

**ENGLISH MAIL.**—The Express from Halifax, with the news by the mail of the 10th instant, per steam ship Canada, for the American Associated Press, arrived in this City on Friday afternoon, and the news was immediately telegraphed to the American cities. The Canada arrived at Halifax on Thursday night, at 10 o'clock, and the Express reached this City in 15½ hours from that place, via Granville Point, and thence per steamer Commodore, Capt. Brown.

Trade in all departments in England continued in a steady and satisfactory position. For colonial produce a good demand prevailed, and most articles found ready buyers at fair prices. The business doing in Cotton was not so extensive as when the last steamer sailed, and prices have receded during the fortnight.

But little progress had been made in the House of Commons with the Bill for the repeal of the Navigation Laws.

The Irish Poor Law bill was creating much excitement in Ireland, especially in the Northern counties.

Another dreadfully severe battle had taken place in India, on the "identical classical spot," (says the Bombay Times,) which two thousand years ago formed the battle-field of Alexander and Porus. Though the British were left masters of the field, the victory was dearly bought, no less than 26 officers and 731 men being killed, and 66 officers and 1446 men wounded. Among the former we much regret to notice the names of Lt. Colonel Brookes, of the 24th Regiment, who eight or nine years ago commanded the 69th in this Garrison, and was highly esteemed for his many excellent qualities; and Capt. J. S. Shore, also of the 24th, son of the Hon. Colonel Shore, of Fredericton, said to have been a highly promising and deserving young officer. The 24th, it will be seen, suffered very severely. Lord Gough's official despatch is given among our extracts.—The British army amounted to 24,000; the Sikhs to upwards of 40,000.

**LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.** March 10.—Since our printed report of the 26th January, the arrivals from British America consist of 15 vessels, 7503 tons; most of which cargoes have been sold from the quay. The demand from the country is still limited. *Pine Timber.*—Of St. John one cargo at 13½d. per foot, and two other cargoes have been offered. Of Miramichi 297 logs were sold by auction at 13½d. to 14½d. per foot. *New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Fir Planks, &c.*—Of St. John, one cargo of good quality was sold at £7 16s. 6d., and one at £7 12s. 6d. per standard; another parcel at £7 10s.; another parcel at £6 15s.; and one, with about 60 standard Yellow Pine Boards, at £8 per standard.

**Corn Market.**—Flour is held at 25s. 9d. to 26s. for choice Ohio and Southern; Western Canal 25s. to 25s. 6d.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 24s. 6d. to 25s. 3d.; sour, 24s. 9d. to 25s.; Canadian sweet, 24s. 9d. to 25s. 6d. per barrel. The finest Northern yellow Indian Corn is worth 29s. 6d. and white and mixed 28s. to 28s. 6d. per quarter, whilst Indian Meal is at 13s. to 14s. per barrel.

The Cholera, although it re-appears in some localities at intervals, is now decidedly on the wane. In Scotland the disease appears to be assuming the form of simple diarrhoea, the attacks of the latter being now four times as many as those of Asiatic cholera. The malady has appeared in the South of Ireland, and several fatal cases have occurred in Cork and Limerick.

**MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK.**—A frightful wreck of an emigrant ship has taken place on the English coast, off Harwich. The Barque *Floridan*, 500 tons, E. D. Whitmore, master, from Antwerp, and for New York, with passengers, was wholly lost on Wednesday, the 28th ult., and all on board perished, with the exception of four individuals, who were miraculously rescued from death.

**No more Reductions in the Army.**—We have very good authority for announcing that, in consequence of the disastrous intelligence from India, orders were on Saturday issued by his Grace the Commander-in-Chief and circulars were despatched by the evening mails, to all commanding officers of regiments and depots, countermanding any further discharge of soldiers from the army.—*Morning Herald.*

**CONTINENTAL.**—The current news from the various quarters of Europe is still of the highest importance. The most striking feature is the march of the Imperial Guards of Russia from St. Petersburg. These men, numbering 52,000 strong, have not quitted the capital since 1831. They have proceeded through Wilna to the frontier, and will, no doubt, take such a position as to be able to keep in check the disaffected Poles on the Prussian frontier, support the Imperialists in the Hungarian struggle, and assume such an attitude as shall plainly indicate the intention of the Czar to control as much as possible any disposition to revive the scenes which so unhappily occurred last year. A Russian note has appeared, in which the Czar declares the resolution of adhering firmly to the treaties of 1815, and any attempt to infringe them he shall deem a *casus belli*. The entrance of 10,000 Russian troops into Austrian Transylvania

evidences the disposition of the Czar, who assuredly will not consent to any change in the territorial divisions of Italy, unless with the entire consent of Austria.

