poke of the marriage as a decided business; and Petrowna rejoiced at the thought that her daughter would at length have a husband worthy of her.

One morning, when the good lady was seated in her drawing-room, Vourmin entered and inquired for Mari.

'She is in the garden,' replied Petrowna. 'You will find her there, if you wish to see her.'

The colonel went out hastily; and Petrowna making the sign of the cross, murmured to herself: 'God be praised! I hope everything will be arranged to-day.'

Vourmin found his lady-love dressed in white, seated beneath a tree, close by a lake, with a book on her knee, like any heroine of romance. After the interchange of a few common-place sentences Vourmin, with considerable agitation, told her, that for a long time he had been desirous of opening his mind to her, and now prayed her to listen to him for a few moments. She closed her book, and cast down her eyes in token of assent.

'I love you!' exclaimed Vourmin—'I love you madly!'

Mari bent down her head a little more.

'I have committed the prudence of seeing you, of listening to you, every day.' (Mari recollected the first letter of St. Preux.) Now it is too late to resist my destiny. The memory of your sweet face and gentle voice will form henceforward the joy and the torture of my existence; but I have a duty to fulfil towards you. I must reveal to you a strange secret, which places between us an insurmountable barrier.'

'That barrier,' murmured Mari, 'has always existed. I could never have become your wife.'

'I know,' replied Vourmin in a low voice, 'that you have loved; but death, and three years of mourning——Dearest Mari, do not take from me my last consolation; do not deprive me of the happiness of thinking you might have been mine, if not'——

'Hush!' cried Mari. 'Cease, I conjure you; you pierce me to the heart.'

'Yes, I have the consoling thought that you would have been mine. But I am afraid!'

Mari raised her eye with a look of amazement.

'I am married,' resumed the colonel—'married these four years, and I neither know *who* my wife is, nor *where* she is, nor whether I shall ever meet her.'

'What can you mean? What is the mystery? But go on, I beg of you—I will tell you afterwards'—

'Here, then,' said the colonel, 'are the facts. In the year 1812 I was going to Wilna, to join my regiment. I arrived late one evening at a station, and had just given orders to have the horses immediately harnessed, when suddenly there arose a violent snow storm. The master of the house and the postillion both strongly advised me to defer my journey; but the tempest or no tempest, I was resolved to push on. The postillion took it into his head that he could shorten the way by crossing a river whose banks he knew very well. However, he missed the right ford, brought me to a place which was totally strange to him. The storm continued to rage, but at length we descried a distant light. I hastened towards it, and found myself outside a church, whence the light proceeded. The door was open. Sledges were waiting outside, and several persons were standing in the porch. One of them called to me, "this way! this way!" I got out of my sledge, and entered the church. One of the people in the porch said:

'In the name of Heaven, what has delayed you? The bride has fainted, and we were all on the point of returning."

Half bewildered and half amused, resolved to follow up the adventure. Indeed, I was allowed no time deliberate, for my impatient friends hurried me into the interior of the church, which was faintly lit up by two or three torches. A girl was seated on a bench in the shadow, while another, standing beside her, was rubbing her temples.

'At length,' said the latter; 'God be praised that you are come. My mistress was near dying.'

An old priest approached and said, 'Shall we begin?'

'Oh, begin by all means, my reverend father,' replied I giddily.

They assisted the young girl to rise. She seemed very pretty. Through a levity quite unpardonable I advanced beside her to the alter. Her servant and the three men who were present, were so much occupied about her, that they scarcely glanced at me; besides, the light, as I have said, was very dim, and my head was enveloped in the fur hood of my travelling pelisse.

In a few moments we were married.

'Embrace each other,' said one of the witnesses. My wife turned her pale face towards me. For an instant she gazed as if petrified, then, falling backwards, she exclaimed.

'It is not he! It is not he!'

Out of the church I rushed, before the astounded priest and the bridal party had time to think of arresting my flight. I jumped into the sledge and soon left all pursuit behind.'

'And,' said Mari, 'did you never ascertain what become of that poor woman?'

'Never. I do not know the name of the village where I was married, nor can I recollect that of the station where I last stopped. At that time, so little importance did I attach to my criminal levity, that when all danger of pursuit was over, I fell asleep in the sledge, and did not awake until I found myself at another station. The servant whom I had with me was killed in battle, so that every clue seems lost by which I might discover the scene of that folly which I now expiate so dearly.'

Mari turned her pale face fully towards him, and seized his hands.

'What!' cried Vourmin; 'was it you?'

'Dont you recognize me?'

A long and close embrace was the reply.

