

## News of the Week.

## UNITED STATES.

Washington, Nov. 5.—General Walker, in a letter addressed to the Secretary of State, says, "so far as any violation, on his part, of Acts of Congress is concerned, he denies the charge with scorn and indignation, and will not so far forget his duty as an officer of Nicaragua, as to violate the laws of the United States, while enjoying hospitality within its limits.—As the military organization is abandoned, about 2,500 men, from various southern states have enrolled as emigrants to Nicaragua.

Birmingham Young, in a communication to the Indian Bureau, says, if he is to have the direction of Indian affairs, and expected to maintain friendly relations with the Indians, he would suggest to travellers to omit the infamous practice of shooting them when they happen to see one. Hence it is natural that they wroak vengeance. The Government should make more liberal presents. He has proved that it is far cheaper to feed and clothe the Indians than to fight them. When the fighting is over it is always followed by extensive presents, which, if properly distributed in the first instance, might have averted a fight. The troops must be kept away, for it is a prevalent fact, that wherever the most of these are, we may expect to find the greatest amount of hostile Indians, and the least security of persons. If these items are complied with, he had no hesitation in saying, that so far as Utah is concerned, no Indians would molest the property or persons of travellers. He says the Department has often manifested its approval of his management of Indian affairs, and never its disapproval, and asks why he should be subject to such annoyances in regard to the funds for paying his expenses. Why denied his salary? and why should appropriations made for the benefit of the Indians of Utah, be retained in the treasury, and individuals left unpaid? He concludes by saying:—"These are questions I leave for you to consider at your leisure, and in the meanwhile I submit to such a course in relation thereto as you shall see fit to direct."

Nov. 6.—The Secretary of War received to-day, a dispatch, dated at Fort Leavenworth.—Intelligence had been received to the effect that the Mormons were calling into Salt Lake City all their forces from the surrounding country, and were organising to resist the United States troops. Orders have been sent to General Harney to remain at Fort Leavenworth for the present. In case the Mormons do resist our troops, another large force, under the command of Harney, will be immediately ordered to Utah.

The Navy Department to-day received despatches from Commander Hoff, stationed at Panama. Speaking of Panama affairs, he says:—

Everything on the Isthmus at present remains quiet. A few days since, however, considerable excitement existed, but entirely of a local as well as of an amusing character, arising from a bill of divorcement having been introduced into the legislature while in session here. Its features were of an abominable character, destroying the marriage tie at the mere instance of one or the other individuals going before a magistrate. It passed into a law, and they then adjourned *sine die*. The Government, however, had the good sense to re-convene the legislature, directing a reconsideration and bringing before them his veto. This veto was accompanied by an armed body of young men, who, when the legislature tried to enforce it a second time, began with loud shouts, and ultimately by threatening one or two of the parties, succeeded in having the motion lost. The members of the grave assemblage then dispersed to their homes. The object seems to be perfectly understood. Some six members had influence sufficient to carry this obnoxious affair, from the well known desire to separate themselves from their wives, and hence the intrusion of the young men, and my presenting to you the state of morals on the Isthmus and district of Panama.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A Bridge to Brooklyn.—Mr Samuel C. Nowlan, a civil engineer, has executed a plan for bridging the East river between New York and Brooklyn. He proposes to form a company with a capital of six millions of dollars, and that this company shall undertake the building of the bridge, the length of which will be 2,500 feet. It will rest on five arches, the space of each will be 500 feet, and two hundred feet above high water mark. Each arch will rest on transverse arches of 50 feet each, giving a roadway of 100 feet for forming a double track for cars, and a public road for waggons and other conveyances.

This bridge is guaranteed to pay its expense, which will be \$6,000,000, from the rent of the stores erected for constructing the grade for passing up to the bridge, and as these stores are erected on a colonnade of cast iron pillars, rising 25 feet above South Street, they are so constructed as not to interfere with one inch of private or public property. The bridge is to be raised on blocks of granite, whose base will measure 35 feet in length on its greatest axis, and 20 feet on the transverse axis.

