

church, and many more precious souls are deeply impressed with a sense of their lost and ruined condition, and we are encouraged to hope that a goodly number, will, through the richness of God's grace, be enabled to confess Christ before men. The first Moncton church, has passed through a cold, dark, and wintry season, and many have mourned over the desolation of Zion in this place, yet we desire to be thankful, that of late we have seen indications for good, the dear people of God have become more united in holy love and union, our prayer, social, and conference meetings are more numerous attended, 2 have been baptized and united with the people of God, and throughout the whole region, many precious souls are anxiously enquiring what they must do to be saved. Some of our dear brethren have expressed a desire to be more actively engaged in the cause of their Divine Lord, and dear Brother N. is greatly encouraged in the work of his master.

Your's in the hope of the Gospel.

WM. L. PRINCE.

Bend, Feb. 3, 1855.

P. S.—Two young men at Shediac, are awaiting an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of their Divine Lord. Bro. N. leaves to day for that place.

General Intelligence.

FOREIGN NEWS.

It is evident to the most careless observer, that affairs in Europe; and especially in the Crimea, are now rapidly approaching a crisis. In European affairs lies the remote probability of a patched up peace, based upon the four points; or else the tremendous necessity of a dreadful war. In the Crimea, every new letter, and every new despatch, shows that a dreadful, if not decisive battle is at hand.

We think that it is hardly probable that peace can yet be made, even in any form. In the first place, the Czar is not yet sufficiently humble to agree to those terms which the Allies must dictate. England and France have expended enormous quantities of blood and treasure on this terrific war. Millions of pounds have been expended; ammunition and provisions have been gathered from every corner; commerce has been struck by the hand of war, and thousands of merchants and manufacturers have gone to ruin; amid the waves of the stormy Euxine, mighty ships of every kind and size have been overwhelmed, and with treasure and passengers have gone down; and one hundred thousand fighting men have died by plague, war, and fatigue, in the pestilential plains, bloody battle-fields, and super-human labours which by turns have been the fate of the Eastern army. For all these dreadful losses, the Allies will demand and sternly require a fitting recompense.

In the second place, Nicholas will not yet give up the contest. Yielding only the four points, he might consent to peace, but beyond them he will not go. He has made gigantic efforts at concentrating his armies; his strong arms have gathered up all their power, at the very moment of putting forth that power he certainly would not pause. It is probable that with daily increase of forces on the Crimea, with 300,000 men in Poland, with Cronstadt impregnable, he will choose to put forth all his strength in this appalling struggle. In spite of all that the newspapers affirm, we do not believe that he yet feels greatly humbled, nor very ready to swerve from this long thought of plan of action. We see no reason why a man of his character should so speedily lose the hope of success, or give up the determination to use against the West, all the powers which he has so laboriously brought forward.

In the third place, we do not believe that the Czar's consent to the acceptance of the four points implies the slightest desire for peace. We regard it as a ruse to keep Austria in a state of neutrality. Austria will join the West, if the Czar refuses to accept the four points. But the Czar does not refuse them. How, therefore, is Austria bound to take part against him, or what charge of wilful warfare could she bring forward against Russia?

For these reasons we do not believe that peace is at all likely to be made. True, a short one might possibly be agreed upon. There is a possibility of this event happening, but it would be a brief truce, an armistice, which a few months would bring to a close.

We do not believe that peace is near, and what is more, we would not have it so. War is a dreadful thing, but it is sometimes a dreadful necessity. This is the character of the present struggle. To prevent the dangerous extension of Russian power; to snuff a weak country from the grasp of unprincipled ambition; to guard liberty against the power of despotism; in fine, to put down tyranny forever, and for ever secure safety to liberty and civilization; such are the glorious purposes of France and England, and such are the true objects of the war. To make peace until all this is accomplished, would be to render nought the gigantic struggles and heroic sacrifices which have been made, and give to France and England unending shame.

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MORE RUSSIAN VESSELS SUNK.—The *Parie* says,—"It is positively asserted that the Russians have sunk at the mouth of the Dnieper ships of the line and other objects of large size, to stop up the passage, so as to leave in the centre only a narrow channel, which can be closed up at the first signal. That certainly, is one way of turning vessels of war to account, and better, no doubt, than to have them burnt."

THE RUSSIAN LADIES AND THE ARMY.—In consequence of the demand of Prince Menschikoff for lint, bandages, old linen, &c., required in the hospitals of the Crimea, many of our ladies (says a letter from Odessa), amongst others the Princesses Golizn, Poljouska, and many wives of superior officers, have established associations for the collection of linen shirting, and similar articles at home and in society, the ladies are constantly occupied in the preparation of these articles.