A Woman in Male Attire Four Years.—A young woman, who gave her name as Anna Linden, was arrested in New York last week, on a charge of vagrancy. She was committed to jail, but was brought before a magistrate on a writ of habeas corpus, when it appearing that she paid her way, and worked when she could get work, she was discharged from custody. The young lady gave quite a romantic history. She said she was born in New Orleans, in 1837, and when she was three years old her parents removed to a village in Maine. When she was fourteen, she came to Boston to live with a sister, and was afterwards married to an actor. Owing to ill treatment she left her husband and went to New York, where she worked in a confectionary store. A fit of sickness having exhausted her resources, and having pawned all her clothes, she accepted a suit of his clothes from Boston, she accepted a suit of his clothes, and went tending bar in New York. After five months spent behind the bar, her husband found her out, and they joined the Providence Museum company, where she pretended to be her husband's brother. They afterwards went to the Albany Museum. Owing to ill treatment she again separated from her husband, and during two or three years past she has been tending bar in New York, working on steamboats on the Mississippi river, and in other kindred employments in various parts of the country. During all this time she was in male attire, and is now waiting for remittances in order to take the first steamer for California. This, it must be admitted, is a varied experience for a girl of 19.

What Love will do.—When the ice broke up in the Ohio river at Marietta, recently, and while it was floating down in huge cakes, a man crossed to that town from the Virginia side, on the floating ice, to get a jug filled with whiskey, and succeeded, recrossed safely in the same way. He loved as devoted as Leander, and ventured as much for his idol, which, also, was equally ardent with himself.

Baked Indian Pudding.—Take three pints of scalded milk, one handful of wheat flour, three eggs, and as much Indian meal as will make the whole thick, like batter for pancakes. Add one gill of molasses, and salt to your taste. Bake three hours.

The mail for California from Utah in January was carried over the Sierra Nevada mountains by a Norwegian, who footed it on snow-shoes seven feet long and four inches wide, in the form of skates, and showed himself along with a pole.

Flight of the Pigeons.—Memphis (Tenn.) Bulletin of the 8th instant, says—"Yesterday, one might have reasonably thought of wild pigeons passing from a southerly direction. The sound as they pass it, like the "noise of many waters," and their appearance is serious and interesting as they expand into contrast, or change their course in the direction of their file leader.

FOREIGN SUMMARY.

The *Gazette* of last night contains a despatch from General Sir Wm. Codrington, dated the 20th ult., acknowledging the receipt of the telegraphic message from the Judge-Advocate-General in England, in reference to the soldier under the sentence of death for murder, and whose execution we have noticed in another column. The General commanding observes that there are no palliating circumstances to interfere with the just punishment due to such a crime, committed on a helpless wounded man in hospital; and that, painful though the duty may be, with a sense of the responsibility attaching to human life, but with the conviction that the decision is just and necessary he had ordered his execution in conformity with the sentence of the court.

The *Gazette de Teheran* announces that the Shah is preparing to repel, by force, any attack which an English fleet may attempt against the coasts of his empire. Troops have been sent to the provinces bordering on the Persian gulf, and the lower cours of the Euphrates.

SWITZERLAND.

A curious discussion has taken place in the Grand Council of Geneva, the principal points of which are thus explained:—The council of state, on the demand of the members of the masonic order of the temple, presented a bill for granting a gratuitous concession to that order, of a piece of ground, for erecting a chapel. The application was founded on the fact, that freemasonry was a creed, as well as any other, as freemasons recognised the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, and were bound to the practice of every virtue. General Dufour opposed the bill, and denied that a secret society could be designated as a creed. M. Camperio proposed that the bill should be referred to a committee, as the question was not to play on the word "creed," but to justily appreciate the claims of the petitioners. This proposition was opposed by M. Pictet, who said that the application was not made by the majority of the Freemasons of Geneva, but by a dissentient minority. M. Fazy supported the bill, and the proposition of its being sent to a committee. He maintained the opinion that freemasonry was a creed, and one of the purest kind, as it allowed men of all opinions to meet as friends on the same ground. He marked also that freemasonry is officially recognized in many countries; and that in France a great dignitary of the Crown is at the head of the order. After some further discussion, the grand council decided that the bill should be sent to a committee, composed of MM. Autran, Forte, Dufour, Mermoz, and Duval.

GERMANY.

