

under its walls on the evening of the 21st of July. When within gunshot they encountered a brick cannonade and a heavy fire of musketry, poured from behind garden walls, temporary field works, and the out work on the right bank of the river. Sir John Keane ordered this fire to be returned, in order to ascertain the strength of the enemy in guns. The outworks were speedily carried, and their defenders driven in by detachments commanded by Sir Tulloughby Gorton and Brigadier Sale; while Shrapnell shells, thrown into the citadel under the direction of Brigadier Stevenson, did much execution.

After these preliminary operations, the troops were drawn off and ordered to bivouac. Sir John Keane found himself surrounded by enemies on all sides, and in his despatch says, "I had information that a night attack was intended from without. Mahomed Uzai Khan, the eldest son of Dost Mahomed Khan, had been sent by his father with a strong body of troops from Cabool to the brothers assistance at Ghuznee, and was encamped outside the walls, but abandoned his position on our approach, keeping, however, at the distance of a few miles from us. The two rebel chiefs of the Ghilzie tribe, men of great influence, viz. Abdul Khossein and Gool Mahomed Khan, had joined them with 15,000 horse, and a body of about 3000 Ghazver from Zinat under a mixture of chiefs and Moolahs, carrying banners, and who had been assembled on the cry of a religious war. In short we were in all directions surrounded by enemies. These last actually came down the hills on the 21st, and attacked the part of the camp occupied by Sir John Keane and his troops, but were driven back with considerable loss, and the 22nd taken.

On the 23rd Sir John ordered a reconnaissance to be made, for the purpose of ascertaining the most assailable part of the fortification. The report of Captain Thomson, chief engineer, was to the effect that it was equally strong "all round." Sir John then ordered the whole army to cross the river which was at the foot of the fort, so as to occupy more commanding ground, and secure the Cabool road. Preparations were made for carrying the place by storm. Captain Thomson undertook to blow in the Cabool gate the weakest point, with gunpowder; and fully relying on the success of this operation, Sir John Keane made his disposition accordingly.

A few minutes before three o'clock in the morning of the 23rd the explosion took place, and proved completely successful.

An entrance of the forces was then effected with great difficulty, and they established themselves within the gateway, closely followed by the main columns. The struggle within the fort was desperate for a considerable time. In addition to the heavy fire kept up, the British troops were assailed by the enemy sword in hand, and with daggers, pistols, &c., but British courage, ferocity and perseverance overcame all opposition; and the fire of the enemy being newly silenced, Brigadier Sale proceeded to the citadel, from which could now be seen abandoning the guns, running in all directions, throwing themselves down from immense heights, endeavoring to make their escape; and on reaching the gate with H. M. 17th Regt. under Lieut. Col. Croker, followed by the 13th, forced it open at five o'clock in the morning. The colours of H. M. 13th and 17th Regts. were planted on the citadel of Ghuznee, amidst the cheers of all ranks. Instant protection was granted to the women found in the citadel (among whom were those of Mahomed Hyder, the Governor), and sentries placed over the magazine for its security.

The British killed and wounded were—Total killed—3 sergeants or bayoneted, 14 rank and file. Total wounded—1 Colonel, 1 Lieut. Colonel, 2 Majors, 4 Captains, 8 Lieutenants, 2 Ensigns, 7 sergeants or bayoneted, 140 rank and file, and 8 horses. Total missing—1 rank and file.

Grand total on the 21st and 23rd of July, killed, wounded and missing—191 officers and men, and 16 horses.

Sir John Keane describes "the loss of the enemy as immense," both in men and horses. Among the prisoners is Dost Mahomed's son, Hyder, the Governor of Ghuznee. Shah Sojah was perfectly astounded at the capture of a place supposed to be impregnable, in the short space of two hours. Sir John Keane describes it as "one of the most brilliant acts it had ever been his lot to witness during a service of forty-five years in the four quarters of the globe." Shah Sojah promised Dost Mahomed's aid at the instance of Sir John Keane, that though he and his family had been rebels, yet their lives should be spared, and he was willing to forgive and forget all.