RUSSIAN PRISONERS OF WAR.—By order of the Lords of the Admiralty, the Russian prisoners captured in the Atlantic, condemned as a lawful prize, in the port of Leith, have been released, and permitted to enter themselves as merchant seamen to navigate British vessels to Australia, giving their parole not to bear arms against England or France during the present war.

BIBLES FOR SCUTARI.—There being a want in Scutaria hospital of religious books easy to hold in the hand, and with large clear type, the *Morning Post*, at the suggestion of a correspondent, is about to organize the binding of the New Testament in separate parts, in limp covers. The proprietors ask subscriptions, and have creditably undertaken the trouble of managing the matter.

ARRIVAL OF THE CAMBRIA AT LIVERPOOL.—The Cunard steam-ship *Cambria*, Capt. Miller, reached the Mersey about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, and subsequently went into the Huskisson Dock. The *Cambria* left Constantinople on the 29th of December, and Malta on the 4th of January; she had on board 10 officers, 213 rank and file, 8 civil servants, 29 women, and 8 horses.

THE CZAR AND THE WOUNDED.—Russian journals officially contradict and denounce as "a lie" the improbable rumour or assertion of the Czar having issued an order forbidding under severe penalties the renewal of those acts of barbarism on the field of battle for which Prince Menschikoff found palliation, and the *Journal de St. Petersburg* legitimate, religious excuse.

FATHER GAVAZZI in a letter to the *Daily News*, says,—"I always looked to the king of Sardinia as the only man likely to bring about the independence and unity of my country. Now this alliance with the Western Powers will expose this very King to lose all Italian sympathies, and with them the way to the Capitol, without reaping any but a very doubtful immediate advantage."

HOME-SICKNESS IN THE CAMP.—Louis Napoleon (or somebody for him) said that Marshal Arnaud in his mortal illness, "forced death to wait for victory." The number of English officers arriving from the seat of war to the seat of easy-chair at home, shows that they would neither do any violence upon death, nor wait for victory. They are at once too polite and too impatient.

LORD RAGLAN'S QUARTERS.—Lord Raglan's house was not much above the level of the general wretchedness. Before the door paced to and fro a sentry, whose get-up was not at all out of keeping with his situation. He had a soiled red coat; his ragged worsted tights were the reverse of ornamental, and his open collar showed neither stock nor shirt. His rusty black trousers gaped vainly here and there for buttons, and were tucked up unceremoniously at the heels to keep dry. His boots were the colour of the dust on which they trod; so were his Saxon locks and sunburnt face. Nevertheless, there was that about his quiet, honest bearing, which would, I think, have proclaimed him, even without the distinctive red, a British soldier.

SALTPETRE FOR RUSSIAN GOWDFEWS.—An attempt to furnish the Czar with saltpetre from England has been frustrated. The process of evasion was ingenious. A Mr. John Ecken shipped in London 978 bags saltpetre consigned to Mr. Scholtz of Lisbon, Hanoverian Consul-General, avowedly for consumption in Portugal. But when it was warehoused in the port of Lisbon, Mr. Scholtz directed that it should be cleared for exportation to Hamburg, at the same time that he obtained from Mr. Smith, the British Consul at Lisbon, a certificate that it had been landed there for consumption in Portugal. The saltpetre was shipped in the *Vrouw Howina*; but the *Phoenix*, a French war-steamer, followed the *Vrouw Howina* out of the Tagus, captured her, and took her to Oron for condemnation. It is suspected that Scholtz has been engaged in other transactions of the same kind.

SECRET HISTORY OF THE WAR.—Will not some constituency elect Sir Charles Napier? Hoping soon to see the admiral "in his place," we will now ask these questions. Is it true that Sir Charles Napier had powers to act against the enemy's fortresses? Can it be denied that Sir Charles applied to Aberdeen for permission to attack Abo and was refused? Is it true that when the fleet blew up a part of Hango head it was refused permission to destroy the whole fortress? Is it true that, at the end of a disheartening cruise, the admiral offered to destroy Revel and was not allowed? Is it true that at a council of war every voice save one pronounced Swedenborg Assailable, and that General Neel, the great French engineer, said it could be taken in four days? Is it true that the one voice overruled all the rest because it was the voice of one known to be in the confidence of Lord Aberdeen?—*Douglas Jerrold.*