A letter from Vienna of the 28th ultimo, states that, for several days previously, there had been conferences at the hotel of Baron de Werner, who has replaced, *ad interim*, Count Buol, at which were present Sir Hamilton Seymour, Viscount Sarres, and the Turkish Charge, Tan Bey. The object of these conferences is, we are assured, the memorandum of Baron de Prokesch, on the practical application of the reforms projected in Turkey. Others say, however, that the occupation of the Principalities, by troops of the three powers is the subject at issue, and it is affirmed that Baron de Werner has been charged by Count Buol to elaborate a plan to that effect, in conjunction with the Western Powers and the Porte. There have been grand doings in the ancient capital of Bohemia, in honour of the Emperor Ferdinand and the Empress Anna Maria. The *Prague Gazette* gives a detailed account of the levees, dramatic performances, balls and "tableaux;" but only the latter deserve any special mention. One of the tableaux represented Maximilian of Austria receiving a laurel-wreath from the hands of Mary of Burgundy. The performers, who were dressed in the costumes worn in Austria and Burgundy in 1477, were members of some of the first Bohemian families. Maximilian (Prince C. Arenberg) on his knee received the wreath of victory from the hands of Mary (Countess of Clam-Gallas.) Mary's suite, the vanquished rivals of Maximilian, knights, pages, heralds, &c., were represented by five noble ladies and nine gentlemen. Another tableau, entitled *Fleurs Animees* (Living Flowers,) which was represented by twenty-five young ladies, afforded extreme satisfaction to the lookers on, most of whom were military men. It was remarked that the church was also strongly represented. The opera, *Tannhauerr*, by Richard Wagner, was given by order of the Emperor, and we may, therefore, expect to hear it in Vienna, where it has not yet been performed. Fragments of Wagner's compositions have from time to time, been given here, but the connoisseurs profess not to understand them.

As many robberies have recently been committed in Hungary, the Archduke Albrecht, the Governor-General of the Crown Land, has been empowered by the Emperor to proclaim drumhead law in some districts.

The *Militar Zeitung* positively contradicts the assertion of the *Moniteur de l'Flotte*, that the Russian army in the Crimea is in "a deplorable state." We are told that as the magazines are well filled, and the soldiers paid regularly, the best spirit prevails in the army.

RUSSIA.

The greatest confidence, it is still said, is felt at St. Petersburg in a favourable issue of the negociations. The price of all kinds of merchandise is continually rising. A letter from Kalisch of the 27th February, in the *Austrian Gazette*, states that the troops in the government of Lublin and Random, in Poland number 30,000 men, not including the garrison of the fortress of Zamosc, composed of troops of reserve. The garrison of Warsaw is at present weak, as compared with its usual number.

Two Russian war-steamers, accompanied by three gunboats, have got out of Swea-borg, by breaking the ice, and have appeared in the Baltic.

TURKEY.

Public attention is entirely absorbed in the great event of the day, and all await anxiously the final result of the negotiations. Released finally, let us hope, from that hateful traditional pressure which had so long paralysed all her best efforts, and shackled every onward movement, Turkey has now attained the grand climateric, the beginning of the end, the period of transition, the most critical and important era of her annals—when, if peace be restored, the remodelling of her institutions, the security of property, the benefit of civil and religious liberty as regards all sections of her community, will offer an ample field for the occupation and ardous labours of her statesmen. The long expected *Magna Charta* of Islam was finally promulgated on the 18th ult., as a complement to the edict of Gulhane; and this noble and salutary enactment indicates above all, the generous and magnanimous sentiments which animate the young Sultan, and promises, if properly carried out, under the auspices of an honest enlightened, and patriotic ministry, to add new lustre to his reign, and strength and stability to this splendid empire.

The Minister of Finance, Mouctar Pacha, a perfect gentleman and scion of an ancient house, has, perhaps above all others, the most difficult and ungrateful task to perform as Argas of the Treasury; and if allowed to pursue unmolested his ardous occupations, it is confidently anticipated that the revenues of the empire will, ere long, be brought into perfect order, and every opportunity afforded to commercial enterprise. The Seraskier, also a no-less distinguished member of the cabinet and of this same school, is, perhaps, equally beset with dangers and perplexities, not only in the reform of his own special department, but having been entrusted latterly, besides, with the control of the ordnance and its dependencies. This latter is somewhat ardous—the Sultan's brother-in-law, Fothe Achmet Pacha, being the chief of that department, and who besides, above all other functionaries of the present day, possesses the greatest share of favour and personal influence. The accounts of the Ordnance did not appear in the last budget, but it is supposed about £2,000,000 sterling have been expended in that branch of the service since the outbreak of hostilities. The Baroutdji Bachi, or chief of the powder manufactory, an Armenian has been two or three times to England, and expended large sums in the purchase of materials for the benefit of the government. The arsenal is another department which exhausts annually enormous sums of the government revenues, and is at present under the direction of Mehemd Ali Pacha, also the Sultan's brother-in-law, and in the enjoyment of considerable influence and royal favour. A total reform of the Admirality is of the utmost importance.

One hundred millions of piastres in new paper money has been issued by the Ottoman government, but there has been much disunion in the Divan upon the measure. It appears that Omar Pasha was still at Redoubt Kaleh. The English were pushing forward their preparations for an eventual expedition into Asia, and they were enlisting labourers to be despatched to Trebizond. The Ottoman Cossacks, still inclined to insubordination, were at Shumla.

OPERATIONS IN THE CRIMEA.

