

Latest from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA AT HALIFAX

INTERESTING NEWS.

The steamship Asia arrived at Halifax on Wednesday, bringing dates to the 23d December.

The Baltic arrived at Liverpool on the 20th. The Glasgow, from the Clyde, sailed on the 19th. The Red Jacket would sail on the 22d for Australia. The City of Manchester sailed on the 20th for Philadelphia.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Parliament was opened on the 19th Dec. by Her Majesty in person, with the following Speech:—

My Lords and Gentlemen—I have called you together at this unusual period of the year, in order that, by your assistance, I may take such measures as will enable me to prosecute the war in which we are engaged, with the utmost vigour and effect. This assistance, I know will be readily given, for I cannot doubt that you share my conviction of the necessity of augmenting my forces now engaged in the Crimea. The exertions they have made, and the victories they have obtained, are not exceeded in the brightest pages of our history, and have filled me with admiration and gratitude. The hearty and efficient co-operation of my brave ally, the Emperor of the French, and the glory acquired in common, cannot fail to cement more closely the union which so happily exists between the two nations. It is with satisfaction that I inform you that, together with the Emperor of the French, I have concluded a treaty of alliance with the Emperor of Austria, from which I anticipate important advantages to the common cause.

I have also concluded a treaty with the United States of America, by which subjects of long and difficult discussion have been equitably settled. These treaties will be laid before you. Although the prosecution of the war will naturally engage your chief attention, I trust that other matters of great importance to the general welfare, will not be neglected. I rejoice to observe that the prosperity of my subjects continues uninterrupted. The state of the revenue affords me entire satisfaction, and I trust that by your wisdom and prudence you will continue to promote the interests of agriculture, commerce and manufactures.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons—I in the estimates which will be presented to you, I trust you will find that ample provision has been made for the exigencies of the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen—I rely with confidence upon your patriotism and public spirit. I feel assured that, in the momentous contest in which we are engaged, you will exhibit to the world the example of a united people. Thus we shall obtain the respect of other nations, and may trust that, by the blessing of God, we shall bring the war to a successful termination.

The passage relative to the victories of the Crimea, which Her Majesty declared had filled her with gratitude and admiration, was delivered with graceful emotion.

Her Majesty having delivered her speech, rose, and giving her hand to Prince Albert, left the House. The Assembly then dispersed.

THE WAR.

A Vienna semi-official despatch states that Prussia does not adhere to the triple treaty, but will renew negotiations on her own account with France and England. In confirmation thereof Baron Von Uxedom has already arrived in London, charged with special mission from Prussia.

The following despatch from Admiral Hamelin appeared in the *Moniteur* of the 25th:—

KAMISH BAY, Dec. 12th.—A severe cannonade has been going on; two sorties of the Russians had been vigorously repulsed.—The enemy was received by a well sustained fire of musketry, and they were driven back at the point of the bayonet after an obstinate struggle.

AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

A letter from Jassy of the 9th, in the *Augsburg Gazette*, states that great activity has been perceptible among the Austrian troops of occupation, some regiments having advanced to the fortified points of the Sereth, and extended their advanced posts even as far as the Pruth.

The following important statements are from Lord John Russell's speech in the Commons on Friday night:—

My belief is, that, although not contained in the literal terms of the treaty, Austria will find, that, as we not propose to diminish the territory of Russia; as we propose to leave her a great and powerful State, and only demand securities, which are as necessary for Austria as they are for England and France, unless Russia shall consent to such fair and moderate terms as it will be our duty to propose whenever a Minister of the Emperor shall declare that he is directed to enter into negotiations—if, I say, these terms are not accepted by the Emperor of Russia, I anticipate that we shall have before the opening of the next campaign the alliance of Austria with us on the offensive and defensive.

SEBASTOPOL.

Nov. 25th.—The war correspondent of the *London Times* says, although it may be dangerous to communicate facts likely to be of service to the Russians, it is certainly hazardous to conceal the truth from the English people that they must know sooner or later that the siege has been for many days practically suspended—that our batteries are used up and silenced, and that our army is much exhausted by the effects of excessive labor and watching, by wet and storm, to which they have been so incessantly exposed.

