News Department.

From Canada Papers, to November 23.

STATISTICAL.—"The Second Report of the Secretary of the Board of Registration and Statistics on the Census of the Canadas for 1851, 1852," has been lately printed and distributed. The tabular portion or main body of the work consists of three Appendices, containing Returns of the Agricultural produce of Upper and Lower Canada, and of mills, manufactories &c. of Upper Canada. The Report prefixed to those Tables, extending over 48 large octavo pages, contains matter of more general interest, drawn up in a reliable and amusing form. Curious comparisons are occasionally made with like points in the last British Census. Thus, while in Great Britain the number of females exceeds that of males by 3½ per cent, in Upper Canada the males exceed the females by 6 per cent, in Lower Canada very slightly, about 1 per cent. Thus the chances of the fair sex for a matrimonial settlement are more promising in Canada, especially in the western parts, than in England. The number of widows in both Provinces nearly doubles that of widowers, and of both no fewer than 35 are over 100 years of age, while about 400 are found between the ages of 90 and 100. The Indians, those ancient or aboriginal lords of the soil, still number 6203 in Upper, 3520 in Lower Canada. Coloured persons amount to nearly 5300, of whom not a sixth part are to be found in the Eastern section of the Province. Mr. Hutton, the Secretary of the Board, who signs the Report, has entered very minutely into the statistics relating to the deaf, dumb and blind. Of these the deaf-mutes, persons both deaf and dumb from their birth, claim especial commiseration. By the patient and zealous perseverance of individuals, results amounting to miracles have been achieved in many instances, and nowhere with greater success than in the United States. The number of deaf mutes in Lower Canada amounts to 665, in Upper Canada 478, in the former the blind are 554, in the latter 316. For this excess of afflictions in the ancient section of the Province, there is one leading cause with several subordinate reasons. The Report alludes briefly to some of these, but does not at this part refer to the main cause, which is acknowledged to have physically a powerful effect, the frequency of too closely related intermarriages. Thus again in Lower Canada the number of the insane, lunatics and idiots, exceeds 1700, while in the Upper Province they do not nearly reach 1100. Some tables relating to different stages of life and longevity, are next given with suitable comments; and the causes of death and disease are succinctly considered with concomitant lists and enumerations. Lastly comes the Return of religious denominations, and much amusement may be derived from a perusal alone of the creeds not classed. Canada certainly has her share of sectarian distinctions among the countries of the earth.—*Q. Chron.*

THE NEW ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The necessity for one of the two searching parties proposed by Dr. Rae to be sent out to the Arctic regions,—viz., that for finding Capt. Collinson—has been superseded by the Captain's return, made public since Dr. Rae's arrival in England, and the publication there of his letters &c. The other will be organized as soon as the navigation of the Red River opens in the spring. The arrangement of all the details has been judiciously left in the hands of Sir George Simpson, who we learn, despatches one of his clerks and a party of Iroquois on Monday next express to the Red River settlement. They proceed via Chicago and St. Paul's, and thence overland about ov[illegible] miles to the settlement. The party organized there will proceed to Back's River, and search for the remains spoken of by the Esquimaux, and ascertain if any of the crews of the ill-fated expedition are by any chance still living amongst the Esquimaux.—*Montreal Herald.*