The Austrian war in Hungary has proceeded with variable success. In the south of Hungary the German population, finding the insurgents carrying destruction in every quarter, called in the Russians, who now occupy Kronstadt and Hermannstadt. Several serious battles have taken place. One in the neighbourhood of Erlau lasted two days, with considerable slaughter, and the imperialists seemed to have had the advantage. Reports have been circulated that in one engagement Bem had both his legs shot off, but the latest report is that he had left Transylvania for Hungary. As the insurgent troops amount to 140,000 men, split up into many divisions, it is difficult to ascertain the actual progress of the war, the termination of which seems to be very remote. Whilst Austria is pushing on the war in Hungary she is not unmindful of Italian affairs. She has marched a body of troops into Ferrara, seized upon the city, and levied a fine upon the citizens of 200,000 scudi, which she handed over to the Pope. The revolution of Tuscany is complete. The Republic has been proclaimed at Leghorn and Florence, and a central Italian Republic has been formed in union with the Romans. The Grand Duke has protested against this revolution, and has entreated all the powers of Europe to refuse to recognise the new authority, which he declares to be a violation of the constitution agreed to by all parties last year, committed by a factious minority. The Prince of Canina has been elected Vice-President of the Republic of Rome.

The Pope after halting between abdication and soliciting foreign intervention, has now, it is said, made an application to Austria, and it is confidently stated that Spain is about to send a division of 10,000 men to aid in restoring his Holiness.

The Roman Ministry has communicated to the Assembly that a joint intervention of Austria, Spain and Naples is announced. France had not decided what part to take. Piedmont was resolved to intervene in Tuscany, to hinder civil war, and oppose the Austrian intervention.

#### ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE IN INDIA, WITH IMMENSE SLAUGHTER.

Another of those murderous conflicts which have rendered our hostilities with the Sikhs so conspicuous, has occurred on the left bank of the river Jhelum, between the army of the Punjab, under Lord Gough, and the Sikh forces under Rajah Shere Singh; a struggle in which the British have to deplore the loss of at least 93 officers and 2500 men killed and wounded, four guns captured, and four or five regimental colours taken by the enemy—a struggle which terminated in victory, but which was disgraced by the flight of the Bengal cavalry regiment, and a retreat—scarcely satisfactorily explained—of two British corps of dragoons—a struggle finally, which left both the contending hosts so weak and shattered, that it was doubtful which had sustained the greater injury from the conflict, and which yielded so few of the badges of triumph for the victors, that their opponents took up a new position, and fired a salute in honor of its termination.

On the 12th January, Lord Gough, after his long interval of inactivity, was made acquainted with the fall of Attock, and of the advance of Chuttur Singh to join Shere Singh who was in front of Lord Gough on the south bank of the Jhelum, with an army of 30,000 to 40,000 men, and 62 guns. Being urged by Major Mackeson, the political agent, to give the enemy battle, Lord Gough set his troops in motion, and advanced through the jungle on the 12th. He continued his march on the 13th till later than noon, and at two o'clock had determined to encamp his troops for the night, when some of the enemy's round shot reached within the ground marked by the English flags. Whether this irritated Lord Gough, or induced him to fear that the Sikhs would surprise his encampment and force him to battle, his lordship suddenly without any previous reconnaissance, resolved to anticipate him, and accordingly formed his troops in line, and, deaf to all remonstrance, rashly gave the word of command to advance. Accustomed, as we have been, as historians, to describe the heroic exploits of our armies during the last century, we try in vain to discover any settled plan of action, such as it is the duty of a general to conceive and execute in the face of an enemy so brave and resolute as the Sikhs. The never failing pluck of the English troops seems to have been the only resource of Lord Gough, and although it prevailed as heretofore, the victory was achieved at the most disastrous sacrifice of human life. During this fearful encounter, in which the Sikhs, posted advantageously in a well-selected position, poured from their batteries on all sides, the most murderous fire, a panic seems to have seized a body of the 9th Lancers, who, instead of charging the enemy, as ordered, faced about and rushed pell-mell through our own artillery, upset the waggons, and never pulled up till they reached the hospital. The enemy, seeing this disorder, followed up their advantage, got amongst our artillery, cut down 73 gunners, and carried off six of our guns. Col. Lane seems to have poured in his grape, and put a stop to the disorder. With this inexplicable exception and some defection of a regiment of Sepoys, the gallant fellows seem to have behaved most nobly. Feats of heroism and of individual bravery are described in every line of the despatches and letters. The Sikhs were beaten in on all sides, 12 of their guns were captured, and the British

