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The Standard.

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Evans sumendum est optimum. — Cic.

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LAW RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS.

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LOSS OF THE BRIG VIXEN OF ST. JOHN, N. B.

The scho. Charles, Capt. Scott, which arrived at Yarmouth, from St. Kitts, brought the Captain and other survivors of the above vessel, who were taken of the wreck by the brig, Leader, Capt. Crosby, of Yarmouth, and landed at Barbadoes. The following particulars of the disaster are copied from a Barbadoes paper of 19th Nov.:

The above vessel, on a voyage from St. John to Surinam, encountered a hurricane on 10th October last, in lat. about 20° 25' N., long. 55° 40' W., and on the following morning was struck by a whirlwind during the height of the gale, which bore her on her broadside, tearing away her masts, cabin, bulwarks and hatches. She then righted, full of water, and sunk below the surface, leaving only the uprail above water, to which Capt. Patch, his two mates, and four of the crew secured themselves. Four of the crew were lost when she capsized, viz: Robert Linnam, William Shon, James (sur-name unknown) and a German boy. The survivors, after three days, succeeded in obtaining a piece of bread from the main hatch, and after being out water for five days, at last caught some rain water in an empty barrel which floated up, and in this way they subsisted on the bread, and what rain water they could catch, for 25 days, when on the 6th inst., they were rescued from their perilous situation by Capt. Jacob Crosby, of the brig, Leader, of Yarmouth, N. S., having during the time they were on the wreck, seen six vessels pass, without discovering them.

Captain Crosby's kindness and attention to the unfortunate sufferers cannot be too highly praised, having done every thing that benevolence and humanity could suggest to alleviate their distress; which has mainly contributed to their present improved appearance.

LORD RAGLAN.

Lord Raglan, who commands the British arm of the allied forces, has been long and better known as Lord Fitzroy Somerset, brother of the late, and uncle of the present Duke of Beaufort, who is now serving on his staff in the East. He early obtained a commission in the Guards, and on the breaking out of the war in the Peninsula, he joined the army of the Duke of Wellington, by whom he was shortly appointed throughout the whole war, taking part in every engagement, and exhibiting in all so disinterested ability combined with fearless courage. He was twice severely wounded and lost his arm at Waterloo. When after that great engagement, the curtain fell upon the wars of Europe, Lord Fitzroy Somerset, on his return, was appointed to the important post of Military Secretary, which he filled uninterruptedly during the reign of the several Commanders in chief down to the death of the Duke of Wellington. Upon the death of the Duke the command in chief, much, it is stated, to the disappointment of Lord Fitzroy Somerset, was conferred on Lord Hardinge, and Lord Fitzroy being unwilling to serve under an officer of similar standing to himself was appointed Master General of the Ordnance, with a peerage which he assumed under his present title of Lord Raglan. During the long reign of Lord Hill, and the subsequent one of the Duke of Wellington, at the Horse Guards, Lord Fitzroy Somerset, owing to the age of these veterans and the confidence reposed in him through acting as Military Secretary, was virtually Commander in Chief and in an office where so much tact and delicacy of management was required, contrived during that long period to win and retain the respect and affection of the whole British army. Lord Raglan may not be a great military genius, for such the English system does not admit, but he undoubtedly possesses a very high order of mind, combining sound judgment, fearless courage, and an inflexible sense of justice, no ordinary qualities for command. The Duke of Wellington entertained so high an opinion of him as to give expression to a prediction, thrice to be valued as coming from so cold and rarely eulogistic a nature, "that he would yet be an honor to his country." Lord Raglan is a nobleman of ordinary, one might almost say vulgar presence, but this is completely redeemed by a manner most gentle and courtly, and a disposition singularly kind. He is yet in full vigor, his light brown hair not owning a solitary tinge of gray, and his whole appearance exhibiting activity and animation.

A Methodist preacher out West, recently gave vent to his feelings in this way—"As I was riding along once on one of those beautiful Western prairies with my dear old wife who has since gone to heaven in a buggy, &c."