A YOUNG LADY'S CHRISTMAS-BOX FOR HER BROTHER AT SEBASTOPOL.—"I have sent a trying-pail four gridlons, four lanterns filled with a stone of candles, a stone of soap wrapped in linen, clasp knives, eight yards of tarpaulin, lucifer matches, 48 pipes packed in salt (which may be eaten with 120 potatoes wrapped in tracts), 12 bottles of ink, 30 pens, 1 lb. of good tobacco, 12 iron spoons, 25 pair of socks, 25 comforters, 8 nightcaps, 50 pair of muffs, 5 fur neckers, 20 flannel cholera belts, 3 jerseys, paper, 3 flannel jackets, 2 pocket-handkerchiefs, 4 yards of flannel, 8 chest warmers, 2 housewives, 200 needles, 600 pins, 1 lb. of thread, and 488 buttons." This is pretty well for the first instalment.

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AN UNEXPECTED ATTACK REPULSED.

The correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, in his letter of the 30th ult., records the following incident:—"Yesterday morning the picket was relieved as usual. After leaving the Ovens they kept among the ruins for some 100 yards, until the covered way is gained. In so doing they are completely sheltered from the enemy's batteries, though all the picket has to pass within about 200 yards of an old house quite close to the Russian lines, though not occupied by them. Yesterday the picket was passing it as usual, when, to their utter astonishment, one whole wall of the house fell to the ground, unmasking as it did so a party of Russian artillerymen and one gun, already laid and pointed. Had the Russians fired instantly our picket would undoubtedly have suffered considerable loss. As it was, a second's delay took place—quite sufficient to allow our men to throw themselves on their faces as a match was applied to the gun, and a heavy charge of grape whistled over them harmless. The enemy attempted to load, but the alarm had been given, and so close a fire of musketry was kept up from the 'Ovens' and the picket on all who approached the gun, that the Russians, after losing several men, gave up the attempt and retired."

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH AT BUCHAREST.—The following is an extract from a letter dated Bucharest:—"The telegraph is now completed and in action, and despatches are sent to and received daily from London. The telegraph is about to be laid down from here to Giurgewo, Ibraila, and Galatz, to the Sulina by the local authorities, and from Ruscuk to Varna and Constantinople by a French company."

THE BLACK SEA TELEGRAPH.—A screw steamer left Sunderland, having on board a submarine cable, 400 miles in length, which will be immediately laid down to connect Varna with Balaklava. It is confidently anticipated that these two important points will be connected by submarine telegraph by the middle of next month; and as the overland telegraph from Varna to Bucharest will be finished in the same time, the electric communication of the Crimea with England will be completed.

STRENGTH OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Here are the numbers which I have on the best authority:—Sergeants, 2191; drummers, 656; rank and file, 38,085; total, 40,932. Of this number, there are at the present time sick and wounded.—Sergeants, 565; drummers, 107; rank and file, 12,747; total, 13,419.—*Morning Post.*

UNITED STATES.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—As the train was coming from Portland, Friday morning, when near Scarborough two engines and snow plow ran off the track, killing two men and injuring Mr. Charles Waterman, an engineer on the train. The two persons killed were Mr. Eldridge Leavitt and Frank Rogers. Mr. Leavitt was road master on the Portland Railroad, and Mr. Rogers did the shifting out of the trains on the same road at Portland. Mr. Leavitt leaves a wife and several children, to whom this sad bereavement will be a severe shock.

FRAUDULENT ACCIDENT.—A New York lady by the name of Waters, while sitting in a car at the Erie Railroad depot in Jersey City, put her head out of the window for the purpose of ascertaining if her baggage had been properly taken care of. At that moment the train started, and her head coming in contact with a post near the track, was actually crushed almost off, and she fell back into the car, dead. A brakeman upon the same train was also seriously injured in a very similar manner to the same time.

DOMESTIC.

Mr. Bro. George, 'tely has leave of absence from his people at Sand Point; for some weeks, for the purpose of visiting different sections of the country. He kindly consented to look after the interests of the "Visitor" in the several places that he may visit. We hope he will have a pleasant and successful mission, and that God will greatly prosper his way!