REVISION OF THE TARIFF.—We clip the following from the Montreal Herald:—"The new Tariff to be as follows: Sugar refined in loaves, crushed or candy, per cwt. 12s. Sugar raw, bastard and other kinds, per cwt. 7s. 6d., Molasses per gallon, 2d; Tea per lb. 1d.; Coffee per lb. 1d.; Tobacco, other than cigars and snuff per lb. 2d; Cigars, per lb. 2s; Snuff per lb. 4d; Wine in wood, not bottled, per gallon 1s. Wine in bottles, per dozen, quart, 7s. 6d.; do. in pints, 3s 9d, Whiskey per gallon 1s. 8d; Genevra or Gin, and other spirits, Whiskey, Rum or Brandy, per gallon 2s 6d; Cordials, Liqueurs and Spirits, sweetened or mixed with any other article, per gallon 4s; Dried Fruits per lb. 1d, Pimento, Anjelica, Pepper, Ground Ginger, per lb. 2d; Cassia, Cinnamon, Cloves and Root Ginger per lb. 3d; Mace and Nutmegs per lb. 7d; Macaroni and Vermicelli, per lb. 6d; Vinegar per gallon, 6d, Green Fruit, Sweetmeats, or Fruits preserved in sugar candy and molasses, and other Confectionary, for every £100 value £11 10s.; Animals of all kinds, Meats of all kinds (except hams, pork, Butter, Cheese, Flour, Indian Corn, wheat, (bear and big,) Oats, Rye, Beans and Peas, Meals of the above grain and wheat not bolted, Bran and shorts, and Hay to the [illegible] Berries, Nuts, Vegetables, Woods and Dyewoods only in dyeing, and Indigo, Bricks, Burr Stones unwrought, Coal and Coke, all Grease and Scraps, Hemp, Flax and Tow, undressed Hides, Junk and Oakum, Lard, Lead, pig or sheet, Marble in blocks unpolished, Oil, cocoanut nine and palm only, Ores of all kinds of all Metals, Pipe Clay, Resin and Rosin, Saw Logs, Ships' Water Casks in use, Tenzles, Broom Corn, Wood used in making Carpenters and Joiners' Tools, Tar and Pitch, Type Metal in blocks or pigs, Wool, Caoutchouc, Cordage of all kinds, Sail Cloth, Copper in bars or sheets, bright and black Printing Types, Printers Ink, Printing Implements of all kinds, Bookbinders Tools, Presses and Implements of all kinds, Nets and Ropes, Cotton and Flax, waste Rags, Fire Clay and Russian Hemp, Yarn, to be admitted free of duty, subject to conditions of American Reciprocity Bill, when from United States.

Latest from the Seat of War.

The *Morning Chronicle* contains the following interesting summary of the latest news from the seat of War in the East—brought by the Steamship Africa to New York, copied from American papers received by the 'America,' one of Wier's packets between Boston and this port:—

SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

Vienna Nov. 16.—A telegraphic despatch from a Russian source, dated Odessa, Nov. 11, announces that no events of importance had taken place before Sebastopol on the 6th, 7th or 8th. The Russians were occupied in repairing the damage done to the fortifications. On the 6th the allies were actively pursuing their siege operations. The situation of the besiegers on the 8th was evidently a good one. The action of the 5th had produced its effects.

The Moniteur of the 17th publishes a despatch of General Canrobert's of the 2d, and the continuation of his journal of the siege operations.

The French brigade Mayran has left Athens for the Crimea.

The Moniteur states that a 5th company of the 3rd battalion is to be immediately added to 100 regiments of the line.

Intelligence has been received at the British war department of deaths, in the action of the 5th of November, of Lieutenant General Sir George Cathcart, Brigadier-General Strangways, and Brigadier-General Goldie. The sad intelligence reached the duke of Newcastle by telegraph in cypher on the 16th, but was withheld from the public for a day, in order to afford the necessary time for communicating the painful intelligence to the widows and relatives of the deceased. Accounts received on the 17th report the deaths of Major Dalton and Major Powell, of the 49th regiment—the latter shot through the head by a Russian riflman. General Evans was on board the Simoom, laid up with diarrhœa, and the effects of a fall from a horse. A number of officers, wounded in the affair of the 5th, had arrived at Constantinople.

It is not believed that any assault will be made until the allied army is strongly reinforced.

According to the last letters the weather had become extremely cold.

The Russians were carrying stores to the north side of the harbor, and making arrangements for the transport of troops to that quarter. This induces a belief that they did not expect to be able to retain the south side.

The French had carried a mine towards the main fortifications, and, while doing so, discovered a strong Russian mine, intended to blow up the French breaching battery. The French then countermined and removed 18 cwt. of powder from the Russian mine.

Scarcely a house in Sebastopol has escaped shot and shell. The reports of the burning of the hospital and a flour magazine, and of great mortality in Sebastopol, appear to be correct.

Russian prisoners state that the authorities had inflamed the hatred of the soldiers and people towards the allies to the greatest intensity, by stating that the Russian prisoners and wounded were treated with the most barbarous cruelty. The men were therefore determined to resist to the last extremity, and made vows not to be taken alive.

