

**PROTESTANT MEETING IN PORT HOPE.**—A very crowded and enthusiastic meeting of the Freeholders of Port Hope, was held in the Town Hall on the evening of Tuesday March 18th, to denounce the threatened irruption of Roman Catholics *en masse* in this Province, and their contemplated settlement *en bloc* on public lands. The object of the meeting was also to denounce Bishop Charbonell's project of destroying the splendid system of Common School Education so happily established in this Province. It was freely conceded by all the speakers, with the full approbation of the meeting, that Roman Catholics should have equal rights and privileges with Protestants, but their political or social ascendancy was most strenuously deprecated. The principal speakers were N. Kirchleffer, Esq., T. Benson Esq., Rev. Jonathan Shortt.

Similar meetings are called for this week in the Township of Hope, the Township South Monaghan—and, in fact, we suppose all over the Province.—*Toronto Echo, March 28.*

### News Department.

From Papers by Steamer Arabia, April 12.

#### ENGLAND.

The Rev. G. C. Gorham, rector of Bramford Speke, near Exeter, whose controversy with the Bishop of Exeter is so well known, has had a violent rupture with a large number of his parishioners, the result of which is that they have commenced proceedings against the rev. gentleman for "brawling in church." It appears that some of the principal farmers in the parish objected to a certain inscription on the organ which has recently been erected in the church, and this was inserted in a notice convening a parish meeting as one of the subjects for consideration. Mr. Gorham objected to sign the notice in the shape presented to him, and the church-warden, Mr. Carter, jun., affixed it to the church door without his signature. On Sunday morning, previous to commencing divine service, the rev. gentleman went to Mr. Carter's pew, and, as it is alleged, asked him how he dared to put up the notice without his signature, and peremptorily ordered him to take it down and bring it to him in the vestry. For this conduct Mr. Carter, encouraged by a large number of his fellow-parishioners, has instituted proceedings against the rev. gentleman for "brawling"—*Times.*

On Tuesday last the unusual ceremony of the marriage of a (late) Roman Catholic priest by a clergyman of the Church of England, was witnessed in the parish church of St. Nicholas, Newcastle. The bridegroom was the Rev. Tobias Derome Bolton, who has for some time officiated as a priest in Newcastle, and continued to do so up to last Sunday. The lady to whom he has now united himself in marriage is Miss Stoker, daughter of the late and Sister of the present Coroner of this borough; she had also, up to this period, been ostensibly in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, but has now, in common with her husband, renounced that profession. Before the marriage, Mr. Bolton made a renunciation of Roman Catholicism in the presence of an Anglican clergyman; and he has also sent a formal abjuration to his late bishop. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Cav. C. Moody, vicar of Newcastle. Both bride and bridegroom are apparently between thirty and forty years of age. Mr. Bolton was a widower before entering the priesthood of the Church of Rome, his wife leaving him with two children. In the distress of mind which resulted from this event, he was induced to enter a monastery; and within its walls he formed the resolution to enter the priesthood. He has now left this neighbourhood, and purposes, we believe in a few days, publicly to proclaim himself a Protestant in some church in or near London.—*Newcastle Messenger.*

The *Tartar* and the *Desperate*, Government screw steamers, which had been despatched by the Lords of the Admiralty in search of the missing *Pacific*, put into Galway Bay on Monday evening, having spent nine days in searching, but could not discover any trace of the ill-fated vessel.

The "Baltic Fleet," no longer exists in official recognition; on Friday it was merged into the home fleet, when Rear-Admiral Dundas and Rear-Admiral Baynes gave up their respective appellations of Commander-in-Chief and Second-in-Command of the Baltic fleet.

The cold has set in again in the Baltic with such severity, that the communication between Sweden and Finland is carried on across the ice. The English cruisers have been obliged to withdraw, and all commercial operations are suspended in the Russian ports.

#### RUSSIA.

The news from the Crimea is fast losing its interest. The incidents chiefly arise out of attempts made at fraternisation, against orders, on both sides. New bounds had been fixed—the left bank of the Tchernaya constituting the demarcation on the part of the allies. What followed?—

"On Sunday, just above the Traktir-bridge, Mr. C—R—, a Highlander of the first water, was seen standing knee-deep in the middle of the stream—which there ran like a mill-race—and shaking hands with high-booted Russians who waded up to his position from their own right bank. Like a thorough Scotchman, he was not without a flask of whisky, and many a Muscovite returned to the shore smacking his lips for the first time over the flavour of the mountain dew. A good deal of jollity was, therefore, the consequence. 'First they came by twos and threes, and then they came by swarms.' And then they took heart, and crossed over the stream, and stood boldly on its left bank, doffing their flat caps, and smiling, and shaking hands with everybody. Fraternisation was carried to such an extent at 'Whiskey Point'—as some wag christened the spot *impromptu*—that the Zouaves interposed (in obedience to order, and much against their own will), and drove back the allies on the one side, and forced the Russians to repass the stream to their own side of the river. There had been time, however, to exchange a good many crosses for the florins of Queen Victoria. Three or four Cossacks now rode up to the Russians as they still hung about the neighbourhood of 'Whiskey Point,' and drove them back upon their own centre and right towards Inkermann. But one of those Cossacks had a lance; the others were armed with whips, and seemed well disposed to use them. Not the slightest resistance was made to their authority, though some thousands of Russian soldiers were assembled."