Another despatch from Sir John Keane, dated, "Head Quarters, camp Shirabad, 31 August, 1839," states that the army left Ghuznee en route for Cabool, in two columns, on the 31st July. Information was received that Dost Mahomed had a well disciplined army of about 15,000 men and was prepared to make a desperate resistance; but another despatch, dated from Cabool, 31st August, states that after concentrating his forces at Urgundee, Dost Mahomed found they were not to be depended upon, and without waiting to

be attacked, he fled with a few horsemen to Bamian. The bulk of his army immediately went over to Shah Sojah, 23 pieces of brass cannon were taken, loaded, in the field, and five more afterwards.

Part of the army entered Cabool on the 7th August, with Shah Sojah and Sir John Keane having established him "on the throne of his ancestors," returned to his camp in the vicinity of Cabool. The troops were in possession of great abundance, delighted with the fertility of the country, and enjoying excellent quarters. In his last despatch, Sir John Keane says—

"I trust that we have thus accomplished all the objects that your Lordship had in contemplation when you planned and formed the army of the Indus and the expedition into Afghanistan. The conduct of the army, both European and native, which your Lordship did me the honour to place under my orders, has been admirably thorough; and, notwithstanding the severe marches and privations they have gone through their appearance and discipline have suffered nothing, and the opportunity afforded them at Ghuznee of meeting and conquering their enemy, has greatly added to their good spirits."

CHINA.—By way of Singapore, advices had been received at Calcutta from China, to the 21st of June. Two edicts had been issued by the authorities of Canton, one containing prohibitions against native vessels trading with foreign ships outside, in goods of any sort, under pain of death, and also forbidding any foreign trade being carried on at Macao, except by the Portuguese, and the other ordering all the ships to enter the port within five days, or to quit the coast altogether, with threats in case of non-compliance, of destroying them by means of fire ships. The Cambridge had been taken up as a guard ship, for the protection of British property, by Captain Elliot, the superintendent. Dealings in opium were still going on along the coast, and sales were reported at 750,750, and as high on the east coast as 1,000 Spanish dollars per chest. Sixty sail of shipping were detained outside, exclusive of numbers still to arrive. The destruction of the opium surrendered was proceeding at the rate of three hundred chests a day. The private advisers, state, that several American ships had gone up to Whampoa; and it was expected their consignees would consent to the opium bond. Considerable quantities of British goods were on board these vessels, mostly on British account, but to some extent purchases on American account, and transhipped from British vessels outside.

Purchases of teas has been making for American vessels at Lintin, and the holders were firm, under the impression that other vessels might soon be expected in the river, and that indirectly, perhaps, the export will go on as usual.

A singular speculation has taken its rise at Calcutta out of the opium affair. A sort of stock has made its appearance in the money market there called "Opium Scrip," in which business appears to have been freely transacted.

From the N. Y. Emigrant.

On Saturday evening arrived the steam ship, British Queen, after a passage of twenty days from Portsmouth. She has had much heavy weather, and has been blown by the gales considerably to the Southward. According to the opinion of an intelligent passenger with whom we have conversed, this vessel has not been enough for its length, she therefore heels over too much, which lessens the hold of one paddle wheel on the water, and retards her velocity. It seems there were times, when she could not make more than three knots ahead. She has brought nearly 150 passengers, and we regret to perceive that many of them have given public expression of their dissatisfaction as to the manner of their being accommodated. But it should be remembered passengers are sometimes quarrelsome, and generally ignorant of the capabilities of a vessel. There certainly does appear to be a large number of passengers, but not one half of them have signed the declaration of discontent in the case. The news which will be found in its proper place is of great importance and great variety.

The latest accounts of the crops are not so favourable on the whole as those of an earlier date and some anxiety is manifested with respect to the supply and the outlay of specie therein. We really see nothing very distressing with regard to this branch of the European intelligence, although it is reported that neither Poland, the south of Russia, nor France has much to spare. Nor is there anything on which to repose confidence in the reports that crops are plentiful in Spain and above all in Egypt. Spain and Sicily would lay enormous prices on any corn they should be pleased to spare and Mahomet Ali would screw Great Britain in two ways,—both as a corn speculator, which he is in a high degree, and as a political base whose present position requires all his care and foresight. But as we have again and again remarked America has abundance of Bread Stuff and she wants manufactures. Exchange one for the other and let the specie remain quiet. The latest quotation gives the duty on Wheat at 16s. 8d.