The form of the pier is that of a heptagon, with an angle of 35° presented to the ebb and flow of the tidal water, and raised ten feet above high water mark. This arrangement will be understood by those who are acquainted with the principles of fortification. A common ball fired directly at this angle, will glance off harmless to the column and to itself, and a step-

mer running against it, would receive little or no damage. A bridge to Brooklyn is certainly desirable, and the plan presented by Mr Nowlan appears to be feasible.—*N. Y. Courier & Enquirer.*

Central American Question.—We have seen a private letter from a most reliable source, dated London, Oct. 23rd, in which it is stated that Sir William Gore Onsley has been appointed Special Minister to Washington to settle the Central American controversy, and that he had had an audience of the Queen at Windsor, to take formal leave of Her Majesty, prior to his departure for this country by the Arabia on the 30th ult. This appointment does not in any way supersede Lord Napier; or interfere with his functions as resident representative of Great Britain at Washington, no more than did the appointment of Lord Ashburton for the settlement of the Boundary Question trench on the prerogative of Sir Richard Pakenham, the English Minister of that time.—We also learn from the same source that there is a possibility that Sir Gore will be instructed to lead his good offices to facilitate the settlement of the dispute between this country and New Granada.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

## AFRICA.

Progress of the Niger Expedition.—Advices from Africa state that the expedition fitted out in England for the purpose of exploring both branches of the Niger, by the steam propeller Dayspring, in charge of Dr. Baikie, R. N., left the Brass or Kowara River for the Niger on the 10th of July, all well. The expedition is composed of fifty Kroomen, twenty five natives of the countries bordering on the Niger, and fourteen Europeans, including Dr Baikie, Lieutenant Glover, Mr May, and Dr. Davis, of the royal navy, a naturalist and botanist, with Captain Grant, and engineers. It is the intention of Mr Laird, to form trading posts on the banks of the river at the most eligible situations for the collection of cotton, shea, nutmeg and other productions of the interior, provided the climate offers no insuperable obstacles.—As by his contract with the Admiralty he is bound to convey deck passengers of the African race who can read and write English, from Fernando Po to all parts below the Niger and Chadda, a new element of civilization will be introduced into the interior by the return of liberated Africans to their native country in considerable numbers.

Another expedition is now exploring the Congo river. It is commanded by Ladislaus Magyar, of the Portuguese army, accompanied by men of science. His orders are to make a full survey of that stream. It is interesting to observe how European powers, of all ranks, are now engaged in attempting to open connections with the interior of Africa. No doubt these explorations will open the way for general missionary and commercial operations in the central regions of this long unknown continent.—*Colonization Herald.*

## CANADA.

A Montreal paper stated, recently that there was not to be a single new vessel put on the stocks, at Quebec, this winter. The Quebec Chronicle of October 21 contradicts the discouraging statement, and avers that the construction of fifteen vessels will be proceeded with, and that the intention is to have them ready for launching next Spring.

A rumour was afloat that Ottawa was to be the seat of government in Canada. The Ottawa Gazette spoke discreditingly of the report.

The Toronto Colonist estimates that the surplus wheat of Canada amounts to 8 millions of bushels,—with little or no prospect of a market in the United States, because of the abundant harvest there also. People generally have reason to be very thankful that such supplies have been realised,—and it behoves Canada to extend the advantages over the world, as best she may.

Railway Travelling in Canada.—Journey of the Governor General between Quebec and Toronto in Fifteen Hours, by the Grand Trunk Railway. His Excellency the Governor General on the arrival of the Indian in port, having expressed a wish to proceed from Quebec to Montreal, and thence to Toronto, by Grand Trunk Railway; arrangements were immediately made by Mr Bidder, General Manager of the Company, to place at the disposal of His Excellency a special train to convey him and suite from Quebec to Toronto. The journey, a distance of 500 miles, was performed in fifteen hours, but as two and a half must be deducted for stoppages, including an hour for dinner at Kingston, the running is thereby reduced to twelve and a half hours, making the rate of speed forty miles an hour for twelve consecutive hours. Such running being managed on a single line of rails, and without, as we are informed, interfering in any way with the ordinary trains, reflects not only the greatest credit on the officers generally and their efficient management, but also affords very conclusive proof that the construction of the road must be of first rate character to warrant such high speed for a continuous journey of 500 miles.

