

## FROM THE STATES.

Baton Rouge, March 25.  
Gen. Smith's capture of Fort D'Russy very brilliant affair. Works were carried in half an hour.

The fort was formidable, with bastions and bomb proof, covered with railroad iron. Powerful water battery with casemates was connected with the fort.

About 900 negroes were employed in constructing earthworks.

Gen. Smith was going to thoroughly destroy the whole.

After capture expedition moved on to Alexandria, Admiral Porter removing obstructions from Red River.

Cairo despatch says Confederate force estimated at seven thousand under Forrest, advanced westward, cutting off communication with Columbus, Ky. Federal forces gone to meet them.

World's Baltimore despatch gives following estimate of Confederate army:

Lee's forces hundred thousand, embracing seventy thousand infantry, fifteen regiments cavalry.

Imboden's & Mosby's forces five thousand. Mecklenburg's command five thousand; 250 pieces artillery &c.

Polk's forces under Johnston 20,000; under Forrest, Richardson, S. D. Lee and Wirt Adams 20,000 cavalry.

In Department Gulf until recently under Beauregard, 30,000.

Beyond Mississippi under Kirby Smith 15,000. About Mobile under Maury & Claiborne 50,000. Total 275,000.

Pennsylvania Democratic Convention recommended Gen. McClellan for next President.

Flour five cents higher. Gold 68 1/2.

March 28.  
Forrest with estimated force of five thousand attacked Paducah, Ky., Friday.

Col. Hicks occupied Fort below town with eight thousand men and repulsed four attacks of enemy upon Fort.

Enemy burned large portion of town, most inhabitants having left on approach of enemy.

Federal loss twelve killed and forty wounded; over one hundred and fifty enemy killed among them Gen. Thompson.

On Thursday, enemy about two thousand strong attacked Col. Hawkins with four hundred Tennessee cavalry, near Union City who surrendered after repulsing three attacks, enemy burnt what was combustible about fortifications and carried off prisoners.

Knoxville despatch says Confederates continue active preparations for threatened raid into Kentucky.

AN ENTERPRISING WOMAN.—A married lady, residing in the neighborhood of this city, whose husband holds a position in the Boston Custom House, has been one of the largest contractors in this State for furnishing supplies to the army. Her contracts during the last year for clothing are said to have amounted to half a million dollars, and it is reported, though we are inclined to believe this must be an exaggeration, that the total amount of all her contracts since the commencement of the war, aggregate nearly two millions of dollars. On one of her contracts she lost some money, but on the others she realized some handsome profits. The business of this lady having led her to visit Beaufort, N. C., several months since she saw neglected opportunities for speculation, which she has improved to even more advantage than her Government contracts. She established two wholesale and retail stores at or near Beaufort and Morehead City, then came back to Boston, and contracted for the materials and machinery of a steam saw mill, the erection of which was carried on under her direction or superintendence, and the mill is now nearly if not quite ready to saw the logs which two hundred contrabands have been cutting for her in the pine forests of North Carolina. A vessel is now lying in port ready for sea laden with supplies for the regiment of laborers in her employ. The enterprise had success of this lady affords evidence that women need not be the helpless and dependent beings which too many of them are under our system of education, by which vast numbers of them, capable of a higher life become not much better than wax or porcelain dolls, to be dressed and used as mere household toys. It is not so in England, or on the continent of Europe; these women are frequently the successful rivals of men in the most complicated and laborious pursuits of toil and business, and they are more healthful and happy for the exercise of mind and body which they enjoy. The lady to whom we refer is well educated, moves in the best circles of society, and joins with her admirable self-reliance a sound judgment. In a few years we shall doubtless find her retiring from business with an ample fortune and settled down among the millionaires of Beacon street, or perchance in the expected Back Bay paradise of the Boston aristocracy of exclusiveness and fashionables. (Boston Traveler.)