The number of croakers is certainly increasing, who "foresee" the suspension of specie payments on the part of the Bank of England. In the present

state of monetary affairs, the permission to issue One Pound notes would somewhat relieve that establishment doubtless, but as for suspension—Bah!

King Louis Philippe, must like Macbeth, "bear a charmed life," for there is seldom a lapse of three months without some attempt to deprive him of it. If he possess any of the notions of fatality which pervade the mind of Bonaparte, he must by this time be assured that, "none of woman born could harm" him.

The Muscovite by this time has enough to do in the management of his home and foreign policy. What with our brilliant successes in the East, the total discomfiture of Doss Mohammed and his family, the state of disorder among the Russian troops, the position of Mehemet Ali, and the consoling news that his designs are pretty clearly read before he can bring any of them into operation,—the powers of a Nesselrode and a Pizzardi Borgo will be completely tasked to bring the Czar into any decent trim.

It is the opinion of thinking persons that the Ottoman power has fairly passed its meridian, and that its splendor must sink beneath that of a more active and enlightened dynasty. Termination is nothing new; the Ottomans became masters of Turkey when they were a poor and enterprising power; they gradually rendered them supine, and in their turn they sink before a braver and a brighter leader. In a strict moral sense, the successful Pasha is indefensible; but had the ancestors of the Porte any greater rights, and in the mutations of the political world was it not always so, and will it not always continue to be so? Russia, with all Europe to aid her, could not long sustain the Sultan against such an adversary as now stands up against him; for, when the general mind is predisposed, it is in vain to bring force against it. He will have to succumb. Egypt will rule Turkey, and Russia will find a more formidable barrier opposed to her wild and ambitious schemes than she has ever yet dared to think of.

From Texas.—The steamboat Columbia, Capt. Windle, arrived at New Orleans on the 11th instant, from Galveston, which place she left on the 7th instant, bringing late dates from Houston and Galveston. Houston and Galveston were both extremely sickly. The yellow fever was raging at both these places, and had carried off a large portion of respectable individuals. The mortality in proportion to the population was very considerable. Twenty-six deaths occurred at Galveston during the time the Columbia lay in port, five days, and among other victims to the epidemic is numbered "plain" John Goodwin, editor and proprietor of the Galvestonian, a paper to which he had communicated much spirit and good sense. He died on the 5th instant.

A severe "norther" was experienced off the coast of Texas on the 7th inst. Several vessels and steamboats were forced ashore, without, however, suffering material damage. One vessel, the schooner Nautilus, from New Orleans, was sunk. The steamer Zavala, of the Texian navy, and one or two other vessels belonging to Texas, will visit New Orleans in the course of a few days. The Zavala was to have left Galveston on the 11th.

The amount of treasury notes in circulation was about \$2,000,000. The public debt is estimated at \$1,000,000. B. B. Burchard had been appointed Chief Justice.—*Sylvester's Reporter.*

Jamaica.—Advises from Jamaica to the 22d ult. received at New Orleans, say the island was in a state of comparative quiet. "A curious superstition has broken out amongst the negroes, in some districts of the island. The Gazette gives it the name of Myalism, and describes it as a diabolical influence, which, among other mischiefs, exerts a power upon the blacks which prevents them working but certain periods on the estates and plantations. The owners of property where the laborers are under malign influence, state that they can only obtain four days' work from the people during the week. Every means have been tried to get out of them the allotted period of labor. They will submit to what is required, but only four days will they work for the estate, pretending that some invisible spirit prevents them. No doubt it is invisible, as the spirit of Laziness always is."—*Id.*

United States Bank.—The Philadelphia North American of Monday, has the following:—"We learn that the total amount of liabilities of the United States Bank as exhibited in its late report to the Auditor General was twenty-six millions of dollars, of these the post notes and notes payable on demand amount to twelve millions and the debt in Europe to eight millions."—*Id.*

From the Buffalo Advertiser.