THE MAILS.—Our engagement with our Publishers are that the "Visitor" should go by the Wednesday's mails in all directions, and we announced accordingly, but he has found it impossible those short days to get them all off. The Northern and Eastern papers were in time last week, and he says in future they shall all be in time for the 5 o'clock mails. Our friends may rest assured that every thing is done on our part to secure the early delivery of their papers. The change of Offices and the shortness of the days have combined to occasion some irregularity, which we deeply regret; but which we could not prevent. Our hope is that in future all will be right.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mr. Daniel Nicholas, well known to many in St. John, as a worthy citizen, and to the Baptist Churches here, as a pious and consistent Christian; while carrying wood into his house on Tuesday morning, fell down and died. Mr. Nicholas was a native of England, and came here many years ago. He leaves behind him a widow, to whom we yield our heartfelt sympathy, in this sudden and mournful bereavement.

WAR SERVICE.—Much anxiety was caused here on Monday, by a telegraphic despatch from Digby, stating that the *Maid of Erin* passed the above ship, and found her crew frost-bitten, suffering severely from the intense cold, and striving to sail the vessel back into port. The *Maid of Erin* has since returned, and we are happy to hear that the case of the ship is not so bad. We have understood that the crew were moving busily around, that the Captain asked for no assistance but merely mentioned that some of his crew were frost-bitten. It is supposed that the ship took the wind, and went on her voyage.

PROSPECTS.—We cannot expect to enjoy the prosperity of 1854 under the more unfortunate auspices of 1855. The great depression in wood prices will cause a lessening in our lumbering operations. The decline in our staple exports, will produce an effect on every other business here. It is well known that our exports will during this year bear but a small proportion to those of last year. The same is true with regard to our imports. Last year was one of unwarmed prosperity. The Revenue amounted to £203,054, that of the preceding year £184,727, consequently there was an increase of £18,327 for 1854. In 1855, there will be a sad reaction.

Provincial Legislature.

The Legislature met on February 1st, when the Governor delivered the following SPEECH:

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 Alma, 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 the Province, duty free, but under bonds, of the articles specified in the schedule of the Act for giving effect on the part of the Province of New Brunswick, to a certain Treaty between Her Majesty and U. States of America.

A similar concession of similar character was made by the Government of the United States, with respect to the corresponding articles, the provision 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 U. States, was at once relieved from the uncertainty which is necessarily attendant on a prospective alteration of duties.

Considerable inconvenience has for some time been experienced in this Province from the insufficiency 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 £3000 currency, which has been prepared for the use of this Province, under the direction of H. M. Government, has been received, and this coin now forms, under H. M. Proclamation to that effect, a part of the legal currency 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 in which the validity of the returns made by the Sheriff, 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 the serious evils and difficulties now experienced.

The subject of Education is of that importance to the moral and social well being of the people of this Province, and I am sure you will approach the consideration of it with that care which the magnitude of the of the interests involved demand. The Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into King's College, will be laid before you.

The course of the past year was marked by events so momentous in their character and which have exercised so wide and beneficial 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 crises of commercial embarrassment and distress.

The future prospects of New Brunswick greatly depend on the continued and improved culture of the soil; and the importance of Agriculture is not diminished by the increase of commercial activity in the Province.

The Fishermen 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. They will bear in mind that the Loan Duty was remitted at the commencement of 1854, and that many of the productions of the United States, and some other articles of very general consumption, without reference to the country from which they may be imported, have been since 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, trade and industry throughout the Province, the public revenue for the year 1854 is larger than that which was received for the preceding twelve months, and far exceeds the amount collected in any previous year. I congratulate you on this proof of the increased confidence 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 or 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 attach to them were the Executive Government subject to any special responsibility with respect to the appropriations of the Public Revenue, or the mode in which these revenues are to be raised. This is a subject worthy your consideration.

You must, I fear, be prepared to expect during the present year considerable reduction in the proceeds of any Customs Duties on articles of import. But I am confident you will uphold the credit and maintain the character of the Province by a scrupulous regard to 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 many roads and bridges in different parts of the Province. With the concurrence of my Council I made the necessary arrangements for the temporary repairs, or reconstruction of these works, the partial or complete destruction of which 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, was unusual in its extent, the bridges are frequently subjected to injury by events of a similar character. Moreover the cost of repairs, or reconstruction of bridges, consequent on the ordinary wear and tear of these works, amounts 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 reconstruction 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 repairs of the bridges when built, and rendering them less liable to accidental injury.

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The insufficiency of the existing system of audit, has during the recess, engaged my attention and that of my Council, and arrangements are now in progress which will, I trust, secure an adequate and efficient examination and supervision of the public accounts of the Province. I recommend you to consider whether the present system

of management of Roads and Bridges throughout the Province, is not susceptible of improvement. You may probably be able to devise means whereby increased efficiency may be given to this important department of the public service.