A WARNING TO EMIGRANTS IN AMERICA.—"Manhattan" writing from New York, says: What chance has a subject of Her Majesty, or of any European nation, who arrives here a stranger, and goes to this or that lodging house? Perhaps the very first night he is made drunk or drugged. He is then searched. If he has money he is robbed of it. He is taken to camp and a uniform is put upon him. His captain, landlord, and another divide the robbery, and also get \$300 for enlisting him. He does not know what to do; helpless and hopeless, he goes with his regiment to the war if not frozen to death on Riker's Island. "Why does he,

not write or send to the British Consul?" Bah! he has no chance to do it. I have no doubt that there are at this moment 1000 honest British subjects, Irish, Scotch, Welsh or English, in the army, who have been seized and forced into it in this rascally manner before they have been a week in the city. I have heard some stories connected with it that makes my blood run cold. No foreigner should keep company with others. They should band together. If one is missing never let sleep come to them until they have roused the British Consul and rescued their countrymen from a fate worse than death. There will be horrible stories told, if these poor fellows live to get home, which is doubtful, as I believe five out of seven persons that have gone to the war from New York have perished. I have my information not from one but from many. I know that seizing emigrants, robbing them, and getting rid of them is practiced every hour of the day, and these poor helpless ones have no help except in look.

## ARRIVAL OF THE "CHINA."

New York, March 24th.—The China has arrived.

Austrians and Danes had a severe engagement at Vied. Danes were driven back; losses heavy on both sides.

In debate in House of Lords Earl Russell pronounced Austro-Prussian course unjustifiable. The debate was considered most hostile parliamentary demonstration yet made.

It had been proposed to send Channel fleet to Baltic to watch the Austrians, The King of Bavaria is dead.

Lord Palmerston also denounced the course of Austria and Prussia.

Son of the Prince of Wales christened, and named by the Queen, Albert Victor Christian Edward.

Maximilian arrived in London. Breadstuffs dull and unchanged.

Provisions steady. Consols closed on 15th Feb at 9 1/8.

Decrease in bullion for week nearly £150,000.

The Standard.

ST. ANDREWS, MARCH 30, 1864.

THE RAILWAY BILL.—The Government have submitted their Railway Bill, a synopsis of which has already been published. There appears a disposition on the part of some ultra journals to cast a slur on some of our County members, for their action on the motion to report progress, and we deem it a bare act of justice to state the facts, as they appear in the reports. Mr. GEMMER was unavoidably absent, but declared on his return to the House, that he would have voted for the motion; this is plain enough. Mr. STEVENSON's reasons were, as he stated, that a new issue was raised other than the ground for repeal upon which he stood, viz.—that owing to Canada's action, the Province was freed, and as the act stood in the way of another Railroad scheme it was better to repeal it; but when it was argued that the repeal of the act should take place because it should never have passed, it would have been inconsistent in him to vote on that ground, after his able speech and his vote to have it passed. It appeared also from the debate on Mr. Fisher's resolution, that several members who wished the Act repealed, would have been glad to wipe it off the Statute book, and why, evidently that they might justify their course of conduct in opposing the Intercolonial measures last year. Had Mr. Stevens acted consistently and voted for the repeal, he would have forfeited the confidence of his constituents; we are happy to state that his course has given much satisfaction.

We regret to notice that the American papers are indulging in uncalled for and unwarranted observations upon the decision of Judge Ritchie with reference to the Chesapeake prisoners. These observations arise either from misapprehension or mis-information, and are based upon the reports of a New York "Herald" reporter, or some equally respectable namesake the "St. Croix," "Herald," the latter paper and its renegade editor, are so well understood in New Brunswick that its foul fabrications are not heeded. That such a man would have the hardihood to write and publish such a base slander on a gentleman of Judge Ritchie's standing, as to assert that the decision "is in effect a tacit justification of piracy and murder"—and "simply adding insult to injury," does not surprise New Brunswickers; they expect no better from such a polluted source.

Should the "Herald" editor fall into the tender hands of the Attorney General, it is possible that he would give him a practical illustration of something that had—"a decidedly bad look."