Comparing this journey of His Excellency with the locomotion of only a few years back, by which at least a fortnight would have been occupied in the transit between Quebec and Toronto, the Province has reason to be proud of their great national railroad, "a noble enterprise," as the Hon. Mr Cayley has characterized it, "so internally blended with the hopes of Canada, that it grows with its growth, and strengthens with its strength, and is destined yet to achieve the proudest suc-

cess with the increasing prosperity of the Province."

The circulation of the fourteen chartered banks in Canada is estimated at \$13,094,318, of which at least a million is usually to be found on the United States side of the line. The specie is not estimated at much above \$2,000,000.

The church of England incumbent at Chatham, Canada West, writes that 500 men had left that garrison for India, whose wives and children remained at Chatham; and he asks what is sixpence a day to maintain a wife and seven or eight children.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

Fire.—Between 12 and 1 o'clock on Saturday morning, a bright flame rising above Dartmouth, gave notice of an alarming conflagration. It proceeded from Mr Stanford's Tannery, in the rear of the town. The chief buildings were destroyed,—and machinery greatly damaged. Among the latter was a large new boiler recently imported from England. This is the fourth fire which occurred at the premises, within some years. We regret to have to add, that the loss in buildings, machinery, and stock, is estimated at from 4 to £5,000; amount insured about £1,500.

The Dartmouth engine only was at the scene,—and want of sufficient hose was a drawback on its efficiency. The fire was so rapid, that perhaps no force from the city could have been of much avail in averting the loss incurred. The exertions were chiefly directed to save the bark-house and other adjacent buildings. This was accomplished. Preliminary arrangements were made last winter, to provide a new engine and hose for Dartmouth, but these have not been realized. People interested inquire, Why? To depend on Halifax for assistance on such occasions is very unwise. The delay in crossing the harbor after the ferry boats have been laid up for the night, generally precludes anything like that timely aid which is of so much consequence in such cases.—*Halifax Sun.*

During the recent heavy gales of wind, there was an incalculable amount of damage done to the Nets of the Fishermen on the Southern and Northern shores of this Island. At Scataria, Gabarus, Louisburgh and Mainadie, we are informed of extensive loss and damage. At the Bird Islands, Igonish and Cape North, a large number of Nets were seriously damaged, and many totally lost. The greatest amount of injury, however, was sustained on the Southern coast. We sincerely hope that a good catch of Mackerel may follow to meet these losses; otherwise, both "supplier" and fishermen will be ruinously affected by the result of the gale.—*G. B. News.*

## YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

## EUROPEAN NEWS.

THE mail steamer Niagara arrived at Halifax on Tuesday evening, and the mail was immediately dispatched to this quarter. The papers thus obtained are to the 6th of November. The news they furnish is important, and we have hurriedly made a good many selections, which embrace a summary of the latest and most prominent items of intelligence. We publish them below.

## INDIA.

## THE ASSAULT ON DELHI.

A fortnight back we gave a brief account of an engagement near Delhi, in which General Nicholson inflicted heavy loss on the enemy. We recur to it now, for it was the first link in the chain of the final operations which terminated in the capture of the city. On the 24th August a large force moved out under the command of a Sepoy General, with the intention of getting to the rear of the British position, intercepting the siege train known to be on the way from Ferozepore, and cutting off the communications with Umballah and the Punjab. The enterprise was bold and well conceived, and the general was supported by six infantry regiments, a cloud of cavalry, including three regiments of irregular horse, and a formidable array of guns and ammunition. Next day General Nicholson met the enemy with two English regiments, two Sikh corps, and a squadron of lancers. A battle took place in which the mutineers were driven back with great slaughter, leaving twelve guns, a quantity of tumbrels, ammunition, bullocks, tents, camp equipage, and plunder in the hands of the victors. On our side the loss was small compared with the results. This was the last offensive movement of the rebels, although they did not cease to keep up a heavy fire from the batteries on the walls. On the morning of the 4th September the siege train arrived in camp, and no time was lost in placing the guns and mortars in the position already prepared for them. On the same and following days about three hundred British soldiers arrived, and a regiment of Punjab Rifles. The Cashmere Contingent arrived on the 5th, raising the total of General Wilson's forces of every kind to about 11 or 12 thousand men. From the 7th to the 12th, battery after battery was armed with heavy guns and mortars, from which a well-sustained fire was kept up against the fortifications at the Cashmere gate. The enemy returned the bombardment with great spirit, and on our side several officers and men were killed and wounded. By the 13th the