The editor of a Western newspaper expresses great indignation at the manner in which a woman was buried who committed

suicide. He says:—"She was buried like a dog with her clothes on."

FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

A corps of miners, quarrymen, plate-layers, carpenters, smiths and navies, are to be sent to the Crimea, under the command of an experienced civil engineer. Mr. Peto was applied to by government, a short time ago, to undertake such a charge, and fitting assistants. That gentleman recommended Mr. Beattie and his staff, who have recently returned from Canada. Their experience, and the acclimating process which they have undergone in North America, have rendered them peculiarly eligible for the service in contemplation; and they have accordingly been engaged as the nucleus of the new corps of auxiliaries to our army, which is now prosecuting the siege of Sebastopol. An advertisement, offering liberal wages and engagements for a definite period, from Messrs. Peto, Brassey, Betts & Co., to all qualified volunteers willing to serve under Mr. Beattie and his staff, has appeared in the London daily papers. Mr. Beattie and his staff started from Marseilles on the 6th instant.

Orders have been issued for the siege guns just finished for the Crimea to be embarked at Woolwich forthwith; they consist of 55 eight inch guns; their total weight of metal is 203 tons 16 cwt., namely, 44, each weighing 3 tons 4 cwt. and eleven six tons each. The Adelaide steamer and Eliza transport are ordered to carry them out.

On Friday, the Messrs. Almond completed the following contract with the Ordnance for the army in the East: 44,000 far cloaks, 44,000 fur caps (bushies), 44,000 fur gaiters (bushies), 44,000 water-proof capes, 44,000 long boots (cow hide material), 44,000 pairs of leggings, 10,000 suits of fur clothing for officers.—Morning Herald.

—According to a letter from the seat of war in the London Globe, the Turks were not engaged in the conflict of the 6th inst; a number of their stragglers arrived when it was over, and "distinguished themselves for the zeal and impartiality with which they plundered the dead—English, French and Russian."

THE ARMY.—Reinforcements for the Crimea consist of:—

	from Malta.
The 9th Infantry	do
14th do	do
68th do	do
34th do	from Corfu.
71st (1st Batt.)	do
17th do	from Gibraltar.
90th do	do
77th do	do
62d do	do
39th do	do
89th do	do

Making a total of 11 Regiments.

10th Hussars proceed to the Crimea from India.

Ships belonging to the India Company's Navy are held in readiness to convey the regiment from Bombay to Suva.

NEW SYSTEM OF PROMOTION IN THE ARMY.

It is provided by the Queen's warrant, that, until the present list of General Officers from the Guards and Line shall be reduced to 234 in all, one promotion to the rank of Major-General shall take place on the occurrence of every three vacancies by death. These promotions are to go by seniority, and by merit alternately; the salary provision being added that, where a promotion is made on account of merit, it is to be accompanied by a public official statement of the grounds upon which the officer has been thus placed over the heads of the seniors.—[Globe.]

It is well not to crow before you are out of the woods. The London Sun, in stating that the English squadron had sailed from China to take a Russian fortress near Japan, remarked that the English squadron destined to take Sukha, &c., on the North West Coast was in advance of the India squadron, and would have completed its work before the India squadron had got within fighting distance. If the latter fare no better than the former did at Peropaulowski, they will have very little to rejoice about.

A late London Sun has the following announcement:—"The 'Coming' Capture of Sevastopol.—Will be published in an Extraordinary Edition of the Sun, the moment the news is issued, an account of the Capture of Sevastopol, together with a list of the killed and wounded." Orders from newsmen received, &c. This is anticipation with a vengeance.

There are now no less than eight seats in the House of Commons vacant. Abingdon was vacated by Lord Norrey's succession to the peerage; Maryland, by Lord Dudley Stuart's death; Bedford, by the decease of

Mr. H. Stuart; Coventry, by that of Mr. Geach; East Gloucestershire, by Sir Michael Hicks Beach's death; Fermanagh, by that of Sir A. Brooke; Ayr, by Col. Pakenham's death at Inkermann; and Ayr, by that of Col. Hunter Blair, also killed at Inkermann.

THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—The following infantry battalions were in the Crimea on the 6th of November: one battalion Coldstreams, one battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, 1st Royal Regiment (one battalion), 31st, 4th, 7th, 19th, 29th, 21st, 23rd, 28th, 30th, 33rd, 38th, 41st, 42nd, 44th, 46th, 47th, 49th, 50th, 55th, 57th, 63rd, 68th, 77th, 79th, 85th, 93rd, 95th, two battalions Rifle-Brigade—in all 33 regiments.

The cavalry corps were as follows:—4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, 1st Dragoons, 2d Dragoons, 4th Light Dragoons, 6th Light Dragoons, 8th and 11th Hussars, 13th Light Dragoons, 17th Lancers. These regiments are to be made up to their full strength by drafts.

The following are the names of the new infantry regiments, eleven in all, under orders for the Crimea, some of which are actually on their way.—They are the 90th from Dublin (gone); 17th, 39th, 89th, from Gibraltar (to be relieved by the 54th and 66th) (left on Saturday), 31st, 71st, from Corfu; 9th, 14th, 62d, from Malta; 97th, from Athens (gone); and the 45th Royal Irish from London. Here will be, before December is well in, forty-four battalions of infantry.

The augmentation of the army to be proposed on the meeting of Parliament, includes 43 battalions of the line, each of 800 bayonets, a battalion of Rifles, and another of artillery—total, about 36,000 men.

ROMANCE IN LIFE.—It is with regret that we read in the nominal return of officers killed in the battle of Inkermann that Capt. Stanley, of the 57th Regiment, is amongst those who have died nobly in the service of their country. Capt. Stanley was a native of Dublin, and was connected with the family of the late Sir Edward Stanley. When very young, being fond of a military life, he entered the service of the Queen of Portugal, and distinguished himself in action at Oporto, July, 1833, where he received a severe wound in the arm. He continued to serve in Portugal and Spain, until 1835, when the order of the Tower and Sword (of Portugal) was conferred on him as a reward for his gallantry. The following anecdote connected with his appointment to the British army is authentic:—

Prince William Henry, when a midshipman, was present at a ball at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and being struck with the charms of a young lady present, selected her for his partner in a country dance, at the conclusion of which he laughingly told her that if he ever attained power she need only send him a copy of the music of that dance, accompanied by a request, and that he would, if possible, attend to any demand so authenticated.

Years rolled on, the lady married, and became a widow and grandmother. Prince William Henry became King William IV., and on the return of Mr. Stanley in 1835, he expressed a wish to enter the British army, on which his grandmother forwarded a copy of the music to his Majesty, accompanied by a letter reminding him of his promise, and concluding by asking for an ensigncy, without purchase, for her grandson. In a very few days she was honored with an autograph letter from the King, stating his perfect remembrance of the dance and promise referred to, and his intention to accede to her wish with respect to the nomination of her grandson to an ensigncy, which according to law took place in May, 1835. Capt. Stanley joined the 57th Regiment at Madras the same year, and served with it ever since. Had he survived this battle, he would have succeeded to a majority without purchase. A man of refined tastes and elevated pursuits, he became a member of the Arkheological Society, whilst amongst us, and took a deep interest in that institution up to the period of his untimely death.—(Kilkenney (Ireland) Moderator.)

Alexander McDonald was put on his trial last Tuesday and Wednesday for the murder in August last, of Mrs. Rebecca Langley, Guyborough Road, when the plea of insanity was clearly proved. So convinced were the jury of the insane state of prisoner's mind that they pronounced a verdict of "Not Guilty" without leaving the Court.—Halifax Chronicle.

A railway passenger recently detected riding in a second class carriage with a third class ticket, offered to fight the ticket-master for the difference.