The Legislative Session is fast drawing to a close, and it is now known positively that Mr. GEMMER has accepted the office of Clerk of the Peace, leaving a vacancy in the Representation of the County; the Speaker's warrant for a new election will be issued in a short time. It is currently reported that a large portion of the constituency are desirous that JOHN McADAM, Esq., should offer, and we understand that he will have no objection to do so, if requested. As no other candidate is spoken of, the election will perhaps be "commenced, carried on and ended," in one day, much to the satisfaction of a very large portion of the electors, who will be so busily engaged at their farming and other business, that they cannot spare time to electioneer, but who will give their assent by a "show of hands."

What in the world possessed the members to try to repeal the "Act for the encouragement of

Agriculture." Why not allow the Act to remain until it proved useless; and why repeal it on the eve of the Exhibition. This bears the impress of disappointed exhibition influence elsewhere. It is surprising that all the retrograde movements made this Session have arisen with men who call themselves advocates of liberalism and progress—how is this? Has a "change come over the spirit of their dreams," or has public sentiment changed? Mr. Stevens defended the Board of Agriculture and advocated the necessity of pecuniary grants for the encouragement of Agriculture. It is not likely that the Act will be repealed.

The Digdeguash River Draining Act after considerable opposition has finally passed.

How MUCH HIGHER?—Gold in the American market is quoted at 168 1/2, how much higher it will rise no one can tell; but it may be worth while to glance at the financial position of the Federal States. Without pretending to even a limited knowledge of what one of England's statesmen terms "the dismal sciences"—finance—one can exercise common sense, and gather an idea from observation. That the American stock market is and has been very sensitive, no one will deny, and that a very large share of braggadocio has been indulged in with reference to the vast system of credit must also be admitted—but to the point. How is the unstable system of credit to be upheld, while the war expenses are increasing daily? Labor has been always supposed wealth, or more correctly, wealth is the accumulated result of human labor; that the wealth of a nation is the aggregate of the wealth of its individual citizens. It has also been considered that a nation's credit is in proportion to its wealth, and that it is impossible for a length of time to found a credit upon anything but gold and silver. It has been heretofore believed that money meant gold and silver—or paper, as their representative, convertible at any time into gold or silver. But surely paper not convertible into gold or silver is in itself worthless, and must cease to circulate at its proper value. And is it not well understood, notwithstanding the vaunting of the New York press that "not a dollar has been borrowed from any foreign country to carry on the war"—that no foreign country would be disposed to credit a nation which has in more cases than one repudiated its just debts.

Already several millions of Government paper are afloat in the stock market which has been taken up and paid for in part by "greenbacks." The people, it appears, have not taken any burden upon themselves, but have availed themselves only of their credit. They are now heavily taxed, which will insure a better revenue, for the payment of the interest of their heavy and increasing debt. Even should the South be subdued, which is very probable, what possibility is there of raising a revenue from that devastated country—what is to be the issue? The enormous amount of fictitious circulating medium, is enough to sink a nation of greater wealth than the States.

THE CHARLOTTE ALBANY has risen from its ashes; it made its appearance on Friday last, in a new dress, and with considerable freshness and vigour. Our St. Stephen friends can again rejoice in their "local press." We can sympathize with Mr. Lorimer in his loss of the 14th January, having experienced a somewhat similar one by fire in 1856; true—the press and most of the type were saved, nevertheless we lost more than was known to the public, and had no insurance. Mr. Lorimer is entitled to credit for starting his paper again, without calling upon one friend to assist him pecuniarily. He can afford "to forgive those who gloated over the prospect of the "Advocate's" total extinction," and leave them to their own reflections.

The stock for the St. Stephen Branch Railroad will be taken, almost in advance of legislation, and the road located and built without delay. Mr. Wilkinson's survey may prove of considerable assistance, and Mr. Burpee is to be "on hand" in good time.

—Col. Presbyterian.

We are glad to learn from our contemporary that the "good time" is coming, but we think Mr. Burpee was not "on hand" with the St. Stephen Branch Railroad, in his paper read before the Chamber of Commerce.

The Nova Scotia Government have introduced a Resolution requesting the Administrator of the government to appoint delegates to confer with delegates from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, for the purpose of arranging a plan for the union of the three Provinces under one government and legislature. The Government of New Brunswick it is reported will introduce a similar resolution.