remaining masters of the field, night put an end to the engagement. We have to deplore the loss of no less than 93 officers and about 2500 men. Amongst the general officers who have perished in this indecisive, fruitless battle, we find the honorable names of Brig. Gen. J. Pennycook, Lieut. Col. R. Brookes, 24th, Brev. Maj. C. Ekins, Dept. Adj. Gen.; Brig. Gens. Pope and C. Campbell were also wounded, the first severely. In the 24th foot 11 officers were killed, and one half the regiment was either killed or wounded. Whilst some of our colors have fallen into the hands of the enemy, he was active enough to retrieve during the night six of the guns we had captured, and Lord Gough says, "I did not feel justified in remaining longer out. The night was dark. I knew not how far I had advanced." The loss of the Sikhs is not known, but they must have suffered severely. Indeed we perceive some symptoms of their desiring to come to terms. If, however, Chuttur Singh comes up with his army before Gen. Whish can reach the Jhelum, the Sikhs will probably hazard another conflict. Besides the fall of Moulton and this sad battle of Chillianwallah, which we have reported, an action has been fought by Wheeler's division, under the heights of Dullah, on the Ravee, in which the position of Rana Singh was attacked and carried with considerable loss. The affair was signalised by great individual bravery, but the inaccessible nature of the place seems to have enabled Rana Singh not only to make a vigorous resistance, but further, to effect his escape with all his band. Here again our officers suffered severely.

The left division of the British forces was ordered to advance on the Sikh flank, under the impression that there were few guns in front of the enemy on that side. No sooner, however, had this division advanced within range of the artillery, than a tremendous cross-fire from concealed batteries opened upon them, beneath which officers and men were literally swept away. The 1st Brigade, composed of two regiments of native and one of British infantry struggled through the jungle with resolute courage, under this sweeping fire from the Sikh batteries up to the very guns; but were so exhausted and had suffered so seriously, that they were compelled to retire. The 5th Brigade however resolutely took their place and advanced, under an equally destructive fire, upon the batteries—captured and spiked the guns; but the Sikh infantry poured upon them with great force, and threatened to surround them. They were compelled to close in and retire. The loss of this division was fearful. In the British Regiment, the 24th, the colonel and major, three captains, three lieutenants, three ensigns, and 218 men were killed; and one major, two captains, seven lieutenants, and 244 men wounded. One of the native regiments lost in killed and wounded 204 men and four officers. The 5th Brigade lost in killed and wounded not less than 150 men and 27 officers.

Shere Singh still remained encamped about four miles in front of the British forces—his strength greatly recruited. Rumours had reached Lord Gough, on the 16th, the date of his despatch to the Governor General, of the actual junction between Chuttur Singh, and his son Shere Singh, but the *Bombay Times* states that up to the 20th no such junction had taken place, though it was daily expected. Reinforcements, however, were moving up from Lahore, and the capture of Moulton has liberated 10,000 men, who, flushed with victory, were marching rapidly towards the Jhelum, and were expected to arrive at the camp on the 10th or 12th of February. The loss of the British amounted to 800 slain and 1,500 wounded. The Sikhs are supposed to have suffered much more severely, the estimated number of men killed being 3000, and wounded 4000. They were actively engaged in forming new entrenchments, and their numbers are stated to amount—with daily additions—to upwards of 60,000 fighting men. A decisive battle will in all probability have occurred before this, which will no doubt have determined the fate of the Punjab.—[Charles Willmer.]

These truly unwelcome tidings created the deepest sensation throughout England. It was felt that the suggestion made a month ago, that Sir Charles Napier should be sent to India to assume the command of the army of the Punjab, ought to be acted upon without an instant's delay.

The House of Commons re-echoed in a manner not to be misunderstood the universal opinion out of doors. The Ministers of the Crown were not behind. They have superseded Lord Gough: Sir Charles Napier reached London on Monday last. On Tuesday he had an interview with Lord John Russell and the Duke of Wellington; his appointment was ratified by the Court of Directors, and he will proceed to India on the 20th instant, invested with full command, and backed by the approving voice of the whole United Kingdom.

#### PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

##### HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

#### THE GREAT RAILWAY DEBATE.

[We take the following summary of the great Railroad Debate in the Assembly, which commenced on last Tuesday and terminated on Saturday, with the several motions and divisions hereon, from the *N. Brunswick* of Monday.]

The public are already aware that one of the most important debates which ever occurred in this Province, took place last week in the House of Assembly. On Tuesday last, the House went into Committee of the whole upon the subject of Railways, the particular matter before them being the Report of the Select Committee as to the St. John and Shediac Railway. The debate lasted five entire days, to the almost utter exclusion of every other business; on Saturday at one o'clock the divisions commenced. The various Resolutions and Amendments, and the divisions on each, we give below. We have only time to-day to offer a few observations.

