

"private and confidential" communications? We do not mean to say that General Godwin was so fettered; but we have reason to think it premature to blame that General for not having had recourse to more active measures. Military men of General Godwin's stamp scrupulously avoid anything in the shape of individual responsibility or risk. Aye, military men of even greater standing and repute are prone to do this, as witness Sir Joseph Thackwell (at Soodalapore), who, with the power of terminating at once the second Sikh campaign, conned over the instructions he had received from Lord Gough, and abided by them, to the very letter. If a healthier order of things existed in India, we should have a Commander-in-Chief whose faculties were equal to great emergencies, and whose judgment ought not to be subjected to the will of a Governor General utterly ignorant of matters military. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the forces in India, Sir W. Gomm, is probably at this moment presiding at a picnic party in the vicinity of Simlah, while a Divisional Commander is carrying on (or rather not carrying on) the war in Burmah under instructions from the late President of the Board of Trade, the Marquis of Dalhousie! Poor old Sir William Gomm, when he heard that the troops were about to embark for Rangoon, did, with characteristic kindness and good nature, intimate his intention of "seeing them off;" but Lord Dalhousie courteously dissuaded him from undertaking a journey which would be as arduous to His Excellency as costly to the East India Company.

The *Daily News* has an able article on the Burmese war; but it touches principally on the finance part of the business. The *Daily News* says:—

Lord Dalhousie, intends, it is said, to make the present war pay its own cost. So did Lord Amherst, in 1824-6; but he failed to do so, and Lord Dalhousie will also fail. For where is the King of Ava, golden-footed though he be, to procure such a sum as fifteen millions sterling? There is no such amount in all his dominions. In that case Lord Dalhousie threatens to annex whole provinces of the Burmese Empire. That, however, will aggravate, instead of diminishing the cost of this quarrel. For the financial results of all our recent annexations and absorptions have seriously increased instead of diminishing, the annual deficits in the Indian Treasury. Scinde, at the present time, is a burthen on the general revenues of India (beyond its receipts) of £200,000 a-year. In the Punjab the cost of its civil government alone nearly eats up all its revenue, and leaves almost the whole expenses of its military establishments, necessarily very large, to be provided for by what Lord Hardinge calls "the State," but what we prefer designating "the people of India." When Lord Dalhousie absorbed the little state of Sattarah, he led the Court of Directors to expect a profit of some £200,000 a-year from its acquisition. The result has, however, falsified his expectations; and the loss compels the court to upbraid his lordship by saying, "we certainly were not prepared to find that the annexation of Sattarah would entail a charge upon the general resources of India." What right, then, have we to expect profit to the government of India from

any territory we may acquire from the King of Ava? None at all.

THE KAFFIR WAR.

The war is not yet brought to a close. Operations of the most vigorous nature are, up to the last accounts, being carried on against the Kaffirs, who although repeatedly attacked, dispersed, pursued, and killed in great numbers, are neither, as yet, reduced to submission nor driven across the Kei.

It appears from the latest intelligence from the Cape that the anticipations so recently expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer respecting the Kaffir War have been premature. That savage tribe, although driven by the valour of our troops from their favorite strongholds, is still unsubdued. Their most celebrated chiefs are still at large, and although the number of their followers has been thinned by death and desertion, they have hitherto contrived to baffle the vigilance of their opponents. If Sir Harry Smith had remained at his post we should have probably known a good deal more of the position and relative strength of the contending parties. That gallant officer was communicative to a fault; and being, at the same time, a ready and graphic writer, he rendered us thoroughly acquainted with all the varied movements of this remarkable contest. The despatches of his successor present a striking contrast to the compositions of Sir Harry Smith. General Cathcart errs, perhaps, on the side of brevity; but no one can dispute that his government has been characterised by great energy and good sense; and we sincerely hope that, in a very short time, we shall hear that this costly, but inglorious war has been brought to a successful close.

AUSTRALIAN GOLD.

The accounts of gold in Australia become more marvellous than ever. The most recent accounts state that a few days later advices have been received, and it appears that even during that time new and extensive deposits have been discovered. Returns are also given of the amounts sent down by escort from Mount Alexander and Balarat mines, to the Colony of Victoria, to the seaport of Melbourne alone, from October, 1851, to the end of August, which show the steady increase of the yield. They were as follows:—

	Ounces.
October, 1851.....	18,482
November, ".....	60,878
December, ".....	169,684
January, 1852.....	107,216
February, ".....	111,778
March, ".....	123,778
April, ".....	135,112
May, ".....	138,906
June, ".....	162,990
July, " (after the rains).....	353,182
August, ".....	350,968

Besides 40,000 ounces from adjoining localities, making an aggregate of 1,771,974 ounces worth, £4 sterling, or \$20 per ounce. This, however, does not nearly represent the entire amount collected even in Victoria alone, since the miners retain considerable quantities in their own hands, and it is, consequently, estimated that the actual