The Russians know this well enough. The relaxation of our fire is self-evident, but our army, though weakened by sickness, is still equal to hold its position and to inflict chastisement on the assailants who attempt to attack them. Nothing would so animate our men, destitute of all stimulating influences beyond those of undaunted spirits, as a prospect of meeting the Russians outside of their entrenchments, and deciding the campaign by the point of the bayonet. Last night there was a brisk skirmish between the Chasseurs de Vincennes and the Russian riflemen in front of Flag-staff Battery earth-works, and the Russians expelled all our reports about their want of powder and ball, by a most tremendous cannonade. Assaults and counter-assaults continued amid furious fire, which lighted up the sky with sheets of flame from nine o'clock at night till four in the morning. The French actually penetrated behind the outer entrenchments, and established themselves for a time within the enceinte, but as there was no preparation for a general assault, they withdrew. Volleys of musketry and salvos of cannon roared through the camp during the whole night, but few lost their rest in consequence, for those affairs are now of nightly occurrence.

Nov. 26th.—The fight between the French and Russian riflemen, aided by artillery, was renewed last night; as usual, the object of contention is the Mud Fort near the Quarantine Battery, which the French persist in holding, although useless. Preparations for the renewal of a general bombardment are proceeding from day to day. The great obstacle is the bad state of the roads.

Nov. 27th.—Nothing occurred.

Nov. 28th.—During the day the Russians fired on the British about one gun per five minutes. The English look-out-man cries Tower, Redan, or Gardens Battery, and the shot is returned; but the fire on the French is much more lively, and is kept up with some effect on their earth-works and parallels. Every night about nine o'clock, the Flag-staff, Quarantine and Wall Batteries open a furious cannonade, which lasts from 30 to 45 minutes, as hard as men can load the guns, right into the French lines, and then follows instantly a rally, the result of which is invariably that the Russians push a strong column out of the place, and rush towards the first line, drive in the pickets and riflemen, get up the first parallel, sometimes into it occasionally beyond it, and close to second parallel, when they are received as they advance by the French covering parties with a deadly fire—they halt and fire in return; they are then charged by the French, who route and pursue them into the town, but who are obliged to retire by the flank fire of the batteries and street guns. In this way the French lose forty or fifty men, but the loss of the Russians in these sorties must be considerable. Frequently about day-break the Russians repeat the performance.

Nov. 29th.—Storms of wind and rain.—The Russians have much strengthened their defences; they have scarped the ground in front of all their batteries; have constructed strong abatis in front of their lines; have thrown up numerous earth-works, and made numerous batteries before all their redoubts and along the scarp of slopes. During the night, a particularly strong sortie was made on the French, who, hearing a noise, a French Rifleman crept forward and saw a column of Russians, 2000 strong, forming in the rear of the battery. The French, therefore, 700 strong, silently mounted the parapets of their own batteries, and received the Russians with a deadly volley—then leaping down attacked them with the bayonet and compelled them to retreat.

Nov. 30th.—A heavy fire was kept up on the French during the night. The Grand Duke Michael was observed making a reconnaissance at a thousand yards.

Dec. 1st.—More rain, the roads preventing the arrival of supplies. Part of the British put temporarily on short allowance. The deaths from fever and cholera sixty daily.

Dec. 2nd.—Continued rain. The besiegers began to erect huts for shelter. Deserters say that the condition of the Russians in the field is worse than that of the Allies. Much bell ringing and rejoicing heard in Sebastopol during the night: supposed to be in consequence of the arrival of provisions.

Dec. 5th.—The Russians made a sortie against the French lines, when eight divisions of the French line, under Gen. Ferrie, repulsed them with much loss.

Dec. 7th.—The *Paris Moniteur* says that the besiegers' batteries are re-established, and before three days firing will be resumed.—The Allies are sufficiently entrenched, and provisioned to remain throughout the winter.

