BRITISH COLUMBIA AND VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

[From a Special Correspondent of the Montreal Transcript.]

Victoria, Vancouver's Island, February 3, 1859.

SIR,—I am happy to say that I am able to give you my opinion of British Columbia, as a Mineral and Agricultural Colony. I left for Langley on the 5th of January, per Hudson's Bay Company's steamer "Beaver."—We got there in about thirteen hours from Victoria. I remained there but a few hours, and left for Fort Hope. The same evening the Sappers and Miners, commanded by Captain Grant, and also Colonel Moody, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and Chief Justice Bigby, went up to Fort Yale to put down some disturbances between the Magistrates and Miners—the latter, headed by the celebrated Ned McGowan, of San Francisco. It was not until an additional force of one hundred marines was brought up that peace was restored at Hill's Bar.

On my way up, I took particular notice of the country on both sides of the Fraser River. On entering its mouth, the country on both sides is very flat and low, so that the greater part of the year it is flooded. As we approached Queensburgh, the proposed capital of British Columbia, the land becomes drier and more wooded. The town is situated on the north bank of the Fraser River, about 20 miles from its mouth. The country about Langley is very flat and favorable for farming. There are prairie lands through the whole country as far as the boundary line. Cattle here can be left out all winter. The Hudson's Bay Company have about three hundred head grazing through these lands. They have become quite wild, and the only means of getting them is by shooting. After leaving Langley, the country becomes very wild, more so than the "Gore" in the County of Argenteuil. I went up the Fraser River as far as Fort Yale, and I can assure you there are not two thousand acres of land on either side of the River suitable for farming. There is, however, a very large tract of prairie land and free from mountains, between Thompson's river and the Columbia range. I would not state this, had I not perfect confidence in my informant. Myself and a few other Canadians will, in a few days, present a petitioner to the Governor, desiring him (in his power) to reserve large tracts of land for British American colonists. I would be very sorry to see the very best of the lands bought up by our friends in Washington Territory; and I am sure if the lands are sold at auction, that they will be the purchasers.—The Government ought, in my opinion, to give those lands south of Fraser River only to true and lawful subjects of the Queen.—The Government price of lands in British Columbia is ten shillings per acre. But they must be all put up to auction. I would advise any friend of mine, who has a small parcel of land in Canada, to keep it; but any one who intends speculating on land, can do very well here. I saw lots at Langley that were bought for five hundred dollars, in a few months after drew in a rent of one hundred dollars per month. Any one with money here would make a fortune in a short time—parties pay 2½ to 3 per cent per month for money, and on that giving landed security.

At the time I went up Fraser River the water was very low, so much so, that steamers drawing two feet could not go any higher than the mouth of Harrison River. During my stay at Fort Hope, in the month of January and the first week of February, the thermometer never indicated any lower than 14° below freezing point (18° Fahr.)—and there might have been about four inches—an average depth—of snow on the ground.

I shall now give you an idea of the mines of British Columbia:—There can be no doubt as to the discovery of gold, and of its richness, but the thing is to *get it*. In the first place, a miner has to go through all the dangers of the Fraser's River and when he reaches his destination has to *work*. Up to this time no "dry diggings" of any importance have been discovered, so they must keep along the Rivers; and as these rise or fall very suddenly, many a poor miner has to move his rocker, &c. The "claims" on some bars have paid very well, some as much as sixty dollars per day, per man, that is with sluicing—with rockers, a man clears from five to eight dollars per day. When I say some "claims" pay sixty dollars per day, that is to say, after all labor &c., is paid, laborers receive four to five dollars a day. Those bars will soon be all worked out, unless dry diggings be discovered, I do not think British Columbia will stand out long. On the other hand if discovered no doubt it would become one of the wealthiest Colonies Britain possesses. There are, probably, about five thousand miners who have remained in British Columbia through the winter. Many a poor miner has been drowned in Fraser River without a soul knowing anything of it. [The letter here gives details of the freezing in of the steamer "Enterprise," in the ice of Fraser River, for a few days, and the loss of some of the passengers, who, although only 15 miles from Langley, lost their way in the woods, threw away their gold and perished of cold and hunger.]

With regard to the Government of British Columbia, the whole power is vested in the Governor and his Council, consisting of Col. Moody, Lt-Governor; Captain Gossett, Treasurer of the Colony; and Chief Justice Bigby. Nothing was done until Colonel Moody got here. It is only a few days since Queensburgh was made the port of entry for British Columbia; formerly all vessels for Langley had first to enter the harbour of Victoria, pay duty there, and get a clearance at Fraser River,—but, I am happy to say, has been done away with.

There is a very large emigration expected into British Columbia this spring. The only drawback with British Columbia is, that she has no good harbors. Vessels have a very difficult bar to cross on entering Fraser River; sailing vessels have to be towed in by steamers, the channel being very winding, and in some places only three hundred feet wide.