"I say Frank," said a fast gamesman to another at Alma—"this is something, a Russian is a better mark than a partridge." "Yes, that's all very true, but a partridge doesn't shoot back."

NAPIER AND THE INDIAN SWORDSMAN.—We give an anecdote illustrative of the unparalleled dexterity of the Indians with the sword, as well as of Napier's simplicity of character. After the Indian battles, on one occasion a famous juggler visited the camp, and performed his feats before the General, his family, and staff. Among other performances this man cut in two with a stroke of his sword a lime or lemon placed in the hand of his assistant. Napier thought there was some collusion between the juggler and his retainer. To divide by the sweep of a sword on a man's hand so small an object without touching the flesh he believed to be impossible, though a similar incident is related by Scott in his romance of the Talisman.

To determine the point, the General offered his own hand for the experiment, and he stretched out his arm. The juggler looked attentively at the hand, and said he would not make the trial.

"I thought I would find you out!" exclaimed Napier.

"But stop," added the other, "let me see your left hand." The left hand was submitted, and the man then said firmly, "if you will hold your arm steady I will perform the feat."

"But why the left hand, and not the right?"

"Because the right hand is hollow in the centre, and there is a risk of cutting off the thumb; the left is high, and the danger will be less."

Napier was startled. "I got frightened," he said; "I saw it was an actual feat of delicate swordsmanship, and if I had not abused the man as I did before my staff, and challenged him to the trial, I honestly acknowledge I would have retired from the encounter. However, I put the lime on my hand, and held out my arm steadily. The juggler balanced himself, and with a stroke cut the lime in two pieces. I felt the edge of the sword on my hand as if a cold thread had been drawn across it; and so much (he added) for the brave swordsmen of India, whom our fine fellows defeated at Meeanee." This anecdote is certainly a proof of the sincerity of an honest mind, ready to acknowledge error, and of bravery and calmness in exploring that error.—London paper.

It has been stated in the 'Standard,' 'Spectator,' and 'Morning Post,' that H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge is insane. The reason assigned is the shock he experienced at seeing some of the Guards stabbed on the ground by Russians. But it is also said, in manner in which the Guards were taken into action at Inkermann was as great a mistake as the cavalry charge at Balaklava. They were led into a chert between overwhelming masses of Russians—and that the consciousness of being responsible for such a terrible sacrifice had destroyed the reason of H. R. H. Highness. The first symptom, it is added, of the appearance of the disease was an insult to a distinguished officer. The rumour is that he insulted Sir D. Lacy Evans.

We see by the Court Records, that the two counterfeiters, White, of Buffalo, and Lawrence, of Epping, N. H., have been placed under ten thousand dollar bonds each, for making and selling imitations of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. This is right. If the Law should protect men from imposition at all, it should certainly protect them from being imposed upon by a worthless counterfeit of such a medicine as Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. We can only complain that the punishment is not half enough. The villain, who would for paltry gain, deliberately trifle with the health of his fellow man, by taking from their lips, the cup of hope, when they are sinking, and substituting a falsehood—an utter delusion, should be punished at least as severely as he who counterfeits the coin of the country.—Green Co Banner, Carrollton, Ill.

MODERN SYNTAX.—A New Orleans editor, recording the career of a mad dog, says:—"We are grieved to say that the rabid animal, before it could be killed severely by Dr. Hart and several other dogs."

"For sale, an excellent young horse—would suit any timid lady or gentleman with a silver tail."

A New York paper, announcing the wrecking of a vessel near the Narrows, says:—"The only passengers were T. B. Nathan, who owned three-fourths of the cargo and the captain's wife."

Lord Elgin and suite arrived on Saturday from Quebec, on their way to New York, to take passage for England by the steamer Pacific of the Collins line, on Wednesday the 27th.

Sir Edmund Head was sworn in Governor General at Quebec on the 19th inst.—He delivered a farewell address, and was escorted out of the city by a guard of honour. Sir Edmund Head held his first levee at Government House on Friday.