Dec. 13th.—A Russian despatch states that up to the 13th, nothing of importance had occurred before Sebastopol. Some small sorties had been successful, in one of which the Russians captured some small mortars and spiked others larger. The fire of the allies continued feeble.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS, a Cure for Asthmatic Coughs and Disorders of the Chest and Lungs.—Henry Thompson, of High Street, Birmingham, thus writes to Professor Holloway:—For upwards of five years I suffered severely from Asthma, attended with violent cough, the trying nature of my occupation also tended much to weaken me, and I became a mere skeleton; having relations to benefit, and returned here (business compelling me) in a worse state than when I left. Despairing of being benefited, I tried your Pills, and rubbed some of the Ointment on my chest and throat. I obtained considerable relief after the first fortnight, and in eight weeks was completely cured. I am now in excellent health and strength.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—"A Freeholder" is received, and we would be happy to publish his letter in our present number but it must be re-written before it can be placed in the compositor's hands, as the paper is so thin that the writing is difficult to decipher.

The Standard.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1855.

THE RAILROAD.—It is not unnatural in the absence of full information on the subject, that some mis-apprehension should have arisen in the minds of a few, with regard to the startling piece of intelligence relating to the Railroad which we published last week, nor is it a matter of surprise to us, that such should be the case, for, so utterly incredible does it appear, that men would reject the greatest good that can befall them, that it is no wonder, many on the first blush of the thing, have concluded that there must be some reasons, of which they were unaware, for the refusal of the offer which it is stated that Mr. Byrne submitted to the Board.

In reality, however, Mr. Byrne made no proposition at all, but merely signified his acceptance on behalf of "Class A." of the terms which the Directors of this Board, themselves had submitted to them;—and therefore it is, now that we find the Board playing fast and loose in such an unaccountable manner, that we feel it our duty to analyse such strange and extraordinary conduct, and place the public, and such of the stockholders who are unable, or have not the opportunity to investigate our Railroad affairs in full possession of the position they really stand in.

It has long been acknowledged by every one—not only that it is impossible for this section of the Company to provide any further assistance towards the construction of the Road, but that the Board of Directors in this Province is actually an hindrance to the active prosecution of the undertaking. We believe that every Director has frequently both publicly and privately expressed his earnest desire that Class A should take the entire control, and individually has signified his willingness to yield up everything to them, could they be induced to do so: nay, they have done more, by passing a solemn Resolution asking the Class A to take the undertaking into their own hands. It is this request, submitted by themselves, and acceded to by Mr. Byrne, on behalf of the English Stockholders, that the Board, blind to the inconsistency of their own conduct, and self-indifferent to the welfare and prosperity of the Town now decline to accede to.

It is difficult to assign motives for any man's actions, but in every matter that nearly and deeply affects himself, every one is justified in forming his conclusions upon open facts, and on the known character of the individuals he has to deal with. In this matter "our Railroad, which is of such vital importance to us all, we cannot allow any trifling or tergiversation; and therefore we frankly and fearlessly assert, that no adequate reason can be assigned for the late ridiculous decision of the Board—save perhaps, self-interest in a few, and a paltry pride and love of power in others,—unless indeed, it be, that they are perfectly incapable of understanding what they are doing, and have done;—and which we are free to admit—appears to have been unfortunately only too often the case.

With no settled policy or distinct object in view, they but temporized to keep themselves in office, regardless of the faith of engagements, and indifferent to the dictates of prudence and propriety; totally without precision, they live but from day to day, and instead of being prepared for circumstances as they arise, are only occupied—alas, how unsuccessfully,—in trying to patch up the disasters which their own blunders have created.

It is almost impossible, to find a parallel for the absurd position in which the Board now stands. They make a formal and solemn offer to class A, declaring on every occasion their earnest desire that it should be accepted, and proclaiming their belief, not only that it affords the only hope of ever finishing the Road, but that unless it be acceded to, the English stockholders must lose all they invested. At last, when hope had almost died out of every bosom, and despair seemed to pervade the whole place, the long delayed acceptance is sent in—when lo! like children who refuse to give up the plaything they have broken to have it mended—the Board decline to accept the boon they themselves have craved, and like the child with his toy, cling to the idle power they cannot use, rather than transfer it into those hands in whose grasp alone it can be made of service.

Such a state of things cannot, however, be allowed to last. If the Board will not ratify its own proposition, it will be incumbent on Mr. Byrne to procure a Meeting of the Stockholders; and we believe if this should be done, that not a single voice would be raised in opposition to any arrangement he may wish to carry out.