CHURCH WARDENS.—The Annual Election of Church Wardens and Vestrymen for All Saints' Church took place on Easter Monday, when the following were elected for the ensuing year:—

G. D. Street, J. H. Whitlock, Church Wardens.

James Stinson, Nathan Treadwell, E. H. Heath, Dr. Gove, G. F. Stickney, E. Phoenix, W. Whitlock, T. Jones, R. D. James, J. W. Street, B. K. Stevenson and M. J. C. Andrews, Vestrymen.

BERMUDA advice of the 10th inst. reports that the following blockade runners had arrived at St. George's:—

Feb. 17th, steamer Index, Wilmington, with 724 bales of cotton, 161 boxes tobacco; 19th, steamer City of Petersburg, Wilmington, 725 bales cotton 24 tierces tobacco, and steamer Florio, Glasgow; 20th, steamer

Thistle, Queenstown; March 5th, steamer Caledonia, Wilmington, with 308 bales cotton.

Steamer City of Petersburg cleared Feb. 20th, and the Florio on the 1st inst., and returned.—The Index on the 1st, the Coquette on the 3rd, and the Thistle on the 5th, all to run the blockade.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.—We have received a copy of this Report for 1863. Great improvement in many of the Volunteer Companies of Militia, are recorded, and every praise is given to the ship carpenters and mechanics for the part they have taken in the movement. The target practice it is said does not generally show the improvement that might have been expected, and officers commanding companies are requested to take more personal interest in the matter.

## ITEMS.

—A clever London optician has invented a very ingenious "spirit," whereby all sorts of writing on the wall and rapping upon tables can be done. A hand appears on the canvas; it writes a word and rubs it out again, but the spectator feels for it in vain, for neither the hand which writes nor the written words can be touched by actual touch. Only the phantom can obliterate what the phantom has written. The experiment is very strange and startling, but real science, after all, must beat the conjurors.

—New York ship builders have already constructed for the rivers and coast of China not less than twenty-four steamers, nearly half of them propellers, making an aggregate of 21,848 tons.

—Crinolines form an increasing item of railway traffic. Not less than 100 tons of crinolines are carried over the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway weekly.

—It is an interesting piece of literary intelligence to all, and will be so especially to ladies, that Mrs. Somerville, the veteran lady astronomer, now in her 82d year has just finished a scientific work of great labor and importance.

—The English government are considering the propriety of removing the government of India from Calcutta to Delhi. As the Queen has by act of Parliament become the Great Mogul, it is thought that she ought by her Viceroy to occupy the Great Mogul's city.

—The new grist mill of Messrs. Whitney, Hayden and Leary at Woodstock, grinds 3000 bushels of grain per week.

—The Centraud farmers near Norfolk, Va., had a spirited plowing match on the 10th inst., and prizes of watches and money were given to the winners.

—An extended religious interest prevails at Springfield, Mass. Immense meetings are held nightly, all in attendance manifesting the deepest interest in the exercises.

—There are rich churches in New York. St. Paul's for instance took up an imprudent collection last Sunday of twelve thousand dollars.

—Edwin Noyes, late defuncting Superintendent of the Maine Central Railroad, is now employed on the Portland and Kennebec Railroad, as Road Master.

—The telegraph the other day undertook to compliment the San Francisco weather, by saying that "red roses were in bloom" there—but some of the papers printed it "red noses!" Quite likely.

—In consequence of using a broken lantern while feeding cattle, the barn of Deacon Stephen West, in East Machias, was burned, March 4, with all the contents. Much cheaper to have a good lantern.

—There are four brothers in Thorndike, Me., by the name of Parsons, whose total height is 25 feet 3 inches. The height of each is as follows:—6 feet 1, 6 feet 3, 6 feet 4, and 6 feet 7.

—The Iowa Editorial Convention have adopted resolutions to advance the cash system for subscriptions, and refuse in all cases to receive sewing machines, India rubber goods, &c., or anything but cash for advertisements.

—The New Jersey Legislature have before it a bill "to prevent the admittance of races" in that State.

—The House Committee on Commerce have agreed to report a bill instructing the President to give notice of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty at the expiration of the term agreed to; but to notify the British Government that the U. S. Government is disposed to send Commissioners to meet theirs for the purpose of negotiating a more equitable treaty.