Now, having written a little of British Columbia, I suppose you would like to hear a little of this island [Vancouver.] Although here for a space of time, I have not been three miles distant from the town of Victoria. The harbour in the town is a very safe one to vessels once in it. At its entrance it is somewhat unsafe, on account of rocks in the channel. There is, however, a very large and safe harbor about three miles from Victoria called Esquimault. It could hold the whole fleet of the Pacific. There are at present four of Her Majesty's ships-of-war in the harbor, and others are soon expected.

The town of Victoria is mostly built of wood. There are three or four brick houses. The climate being so very mild, parties do not look out, when building, for warmth in their houses. I never saw houses put up with such rapidity as they are here. There is at present probably a population of three or four thousand in the town. The streets are mostly all macadamized, and the sidewalks finished. The Court House and Police Station will be completed in a short time; it is a large brick building facing the harbor. The Government House is, at present, a very small building. Town lots, at present, are drawing in a rent of $2 a foot frontage per month. Lots bought last June for $100, cannot now be got under 1,000 [one thousand dollars,] and from that up to $4,000. The whole of the land about Victoria, not reserved for Government or town, has been sold at $5 per acre; it cannot now be got under £10 an acre.

The country here is very well adapted for sheep grazing, but farmers must be always provided with some food for sheep during winter, in case of a fall of snow or hard frost. The Puget Sound Company are losing great many at present just on this account; they have on their farms some of the best "South Downs" and "Leicesters" I ever saw; the rams are imported. Vancouver Island is very deficient in horses and cattle. The only good horses here are brought from San Francisco and Oregon. An ordinary Canadian horse would command from $200 to $300.

The climate is very mild, the thermometer having been no lower than ten degrees below freezing point since I came here, on the 15th December last. I have, during that time, seen only two falls of snow, and then it disappeared in a few hours. Farmers are at present ploughing; the country is quite green and in fact this day put me in mind of our Canadian May days. I have seen flowers in the gardens all winter, so that you may fancy what sort of a country I am, at present, living in.

Yours, &c.,
ALLAN McDONALD.

ARMSTRONG'S CONFESSION.

To-day at 12 o'clock, noon, the prisoner Armstrong was brought to the Police office, before W. Mathews, Jas. Weyms, and Thos. Mair, Esq., for further examination, and after some prevarication gave the following statement, declaring that he had been led into the matter by the man Over, and that he had been so troubled about the dreadful crime that he had not slept a bit since the time of its perpetration. He appeared to be much excited during the time the magistrates were taking the statement, and frequently shed tears freely.

CONFESSION.

On Thursday, the 14th of April, 1859, I left town in company, with John Moore and Robert Over, and half-past eight; went first to the Railway track; walked along near the same, till we got to the Paris road; proceeded along pass the first toll gate; met no one before reaching it; Over asked me if I was a man; I answered I was; he again asked me if I could be depended upon; I told him I could; he then related to me what he was going to do; he said the mail came along there every night about ten or seven o'clock, in the care of one man, and it was the best strike we could make; I asked him how he was going to do it; he said we will make the mail man get out of the waggon, or I will make him tumble out; I said how will you make him tumble? he said it is easy; this old thing (pointing the gun,) never lies; and I said, good God don't shoot the man; he said it was the best plan, for dead men tell no tales; Moore then said we can spare the man's life, for there are three of us, and we must be poor men if we cannot make him give up the bags without killing him; Over then said again, if he sees us we are safe; I made answer that I would rather run the risk of him knowing me again, because murder can never be hid; Moore added words to the same effect; Over then then said that he would not kill him, but that we would see the consequences; I said again that I would run the risk of being found out from comparing his life; that I did not wish the man to be killed; we walked along till we heard the buggy coming; Over mounted out our stations; I was placed on the left of the road going up on the edge of it; Moore about twenty yards further west, on the right; Over was in the guilly on the right side, far her on than Moore; the waggon came up; Moore was lying down; I was standing; I expected Over to seize the reins of the horse, and demand him to stop; but he did not; the first thing was the report of one barrel of the gun in the hand of Over; in about five seconds I heard the second barrel; the horse in the meantime was going on. I jumped over the fence and ran about 15 rods back to Mr. Good's field on the right side of the road going up; I thought that if I did not return back Over would shoot me, for fear that I would appear against him if found out; when I came back Over said I was a smart man; I said I thought you promised that you would not shoot the man; he added, it is done now, and it is no time to talk; he was leading the horse down with the man in the waggon; just as Over was leading it the man fell out; he led the horse some eight or ten feet further—then let him go and turned back to the man and commenced searching his pockets, when I saw this I turned my back and said to myself, the man who can do this can do anything; I took hold of two bags; Moore one and Over one, with the gun; we went over with the bags to the South side and ripped them open with a knife [Over's] and begun to open the letters, taking from them all the money we found; had only opened one when a waggon was heard to pass going west and a man walking ahead of it; Over said we could not roost there any longer; we then passed over the Railway on the other side of the fence, and there opened the remainder of the bags; Over cut the bags, and Moore and myself opened and searched the letters; there was a $100 bill and $20, one, a two, and three ones that I had, which, together with what the other two had, as they said, made $150; we went towards town. Then I asked what we were going to do with this money; it is no good to us now, because every body knows that we are poor. Over said it was very easily arranged, for one of us could go to the States and get it changed for American coin; I said you can go, but I shall not, because it will be telegraphed all through, whoever goes to any part of the States will surely be arrested; Over made answer and said that is the way with black folks, they are all too chicken-hearted; I said that I would rather be chicken-hearted than have my head snapped; we then sat down near Lake's farm and divided the money, and only kept $10 for my share, and gave them the rest to get changed; I went back on Friday evening and gave them what I had, with the exception of a $1 bill. I said boys you had better take this money away or burn it up, for there is trouble ahead and I know it, Moore took the money; Over was not in the house at that time; Moore said in answer to me he thought so too, and that he would give Over the money and let him do as he had a mind to; there was no body but Moore and myself. I stopped some time at Rigg's and other places in town; I know nothing of the division of the money; I went home on Friday night between nine and ten, and saw nothing more of Over and Moore till Saturday, when I saw them in the lock-up. After dividing the money, we came to the south side of Lake's new fence, when Over proposed that we should hide the gun, which was done at the brow of a hill on George S. Wilkes' land. He climbed over the fence for that purpose. I went as far as Kerby's hill with Over and Moore, and got to the door of my house as the clock struck twelve. I never heard a word from Over or Moore, before that night, of any intention to rob the mail. Over promised faithfully not to kill the man, and Moore urged him also not to do so, had I thought he would, I would have returned. I saw the single barrelled gun at Over's house on Thursday night, when we left, and Over laid up on the loft. I have none of the money.

