

burg that the effective army of Russia amounts, at the present time, to 650,000 men. Of this force it is ascertained that there are 140,000 in the Crimea, and that already General Luderer and General Grabbe, the former with 80,000, the latter with 60,000, are advancing to the relief of the garrison of Sebastopol by forced marches.

A despatch from St. Petersburg states that the British ships bombarded Krasnaja Gorka on the forenoon of the 3d inst., for five hours. They destroyed the telegraph station and barracks.

Despatches from Stockholm and Hamburg concur in stating that on the 22d inst., the English bombarded and set fire to Lovisa, a small town in the duchy of Finland, on the gulf of the same name, situated at about sixty kilometres from Helsingfors. The town was completely destroyed. It was built in 1745, and contained about 6,000 inhabitants.

The latest news from the fleet is a despatch dated Danzig, July 12, telling us that "Admiral Baynes's squadron has left Nargen to join Admiral Dundas off Cronstadt. Admiral Baynes's eyesight will be preserved. The fleet is healthy."

In a correspondence interchanged between Admirals Penard and Dundas and the Russian Minister of War, Prince Basil Dolgorouki, and arising out of the Hango massacre, the latter lays down the rule that no flag of truce will hereafter be respected by the Russian authorities in the Baltic, except at Cronstadt, Sweaborg, and Revel. The English and French Admirals remonstrate against such a restrictive use of the pacific signal, as contrary to all hitherto-recognized modes of communication with a belligerent Power, and as tending to aggravate the evils of war. They therefore, throw upon the Russian Minister the responsibility of any misfortunes that may arise out of such a very limited measure.

CANADA.

DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION.—We perceive by the Brockville Recorder that the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville has taken the matter up and passed the following resolution:

Mr. Hicock moved, seconded by Mr. Leach, "That whereas this Council exceedingly regrets the unprecedented extravagant grants and waste of the people's money by the present and former ministers of the crown at Quebec, aided by the people's representatives in Parliament who had promised better things on the hustings: And whereas the Union of Upper and Lower Canada has always given a power to the latter to have their demands immediately satisfied, to the great injury and injustice of Upper Canada,—Resolved, that the clerk of this Council be requested to draw up an humble petition to Her Majesty the Queen, signed by the Warden and Clerk, on behalf of this Council, humbly beseeching Her Majesty that she will be graciously pleased to recommend the passage of an act by the Imperial Legislature, to unite the whole of the British North American Provinces, or otherwise that Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to cause the dissolution of the union of Upper and Lower Canada, so that the inhabitants of these Provinces of British origin, or who speak the English language, may have their wishes and interests honestly attended to, and that they may be enabled to receive that justice to which they believe themselves entitled. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the several County Municipalities of Upper Canada, requesting their concurrence therein."

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The English mail which arrived last week, caused great disappointment to numbers of our citizens, by the non-appearance of their usual supplies of newspapers. At first it was supposed that some of the bags had been left at Halifax; but eventually it turned out, that the failure of news, resulted from the operation of the Act of Parliament, recently passed, regulating the stamps on Newspapers and their transmission through the Post Office. This act permits the publication of newspapers in Great Britain, either with or without stamps, at the pleasure of the publisher; but no unstamped papers can be transmitted by post; and not only must a penny stamp be printed on the paper, to qualify it for such transmission, but an additional penny postage must also be prepaid on every paper, or otherwise it will be treated as dead matter, and will not be sent at all. This regulation applies to all newspapers to and from the Colonies; so that henceforth no papers will pass through the Post Office to and from Great Britain, without the pre-payment of a penny postage. The effect of this new Law will be, to give cheap Newspapers (unstamped) to home consumers in the Mother country, at the expense of an odious tax on all Colonists; the deficiency in the revenue, caused by the abolition of stamps at home, being compensated by the imposition of an unjust and impolitic postage on all papers to and from the Colonies. Thus while the popular outcry against "taxes on knowledge" in England has procured the abolition of such imposts in favour of home consumers; it has resulted, with blundering unfairness and inconsistency, in increasing the tax on knowledge payable by the poor Colonists; who more especially need every facility for obtaining cheap news. At the present time, when information of the progress of European events is so critically important and interesting, the imposition of this odious tax on the Colonies, is more especially ungracious and impolitic, and it appears also to be a very ungrateful return for the liberal pecuniary contributions so readily and generally made by the Colonies, in aid of the Anti-Slavery Fund. Our own thin-peopled Province has contributed no less than £7000 sterling to this noble object; £4000 having been voted

