

large halting-floe, to which, in contempt of the dangers of drifting, we happy men had hauled our boats, two entire planks of the Red Erio were devoted to a grand cooking-fire, and we enjoyed a rare and savage feast.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1856.

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. To Clubs of five and upwards, to one address, Ten Shillings a year in advance.

CENTRAL BANK AGENCY, CHATHAM.

Discount days TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, Hours for business from 10 to 3 o'clock. Notes for Discount to be lodged at the Bank before 3 o'clock, on the day immediately preceding the discount day.

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

SAVINGS' BANK.

Deposited from 1st November, 1855 to 31st October 1856 £5674 14 10
Withdrawn.—Paid Deposits exclusive of interest from 1st Nov. 1855, to the 31st Oct. 1856 £3088 12 6

WEEKLY CALENDAR.

Full Moon 11th, 3h 51m P.M.—HIGH WATER.

7 S.	2nd Sunday in Advent	1h 15 1h 52
8 M.		2 28 3 0
9 Tu	Prince of Wales born 1841	3 22 3 59
10 W		4 27 4 53
11 Th		5 19 5 46
12 F.		5 13 6 35
13 S.	Dr. Johnson died 1784	6 54 7 14

The above Tides having been calculated with regard to the moon's horizontal parallax and angular distance from the sun, will be found to be correct, due allowance being made at times for high winds and freshets. For Richibucto, subtract, 2h30m—Bathurst, 2h45m—Dalhousie, 2h50m from the above.

PROSPECTS AND BUSINESS AT THE NORTH.

THIS is the heading, and the following are the remarks with which the Editor of the New Brunswicker introduces the letter of our Shippegan Correspondent, published a fortnight ago, relative to the Crops and Fisheries in that section of the Country:

"The Northern part of New Brunswick is destined to become one of the richest sections of our Province. Blessed with a fine soil, a comparatively genial climate, and intersected with bays, rivers and harbours teeming with fish of almost all descriptions, it presents a field for enterprise and industry seldom witnessed in any country. The resources of the Counties of Gloucester, Restigouche and the neighbouring territory, are not sufficiently known to be appreciated abroad; but the inhabitants are gradually working onward, and in a short time the result of their labours and the advantages which nature has given them, will be more fully understood."

What the Editor says is perfectly true—we have a fine country, abounding with great natural resources, but we lack several things necessary for developing and working them out to advantage. First—our lands require a much larger number of hands, and more Agricultural information than our rural population possess, to till them. Our Fishermen are few, and lack the knowledge necessary for conducting their business profitably. But our greatest want, the one which if remedied, would supply all others, is—CAPITAL. Yes, the industrious and enterprising men among us require greater facilities to procure money necessary to carry on the business of the country. If this could be procured, all the other requisites would soon follow. Population would soon flow into the country; skill and enterprise would be fostered and rewarded; lumbering, milling, shipbuilding, the fisheries, and last—but of more paramount importance than all the rest together—our Agriculturalists could confine themselves to their respective branches of business, and not attempt, as too many of them do at present, a juggle of each and succeed in none.

These are difficulties no doubt experienced in all young countries; but we cannot plead our youth. They are attributable to other

causes. We have often wondered that the inhabitants have not long since endeavoured to create within themselves those monied institutions which are essentially necessary to enable them to conduct their business to the best advantage, and also to retain the profit of the establishments within the county, instead of their being enjoyed by non-residents, as is the case at present.

CANADA.

THE Canadian Mail steamer, Canada, with a full freight and 103 passengers, left Quebec for Liverpool on the 22nd ult. She is the last steamer of this line expected the present season. During the winter months the steamers will proceed to Portland once a month, but should a sufficient amount of freight offer, an extra vessel will be despatched. These vessels have made most admirable passages during the time they have been on the route, and have been liberally supported by the Canadian people.

On the 18th ult., the inhabitants of Quebec city gave a public Dinner to Hugh Allan, Esq., at Russell's Hotel. The entertainment was intended not only as a personal compliment to Mr Allan, in recognition of the enterprise displayed by the firm of which he is a partner, in establishing the line of Ocean Steamships, but also to testify the public appreciation of the benefits derived by the commerce of the country from the efficient manner in which their contract with the Provincial Government had been fulfilled the past season. The festivity was presided over by J. Forsyth, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Trade. Among the guests present were Messrs. Tibbetts and Harding, members of our Legislature. The latter gentleman in responding to the toast—The Railways of Canada, said:

"It is an unexpected pleasure to me, on passing through this Province, to be called upon to participate in a festive scene which commemorates the establishment of a Canadian line of Ocean Steamers. Some thirteen years ago I saw Canada with but a few miles of railroad, I see it now with the longest line in the Queen's dominions, and, if extended to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, it will unite British America, in an Iron bond, which will endure as long as the British empire exists. At the present moment the people of Canada and New Brunswick know too little of each other, and I feel the same distance as if I were from Van Dieman's land. With a line of railway connecting the Provinces, the people of the two countries will, however be better friends, and I trust the day is not far distant when British America shall take her place amongst the nations of the earth, having Quebec as her entrepot between Europe and the far West, and St. John New Brunswick as her key to the Atlantic ocean, equally in winter and in summer."