Marches and reviews, and field days and inspections, and the other etceteras of what may, though somewhat improperly, be termed inactive military life, are almost all we have to speak of in connection with the Crimean army. Even in these matters there has been a sort of shortcoming, for the correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 22nd ult., says, "We have been daily expecting the review of the whole English army, which was ordered for Monday last, but, although the cold has departed, and the temperature is now mild and the ground in good order, and it has not yet come off. Meanwhile, the various divisions are frequently turned out for exercise and manœuvres—all but the Fourth Division, which has not been out since the half yearly inspections were concluded. Yesterday the Third Division was reviewed by William Eyre, and very well indeed it looked. It is one of the divisions that has been least exposed during the war, and still comprises a considerable number of old soldiers. A brigade of the Light Division was out yesterday, and another to day. The First Division had a long field day this morning. The surely never was an army in finer condition, as regards the health, robustness, and good spirits of the soldiers, than this one now in the Crimea. It is quite a pity it should baulked of another campaign. Notwithstanding we are so confidently assured that peace is as good as made reinforcements continue to arrive. 1,700 men are coming from Malta to the Fourth Division alone. About 200 of them have already landed. The war party lives in hopes that there may yet be a fight. I hear a great deal of the unhealthiness of the French army, and have reasons to fear the mortality is great. Running down the other day in the direction of Inkermann, an officer saw one of the closed carts of the *Intendance Militaire* stop at a large and deep hole. The cart was opened, and upwards of twenty corpses were shot into the pit. A layer of earth was shovelled over them and the pit was left open to receive more dead.

"After the review of the Third Division yesterday, I rode round by Inkermann. The water in the valley of the Tchernaya was thickly frozen, but there were patches of green in various sheltered places, and some parts of the ground were thickly sprinkled with the hardy small yellow crocus. The Russians were pretty quiet—only occasionally sending a shot in the direction of the bridge across the Tchernaya. A man of the Land Transport Corps had a narrow escape the day before yesterday. He was riding one mule and leading another outside the dockyard wall, when a shell struck the one he rode upon the head and exploded twenty yards off. The Zouave camp at Inkermann looks beautifully neat and clean. Nothing is allowed to lie about. Some of the huts are models of camp architecture. There is one little house, inhabited by a superior officer, which would be a pretty rustic cottage anywhere. It is whitewashed, has turrets at the angles, two windows with outside shutters in front, and a circular awning over the door. It stands in its own garden, neatly fenced in, and in which evergreen shrubs pleasantly relieve the eye, varied by the mountonous brown of the plateau. The Zouaves begin to busy themselves with their gardens, and in another month or two, if they remain where they are, their camp will, doubtless, be one of the few sights worth seeing in the corner of the Crimea occupied by the allies."

EXECUTION OF A MURDERER.

A week or two since, we gave an account of a horrible murder committed by a soldier in hospital, of his conviction and sentence. He was executed on the 23rd ult. A gray and gusty morning, a brown hill, a black gallows, with a grave beneath it, and a criminal led up with plumed arms to the dismal music of the Dead March in *Saul* composed the not very cheerful combination of circumstances and objects witnessed in front of the Light Division Camp. Before seven o'clock, one hundred men from each infantry regiment, thirty from each battery of artillery, and twenty from each division of Land Transport Corps, were formed up in a vast hollow square on Picket house Hill. There had been a driving shower half an hour before, and the troops were in their black waterproofs, which added to the lugubrious aspect of the whole scene. The wretched criminal walked steadily up to his punishment, ascended the steps without assistance, and stood firm and upright while the executioner adjusted the hope round his neck, and the white cap over his face. The wind was so high as to impede the letter operation, and occasion a little delay. At last, all preliminaries were completed; the executioner descended and drew away the plank. The drop looked rather short, but nevertheless the man appeared to die very quickly, and with scarcely, a struggle.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Caspian Gates.—Sir J. Ferguson called the attention of her Majesty's government to the necessity of taking steps for obtaining a pledge from the Russian government, to secure that the graves of her British officers and soldiers in the Crimea shall be respected, in the event of the positions at present occupied by the allied armies being evacuated.

Lord Palmerston said the question was one which must enlist the feelings of all, and the subject would not escape the attention of her Majesty's government, during the negociations which were now taking place. He did not anticipate that there would be the slightest difficulty in getting from the Russian Government an assurance—if an assurance were necessary—that monuments which recorded the fall of our brave countrymen, who had sacrificed their lives in the Crimea, should receive that respect which, throughout all civilised nations they commanded. (Hear, hear.) He must do the Russians the justice to say, that they carried on the war with all the courtesy which could be expected. (Hear.) The treatment of the gallant men who surrendered at Kars, had been most generous and humane. (Hear, hear.) They had received every attention which the generosity of victors could afford; and there was no reason to suppose that those who had so treated the living would be wanting in due respect to the dead. (Loud cheers.)