by the Legislature, and £3000 raised by voluntary contributions, and just transmitted by the Government. and in return for our exertions in this respect, we are called upon to pay a new and most unpopular tax, or be deprived of newspaper intercourse with the Mother country. We hope that the Imperial Legislature and Government will quickly perceive the oppressive injustice of this measure, as regards the Colonies; and promptly redress the grievance. Petitions or remonstrances against this oppressive tax should forthwith be forwarded to the Imperial Government through the Provincial Executive.—St. John Observer.

SYDNEY, C. A., JULY 28, 1855.

THE BISHOP'S VISITATION.—The Right Reverend Doctor Binney, Bishop of Nova Scotia, arrived in Town, in the Steamer Merlin from Halifax, on Saturday last, and immediately repaired to the residence of the Rev. R. J. Unisacke, the Rector of the Parish, and where he will remain while here.

His Lordship commenced his Episcopal labors, on this occasion, in this section of his Diocese, with his accustomed earnestness and acceptability, on Sunday morning following, at St. George's Church, which was filled to its utmost capacity by an attentive Congregation. Divine Service was conducted by the Reverend the Rector. At the ending of the second lesson, the Sacrament of Baptism was administered by the Bishop to an adult. At the conclusion of morning Prayer the Bishop addressed the Parishioners generally on Church matters; and also adverted to the subject of Baptism, on which point he enforced the necessity of a strict observance of the custom of the Church of presenting infants for the Holy Sacrament, and concluded by insisting on the entire erroneousness of those views which led many to defer this Ordinance. His Lordship addressed the Candidates for Confirmation immediately after, on the nature and responsibilities of their past engagements, which they then wore, for themselves, about to ratify, and described the comforts which would assuredly follow a correct and sincere appreciation and observance of the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation. The Bishop then proceeded to the "laying on of hands," and having there-by Confirmed over 20 young persons, he ended this solemn and impressive Service with the usual prayers. His Lordship subsequently preached an instructive, heart stirring, and Evangelical Sermon, from the 1st and 2nd verses of the 6th Chap. of 2nd of Corinthians.

In the afternoon the Bishop preached in the Schoolhouse, at Coxheath; and again in the evening, at St. George's Church in Sydney.

Louisburg, Main-a-dieu, and Cow Bay, have severally received the Episcopal visits of the Bishop, during the present week, according to previous appointment.

His Lordship will hold Confirmations to-morrow, [Sunday,] in the forenoon, at the Sydney Mines, and in the afternoon at the N. W. Arm, and will preach in the St. George's Church, Sydney, in the evening.

We cannot conclude this brief outline of the doings of our esteemed Diocesan, without recording, with feelings of pleasure, the evidence of increasing interest, on his part, in all that relates to the spiritual welfare of his people; and the fact of the full appreciation, on their part, of that zeal and devotedness that render Bishop Binney's Episcopal Ministrations so comforting and delightful. We feel certain that all feel grateful to Providence for enjoying the benefit of so judicious and exemplary a Diocesan as his Lordship.

On Monday last, the Bishop was waited upon by the Church Wardens, Vestry, and several of the parishioners, and was presented with a very numerously signed Address, which was read by the Reverend the Rector.—C. Breton News.

[The Address and Reply will be published next week.]

Editorial Miscellany.

A notice from the Provincial Secretary's Office, states, that on Tuesday the 14th instant, being the day named for the Regatta, under the patronage of their Excellencies the Lieut. Governor and The Admiral, the public offices and warehouses will be closed.

The Foreign Legion, and Volunteers for the Artillery for the Crimea, will embark this day for England, on board of the William M. Rogers.

A serious Fire took place in St. John, N. B. on Sunday morning last, in Water-street, on Merritt's & Leavitt's wharves—by which a number of buildings were consumed, and property sacrificed to the amount of eight or ten thousand pounds.

TENDERS will be received by the Government of Prince Edward's Island, from persons willing to bore for coal to the depth of 3000 feet if required, at places indicated by the Government.

Geo. E. Egan, Esq. has been appointed Lloyd's Agent at Arichat—a better selection could not have been made.