It is alleged, as an excuse for refusing to confirm the terms he is willing to agree to, that he wants all the land—that he intends to ask this, that or the other from Government; and that he gives no guarantee for the prosecution and completion of the work. To all this we might simply answer—"why then did you make the offer?" but we will go further and say—who has a better right to the land than those who build the Road? What claim have we in the Province who do not advance anything (the £4,000 is hardly worth mentioning) towards the great work to obtain a single acre of that which was given expressly to assist in its completion, and as an inducement to foreign capitalists to invest their money? What right have we to interfere or enquire into any negotiation which class A may open with Government? what does it signify to us? If they are willing to take our responsibilities and liabilities—instead of complaints that may thwart, they should receive our best wishes for success with all our interest and support. As to there being no guarantee given—what better or stronger security could we have, than the fact that there is already £80,000 of class A money spread through the rock cuttings and earthworks extending 30 miles from our very doors, and which money must remain useless, and unproductive unless more is put to it, and the line is finished. Argument is unnecessary, for common sense points out, both, what must be advantageous for all parties, as well as what it is the plain and bounden duty of this section of the Company to do.

C. C. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The thirty fifth Anniversary of this Society, took place yesterday. After the Report was read and adopted, and other general business of the Society transacted—the officers for the ensuing year were elected.

At half past five o'clock, a number of the members of the Society and guests, sat down to a sumptuous dinner at Bradford's Hotel. The President, hon. H. Hatch, presided, assisted by Geo. F. Campbell Esq., as crumpier. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk and heartily responded to. Several neat and appropriate speeches were made and volunteer toasts given, interspersed with song and sentiment, and the company separated about 11 o'clock much pleased with the entertainment. A more harmonious agreeable and pleasant company have seldom met together. Only one of the original founders of the Society was present, the venerable President.—We regret that neither time, nor the space at our disposal to day, will admit of giving an extended notice.

TEA MEETING.—The Mechanics' Temperance Watchman Club, gave a Public Tea Meeting in the Town Hall, on Thursday evening last. The hall was tastefully decorated and the tables loaded with every description of cake &c. After tea, several excellent addresses were delivered, interspersed by appropriate songs, by the "Quartette Club" and others. The hall was crowded, and the party broke up about 11 o'clock, after giving three cheers for the Queen.

The Theatrical Amateurs reopened their little Theatre, on Monday evening, for the season with decided success, and we are glad to see that the exertions and public spirit of these gentlemen to afford some amusement to the Town, during the dreary months of winter, are properly appreciated. When all did so well, it would be invidious to single out any individual for particular praise, but we do not hesitate to say, that it would be difficult to find a corps of amateurs, which as a whole evince such decided histrionic talents. We understand that it is proposed to give a performance for the benefit of the "Patriotic Fund." This as it should be—all we can say is—go on gentlemen and prosper, you have our best wishes at all times.—Com.

MUNICIPAL PRESENT.—The Roman Catholic congregation of Saint George, presented to their Pastor, the Rev. Andrew Barron, on New-Year's Day, a splendid Sleigh and robes,—purchased at a cost of one hundred and thirteen dollars.—Com.

On Wednesday last, a splendid entertainment was given to the Roman Catholic children of Saint Andrews, at their school-room, by the Teachers male and female of the Sunday-School. Some two hundred children of both sexes sat down to supper at six o'clock in the evening. We have seldom witnessed so pleasing a scene; the spacious school room was beautifully lighted and tastefully hung with ever-greens; the tables superb, loaded with the choicest indeed, and presided over, in rotation, by the teachers of the different classes: whilst, during supper, the young of the town, volunteering their services, performed excellently some pieces of music, relieved at intervals by exhilarating airs on the piano-forte. It was amusingly delightful, to see some of the younger little urchins

exhibiting a sort of self-sufficiency; and vividly betraying in their innocent demeanour, the care bestowed upon their religious training.—Com.

By the mail this morning we are pleased to hear that Morris Robinson, son of Col. John Robinson, of Douglas, has been appointed to an Ensigny, without purchase, in Her Majesty's 26th (Cameronians) Regiment.—Head Quar.