(*From the London Sunday Times.*)

RESOURCES OF TURKEY DEVELOPED.

Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question of Mr. Ewart, stated, the other evening, in the House of Commons, that the British government had long been pressing upon the Divan the necessity, both for commercial and military reasons of constructing a great road from Trebizonde to Erzeroum. The object of such a work, viewed apart from all considerations of war, would be to develop the resources of Central Asia. In old times, which we are often tempted to regard as uncivilised, there existed great caravan routes, by which, from various points on the coast of Asia Minor, Asia was penetrated to its inmost recesses, and had industry stimulated, and its productions brought down to the margin of the sea, to be distributed over the rest of the world.

The nations of western Europe have now reached a point in the growth of their own civilization which induces them once more to think of those ancient roads, and to desire that they should be again thrown open. What the commodities and productions are, which would be rendered accessible to the west by realising the schemes of enterprising projectors, we may state on some other occasion. At present, we only desire to point out the usefulness and practicability of that portion of the scheme which was alluded to the other evening in parliament.

It is, of course, well known, that the Turkish government is poor, and not very strongly animated by the spirit of enterprise. The people, also, are poor, and very much too ignorant to comprehend by what means they may be delivered from their state of indigence. But both the wealth and the intelligence which are wanting in the Ottoman empire, exist in profusion among the English people. Here, therefore, a company might be formed for constructing a road to Erzeroum, and they might be guaranteed an adequate return for their capital by the Turkish government. Probably the best means would be to suffer the company to erect toll-houses at proper distances on the road, as well as to cede to it portions of land at convenient spots on which they might establish farms or erect caravansaries and warehouses for the use of merchants and travellers.

It might probably be regarded as premature to speculate on the social and political results of such an undertaking to the people of that part of Asia. But, if we look on the surrounding countries—if we reflect on their fertility—if we examine their ancient history, and estimate properly the power they once possessed, we shall probably come to the conclusion that they might again be raised to a high degree of prosperity by the introduction of English capital and English intelligence. Even now the traveller who passes through those remote and little-visited regions finds in almost every village and cottage some proof of the high value set on English goods. The cottons of Manchester, the shawls of Glasgow, the hardware of Birmingham, the mirrors and cheap jewelry exported from London are possessed and displayed, or carefully treasured up by the natives. Yet these productions of our industry find their way into these countries with difficulty, and at very considerable cost. However low, therefore, may have been the prices for which they were originally disposed of, they become extremely dear before they reach their ultimate point of destination. None, consequently, but those who may, in some respects, be regarded as opulent, can purchase those much-coveted articles; whereas, if the means of easy transport existed, they might be placed within the reach of all, and consequently increase, to a prodigious extent, the general amount of our exports.

Our enemies, the Russians, are so well aware of the value to be attached to this commerce of Central Asia, that they may almost be said to have undertaken their Transcaucasian conquests, in order to secure a monopoly of it to themselves. The prosperity of Tiflis has been derived entirely from this trade. The Georgians, the Mingrelians, the Imeritians, and all the other Caucasian tribes subject to Russia, have been chiefly preserved in their allegiance by the permission they enjoy of participating in the wealth of Central Asia. The same thing is still more true of the Armenians, who disperse themselves over the whole east in search of gain, and oppose a stubborn perseverance to the natural and artificial difficulties which there lie in the way of commerce.

All these petty traders would be immediately eclipsed were the English to undertake the great road to Erzeroum, and turn their enterprise to account in a commercial way. We require new markets, and, if we just cast a glance at the map of Asia, we shall easily convince ourselves that we may create a new and vast field, over which to distribute our productions by executing the important work we have alluded to. The wealth of Asia Minor, which has been altogether neglected in modern times, was regarded with perfect astonishment by the old world. Should peace be established, there is no reason whatever why the whole of that fertile country should not again be reclaimed and included within the circle of civilization. At present the wandering Turkoman feeds his flock amid the ruins of ancient cities, and regions which once maintained an immense population by agriculture, by trade, and by the exercise of all the useful arts, now scarcely furnish subsistence to a few half-naked shepherds, too ignorant even to regret the wretched state of degeneracy into which they have fallen.

There is every reason to believe that many enterprising individuals, both in Great Britain and France are preparing to settle on the shores of the Black Sea, as soon as ever it shall be considered safe to do so. Some, perhaps, will be tempted by the beauty of the climate, by the picturesqueness of the landscapes, and by the easy terms on which they may become landed proprietors. But the majority, it is to be presumed, will be induced to take such a step by considerations of trade, and these will naturally verge towards the great roads leading into the interior. Immense fortunes may there be made in a very short space of time. To be thoroughly convinced of this, people have only to study the relations of the old travellers, some of whom started poor from their homes, reached Constantinople with a few dollars only in their pockets, and returned, after many years spent in delightful journeyings through the most beautiful countries in the world, with the opulence of petty princes. Nor is fortune in those parts of the world more difficult to be wooed than formerly. Nothing is wanting to success but knowledge, energy, and the protection of some powerful western government. The Divan itself could, doubtless, afford all possible encouragement to capitalists from England and France, because it must by this time have made the discovery that the resources of its dominions can develope by no other hands.