An amusing instance is given in a private letter of the sharpness of a Piedmontese soldier:—

"During the interview of the chiefs of the Staff some Zouaves were seen upon the banks of the Tchernaya with bottles in their hands, making signs to the Russians inviting them to come and partake. But how was it to be done? The Traktir-bridge was reserved for the passage of the Generals; possibly because it was wished to prevent a crowd at the place where the conference was being held. A multitude of officers and soldiers, nevertheless, ardently wished to cross the river to the Russians; a boatman would have made his fortune that day. Every one complained of the fate which kept him on the bank. All of a sudden a strong, healthy Sardinian soldier entered the stream, and offered, for a sou per head, to pass to the other side of the Tchernaya any one who would mount his shoulders. He was instantly overwhelmed with orders, and for two whole hours he remained in the water, transporting to the enemy's bank every amateur who presented himself. 'One soul! Every one cried out how cheap it was, and vied with each other in embarking upon the shoulders of the intrepid and generous trooper. On touching the opposite bank they tendered him their warmest thanks, rallying him a little upon doing so much for so little money. He replied with a malicious smile, which no one understood, but which nevertheless had its significance, as they very soon discovered. After the interview all who had passed the river upon the soldier's back wished to return to the left side by the same road. They called to the aquatic warrior, and made signs to him to approach; but he replied, laughing in a most provoking manner, that the water was cold, and that he was afraid of the rheumatism. 'But how are we to return to the camp?' they cried in an excited manner. 'As you have done part of the work, you must finish it.' 'I am ready to consent,' replied the cunning Piedmontese, 'but if I catch a cough, I wish to have the means of making broth as I like it. In place of a sou, you must pay me a franc.' A universal cry was raised against this increase of price, but he would not swerve from it. 'If you find it too dear,' said he with resistless argument, 'ford the stream yourself. After all, you are not so sensitive to the cold as I am, and you will find the water good enough.' In brief, it was necessary to pay him what he asked. They treated the matter as pleasantly as they could, and in a few minutes the soldier found himself in possession of a good round sum. 'Gentlemen,' said he, in withdrawing, 'I have had so much water outside, that you'll not think ill of me if I now put a little wine in.'"

The English medals have been distributed by Marshal Pelissier to the French soldiers, who are described as receiving them with much eagerness. The following order of the day was issued by the Commander-in-Chief:—

"Soldiers—A medal has been instituted by the Queen of England in commemoration of the war in the Crimea. That august ally of our Emperor has awarded this to you, as a proof of the value she places upon the many hardships and dangers you have shared in common with her own soldiers. You are about to receive this noble distinction—a mark on your breasts of the glorious and fraternal achievements of twenty fights and an ever-memorable siege. Returned to your homes, this medal will be a record, in the most secluded parishes, of the alliance of two great nations. (Signed) "A. PELISSIER."

An imperial manifesto was issued at St. Petersburg on the 1st instant, announcing the conclusion of peace.

Other despatches state "that a treaty of peace having been signed, the merchant vessels of the Western Powers will be admitted to Russian ports. The blockade of the Russian ports has been raised."

Again—"The prohibition of the export of Russian produce from Russia is repealed. The manning of the Russian row-boat flotilla has been suspended;" and "the new levy in Poland for the Russian army was stopped at the last moment."

On the other hand, an article in the St. Petersburg *Northern Bee* has created a sensation here by its virulence against England:—

"Albion," it says, "has lost its prestige, but Russia is the most vigorous of all empires. Simply, its productive powers are not sufficiently developed, and that makes it poorer than other countries."

The Emperor Alexander will, it is said, be crowned at Moscow towards the end of August.

A despatch from St. Petersburg, dated April 7, says—"To-day the maritime armistice has been published here. The Russian ports are again opened for the purposes of trade. The English General Williams is still at Tiflis."

Another from Tiflis, the same date, says—"The Persians have taken possession of the Island of Karate, in the Persian Gulf. The Minister-at-War of the Shah is dead. The Khan of Barabchan has been arrested."

From St. Petersburg we learn that the Emperor Alexander accompanied by the Grand-Dukes Constantine and Nicholas, and General Todleben, had left on a tour through Finland.

An order of the day received by the last mail notifies an innovation in the hospital department, which, coming rather late, is more likely to be useful as a precedent than for present practice:—

"It is notified, by desire of the Secretary of State for War, that Miss Nightingale is recognized by Her Majesty's Government as the General superintendent of the female nursing establishment of the military hospitals of the army. No lady, sister, or nurse, is to be transferred from one hospital to another, or introduced into any hospital, without previous consultation with her. The principal medical officer will communicate with Miss Nightingale upon all subjects connected with the female nursing establishment, and will take his instructions through that lady."

It is noticed from Kertch that the Turkish Contingent is indebted to Miss Nightingale for warm clothing, without which, the great severity of the winter would have been serious to most of them.

#### ITALY.

The *Opinione* of Turin gives the following as the articles of the Peace Treaty:—

1. Naturalisation of the Black Sea, in which Russia is allowed to maintain armed vessels for the defence of the coast.
2. Nicolaieff to be reduced to a commercial port.
3. Russia accepts the Consuls of foreign Powers in the Black Sea and the Baltic.
4. Non-construction of Bomarsund.
5. Russia gives up a portion of Bessarabia, including the fortress of Ismail;
6. Renounces the exclusive protectorate of the Principalities; and
7. Renounces the protectorate of the Greek subjects of the Porte.
8. The Danube is open to the flags of all nations.
9. A commission is to be sent to the Principalities to examine the state of public opinion and the wants of the country, and to study and fix the new frontier of Bessarabia.

"On which subjects a Congress will deliberate on the receipts of reports. These questions, therefore, are all left open."

The *Opinione* likewise states that the affairs of Italy are being discussed at the Congress, an assertion borne out by the Paris *Debate* and the correspondent of the *Times* in the French capital. The latter professes, indeed, to give a sketch of a spirited speech by Cavour, in introducing the subject, with objections made by Count Buol on the part of Austria, both as the right of the Sardinian to call himself the representative of Italy, or the Congress to entertain the