Twelve thousand miles of Railroad are now in process of construction, and likely to be completed in the United States, the entire cost of which will be in the neighborhood of three hundred and fifty-six millions of dollars, one million of which is already provided for. There are some sixty roads of which the longest (eight hundred and forty miles) is the Illinois Central, and shortest (fifty-three miles and a half) the Lebanon Valley road, running from Reading to Harrisburg, Pa.—(Balt. Patriot.)

DAYS WITHOUT NIGHTS.—There is nothing that strikes the stranger more forcibly, if he visits Sweden at the season of the year when the days are longest, than the absence of the night. The writer arrived at Stockholm from Gothenburg, 400 miles distant, in the morning; and in the afternoon went to see some friends—had not taken note of time and returned about midnight; it was as light as it is here half an hour before sundown.—You could see distinctly. But all was quiet in the street; it seemed as if the inhabitants were gone away or were dead. No signs of life, stores closed. The sun goes down at Stockholm a little before 10 o'clock. There is a great illumination all night, as the sun passes round the earth towards the north pole, the refraction of its rays is such that you see to read at midnight. Dr. Bairst read a letter in the forest near Stockholm at midnight without artificial light. There is a mountain at the Bothnia, where, on the 21st of June, the sun does not go down at all.—Travelers go there to see it. A steamboat goes up from Stockholm for the purpose of carrying those who are curious to witness the phenomenon. It occurs only one night.—The sun goes down to the horizon, you can see the whole face of it, and in five minutes begins to rise. Birds and animals take their accustomed rest at the usual hours. The hens take to the trees about seven o'clock, P. M., and stay there until the sun is well up in the morning, and the people get into the habit of rising late too.—[American paper]

SMITH O'BRIEN.

The following letter appears in the Paris Galignani's Messenger:

"Sir: I have seen in your journal of today's date, an extract from the Limerick Chronicle, stating that the friends of Mr. William Smith O'Brien have it in contemplation to solicit the influence of the Emperor of the French with our gracious Sovereign, to remove all conditions from the royal pardon, which may be 'done' (the paragraph adds) with perfect safety and propriety, as that gentleman has taken a final leave of political agitation for the remainder of his life. I know not whether this statement is as unfounded as many others respecting me which have appeared in the newspapers during my absence from Europe; but if it be well founded, I wish it to be known that such an application as that here contemplated has not been sanctioned, still less prompted by me. I prize beyond expression the sentiment which has induced a large portion of the Irish nation to evince anxiety for my return, and I feel deeply grateful for the sympathy which has been exhibited in the United States the British colonies, and elsewhere towards the Irish political exiles but it does not seem to me to be consistent with dignity of my country, to solicit foreign intervention on our behalf. For my own part, I am not conscious that I have done anything which disintitles me from spending the remainder of my life in Ireland, which country is not only the home of my affections, but also the natural sphere of my duties; and I am convinced that sound policy, as well as general feeling, dictates the promulgation by the British Government of a complete and general amnesty with regard to the proceedings of all those who were compromised in the insurrectionary movement of the year 1848. I now find myself compelled to remove my family in the middle of Winter, from their cherished home in Ireland and to seek for them a domicile in some foreign country. Such a lot, though preferable to imprisonment in Van Dieman's Land, naturally gives occasion for much solicitude; but I would rather remain forever an exile from the land which I love than return thither under restrictions incompatible with my personal honour, or with the rights and duties of an Irish gentleman."

(Signed) WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN.

PARIS, Hotel Maurice, Nov. 23.

An affair of honor "came off" yesterday morning, between Messrs. J. Pentland and Young, advocates, of this city; each party fired two shots, but neither was injured. The difficulty arose concerning the publication, by Mr. Young, of a statement of facts relative to a "meeting" which took place a fortnight since between Messrs. Irvine and T. Pope, also advocates, and in which the principals on this occasion acted as seconds.—Quebec Morning Chronicle.