is provided that the said act shall come into operation in the Province of New Brunswick, as soon as the same shall have been received and proclaimed by the Lieutenant Governor of that Province;—I declare that I have received, and I do hereby proclaim the said act."

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

THE Journals in our possession are to the 20th of the month.

On the 20th, the Road Committee brought in their report. They recommend £18,600 for the Great Roads; for By-Road £17,016; and for Special Grants £8,508, making a total of £44,024. Among the Great Roads appropriations are the following:

Dorchester to Shediac,	£100 0 0
Shediac to Peticodiac,	200 0 0
Richibucto to Chatham,	500 0 0
Newcastle to Bathurst,	500 0 0
Bathurst to Belledune,	150 0 0
Belledune to Metis Road,	600 0 0