The last square-rigged vessel in port left Quebec for Britain on the 23rd ult.

The Chronicle of November 24, says:

"The steamer Doris, Capt. Godier, one of Mr. Baby's steamers, which left here about six weeks since, with provisions, &c., for the Light Houses in the gulf, was overtaken by a gale, on the 25th ult., off l'Ance aux Loups, in the Straits of Belle Isle, and although she had both anchors out and steam up at the time, such was the fury of the gale that she dragged both anchors and went ashore. A part of her crew arrived here yesterday forenoon, in the schooner Silence, and report that the Doris has been condemned and was to be sold for account of the underwriters. We understand she was insured for £5000, up to the 15th inst."

The same paper of the 24th contains some further particulars relative to this steamer:

"The steam tug Napoleon III arrived here yesterday afternoon, in 62 hours from Forteau Bay, Straits of Belle Isle. She has brought up the Captain and remainder of the crew of the steamer Doris, before reported wrecked in l'Ance aux Loups—and has also brought up the workmen who have been employed on the new Light Houses in the Straits."

NOVASCOTIA.

THE British papers contain an advertisement stating that the Government wanted a vessel to take out Passengers to Halifax, and such persons so emigrating would be provided with a passage free of charge. We perceive by the Novascotia papers that the parties alluded to formerly belonged to the Foreign Legion, 380 of whom, with their wives and children, are expected to arrive shortly in that city. The papers find fault with the time chosen to send those persons across the Atlantic. A notice of their departure has been received by the Lieutenant Governor from the Secretary of War, who requests that exertions be made by the local authorities to procure them places of service on their arrival.

NICARAGUA.

OUR readers will be able to form some idea of the character of the famous Filibuster General Walker, and his very critical position in Nicaragua, from the following extracts from a Letter, which we copy from the New York Herald of November 22:

"I quote from the letter of one of Walker's officers:—'If we conquer under our present chief, it must be attributed to lucky accident or the imbecility of the enemy. From the very outset, in diplomacy and military talent he has shown a woful deficiency; he can fight like a bull dog—flies always at the throat—but if baffled in his first spring he loses all recuperative force. As we stand while I write, our position is exceedingly hazardous; the advance guard of the Centrals in front of us, in a position from which we have failed to drive them, cutting us off from all supplies by land; the Costa Ricains in our rear, threatening every day to close the San Juan—and against them we have no force to send. Everything we had in the town has been swept away, and nothing short of a miracle can save us.' 'We are now fortifying the Plaza' (Granada.)

"Another says: 'The mortality is awful here, and our lads die off like rotten sheep.—'Tis not the climate so much as want of proper food.' * * * * 'Nothing loosens the reins of discipline so fast as despair; they drink regardless of all warning, and eat green fruit as if they courted death.' * * * * 'If we had any way of getting out of this and back to the States, not a man, save one, would remain here for another hour; but I do believe that if a ladder were let down from the good place overhead, Walker wouldn't mount it.—He is more infatuated than ever, and reverses only harden his ferocity.'

"As to the mortality here alluded to, I can give the precise particulars. Within the last fourteen months, Gen. Walker has received from the United States a little over 4,000 recruits. Of these 144 have been fortunate enough to die in battle; 2,581 perished miserably by disease, and there were on hand on the 1st of November, including the last invoice from New Orleans of 325 men under Col. Jacques 1,275 men enrolled in the army of Gen. Walker, leaving a balance of little more than 100 unaccounted for, who have probably perished in futile attempts to escape. These statistics are compiled from the official columns of the Nicaraguense; the mortality it not stated in that organ, but we have only to add up the total arrivals and deduct the losses in battle and the existing force.

"And what is the hope of reward for which these survivors fight? They have none; it is despair which urges them. The idea of agriculture in such a climate is absurd; in mining there is no chance until a stable government shall give capital some guarantee for its investment, for the precious metals are contained in quartz, and that none of the richest, by the way, requiring strong and powerful machinery to make the work productive.

"And Walker proclaims himself the 'representative of the principle of universal freedom!' Ye Gods! how we apples swim! The President of twelve hundred sickly filibusters caged up in a small town of a small Central American State, is the latest 'representative of universal freedom!' He would give freedom to the 'ebony trade' again—freedom to the souls of all natives who come within rifle-shot—freedom to New York and New Orleans from all cut-throats and rascals who intest them, and freedom to all property holders in Central America from the cares of possessing those estates which his cupidity and hopelessness alike prompt him to lay hold of.