Having been first read over to me, I subscribe my name to this document as being correct in every particular.

JOSEPH A. ARMSTRONG.

THE BRANTFORD MURDER AND MAIL ROBBERY.

MOORE AND OVER AFFIRM THEIR INNOCENCE.

At six o'clock Armstrong, Moore and Over were brought to the Town Hall for the purpose of having the confession of Armstrong read to them. The Hall was densely crowded and much excitement prevailed. James Weyms, Esq., having read the confession, during which Moore and Over betrayed no change of countenance, they were asked by Mr. Mathews if they had anything to say regarding it.

Moore, in a tremulous voice,—I have nothing further to say than that I know nothing about it.

Over, in a firm voice,—Everything in that paper is false, and I know nothing more about it.

Armstrong was then asked by Mr. Mathews if his confession was true or not.

Armstrong—If there is a God in heaven every word there is true.

Moore, addressing Armstrong,—Do you say that I shot the man?

Armstrong—No it was Over.

The confession was then, at the request of Moore, read again by Mr. Mair, and both he and Over persisted that it was false. The prisoners were then all removed to the Gaol, followed by an immense concourse of people.

THE BOY BROWN'S EVIDENCE.

Charles Henry Brown sworn—I have lived in the house with John Moore, Robt. Over, Mrs. Sinclair, my mother and sister. I gather wood for the house and am home every night. On Thursday last Moore and Over went out to shoot, they said; John Moore loaded the double barrelled gun; he loaded both barrels, can't say whether the single barrelled gun was charged or not; Moore had a knife about eight inches long which he sharpened on Thursday; I went to bed quite early, and so did my mother; Mrs. Sinclair, my mother, Mrs. Over and my sister all went to bed; Over and Moore were out; I slept with my mother, little sister and Mrs. Sinclair; Mrs. Over slept alone; I was awakened by the bark of the dogs during the middle of the night; Moore and Over came home late in the night. Mrs. Sinclair got up and opened the door for them, and lighted the candle. The men and Mrs. Sinclair sat down about the stove. The men said that they were tired, and that the mail carrier was killed up on the Paris road, that he was shot. Over and Mrs. Sinclair went to bed first. Moore remained at the stove, and then slept on the floor. In the morning I was the first up. Moore in the morning said that he felt troubled, and Over said that he did not care. My mother heard them speak of the killing of the man. Moore and Over went away early in the morning before breakfast. They returned in an hour; my mother was up when they returned. Armstrong came to the house about supper time. He asked Moore for $2, which he got. My mother was present. I saw a good deal of money in Moore's hands. He turned the money over on his knee; Mrs. Sinclair looking at him at the time. Over was also looking on; Over's wife was there also. Over had a pile of bills also, but Moore had the largest. Over's wife looked at them in his hands. Moore told me he would whip me if I told any thing about what I heard, and my mother told me not to say anything. Moore said that he would hide his money. Mrs Sinclair said that it would be the best he could do. He gave Mrs. Sinclair one bill. Over gave his wife a number of the bills, which she put into her bosom; this was after dark on Friday night; Over and Moore went to bed quite early; Moore slept in a restless manner, he went out of doors on Friday morning, and said he was quite uneasy; Over said that he was all right; Moore said that he did not know who had killed the man, but that he had heard that it was a white man who had done so. On Saturday morning Mary Dean called at the house, and said that he had better leave, as the constables were after him. Moore gave my mother some silver to buy articles for the house. Moore and Over went after the gun on Friday morning; they brought the double barrelled gun back then; the single-barrelled gun they brought back in the night; they said that Armstrong was with them; the knife was brought back, and it is white handled. Over had his shot in a glass vial, and his powder in a horn.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

Friday, April 22.