Cashmere and the Moree bastions were reduced to ruins, and the moment for the assault was at hand. General Wilson's preparations were made with consummate skill, and he was admirably seconded by the courage and discipline of the officers and men under his command.—Soon after day break the signal was given for the assault. One division, composed of the Cashmere Contingent and Ghoorkas, moved on a suburb which lies outside the Lahore gate. The position was occupied by a strong force, and the Cashmerians are said not to have behaved well. The consequence was a repulse, which however, was retrieved at a latter period. The main attack at the Cashmere gate was completely successful. The troops passed through the breach almost without opposition. The assailants then cleared their way along the ramparts to the Cabul gate, meeting with a desperate resistance from the enemy. Our loss is computed in the official return at six hundred killed and wounded, including fifty officers.—The extreme disproportion of losses amongst the officers characterized nearly all the actions before Delhi, and points to the inference that they were picked off by marksmen. The attacking party, however, made good their position, and preparations were, at once made for shelling the palace, the magazine, and other strong places in the city still held by the enemy. On the evening of the 15th a breach was effected in the wall of the magazine enclosure, and the post was carried by assault on the morning of the 16th. The palace and other points were thus laid open to the guns and mortars, and the enemy began to retire, but on the evening of the 16th, they made an unsuccessful attempt to recapture the magazine. On the 17th fire was again opened on the city, and on the 18th there was desperate fighting, the rebels behaving like "men without hope of mercy or pardon." Here the official intelligence ends, but no doubt is entertained of the native account coming through Jeypore, and on the 20th the city of Delhi was occupied by the British troops.

The whole story of the capture of Delhi cannot be told until the arrival of the next mail. Enough is known, however, to enable us to form some estimate of the magnitude of the achievement. The attacking column cannot by any possibility have numbered more than nine or ten thousand men, for a reserve, and the necessary guards must have been retained in the camp. The enemy must have had at least three or four times that number. The extent of their resources is shown in the fact that two hundred guns were taken by our troops on the 15th and 16th, and many more, no doubt, fell into their hands on subsequent days. The mutineers fought with the courage of despair from street to street, and from house to house, and every available position was fiercely contested. Although crowds of fugitives poured out of the city gates, and across the bridge of boats, it is questionable whether the number of defenders were materially reduced. The cavalry are said to have marched out before the assault, but they would have been of little use in street fighting. General Wilson is justly eulogised for the admirable manner in which he kept his troops in hand. An order of the day, which he issued before the assault, was conceived in a wise and soldierly spirit, and his appeal to the discipline of the men had the intended effect. Delhi, even during the combat, was spared the horrors which usually attend the capture of a city by storm, even in England. The townspeople fled to the British lines in large numbers, and they received the protection they claimed; and we are confident that no outrage was offered by our brave troops to women and children. No quarter was given to the Sepoys.

Bombay, October 3.

At length I am able to announce to you the fall of the revolted capital of North-Western India, or, if that appellation be not strictly correct, of the ancient city of the Mogul empire, in which a faithless soldiery had sought to re-erect the independent throne of the descendant of Baber. Delhi is once more in possession of the British. Our information at present is more scanty than could be desired, owing partly to the dak communication being unluckily intercepted between Lahore and Mooltan. But the main facts having reached us from so many quarters as to leave no doubt whatever that the place was assaulted with success on the 14th of September, when a permanent lodgment was effected, that during the four or five following days further advances and acquisitions on the city were made, and that finally on the 20th the whole of the space enclosed within the walls was in our possession. I should observe, however, that we have not received as yet such certain evidence of the truth of the latter part of this story as of that of the former. The proceedings of the 14th, 15th, and 16th are known to us, however, compendiously from the official bulletins issued by the Chief Commissioner at Lahore, and founded, as you know, on telegraphic messages from Delhi. But of the final occupation on the 20th we have only heard by an express from the Residency at Jeypore in Rajpootana, which reached Lord Elphinstone by way of Ahmedabad yesterday. Thus the tidings of our ultimate and complete success rest at present on native authority only, but, as the natural sequel and complement of our undoubted triumph of the 14th, they are universally credited.

Arrival of the Siega Train, &c.—But to complete, so far as my present materials will allow,