"If some lucky bullet, writes one of the clearest headed Americans in his service, 'would give our present leader his quietus, our stock would rise; but while he stays at the head of affairs we stand no chance. His selfish ambition is only equalled by his conceit and incompetency, he would seem to plan ways of putting weapons into the hands of his enemies, while at the same time placing himself and all of us where we may be most easily destroyed. If there was anything wanting to stimulate our enemies and unite them in a common cause to fight to the death against us—which God knows I doubt—he has given them ample provocation in his decree re-establishing slavery where five-eighths of the people have more or less 'darkey' in their veins.

"And what can such a decree accomplish to compensate for its patent injury? Gen. Gincanta was certainly quite right not to make his appearance at the Court of St. James with such a document in his pocket. Its promulgation has injured him at the North, laid him open to the hostility of Europe; nor is it likely that Southern planters will abandon their productive plantations, under the security of a settled government, to trust their lives and property under a government of so frail a tenure. How could negroes be held in slavery in a country where three-fourths of the entire population have African blood in their veins? Turned loose on a plantation in Nicaragua, they would not be worth a day's purchase, at the farthest.

"Again, as to his decrees respecting the sale of confiscated estates. Will the titles be good and such as to tempt a purchaser? They can only be good while Walker can make good his position; and that is a security which those who like it may rely upon. At any rate, the purchaser of the confiscated estates will have to pay off the mortgages, for these are not affected by the decree; and there is not an estate in Nicaragua which is not mortgaged for more

than double its present market value—their mortgages being chiefly held only by English houses."

OREGON TERRITORY.

THE Knickerbocker gives the following humorous account of the climate of the above-named territory, from the pen of Mr John Phoenix, who writes from Portland, Oregon Territory, in August last:

"It gives me unfeigned pleasure to inform you that I am about to quit the gloomy and never to be dried up sky of Oregon, and repair without unnecessary delay to D—, on our border. Yes, sir, I'm off; 'service' no longer requires on these inclement shores—shores which, when you read of Irving's 'Astoria,' you naturally wish to behold, and admire old Astor's pluck in making establishments thereon and which, when you reach, you wish you hadn't, and admire still more old Astor's good sense in breaking his establishment up, and quitting, while there was yet time.

"Rain is an exceedingly pleasant and gratifying institution in its way, and in moderation; it causes the grass to grow, the blossoms to flourish, and is a positive necessity to the umbrella maker; but when you get to a country where it rains incessantly 26 hours a day for 17 months in the year, you cannot resist having the conviction forced upon your mind that the thing is slightly overdone. That's the case in Oregon; it commenced raining pretty heavily on the 3rd of last November, and continued up to the 15th of May, when it set in for a long storm, which isn't fairly over yet. There's moisture for you.

"The consequences of this awful climate are just what might be supposed. The immense quantity of the protoxide squirted about here causes trees, buildings, streets, everything to present a diluted and wishy-washy appearance. The women lose their color, the men their hair (washed off, Sir,) and the animals, by constant exposure, acquire scales and fins, like the natives of the great deep."

OUR RAILWAYS.

THE papers in St. John favourable to the present Government of the Province, have of late had lengthy articles, detailing the progress that has been made in our Railway works. They state that the Railway to connect Shediac with the Bend, is rapidly progressing to a termination, and ere long the two places will be placed in communication by the Railway cars. Again we hear, that the line to connect the Bend with St. John has been surveyed, and contracts entered into for building a portion of that important line. This is very pleasing information, and the people in this quarter, who have paid a large amount into the revenue for the building of railways, are glad to hear of the energy displayed by their present rulers in carrying out these great Provincial works. But there is another portion of the Press in that city, which deny these facts, and state that little or nothing is being done. Will some of our contemporaries who reside near the scene of action, and have the means of ascertaining the true state of affairs, enlighten us on the subject, for it is impossible as matters now stand, to come to correct conclusion.

This should not be. Party feelings or predilections should not induce the conductors of the Press to distort facts, nor withhold due praise to an opponent when his actions deserve it. There must be some defect or something wrong in that party which requires such props.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

AN extended review of the news received by the Persia will be found in another page; below we give a telegraph dispatch of the intelligence obtained by the Mail Steamer Arabia, which vessel arrived at Halifax at quarter-past one o'clock, on the afternoon of Thursday last.

Halifax, Dec. 3, 1856.

Steamer Arabia arrived at 1.15 p. m., left Liverpool 22nd ult.

Britain.—The Ships James Baynes and Lightning have arrived at Liverpool with £1,300,000 in specie in connexion therewith, and with absence of further withdrawals from the Bank.

The Times anticipates an early return to rate 6 per cent, but says much will depend on next advices from China and India. The Bank returns for this week show considerable increase in Bullion and in unemployed notes. The Bullion is now £9,684,267 and the notes £3,606,815.

The various rumours respecting Anglo French Alliance have died away. The effect is seen in the rise in the funds which have steadily improved and now stand nearly 1 per cent above the quotation of last week. At the same time many of the principal articles of commerce have experienced a change. We have had a week of less general animation than for some time past, large quantities of gold from Australia have arrived.