About four o'clock to-day Mrs. Sinclair, and Mr. Moore were brought to the Town Hall, and had the evidence of the boy Brown read to them. Messrs. Mathews, Weyms, Laughrie, Broughton, and Yardington presiding.

The evidence being read to them the prisoners were asked what they had to say to it.

Mrs. Sinclair—I adhere to my former statement, and the evidence of my brother just read is false.

Mrs. Moore I know nothing of the matter at all.

Mr. Mathews then said to the prisoners, that although there was no evidence to show that they were aware of the murder being about to be committed, there was quite sufficient proof that they knew of it after, saw the money, and received a portion of it. This evidence would be laid before the coming Assizes.

Mrs. Sinclair—Yes, very well.

Mrs. Moore here cried and sobbed a great deal.

Mrs. Brown—That part of the evidence referring to my having seen the money is incorrect.

Mr. Weyms—The evidence is that of your own son.

Mrs. Brown—A boy will do anything when he is bribed.

Mr. Mathews—I suppose that what he says about the spoon is wrong also,—he says you took it.

Mrs. Brown—He would not say that to my face, or there will be another nigger hanged soon.

Mrs. Over—The statement is incorrect.

The prisoners were then all committed to take their trial at the Assizes.—*Brantford Courier.*

THE MURDER ON THE RAILWAY.

VERDICT OF WILFUL MURDER AGAINST LAWLOR.

(From the Spectator.)

The investigation into this bloody affray was closed last evening. One witness said that he was standing near Lawlor till after the fighting was all over and he (Lawlor) took no part in it. Deceased came into the house with a stick asking "Who struck White?" when Mrs. Quinn asked him why he came there to kick up a row, as he did before upon which he attacked her. She got the stick away from him and commenced beating him with it, he retreating backwards towards the door. While so doing Lawlor jumped forward from the place where he had been standing against the wall and fired the two shots, the last of which inflicted the fatal wound; deceased ran out of the door saying he was shot and fell about fifteen yards from the spot dying immediately.

Another witness deposed that he lent Lawlor the pistol, which was found on Tuesday near the house in which he boarded. The weapon is a small double-barrelled rifle-pistol and is stained with blood. Page in whose house Lawlor boarded, said he saw the pistol under his bed on Friday and Saturday and on Saturday afternoon he loaded it and fired at a mark in the house. After this he and another man made a number of bullets which they cut from a bar of lead, and hammered them round with a hammer and smoothing iron. When the pistol was found it was loaded to the muzzle and on drawing the charges the balls were found to correspond with the one found Duigh's body. The balls were identified as those made by Lawlor on Saturday. Mr. White the superintendant of the works who was engaged in the original fight arrested Lawlor and several others about two hours after the shooting. Subsequently, however, White called Lawlor out of the shanty in which he was confined and permitted him to go to his boarding house, which he left during the night and has not been seen since. The jury returned a verdict of wilful and premeditated murder against Patrick *alias* Edward Lawlor and White was held to bail in the sum of £200, to answer to any charge which might be brought against him. The jury drew up a presentment for presentation to the County Council calling their attention to the unlimited sale of liquor which is allowed on the whole line of the Hamilton and Port Dover Railway, and attributing the late fatal occurrance to this cause alone. Brennan and McGinnis have both been liberated, there being no ground for supposing that they were in any way implicated.

THE SUSPECTED MURDER IN ST. HYACINTHE.—The Granby (Eastern Townships) Gazette of the 22nd has this version of the suspected murder, which is no doubt the correct one:—

"Two weeks ago last Saturday (April 3d) Charant left his home in St. Charles, where he resides, for the purpose of purchasing a farm a short distance from St. Hyacinthe; arriving at the place, he left his horse, and proceeded on foot to St. Hyacinthe; while there he indulged pretty freely in the use of intoxicating drink; he put up at the British American Hotel, kept by Mr. Ewing, of which house he is the owner; in the course of the afternoon he received from Mr. Ewing some money for rent, in addition to which he had six or seven hundred dollars about him; when he came in for tea, he was somewhat intoxicated, but became perfectly sober while there; after tea he went out and proceeded to a low groggery, where he again got partially intoxicated, and became somewhat quarrelsome; about 10 o'clock he left in company with another man named Bourgard; they were followed by some of the police force, but a disturbance arising in the house they had just left, the police turned their attention to it; after quieting matters there, they again proceeded in the direction taken by Charant and Bourgard, which was toward the bridge; they had not proceeded far, however, when they met Bourgard returning alone; they asked him where Charant was, to which he replied that he (Charant) was safe enough, and would not trouble them any more that night, adding that his hat was in the river. Nothing more was said or done, till the following Saturday, when the man, with whom Charant had left his horse, came into town for the purpose of making some inquiries about him; suspicion was immediately aroused against Bourgard, and he was arrested and underwent a preliminary examination, at which the hat of the missing man, which had been found in the river four miles below, was produced and sworn to; all the evidence pointed so strongly against the prisoner that he was committed to Montreal gaol, to await further developments. In the meantime, search has been made for Charant, but up to the latest accounts nothing had been heard of him.