Internal improvements at the West.—The Van Buren party in Illinois have committed an egregious blunder in commencing simultaneously a large number of public works, none of which are completed, although the money already expended on them exceeds eleven millions of dollars. Their object has been to create the largest possible diversion of spoils at the public expense, apparently regardless the extent which this reckless policy would involve the state or the remoteness of the time when

any work would yield a revenue. Had they undertaken only one or two works at a time, and those which were most needed and would pay best, and completed them as soon as practicable their state debt of eleven millions would have been more than balanced by the benefits of productive improvements.

As the matter now stands the credit of the state is exhausted, at least for the present, and they have not the means to finish the works in progress, and the interest for their public debt exceeds half a million, while their revenue is little or nothing. Many of the party are in favor of abandoning the whole system and we doubt not secretly desire to see their eleven million debt repudiated.—Governor Curtin has called an extra session of the Legislature to provide ways and means to meet the exigency of the case. The only wise and safe course seems to be to abandon such works as will pay the least revenue, or interest upon their cost, and classify the balance and apply all their means and energies to finish one at a time, commencing with the most productive. If there be great local competition in the legislature by the friends of each undertaking, let the people within twenty miles of the line of such work come forward and voluntarily indemnify the state for the ultimate payment, principal and interest of the cost of such local improvement. If they will not do this certainly they will have no reason to complain if the rest of their fellow citizens do not choose to tax themselves for their benefit. The friends of our Erie canal assented to the passage of a law, taxing the people within twenty miles of it, if necessary, the time New York undertook the construction of that great work. If we mistake not the people in the immediate vicinity of the Illinois and Michigan canal, will not refuse to guarantee that that work will ultimately pay for its construction.

An American has patented in England, & in several countries of Europe, an invention for making broad or narrow woollen cloths, without spinning or weaving. The Leeds Mercury says: "After an inspection of patterns of the cloth, we should say there is every probability of this fabric superseding the usual mode of making cloth, by spinning and weaving. The abridgement of labor will be very great.—One set of machinery, it is said, not costing more than £200, will be capable of producing 600 yards of woollen cloth, 30 inches in width, per day of twelve hours. The machinery would in a week or two be ready for making a trial at Leeds, under the superintendence of the inventor, by a cloth Merchant who had exclusive license."

A conditional sale has also been made for the patent right for the Kingdom of Belgium for the sum of £20,000.—*Leopoldine.*

It is to be true, as is quite likely, it tends a total revolution of the Woollen cloth trade, and swift destruction of the spinners and weavers of wool all over the world.

A Black Borealis.—The Fall River Patriot of the 12th ultimo, has the following account of a singular phenomenon:—"Night before last the heavens presented a very unusual appearance. It was a clear starlight, when a black column began to ascend in the south-east and north-east directly opposite to each other. The one in the south was first supposed to be a column of smoke, but it soon began to branch off, and the streamers shot off and varied their position in the usual way, only they were black, and so dense as to obscure the stars over which they passed.—They stretched away from the opposite columns, so that about ten o'clock in the evening they met in the east. We never before have seen or heard of a black borealis."—*Com. Herald.*

Prospect of a Row all round this winter.—From present appearances every thing bids fair for a general rumus this winter. The States of Missouri and Iowa are just on the eve of a general fight about a small portion of territory in dispute between them. An armed express passed through Paris, Missouri, ten days since, bearing information to the government that an armed force from Iowa, had seized upon and forcibly attempted to imprison the Sheriff of Clark County, who was engaged in the legal discharge of his official duties. The citizens of Clark, have called upon Gen. Willcox, of the 14th division Mo. militia, for aid, and the despatch is direct from Gen. Willcox to the government for orders.

The looters along the Canada border are making great preparations for a descent on some part of her Majesty's colonial territory; and they will require all the exertions of the great pacificator General Scott, to keep them in subjection. In the state of Maine they have begun to deprecate upon the timber; and the Blue Noxes and Red Noxes are glaring and blowing fiercely at each other. Maine and Georgia have quarrelled about giving up some slave stealers; and the governor of the latter state has told the legislature to pass a law, authorizing the seizure and imprisonment of every man from the state of Maine, upon the presumption that if he is not a thief or a rogue, he soon will be. In the state of Mass., chusette, there is an awful internal excitement and commotion about the question of Rum and we should not wonder if blood be spilt before rum drinking be abolished. In the state