—The London correspondent of the New York Herald—not the best of authority—says that the young son of the Prince of Wales has only three fingers on one of his hands. The hand seems to stop at the third finger.

—The Bermuda papers state with pleasure that Captain Coxeter and his crew are not drowned.

—Miss Amelia Thacker, who is to have £18,000 in her own right when she comes of age, departs from her parents' residence of Portman Square, London, with a gentleman of military appearance. A large reward was offered for information as to her whereabouts.

—A Methodist Tea Meeting and Bazaar was held in Fredericton on Thursday evening, which was quite successful.

—Neal Dow has arrived home. He met with an enthusiastic reception.

—The celebrated London preacher Spurgeon is to visit America in May.

## Legislative Summary.

FREDERICTON, March 24.

On motion of Mr. Stevens the Digdeguash Driving Company was again in Committee for further amendment. This Bill has been carried by Mr. Stevens to the Council and re-carried.

Hon. Mr. Johnston introduced a Bill further to provide for the expenses of the Civil Government of the Province; and one further to provide for the repairs of roads, bridges, and other public works.

Hon. Mr. Smith moved, as per previous notice, for copies of all Inter-colonial Railway papers not yet before the House, showing date since 15th Feb. last. This has special reference to His Excellency's despatch which called forth the Duke of Newcastle's reply laid before the House the other day. The Secretary explained that the reason it was not included in the printed correspondence was that it would not have been courteous to the Duke of Newcastle to make a despatch public before it had been received by him. From any such idea Mr. Smith totally dissented, but the Secretary and Postmaster General had examples and precedents ready in reply.

Hon. Mr. Gray gave notice of motion for copies of Petition and all papers relating to the claims of Rogers Hunter of St. John for money lost through the negligence of the Post Office.

The House went into Committee, Mr. McClellan in the chair, on a bill to repeal the Act entitled an Act for the encouragement of Agriculture.

Col. Boyd condemned the Agricultural Board, and looked upon their session in an upstairs room during the sitting of the Legislature, which he styled an *impertinent impertinence*, as an absurdity. The Chief Com. of Works considered the Board highly useful. Hon. Mr. Fisher warmly espoused the cause of the Board; why repeal the Act just now on the eve of a Provincial Exhibition; why sweep the law away without giving it an opportunity of working itself out? The hon. gentleman expressed himself favorable to biennial Exhibitions. Mr. Cudlip did not believe in wasting the public money by keeping up Agricultural "sham parliaments" which affected no good purpose whatever. Hon. Mr. Smith was in favour of repeal; the meeting of the Board retarded the business of the House; several members of the Legislature were also members of the Board and they could not attend to both duties at the same time. He was willing to do what he could for Agriculture, but considered the Board useless. Hon. Prov. Sec. objected to a return to the old law because it did not provide for periodical Exhibitions. There was nearly as much money paid out under the old law as under the new with the exception of expenses connected with the triennial Exhibitions. Mr. Ferris said the law was unpopular in Queen's County, and he would vote for repeal, but the Secretary said that abuses which existed under the old law had been done away with, and this probably had something to do with the unpopularity of the present Act. Hon. Mr. Johnson opposed repeal. Col. Boyd reviewed the Agricultural assessments; the Kingston, Kent, Society had \$68 charged for management; there must be something wrong somewhere. The Secretary said he knew the Kingston Society imported seed largely, and he presumed the charge was for commission on sales. Mr. Kerr thought the delegates should be paid by the Societies they represented; the money was not doing the amount of good it might do; the principal good indeed that had been accomplished was the importation of stock; there should be some other principle of distribution of the money. The Board should be simplified; he would not go for repeal but wanted the "Agricultural parliament" to have a chance for its life, and argued at length the reason why. Mr. Smith was not particular one way or the other, but he said the Exhibition at Sussex had been styled "the rogues' exhibition." Mr. Stevens made a general reply, rebutting the arguments for repeal, advocating the necessity of pecuniary grants for the encouragement of Agriculture and defending the management of the Board. The debate finally grew warm, Messrs. Smith and Hatheway exchanging hot words—one declaring that the expenditure of public money in Westmorland exceeded that in York, and the other the reverse; the E. & N. A. Railway, the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway, the University, and a host of other matters "too numerous to mention" were all introduced into the squabble. It was getting near 6 o'clock, and some members were impatient to adjourn, but both members wanted to "have it out" as they said. Mr. Gillmor, forsooth, must have his finger in the pie, and pitched into the Commissioner, telling him that he (the Com.) did not know the population of his own County; that there were 2,300 people in a parish in which the Com. had said there were 130.—Mr. S. H. Gilbert wanted to give the Agricultural Board a chance to prepare for death; he would not go for repeal now, but would say to the Board "get ready." The discussion was prolonged *ad nauseam*. Mr. Stevens, in the course of his speech, touched the tender nerves of Mr. Cudlip, who said he must have an apology outside of the House. Progress was reported.