DISTRESSING AFFAIR.

A most distressing circumstance has just come to our knowledge of a little girl eleven years of age a daughter of Mr. John Montgomery in the Township of Mountain, having been missing since Wednesday the 13th inst., From what we can learn of this sad affair it appears that the missing girl had gone to Mr. Kennedy's house to assist Mrs. Kennedy, a relation of hers as they expected some men to work at a building they were to erect. On Wednesday the 13th she took a notion of going home, the workmen alluded to, not having made their appearance. The girl's Grandfather who lives with Mr. Kennedy went with her to see her through the bush, till he came in sight of the clearing, when he turned back. Nothing more was heard of her till Sabbath following when her mother sent some one with some thing for her to Mr. Kennedy's, but to their astonishment she was not there—she had, as stated, started home on the Wednesday previously. A search was immediately instituted unfortunately without success, the only trace found of her, is her shawl which was found in a burnt Swamp, of several miles in extent in the immediate neighbourhood into which she is supposed to have wandered when she lost her way. It is said that her Uncle heard her cries in the woods on the nights of Thursday and Friday, but not knowing that anybody was lost paid no attention to the cries he had heard.

We understand that they are searching the swamp in the hope of finding her.—*Ottawa Banner.*

THE BELLEVILLE MURDER—THE PRISONER CONVICTED.

The trial of Samuel Peter Rock, for the murder of Robert D. Dickie, in December last, came on this morning and continued until four p.m., when the jury retired, and after a few minutes absence brought in a verdict of guilty. Judge Burns at once sentenced the prisoners to be hanged on the day of June next. The prisoner showed the utmost unconcern throughout the trial, and also when sentence was being pronounced. The doors of the court room were kept locked and a large crowd were assembled outside of the court-house all day.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENTS—On Monday last a daughter of Mr. Wm. Dillon of Sherbrooke inhaled the steam from a tea-kettle which had been placed on a chair. A physician was called, but the child was so severely scalded internally that she died the next morning after enduring intense suffering.—*Sherbrooke Gazette.*

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday forenoon last Mr. Donald McCaskel of Sherbrooke while at work on the Railroad bridge below Melbourne, fell into the water a distance of about 60 or 70 feet. He rose to the surface and was seen to swim or float a short distance when he sank and his body had not been recovered at the time we write. He was about 25 years old, and his death is a severe blow to his parents and relatives.—*Sherbrooke Gazette.*

THE ALLEGED POISONING CASE IN LONDON.—The inquest on the remains of Mrs. Atkinson was resumed on Thursday last, when several physicians testified that only a small portion of mercury was found in the stomach and liver, but from the symptoms preceding death, they were of opinion that she died from poison of some description. The inquest was then adjourned until the 5th May. During the interval it is proposed to transmit the stomach and liver to Dr. Croft, at Toronto, for further examination.

INQUEST.—On Wedensday, Coroner Ferguson held an inquest on the body of an aged man appearently about seventy years of age, who was found on the Trent Road. A post mortem examination was held when it was found that diseased had died from disease of the heart Nothing was found on the body to enable the Jury to form any opinion as to who it was.

A lamentable accident occurred at the extensive Flour Mill in the Village of Delaware, County of Middlesex, on the afternoon of Thursday last, whereby the youngest son of Mr. Jacob Cummers lost his life by accidentally becoming entangled with some of the running machinery of the mill.

ADDITIONAL BY THE CIRCASSIAN.

Lord Canning gets an Earldom.

Parliament would be dissolved about the 21st April.

Judge Halliburton has been knighted.

Commissioner Reid had arrived in London, from China.

The asked for Russian Loan had reached London. The papers begin to throw cold water on it.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Congress had impeached Ex-Minister Colantes, and he was a prisoner.

The American ship Reindeer had been lost on the coast of Macilla. She was bound to San Francisco. Crew saved.

Liverpool, April 16, p.m.

The Africa took out the principal London papers of to-day.

Nothing of any importance has since transpired.

Liverpool April 18, 10 a.m.

The Royal Steamship Niagara from Boston via Halifax, will be up at noon.

There is no later commercial news than that forwarded on Saturday.

The political situation is unchanged and the negociations for the new Congress were progressing very slowly.

Several political prisoners in Prussia have been liberated. There is however no general amnesty.

The French squadron has sailed for the Mediterranean.