of New York the legislature is so nearly matched that there will be most awful scenes of contention, the whole of the session; which will not be allayed in the least by the introduction of the contemplated temperance law by the Whigs.—In New Jersey there will be a great domestic fight about the disputed Congressional seats. At the city of Washington, the session is expected to open in a manner almost as riotous as the last session of Harrisburgh, on account of the disputed seats. In Florida there will be fighting and murders and massacres all through the winter. And to crown the whole, and wind up the scene of commotion, the whole of our frontier west of the Mississippi, is threatened with a bloody, destructive and protracted Indian war, on account of the demand of the Cherokees for the murderers of Ridge and his friend.—The commanding officer at Fort Gibson and Fort Wayne have issued orders upon the keeper of the military stores at Fayetteville for an additional supply of arms and ammunition, viz: For Fort Gibson, 132 muskets; for Wayne, 100 muskets and bayonets, 100 cartridges, boxes and bullets, 10,000 r-f cartridges, and 500 musket flints. We wish to create no unnecessary excitement, but give the information as we receive it.—The matter may be settled without any serious difficulty but we are compelled to say, that all the information favors the contrary opinion. The whole matter looks very much like a "note of dreadful preparation." There are 20,000 Indian warriors upon our frontiers, and it is impossible to foretell what will be the effects of the first blow which may be struck. In the event of Union among the different tribes, the forces of the Government upon the frontier would be totally inadequate to the protection of our citizens.—*N. York Herald.*

Correspondence of the Albany Evening Journal.

Syracuse, Nov. 18, 1839.

Some find in human shape, last night committed depredations on the Syracuse and Auburn Rail Road, about a mile West of this place at the embarkment over Harbor Brook, and so fixed the rails as to run the engine and Post Office and Baggage cars, down a bank 15 or 20 feet high. The engineer escaped by jumping, and the Firemen went down with the engine. No one was seriously hurt.

What are Arson and murder to those depredations on Rail Roads? The winter should not pass without making it a capital offence.

We quote the following for the special benefit of the Hamilton Express:—

"The following is a striking illustration of the existing hard times:—A late number of a paper published in Hinds County, Mississippi, contains only 174 lines of reading matter: the remainder of the paper is filled with advertisements by Sheriffs, collectors and Marshals, and notices of insolvents."—*N. Y. Whig.*

LONDON GAZETTE.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 7.

We are requested to state that the Garrison Theatre at this place, will be opened on Monday the 16th instant, when the Officers will perform the Comedy of Sweethearts and Wives, and Bombastes Furioso.

Further particulars will be given next week.

Toronto, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1839.

This day at two o'clock, his Excellency the Governor General, proceeded in State to the Chamber of the Honourable the Legislative Council, where being arrived, and seated on the Throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent with a Message from his Excellency to the House of Assembly, commanding their attendance: the Members present being come up accordingly, his Excellency was pleased to address the two Houses with the following—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:—

In discharge of the duties of Governor General of British North America, confided to me by your Gracious Sovereign, I have deemed it advisable to take the earliest opportunity of visiting this Province, and of assembling Parliament, and of commanding the Queen to assure you of her Majesty's fixed determination to maintain the connection now subsisting between her North American Possessions and the United Kingdom, and exercise the high authority with which She has been invested, by the favour of Divine Providence, for the promotion of their happiness, and the security of her Dominions.

It is with great satisfaction I can inform you, that I have no grounds for apprehending a recurrence of those aggressions upon our frontier which we had lately to deplore, and which afflicted an indelible disgrace on our authors. If, however, unforeseen circumstances should again call for exertion, I know from the past, that in the zeal and loyalty of the people of Upper Canada, and in the protection of the Parent State, we possess ample means of defence, and to those I should confidently appeal.

I earnestly hope, that this state of tranquillity will prove favourable to the consideration of the important matters, to which your attention must be called the present Session.

It will be my duty to bring under your consideration, at the earliest possible moment, the subject of the Legislative Union of this Province with Lower Canada—recommended by her Majesty to the Imperial Parliament. I shall do so in the full confidence that you will see, in the measure which I shall have to sub-

mit, a fresh proof of the deep interest felt by the Queen, in the welfare of her subjects in Upper Canada; and that it will receive from you that calm and deliberate consideration, which its importance demands.