Intelligence has been received of the death of the Hon. G. R. Street, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this Province. There is a great deal of speculation as to who will be his successor.—St. John Church Witness, August 1.

A young man in the employ of Mr. Robert Davis, engaged at work on the site of the Lunatic Asylum, Dartmouth, was so badly hurt on Wednesday by a portion of rock falling upon him, as to cause his death shortly after.—Chron.

A short time since there was a tragical occurrence in Brooklyn, near New York—two persons, a man and woman, having committed suicide in the parlour of the parents of the man. The cause was supposed to be misplaced affection, and parental opposition to an improper matrimonial connexion—Much obloquy was subsequently cast upon the clergyman who officiated at the funeral of the woman, it being alleged that in his "improvement of the occasion" he had shown himself to be a friend of sinners, an apologist for suicide, and forgetful of his own duty and of the Church at whose altars he ministered. The Clergyman was an Episcopalian, and our friend over the way, whose love "embraces all denominations, and their peace and prosperity affords him unmingled delight," took an opportunity in the gulleless simplicity of his heart to coarsely propagate the slander. Knowing that no clergyman of our Church would wilfully make himself amenable to such a charge, and that it must have originated in malicious intention, we patiently waited an explanation or refutation, and both we now find in the following Communication in the Episcopal Recorder, from the clergyman alluded to, the Rev. Robert J. Walker, Rector of the Church of the Messiah, Brooklyn, who says:

"To those who know me I shall deem my past life a sufficient vindication from these charges. To those who do not, a proper respect for my clerical position demands a brief statement of the facts.

"The tragical death of two persons in my immediate neighborhood was reported to me soon after the event, and I in company with others repaired to the spot. Rumor was busy as to the cause of the catastrophe, and of the characters of the parties involved in it. Of them personally, I knew nothing. The female was said to have been identified as the sister of one moving in highly respectable life. Late in the evening of the same day I was called upon with the request that I would permit the funeral services to take place from the Church of which I am the Rector, as it had been found impracticable to hold them within a private dwelling. To this request I consented, and under the impression that the services would be conducted in a private manner, and probably attended by but few persons, I was then desired to officiate upon the occasion. My reply was, that as the death of the deceased was probably caused by her own hand, I could not read the burial service of the Church over her remains, but that I would in some form accede to their wishes. As the hour for service approached, the Church was filled to overflowing, by an audience whose sympathies were evidently strongly moved. I acknowledge that my own heart was deeply touched, as I deemed the person whose remains were before me, one whose wrongs had been many, and in a moment of strong temptation had either taken her own life or yielded it under the infatuation of a misplaced attachment. Facts which have since come to light were then unknown to me. Had they been possessed they would have materially changed my course of action.

"The services consisted of a series of prayers selected from the collects, the 15th chapter of 1. Cor. was then read and followed by an address. Of the last I will only say that it was extemporaneous, and had for its design not an eulogy upon the dead, but a warning to the living. All that I did say, I cannot recollect, but I am sure that my theme was the duty of all to bear up under the ills of life with a spirit of christian resignation founded upon the facts that God is the disposer of all our allotments, that no trials however heavy can be of long duration, and that under no circumstances should we for a moment entertain the thought of taking our lives into our own hands.

"It is true that I remarked upon the duty of charitable judgment in reference to the deceased, which veiling the future left her in the hands of that Judge of all the earth that doeth right.

"Such, Mr. Editor, are the circumstances under which I acted, and the general tenor of the remarks made upon an occasion which has called forth much more criticism than the case demanded, and I must add, in some quarters in a different spirit from what I conceive to be either charitable or becoming.

If we find any fault ourselves with the Rector, it is because he entered too warmly into the popular sympathy at the moment of the tragedy, which, as sometimes happens, appears not to have been in accordance with the facts connected with it which came out afterwards. The Church enjoins a burial service for the dead, and when that was not deemed appropriate, it would have been much better not to have departed from usage. An address, if at all advisable, should have been in reprobation of the crime, and pointing out its fearful eternal punishment. While the tragedy itself stands out prominently as a warning to evil doers, this notice of it may have the effect of directing the judgment of others, who in the retributive dispensations of the Almighty, may in their clerical capacity be placed in similar circumstances to the Rector of Brooklyn.

The Halifax Volunteer Artillery Company, had a very creditable practice yesterday, on the Common, and fired 40 rounds.