March 26.

A bill, introduced by Dr. Dow, relating to the law of rates and taxes was committed. It provides that non-residents shall be notified through the local newspapers of the amount of their taxes. By local papers are meant those papers published in the County where the property is situated. But if there are no papers in the County, then such notices are to be published in the *Regal Gazette*. Progress was reported.

The Solicitor General has said in the construction of was read a first time.

On motion of Mr. Fisher the New Brunswick, Nova India Banking Co., to do Province was then committed.

Several Bills passed on St. Medical Superintendent and Steamboat Inspector a Bill to provide for Drain of Lancaster Marshes again Bill was introduced for a diantown on Great Road. I presented for change in m Parish Officers in certain John.

Mr. Gillmor introduced raise the E. & N. Railway pany.

Consideration of Croebj claims postponed three mo Progress made in Bill in disabled seamen's dues at chi.

Mr. Tilley submitted Pi petition of W. Parks & S duties on Cotton Machinery Mr. Lindsay tried to get mittes on Woodstock Ration Bill but House in diaj Mr. Watters moved to g tion of Government Ra Smith wanted more delay.

Bill to exempt Volunte taxes to action of six dolla ter discussion. Cudlip, others supported it. Bo opposed on grounds that l next year, therefore uclei alteration.

Latest American BAN Fuller particulars of Pad est had seven thousand me on fort repulsed with great bala co-operated firing ai Federal loss fourteen kille enemy's dead left from of pulses enemy plundered many buildings. Garrison regiments and two hundr fighting gallantly.

Federal forces in Arkan ing southward and will so Texas.

The fires seen near P from burning vessels, no mainland.

Chattanooga despatch a believed falling back fro Clinch Range, 60 miles l Gold 166 1/2.

"THE CHESAPEAKE."— & A. McMillan, St. John, a copy of the case of Davi ers, arrested under a charg redacted before H. T. of lice Magistrate, and his Honor, Mr. Justice Ri cision compiled from the or It is a neatly printed pam and is for sale by the Publi

Mr. FLEMING'S SURVEY are the instructions by whi Fleming is to be guided in Intercolonial Railway out 1. You are instructed to Government of Canada to ately to a survey and exa ritory through which the railway between this Provi New Brunswick and Not run.

2. This survey and exa tended for the purpose of ernment of Canada to for the practical utility of the pr ing, and of the probable co the expediency of engaging self may be judged of in a ner.

3. The information so ob be at the service of the ot interested, if desired.

4. On a general examina try you will consider the ro on previous occasions been the object in question, as w which may seem to you w

5. Your notice will be at any obstacles which may p as requiring serious expen and to the best methods of obstacles, of of avoiding th from the direct line.

6. You will also pay atf tance of what may in other the most eligible line from the United States at variou

7. You will make your c matter of the probable cost a due regard to economy, b time to full efficiency.

8. Similar consideration as regards the survey and

9. You will endeavor to and harmonious spirit with may be appointed either on sister Colonies or of the I ment to co-operate with yo

10. The completion of t animation at as early a peri highly desirable.

11. You will report you time to time to the Provin Canada.

HIGH PRICES OF FOOD ent of the New York Har present high prices of ever jumpion as food are the