There is a rumor of a contemplated Prussian Loan, for military eventualities.

Liverpool, Saturday evening.

Flour steady. Wheat firm at full prices. Corn firm with more inquiry.

Provisions—Market steady.

London, Saturday evening.

The produce market to day is generally firm and unchanged.

Consols closed steady at 95¼ on money and account.

VERA CRUZ.

New Orleans, April 26.

The steamer which arrived here to-day brings advices from Vera Cruz to the 23rd, and from the City of Mexico to the 19th of April. The news is of no great interest and indicates a very decided change in the aspect of affairs in Mexico.

General Miramon had succeeded in forcing the lines of the Liberal Generals, Amphdia and L'Save, at Orizaba, and hastened to the capital, which city he reached on the 11th, with a diminished army. The victorious General had already commenced the work of slaughter, and was murdering peaceful foreigners indiscriminately. He had also issued a formal protest against the recognition of the Juarez Government. The exequator of Mr. Black, the American Consul General, had been withdrawn, and he banished from the country.

Mazatlan had been captured by Pesquierra. The English were threatening that and other Mexican pacific ports, and demanding payment of claims against them at Vera Cruz. Two matters are approaching a crisis—the British Minister had insisted on the full payment of all the claims of his countrymen, and had instructed the commander of the English Fleet at Vera Cruz to demand one and a half million dollars from the Custom House in that city, and in case of refusal to bombard the city. Juarez had withdrawn the exequator of the Spanish Consul at Vera Cruz.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

VIGOROUS PREPARATIONS FOR WAR!

DEPRESSION OF THE MONEY MARKET.

New York, April 26, 1859.

The steamship City of Washington, with Liverpool advices to the 13th, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon. Her news is three days later than by the last steamer.

War rumors have circulated to an alarming extent, but the latest reports are of a more pacific nature. The armament preparations continue with unabated vigor.

GREAT BRITAIN.—War was generally considered inevitable, and much depression prevailed until the 11th, when re-assuring rumors were current, and announcements were made that the concessions made by Austria in the preliminary considerations, gave renewed hopes for the meeting of the Congress, and caused considerable recovery in the funds at London and on the Continent.

Austria has proposed, and the other powers, it is said, have consented to a simultaneous disarming before the Congress meets.

The English Ministers have been pressed in Parliament to give a statement with regard to European affairs. They promised to do so on the 15th.

Parliament will probably be dissolved in about a week.

Electioneering is actively progressing.

The House of Commons has rejected a resolution in favor of the ballot by three majority.

The Indian loan of seven millions sterling has been formally introduced into the London market. The loan is for seven years, secured a four per cent. The London *News* intimates a supplementary loan of £5,000,000.

The Calcutta mails to March 9th have arrived in England. The Indian Government has imposed an increased duty on imports.

The Hong Kong advices by mail are to the 26th of February.

The January English mail had not arrived.

The supplies of tea were failing, all the tea districts having been swept, and the low qualities arriving show that there is little more to come. Considering the quality, the prices are extremely high. In the Bayshan districts, it is reported that the plants are suffering from drought.

FRANCE.—The Paris *Moniteur* publishes another official article to conciliate the German powers. France repudiates the idea of interfering with their independence.

Various warlike rumors continued to circulate from Paris.

The Bourse was buoyant on the 12th, three per cents closing at 68.

Sardinia has sent the Marquis D'Azeglia on a special mission to London.

The Vienna advices had been very warlike, but had slightly moderated at the close.

The Austrian troops in Lombardy continued to advance and threaten the frontier of Piedmont.

LATEST.

London, Wednesday, April 13, A.M.

A despatch from Paris says that England will propose the question of a general disarmament to the Plenipotentiaries.

The *Times* says, the pacific advices from Paris produced very little effect on English funds, on Tuesday. The public do not believe that Napoleon intends to promote a pacific adjustment on the basis that shall clearly recognize the treaty rights of Austria, and consequently such as can be accepted by that power, while it will utterly disappoint Sardinia if the arrangements were patched up to morrow, with the existing feelings of France, Austria, Sardinia and Russia left in play, the prospect of repose in Europe would not be in the slightest degree better than at this moment.

There was yesterday further unfavorable movements in the Prussian rates.

The correspondent of the *Herald* says that notwithstanding the pacific reassurances, warlike preparations continue in France on a tremendous scale. Troops are pouring into Lyons from all points.

The Paris *Patrie* which is the organ of Napoleon's private cabinet, speaks of a last and supreme effort which England and Prussia are making in behalf of peace. Referring to the Austrian proposition for a general disarmament, the *Patrie* asserts that France is still on a peace footing; she has collected no army on her frontier; and has not applied to the Legislature for war credit, while Austria, having increased her army in Italy to 100,000 men, might commence a campaign to-morrow. The *Patrie* concludes with a threat, saying that if Austria means that a general disarmament is to result in the maintenance of *statu quo* in Italy, and not resolving the imperious difficulties of the present situation, it must not be expected that France will be duped by such a demand.