The Turks require to be instructed—to be patronised—nay, also to be assisted by the people of the West, but these, in their turn, will be able to assist themselves largely while affording aid to the Ottomans. Let us hope that the process will be begun by constructing the Erzeroum road.

FURTHER DESTRUCTION OF SEBASTOPOL.

The work of destruction proceeds, in the blowing up and down of docks and buildings. The correspondent of the *Morning Advertiser*, writing on the 23rd ult., says—"I am sure no pen can properly describe its appearance of woful desolation. Grass now begins to shoot, where, but a few months ago, the busy crowd frequented. Not one house throughout the immense extent of this once fine city is inhabitable. Gates that opened into spacious court yards and then was open, or torn away for the purpose of fuel burning. Broken picture frames, and scraps of music, are strewed about the crumbling chambers. Before us, in the fine drawing room, converted into a temporary cafe, where we drank our Bordeaux, the ceiling was shattered by a shell, that came from the French batteries, piercing the floor obliquely into the cellars beneath; and behind us was the round hole through which an English 32-pounder ball came from the opposite direction, and which 32 pounder was still actually there sitting, in the hole it had *singed* out for itself, in the beautiful flooring. The neat flower garden is a dismal, abject mounter among the wide streets of old; to the desolation, and there is no sound but the echo of their footsteps, as they tramp along to change the guard. The very air is silent—the birds dare not venture to come back to the place where night and day long the "fire infernal" in the parade of war there never was such a wreck. What other instance, where, in so short a time, out of a population of some 50,000 or 60,000, not one was left? Well may the language of the old bard, Ossian, be applied, "Not there fallen in thy hall? Mournful are the mountains, for the chief of the people are low." It is folly to call the north side, Sebastopol. Sebastopol has been taken—the whole of it. There are merely the forts and a connecting link of new made batteries on the north side. The water that divides them is from one to two miles wide, and it is evident, that, except for military purposes, there never was any intercourse between the South, and what came to be called the North Sebastopol. By the kindness of a French officer, we were allowed to inspect the new batteries that are constructed on the high point that rises just inside of where Fort Alexander stood. I am no military man, but I could not help remaking the solidity of construction, and the perfect system of ammunition angles, bomb-proof cells, and drainage, that pervaded every part of this beautiful work. Zig zag we crept along in perfect security. Even if the Russians opened fire then, and over the parapet at the extreme point, we could look down on the ruins of Fort Alexander at our feet, and the gaping loopholes of Fort Constantine, about one mile across from where we stood. The batteries are gunned, and all ready for action at an hour's notice. To my question—when they intended opening fire? the sentry, in his own expressive patois, said, 'The end of this month, or peace.' It was dusk when we got back to our horses, and by way of salute when our inspection was over—and not till then, fortunately, all that day—bang went a mortar, and whiz, whiz, come a shell, but not near us—as we galloped along the suburbs.

(*From the Times' Correspondent.*)

BRITISH CAMP AND ARMY.

Camp Before Sebastopol, February 15, 1856.

The very large number of post office orders that have lately been applied for and granted in the Crimea, sufficiently proves how much that easy mode of sending money home was needed by this army. The demand for orders has been so great, the post office at Balaklava and head quarters will probably be compelled to suspend their issue for want of the necessary printed forms. Only 1000 of these were sent out to each post office; and in the first two weeks ending Saturday, February 9, 1030 orders were given, the total amount of these being within a trifle of £3000, showing an average of not quite £3 per order. Some soldiers have sent home as much as £45 and even £20, showing how long and steadily they have been saving up their pay—and also it may be fairly inferred, the precious facility of payments as channels of remittance. The Army Works Corps, whose wages are very high, make great use of the post office to send money home, of course, at least for a time, and the soldiers do well to profit by the facility afforded them while still stationary in their extemporised winter quarters. All the books received (and they include a large number of excellent works, new, or as good as new) have been distributed equally among the different divisions and corps of the army in the Crimea, which now possess a library and reading hut in every division. The dingrams are used for lectures, now quite in vogue and well attended; the music is found useful for choirs and concerts; the games are distributed in the hospitals and general huts. It is proposed to call in the books, games, &c., at the termination of the war, and with them to establish a library in some large depot, or barrack, or permanent camp—at Aldershott for instance. There is an immense demand for school material elementary books of grammar, and arithmatic; but it is now too late to get these from England, since, before they could be received, the army would be preparing, either for another campaign, or for a return home. The establishment of libraries and extensive circulation of books among the men have stimulated their desire for an improved education. It is impossible to erect huts enough to accommodate the number of applicants for admission to educational classes. If this praiseworthy desire for instruction should be sustained, it will have been cheaply purchased at the price of books, even if these are lost. Great care is taken to preserve them. A non-commissioned officer acts as librarian; he takes down the names of borrowers, and is responsible for the safe return of the books.