WAR-OFFICE, Nov. 23.
To be Colonels in the Army—Lieutenant Colonel William Fenwick Williams, C. B. and Eyre John Crabbe.
To be Lieutenants, Colonels in the Army—Major Edward Boyd, Henry Dixon, and James Poyntz.

Shipping List.
Arrived from St. Stephens.
Gravesend Dec. 16, Wm. Metcalf.
Hull 19, Hygeia.
Grimby, 29, Mary Ball.
Gravesend, 21, Rengende Jacob.

PROVISION AND IRON STORE.

THE Subscribers would respectfully inform the Public generally, that they have taken Store in the South end of Mr. William Johnson's wooden building, where they have received and offer for sale:—
200 Bbls. extra Canadian FLOUR.
1000 Bushels Corn.
20 Bbls. Clear and Mess Pork.

Also
Received ex Ship *Panayia* from Liverpool:
36 Tons refined IRON, assorted from 1-4 to 7 inches diameter, round.
47 Tons flat and square Iron, all sizes.
60 Do common Iron, 1-7-8, 3-4, and 5-8 inch, round.
6 Cwt. best Cast Steel.
5-2 Tons best small Chain, short link, 1-8, 1-7-8, 3-4, 9-10; 1-2, 7-16, 3-8, 5-16.
6 Kegs Ox and Horse Nails.
4 Kegs Boat Nails; 1 Keg Pun Rivets.
213 Bags Diamond Deck Spikes, from 3-12 to 10 inch.
1 Ton best London White Lead.
1-2 Ton Black Lead. Raw and boiled Paint Oil.
50 Chaldrons Simth's Coals.
25 Tons Pig Iron.
All of which will be sold cheap for Cash.
JOSEPH ANDREWS & CO.
St. Stephens, Jan'y 6, 1855.

SINGING SCHOOL.

THE Subscriber has been solicited to open a SCHOOL for instruction in VOCAL MUSIC, in Saint Andrews, and has consented to do so, provided a sufficient number of scholars offer previous to the 15th inst. A list has been left at Mr. John Little's store, where subscribers names will be received.
Terms—7s. 6d. per quarter or 24 Lessons—to be paid in advance.
THOS. ALGAR.
Jan. 8, 1855.

Picked Up,
On the 31st December, in the River St. Croix.
A small raft of Lumber.
The owner can have the same, by proving property and paying expenses.
Jan. 8, 1855. JOHN GRANT.

New Brunswick.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.
The following was adopted as a Standing Rule in the Session of 1851:—
37th.—That no Bill of a private nature, or Petition for money or relief, shall be received by the House after the fourteenth day from the opening of the Session, both inclusive; and that the Clerk of this House, do, one month previous to the meeting of the Legislature, cause fifty printed copies of this Rule to be sent to each of the Clerks of the Peace in the several Counties, for distribution, and cause the same to be inserted in the Royal Gazette, and two Newspapers in such County whose Newspapers are published.
CHAS. P. WETMORE, Clerk.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

THE REVISED STATUTES of the Province are to be offered for sale.
Booksellers and others can learn the terms, and will be supplied with Copies, on application to Mr. Henry S. Beck, Bookseller and Stationer, Fredericton.
By Command S. L. TILLEY.
Secretary's Office,
2nd January, 1855.

BYASS'S LONDON PORTER

And Pale Ale, Geneva, White Paint, Oil, &c.
OCTOBER 25, 1854.
Ex Barbara from London, and Imperial from Liverpool:—
100 Casks Byass & Bridge's London Stout and P. Ale.
50 hhds. best Pale Geneva.
3 qr. casks London particular Maccles, 2 hhds, White Wine Vinegar.
20 casks Pale Rotterdam Geneva.
20 tons No 1 London and Liverpool White Lead, 28 and 14 lb kegs.
4 hhds. boiled and raw Linseed Oil.
50 bundles sheet iron.
19 boxes tin Plates.
1 roll sheet Lead.
23 bags 4, 10, 12 doz. fine cut Nails.
44 " Deck Spikes, assorted.
1 " fine Pump Tacks, assorted.
&c. &c. &c.
For sale by J. W. STREET.