The first Resolution was moved by the Attorney General on Tuesday last, and Mr. Boyd instantly after moved his amendment. Although the debate was nominally upon this Resolution, and the amendment, yet it took a wide range, and eventually included every point which could affect the construction of Railways in this Province.

Immediately after Mr. Boyd had moved his amendment, Mr. Woodward stated to the House his views on the subject, and propounded his plan. He proposed that the following sums should be given to Railways:—

From Shediac to the Bend, . . . . .	£25,000
" Hampton to St. John, . . . . .	25,000
" St. Andrews to Woodstock, . . . . .	50,000
" St. John to meet St. Andrews line, . . . . .	35,000
Cross line to Fredericton and St. Stephen, . . . . .	45,000
From Woodstock to Canada, . . . . .	170,000

£350,000

These sums Mr. Woodward proposed to give as a clear bonus to any Companies that might undertake these lines; the amounts to be paid over at the rate of £70,000 per annum, and to be raised by a duty of 2 per cent. on every article that now pays 1 per cent., under the Loan Act. If this 2 per cent did not pay off the principal and interest in 25 years, a new arrangement to be made.

The Hon. Charles Fisher in the second day's debate, denounced the Shediac Railway as a "gambling speculation"—and as a "gigantic humbug"—he warned the Province solemnly, that if they entered upon it, they would end in "lamentation, mourning and woe." Mr. Ritchie replied to Mr. Fisher in a withering speech, and advocated the Shediac line in the most powerful and energetic manner.

In the third day's debate, Mr. R. D. Wilmot advocated the line from Shediac to the Bend only; and, if necessary, he would go for making it a ship Railway. He deprecated the construction of the rest of the line (from the Bend to St. John) and declared that it would be dangerous to bring money into the country under our present system, as it would only be wasted. He said that the St. Andrews line should be sustained, because a line could be made from St. John which would intersect it, and be only 25 miles further to Woodstock; and that means might be provided by circulating Treasury notes, as there would be no more trouble in circulating £100,000 of these every year, than specie.

The Hon. Mr. Partelow made a very able and straight-forward speech in favour of the Shediac line, and adduced the most powerful arguments in its favor. He said that ever since he was a child, he had heard of the favorite project of connecting the Gulf of St. Lawrence with the Bay of Fundy by a Canal; that had been found impracticable, and now came up the project of a Railroad, which was in every respect superior. He called upon the House and the country to sustain a measure which would be fraught with such incalculable benefits to the Province.

The fourth day's debate was commenced by Mr. Jordan, who, at very considerable length, went into the merits of the Shediac line, and advocated it heartily, cheerfully, and to the utmost. The first round of speeches was concluded on this day by the Honorable Attorney General, who in one of the most brilliant and most powerful speeches he ever uttered, advocated the Shediac line, and the great advantage which would accrue to the country by its being at once undertaken by the Provincial Government, at the public expense, and as a *Public Work*.

On the fifth day, and just as the first division was about to be taken, Mr. Ansley addressed the House very briefly. He spoke of the incidental advantages of railways in promoting the growth of towns, and the increase of population. His speech was very indistinctly delivered, and was concluded by his stating, that he should oppose placing £500,000 or any other sum, in the hands of the Provincial Executive, for the purpose of constructing the Shediac line, he having no confidence in that body as at present constituted.

There was so much manoeuvring in putting the several resolutions and amendments, that without a full explanation, the votes of the Members can hardly be understood fairly.

For instance, the Hon. Attorney General, after Mr. Partelow's Resolution was negatived, moved that the House should sustain the Report of the Select Committee as to the Shediac Railway; he was instantly met by Mr. R. D. Wilmot with an amendment. The most earnest entreaty was used to induce Mr. R. D. Wilmot to withdraw his amendment, in order that a single test vote might be taken, but he steadily and sternly refused. The Attorney General finding that he could not obtain a fair vote, withdrew his resolution; in consequence, the amendment of Mr. R. D. Wilmot then stood as an original resolution, to which Mr. Ritchie moved a resolution, similar to the Attorney General's, as the amendment.

From this brief and hasty sketch of the debate, it will be seen that of the Saint John representation, Messrs. Partelow, Ritchie and Jordan advocated the Shediac Railway, and fully acted up to the wishes and feelings of the constituency—that Messrs. R. D. Wilmot and Woodward went off on crochets of their own, adverse to the Shediac line, and seriously damaging the cause—and that Mr. Ansley, at the last moment, "damned it with faint praise," and sought to expiate the final blow for its destruction, by voting for it!

We verily believe, that if the members for the City and County of Saint John had been unanimous, and pulled heartily together, the Shediac Railway would have been carried at the present