The Methodist preacher sent to the Crimea by the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and whose presence here has been sanctioned by Lord Panmure, has arrived. It would, perhaps, be incorrect to say that he has commenced his spiritual labours, for he finds himself much in the position of a shepherd without a flock, the formation of which, it is presumable, is the real object of his coming. Judging from the result of inquiries I have made, there is no pretext for the introduction of a Methodist minister into the British camp. The men are all well content to class themselves under the three denominations—Church of England, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic, which have their priests and ministers here already. After having been repeatedly told the exact day and hour on which the murderer Day was to suffer the penalty of his crime, I was assured the other morning that his execution had taken place at day break. The gallows had actually been prepared, but we now learn positively that he is not to suffer death, but that his case has been referred to England. As regards strictly military news, I have very little to give you. The light siege train has begun to embark for England. Three companies marched down to Balaklava this afternoon, preceded by several of the light division bands, which played them some way on their road, and cheered by the men in their camps as they passed through. The whole of the light train is I believe to be shipped at once. Several infantry regiments have lately marched down to the Balaklava stores, into which they gave their old rifles, and received in exchange new ones on the Enfield plan. The Russians have been firing pretty heavily on the French to the right of the Karabelnaia. Our fatigue parties continue to bring up Russian cannons from Sebastopol. The enemy occasionally shells them, but with little effect, and they mind that much less than the badness of the roads they have to pass over, which greatly impedes the transport of the heavy artillery. Yesterday morning a strong party of roadmakers commenced cutting a road, to extend from that of Woronzoff to the Redan. Sir Colin Campbell resumed the army yesterday. He is to have command of a corps d'armee. To conduct it to Mediterranean garrisons, or to lead it to victory in Asia?—this is the question every one now asks himself.

Feb. 16.—The weather continues fair, but a south wind blows, and there is a dampness in the air which tells of approaching rain. The temperature is high for the season. At nine, A. M., the thermometer is at 46 deg. Fahrenheit out of doors.

Feb. 18.—The climate of the Crimea has been frequently calumniated, but its capriciousness can hardly be exaggerated. Last night, between eight and nine o'clock, a party of officers were lounging outside their mess hut, chatting and smoking, just as on a summer's night. There was no wind, the air was mild, the sky overcast, a slight, soft rain fell; it seemed like the eve of spring. This morning at 7 o'clock a driving sleet obscured the landscape, the ground was crisp with frost, the north wind moaned drearily round our huts, the quicksilver stood at 20 degrees lower than at the same hour yesterday; it was rigid, unbearable, winter. Alas! for the pleasant sites to Bardar and elsewhere, planned for the week now beginning, and for the fate of the flowers—primroses and lilies of the valley and snowdrops—which a few days of open weather had lured into premature development in many a snug and sheltered nook. We must wait yet awhile for the fragrant violet which already showed a disposition to bud in the little ravines about Inkermann; for Inkermann, the flowery spot, is in spring a violet-bed where the flowers springs up in extraordinary profusion.—The whole army has been ordered to parade at ten o'clock this morning on the open ground near the Guards' camp for a grand review, but change of weather had caused change of plan, and counter orders were received. Three or four days ago, the enemy having been misinformed by his spies that the French had evacuated Balder, showed seven sotnias of Cossacks and some infantry (about two regiments) in and on the heights above that place. Presently some strong bodies of the hostile forces retired, which retired, we by the Chasseurs d'Afrique, and one or two volleys were made. These describe the condition of the Russian army to be anything but satisfactory; owing to the want of transport and difficulty of obtaining supplies from Baktchi-Serai, the men are hungry and out of heart. A report reached me on Saturday that the French and Sardinians were shortly to make an attack on a Russian battery at the foot of the Inkermann heights, as nearly as may be in a direct line downwards from the battery known as Biboquet. I cannot ascertain that there is any foundation for this rumor as regards the French, but as regards the Sardinians I have good grounds for believing there is none. The battery in question, which is a new one, fires only at night, and it is a matter of doubt whether the fire proceeds from guns sunk in the earth (in the manner of those which last August used to send round shot from the Garden Battery into the fourth division camp) or from artillery brought up after dark.