GERMANY.—A letter from Munich states that the cavalry and infantry of the Bavarian army are to be placed on a war footing, and before the end of the month all Germany will be in arms.

COMMERCIAL.

Liverpool, April 13, 1859.

The Breadstuff market continue firm but quiet.

PROVISION MARKET.—Beef buoyant. There is a large speculative feeling, and holders demand an advance of 2½ to 5s. Pork quiet; holders demanding higher prices. Bacon quiet. Lard dull

PRODUCE MARKET.—Sugar quiet. Rice quiet. Coffee quiet.

Rosin dull. Spirits of Turpentine firm at 42s Manchester advices are not favorable. Markets generally quiet but steady.

London, April 13, 1859.

Consols are firmly held at 95¼. Money continues without change. There is a good demand for American securities. Market closed quiet but steady.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

New York, April 28.

The royal mail steamship Africa from Liverpool on the 16th inst., reached her dock at 6 30 p. m. Her news has been mainly anticipated by the Circassian.

The Dresden Journal alleges its acquintance with the fact that according to a recent counter proposal by France, which is also said to be seconded in other quarters, the Congress will assemble on April 23rd, at Carlsbroc, and commence operations by resolving on a general disarming.

The statement per Circassian is true that Austria positively refuses to join in the Congress unless there is a previous general simultaneous disarmament.

Paris despatches state that the progress of the negotations for the Congress is very slow, owing to the great difficulties to be overcome.

The London *Daily News* says it is just possible that the Congress may prepare and embitter instead of averting a war.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Herald* says there were reasons for believing Austria's proposals as to the points to be submitted to the Congress are wholly unacceptable to France.

The Paris *Patrie* says France cannot be expected to diminish her army nor to send back a single cannon to her arsenals.

GREAT BRITAIN.—In the House of Commons Lord Stanley stated that the duty on hardware in India was to be increased from 5 to 10 per cent., on both foreign and British manufacture.

It was intended Parliament should be dissolved on the 21st; in which case the borough elections would take place on the 27th April, and County elections on the 2nd of May.

Thirty of the Neapolitan exiles have left England.

Lady Morgan, the authoress, is dead.

FRANCE—All the French officers on leave have been ordered to join their ships forthwith.

A rumor was afloat that the Emperor would soon depart for Lyons.

The receipt of a memorandum from Count Buol, hostile to Piedmont, was spoken of.

Warlike materials were accumulating at Marseilles to an alarming extent.

Five steam frigates had gone to Algeria, supposed to bring troops back to France.

The *Memorial Deplimati que* had been allowed to resume its issue.

The *Daily News* correspondent says Lord Cowley and Count Walewski after a long discussion separated with the conviction that very serious difference of opinion exist between France and England.

Nine gun boats for the Adriatic are ordered to be made ready at Cherbourg without delay.

AUSTRIA.—The Archduke Albrecht had gone on a special mission to Berlin.

Austria was willing to make important concessions to Prussia on certain points in dispute, and a perfect understanding between them was considered highly probable.

Warlike preparations continued by some of the smaller German States.

The Bavarian army had been placed on a war footing.

The *Times'* Vienna correspondent states that during the last few days several of the leading papers had openly declared that the Germans would not shed one drop of blood either for the maintenance of the special treaties or for the Austrian concordat.

ITALY.—The political prisoners at Naples whose late was determined by the decree of the 18th ult., had received passports to the United States.

It was reported at Rome that the Pope would protest against the European Congress.

Sir Moses Montefiorre had arrived at Rome with a petition from the Jews in England and America, in favor of the boy Mortara.

Rumors were current that the King of Naples was either dead or in the last extremities. Nothing authentic however.

Holland and Belgium are said to have concluded a treaty for mutual defence in case of war.

RUSSIA.—The opening of navigation was anticipated in about eight days.

WALLACHIA.

St. Petersburg, April 12.

An infernal machine, supposed to have been intended for the Hospodar or Couza had been discovered, and seven persons were arrested.

EGYPT.—Advices are favorable to the Suez Canal. Public functionaries were ordered to assist M. Lesseps, and the Governor of Suez had been deposed.

The attack on Sargon took place February 17th, and was perfectly successful. Nine forts strongly armed were cannonaded and stormed.

The French loss was small, but the enemy's was heavy.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Letters add nothing of moment to accounts already published.

At Amoy trade was stopped by report, that a body of rebels had attacked Chung Chow—report required confirmation.

We passed on the 25th, the steam frigate Curacoa, bound east.

LATEST PER AFRICA.

The Paris correspondent at Paris of the *Daily News* says, the result of the second meeting of conference is, that England, France Russia, Prussia and Sardinia recognize the double election of Conhea. Austria and Turkey stood aloof.

A St. Petersburg despatch of the 14th, announces that in consequence of a victory by General Torengel, two thousand Circassians had come into the Russian camp.