The condition of the public department in the Province, will require your best attention. In compliance with the Address of the House of Assembly of last Session, the Lieutenant Governor appointed a Commission to investigate and report upon the manner in which the duties of these Departments are performed. The Commissioners have already conducted their inquiries to an advanced stage; and the result of them will be communicated to you, as soon as they shall be completed.

I am happy to inform you, that her Majesty's Government have concluded an arrangement for opening a communication by Steam, between Great Britain and the British Possessions in North America—in the completion of this arrangement, her Majesty's Government have allowed no consideration to interfere with the paramount object, of conducting to the public advantage and convenience.—I feel confident, that the liberality with which the Parent State has assumed the whole expense of the undertaking, will be fully appreciated by you.

The answer of her Majesty to the various addresses, adopted by you during your last Session, and her Majesty's decisions on the bills passed by you, but reserved for the signature of her Royal pleasure, will be made known to you without loss of time.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The financial condition of this province will claim your early and most attentive consideration. To preserve public credit, is at all times a sacred obligation; but in a country so essentially dependent upon it for the means of future improvement it is a matter no less of policy than of duty. It is indispensable, then, that measures should be at once adopted, for enabling the Provincial revenue to fulfil its obligations, and to defray the necessary expenses of the government.

It will be my anxious desire to co-operate with you in effecting this object; and I feel confident that, by full development of the resources of this Country, the difficulty may be overcome. The Officer by whom, under your authority, these obligations have been contracted, will be able to afford you every information; and I shall direct statement of your financial condition to be immediately submitted to you.

The estimates for the ensuing year, will be prepared with every regard to economy, and compatible with the due execution of the service of the Province.

It is with great satisfaction I find the notwithstanding Commercial difficulties which prevail in the neighbouring States, the Banks of this province have resumed Specie payments; and I congratulate you upon the guarantee thus afforded for the greater security and stability of our pecuniary transactions—a circumstance which cannot fail to be attended with the most beneficial results.

I am commanded again to submit to you the surrender of the Casual and Territorial Revenues of the Crown, in Exchange for civil list; and I shall take an early opportunity of explaining the grounds on which her Majesty's Government feel precluded from assenting to the settlement which you proposed. They are of a nature which lead to anticipate your ready assent to their removal, and to the final settlement of a question.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen.

In assuming the administration of the Government of these Provinces, at the present time, I have not disguised from myself the arduous task which we have undertaken. The affairs of the Canada have, for some years back, occupied much of the attention of the Imperial Parliament and of the Government; and their settlement upon a firm and comprehensive basis, admits of no further delay.

To effect that settlement, upon terms satisfactory to the people of these provinces, and affording security for their continued connection with the British Empire, will be my endeavor; and I confidently appeal to your wisdom, and to the loyal and good sense of the People of this province, to co-operate with me in this preparation and adoption of such measures as may, under Divine Providence, restore to this Country peace, concord and prosperity.

From the British Colonist.

The members of the house of Assembly after the speech was delivered, again repaired to their own Chamber, Sir Allan Macnab acting as speaker read the speech of his Excellency to the members present. Thereafter Sir Allan reminded the house his former intimation, that he should resign his Office of Speaker. Mr Attorney General Hagerman rose, and expressed a hope that Sir Allan would, under present circumstances, not persist in his resignation. He then stated that he had been appointed by the Queen as a commissioner at London, and that he had been sent to the house last Session, for voting against being sent as a commissioner at London, while by two previous votes during the same session, Sir Allan was with no others, a pointed commissioner by the House. His objection the last time was, that he was not a confidence man, or rather a withdrawal of confidence on the part of the house for him, and on that account he tendered his resignation. Mr Hagerman assured the Speaker that no disavowal was intended, the preceding question, on the part of any member of that house, and he trusted the Speaker consent to retain the chair.

If, however, unforeseen circumstances should again call for exertion, I know from the past, that in the zeal and loyalty of the people of Upper Canada, and in the protection of the Parent State, we possess ample means of defence, and to those I should confidently appeal.

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