I understand that some of the shot have fallen in the Zouaves' camp, and it is possible that the French may contemplate a dash at the battery.—Meanwhile, here we are at the 18th of February—a day on which an attack from the Russians has been, for some time past, predicted. Such reports are not unfrequent, and are, perhaps, spread by Russian agents, with the idea of harrassing the allied forces by keeping them under arms. It may be strongly and reasonably doubted whether the Russians are in any condition to attack us; most improbable it is that they would venture to do so, and most certain is the thrashing they would receive if they were so foolhardy. Attack, indeed! The very idea seems absurd, when we reflect on the successes of the campaign, the bloody repulse on the Tchernaya, and the panic and confusion that reigned in the Russian army on the 9th of September last.

Feb. 19, 9 a. m.—Having with no small difficulty succeeded in thawing my ink, I am enabled to add a postscript to say we have had one of the bitterest nights known this winter in the Crimea. It is a bright sunny morning. About half an hour ago the thermometer stood at about eleven degrees. It is now somewhat higher. Everything is frozen in the huts.

☞ The *Toronto Globe* states that a rumor prevailed on Wednesday evening, in Toronto, that despatches had been received at Government House by last mail, confirming the intelligence that a large body of troops would be immediately sent to Canada, and that the naval armament on the Halifax station would be strongly reinforced without delay.

Sad Effect of Reversed Expectations.—We learn that a farmer near Galt, C. W., who had 800 bushels of wheat, for which he had been offered the high prices of last season, but chose to keep it in the hope of getting more, hang himself last week. Another farmer near London had three years' crops on hand, which he had refused to sell at the extreme rates last fall. He is now insane, his reason giving way at the prospect of having to sell at a greatly reduced price.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Fredericton, March 29.

Progress was reported on the Bill relating to the Police Court of the city of St. John.

The several Railway Bills received a third reading, and were ordered to be sent to the Legislative Council.

Monday was set apart to go into consideration of the Bill relating to the Saint Andrews Railway.

Mr. Gray's Bill relating to St. David's Church in the city of St. John was taken up, and gave rise to an animated discussion, which continued till 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Several amendments were proposed and lost. The Bill was finally carried by a considerable majority.

Mr. Wilmot brought in a Bill to amend the act relating to the opening of Canterbury street in the city of St. John.

No other business of any importance transacted. House adjourned a few minutes after half-past five.

(*Another Despatch.*)

The Railway Bills passed a third reading in the House this morning, without division, and were afterwards taken up to the Legislative Council by Hon. Mr. Fisher.

Fredericton, March 31.

House principally occupied with routine business in the morning.

A motion to place a grant of £250 on the supply book, to be expended on the road from Indian Town to St. John, was rejected.

The House resolved itself into committee of the whole, and passed a bill relating to the Savings Banks.

On motion of Mr. End, Monday next was set apart to go into consideration of the Bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law.

The Bill to grant further facilities to the Saint Andrews and Quebec Railway Company, was taken up and supported by Boyd, Cutler, Tilley, and others. Progress reported.

House in Supply. The usual grant of £400 was appropriated to the Madras Board, after a long and tedious discussion.

The grants to superannuated school teachers also caused discussion. Some of these grants were rejected.

Several members expressed themselves opposed to the principle of granting money for the support of schools.

No other business of any importance was transacted.

House adjourned at 5 1-2 o'clock.

Fredericton, April 1.

The Bill to continue the several Acts relating to the establishment of a Police Force in the Parish of Portland, was passed in Committee this morning.

Several grants were moved to be placed on the Supply Book—the Speaker in the chair; lengthy discussion in which members warmly opposed grants which were rejected by the Trade committee.

The first Bill relating to the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway was again committed. Several speeches made. Bill finally agreed to with some amendments.

House in Supply—grants were principally to School Teachers and for educational purposes.—Discussions similar to those of yesterday took place. Among the grants was one to George T. Taylor for teaching a School in Sunbury—same gentleman also Inspector of Schools for that County. Principle of this was warmly opposed.

There was a short discussion respecting a bridge at the Grand Falls.

The second Bill relating to the St. Andrews Railway is expected to be taken up to-morrow.

House adjourned at half-past five.

Fredericton, April 2d.

There was a short discussion in the House this morning in reference to an educational pamphlet sent to each of the members by Mr. Gregory. This mode of influencing members was warmly censured by Mr. End.

The Bill relating to Mining Leases was taken up, and gave rise to much speech making. The majority of the speakers were in favour of the Bill. Progress reported.

A Bill relating to land required for Railway purposes, and a Bill relating to Municipalities were introduced by the Attorney General. Mr. Hathaway's resolution in reference to the formation of Money Grants to the Clergy of the various denominations was lost by a vote of [illegible]—the discussion occupied the greater part of the morning sitting. The Bill relating to the River St. John, introduced by Mr. A. Gray, [illegible] Cutler, Connell, Wilmot, Wetmore, Hatheway, Kerr, Lee, Gregory, Anderson and others took place, the result being the Bill was lost by a vote of [illegible]—the question will be renewed in the Council.

No other business transacted.