The *Times* Paris correspondent describes the aspect of affairs as so sombre, as to justify the renunciation of all hopes of peace.

Five thousand more troops arrived in Marseilles from Algiers.

ARRIVAL OF THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ST. LOUS, April 29.

Advices from Leavenworth state that a portion of the locating party which was dispatched by the Overland Express Company, returned to that city yesterday bringing intelligence to the 9th of April from Denver city.

They report that the route is in every way adapted to the requirements of travel—grass, wood and water are abundant.

The stages which left here on the 18th had passed near the head waters of Solomon's Fork and were getting along quite well. The accounts from the new mining regions continue encouraging. There is no diminution of confidence among the miners and flattering reports continued to come in from the mountains.

The richest prospects were found in the vicinity of the South Pass and Arrapho, but the ground was still frozen and the snows were heavy.

Three men were hung at Denver City on the 9th by a vigilence committee for murder causing great excitement, when informent left large numbers of emigrants were pushing the new road. The surveyors have estimated the maximum distance from Leavenworth to Denver City at 500 miles. Martin Fields of this City is in Boulder City.

The SantaFe mail of the 11th reached independence this evening. The blacksmith and carpenter shop of the military department was burned on the 16th instant. Loss not stated.

LATEST FROM FRASER.

From the Victoria Colonist, March 12.

The steamer Beaver, Sinclair, arrived from Langley last evening at 4 p.m., with 40 passengers. and about $40,000 in gold dust, I reports as much more lately brought down the river to Langley.

Mr. Smith of the Pioneer Express reports having found going up the river, about one and half miles below Sea and Bird Bar, the dead body of a man supposed to be an Irishman who formerly resided at Emory's Bar. From appearance he was drowned about two weeks previously. No papers or marks were found on his body. His pockets were cut out.

Trade is very brisk at Fort Yale. Miners were all going up the river. Some 50 or 60 boats were in the Canon waiting to get over the little falls. A derrick had been rigged up at that point to hoist the boats and facilite getting over the falls.

Business dull at fort Hope, most of the boats going on to Yale. Some 50 boats were passed going up the river, averaging about 6 men each.

Reports of rich digging in the Canoe country. Men were making $50 a day there. A specimen of coarse gold was found weighing 6 ozs; general average from a bit to $20.

The country below fort Yale is fast being deserted. The miners are all going above. At Emory's Bar, where nearly 500 men lived during the winter, there are scarcely thirty—all gone up the river. Those that remain are doing tolerably well. The weather was disagreeable, but the ground was not frozen. Snow on the mountains.

At Victoria Bar and Prince Albert Flat, water ditches were completed this week, to supply the miners.

Notwithstanding all the difficulties which the miners have to overcome, more gold is taken out now in the mines of British Columbia, in proportion to the number at work, than in California.

The Court was sitting at Langley, Judge Begbie presiding. Indictments were found by the Grand Jury against two men named Jones and O'Farrell. Jones' trial was put off to allow time to procure witnesses, and he was brought down to Victoria on the Beaver. O'Farrell was tried, but the jury failed to agree, four were for acquiting and eight for manslaughter. He was to have a second trial on Friday.

The public buildings in Queenborough, were in course of erection.

At New Langley the Church and other public building were going up.

BURGLARY IN BATH.—The post office in the village of Bath was burglariously entered on Tuesday the 19th inst., at about half past 11 o'clock, P. M., and the office type and 20 dollars in Money taken away. The instruments to effect the entrance appear to have been an augur and chisel. Stenson's Hotel was next visited; entrance was obtained through an east window and the bar deprived of two decanters of brandy, and fifteen pence in coppers. The store of E. D. Priest, Esq was next broken open and the robbers snatched a gold watch from his bed side, but being alarmed, hastily retreated through a window, leaving an augur behind them. No clue has as yet been obtained that may lead to the capture of the perpetrators.

DR. KING.—A rumor that King had attempted to escape from the gaol has been acurrent in town for some days. The report has no foundation in fact. He is visited daily by clergymen of various denominations who take an interest in his spiritual welfare. Archdeacon Bethune was with him last week, and we understand that his attempts to awaken the better feeling of his nature were not not altogether fruitless. He still persists in his declarations of innocence; and shows those who call upon him the flattering letters he has received since his incarceration, from men of position in Canada and the United States. There is not the slightest reason to believe that the executive clemency will be exercised in his case, and this fact the clergymen impress upon his mind.—*Port Hope Guide.*

FELLOWES TRIAL.

It will be seen by our Toronto correspondent's letter, that the notorious scoundrel Fellowes, is to be tried at L'Original, next week. The outrageous election frauds perpetrated in Russell, have brought disgrace upon this section of Canada. The guilty party ought to be severely punished. However, Fellowes is fortunate in having to appear before Mr. Justice McLean. If pronounced guilty, he will not run much risk of getting a more severe sentence than he deserves.—*Ottawa Citizen.*

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A boy, aged 9 years, Clement Wilkinson, was