Spirits were freely distributed to the troops engaged in the earth works.

A supplement to the London Gazette extraordinary contains despatches from Lord Raglan, dated Oct. 31 and Nov. 8. The first states that Major Dalton, of the 49th Regiment, was not killed, but Major Powell, of the same regiment, had fallen. The second reports progress since Oct. 28, as follows:—

"Since I wrote on the 28th ult. the enemy have considerably increased their force in the valley of Tchernaya, both in artillery, cavalry and infantry, and have extended their left, not only occupying the village of Damare, but the heights beyond it, and pushing forward pickets, and even guns, towards our extreme right, and those yesterday fired a few shots apparently to try the range, which fell somewhat short. These movements have induced me to place as strong a force as I can dispose of on the precipitous ridge in that direction, in order to prevent any attempt to get round to Balaklava by the sea, and the whole line is strengthened by a breast-work which has been thrown up by the Highland Brigade, Royal Marines, and the Turkish troops, thus effectually securing that part of the position, whilst immediately in front of the gorge, leading into town, a strong redoubt is in course of being completed, which is to be garrisoned by the 93rd regiment, and armed with several guns; and on the high ground behind and to the left manned by seamen, which terminates the position to be defended by the troops under the command of Major-General Sir Colin Campbell. Further to the left, and in a more elevated position, is the brigade of the first French division commanded by General Vinoie, ready to march to the assistance of any of the British forces that may be assailed, and maintain the connection between the troops in the valley and those on the ridge, on which the main armies are posted.

The harbor of Balaklava is under the charge of Capt. Lacres, of the Sanspareil, and rear-admiral Sir Edmund Lyons is in the roadstead outside, and is in daily communication with me. Thus, every step has been taken to secure this important point, but I shall not conceal from your grace that I should be more satisfied if I could have occupied the position in considerably greater strength.

With reference to the operations against Sebastopol, there is no material diminution in the enemy's fire and yesterday morning two hours before daylight, the cannonade from all parts of the south forts was heavy in the extreme, both on the French and English lines, and it occasioned some loss, but less than might have been expected, under the circumstances. In the meanwhile the French, who have before them the town and real body of the place, have taken advantage of the more favorable ground, and are carrying on approaches systematically on the most silent and commanding part of the enemy's lines; and they have constructed and opened batteries, the position of the fire from which has most materially damaged the Russian works, although, as yet, they have not succeeded in silencing their guns."

Italy.—The Univers has the following:—"Our letters from Rome are of the 4th. The regiment of dragoons which has been in garrison there from the commencement of the occupation, and took part in the siege of 1849, has received orders to hold itself in readiness to return to France. As there is no talk of its being replaced, its departure is considered as a step towards a complete evacuation of the papal states."

Editorial Miscellany.

THE LEGISLATURE

MET according to Proclamation on Saturday last. Thursday was remarkably fine for the season, and the usual formalities were observed. A goodly number of Ladies graced the Council Chamber. His Excellency looked well, and delivered a good speech, which will be found below. We were glad to hear a distinct recognition of the mercies of Providence, in an exemption from disease and in the abundant harvest. There was a meagre attendance of M. P. P.'s, not more than 23. Mr. Speaker looked well and dignified in his wig, and read the Speech from his chair with great propriety and ease. The members of Government re-elected since last Session were then sworn in, in presence of Honbles. H. Bell and T. Kenny. The Atty Gen. in proposing Mr. Twining as Clerk in place of Joseph Whitlock, Esq., deceased, pronounced a neat and feeling tribute to the memory of the latter, and expressed a high sense of the fitness of the former to succeed him. The Hon. Mr. Johnston, who occupied his usual seat and in his usual attitude, on the right of the chair, followed in a similar strain, and gracefully united with his political adversary in honoring the dead, and approval of the living. Mr. James was proposed and seconded in a similar manner as Clerk Assistant—both gentlemen being elected unanimously. The answer to the Speech (printed) was moved by Mr. Doyle, without comment, and seconded by Mr. M. Queen. It was decided that the Members of the