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AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

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WILLIAM DURANT,
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Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esquire, *President.*
J. W. LAWRENCE, ZEBEDEE RING, } *Directors.*
S. L. TILLEY, S. K. FOSTER, }
J. M. ROBINSON, Esquire, *Solicitor.*
ISAAC WOODWARD, Esquire, *Secretary.*

Applications for Insurance against Fire to be made at the Office of the Secretary North Market Wharf.

Provincial Insurance Company,
TORONTO, CANADA WEST.
For Marine and Fire Risks.
ST. JOHN N. B. AGENCY:
LOCAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
CHARLES MCLAUCHLAN, } Esquires.
GEORGE THOMAS, }
THOMAS BEER, R. N. }
I. WOODWARD, *Agent.*

Office—Wiggins' Brick Building, Princess-street, over the Telegraph Office. Aug. 19.

SOAP & CANDLE
MANUFACTORY.
GEORGE WOODS,
West side Water Street, between the Ferry Landing and Fish Market,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
August 29.

WM. SLEETH,
MANUFACTURER OF MONUMENTS, TABLETS AND
Architectural Ornaments,
IN MARBLE, FREESTONE AND GRANITE,
may 1 DUKE STREET, ST. JOHN, N.

DOOLEY'S
MERCHANT'S EXCHANGE HOTEL,
Post Office Building, State Street, Boston,
Terms—ONE DOLLAR per day.

THOMAS GOW,
Plumber and Gass Fitter,
NEXT ADJOINING MERRITT'S BRICK BUILDING,
WATER STREET.

HOUSE and SHIP WATER-CLOSETS; Hot Cold, and Shower BATHS; Forcing, Lifting, Common, and Engine PUMPS; SHIPS' SCUPPERS, &c. &c.—on the most approved principles LEAD PIPE of all sizes, and SHEET LEAD constantly on hand.

☞ LEAD BENDS made to order.
July 2, 1852. THOMAS GOW.

Geneva, Ale, Barley, &c.
Landing from the ships "Barbara" and "Lisbon" from London:—
20 HDS. fine Pale GENEVA;
50 Brls. Stout PORTER, "I. W. Bridges & Son;"
50 brls. East India Pale ALE, "Herberts;"
2 cases best Bengal Indigo; 4 cases No. 1 Starch;
30 kegs F. and S. F. MUSTARD;
20 do. best Ground Ginger;
4 cases Servants, Friend; 1 cask Nutmegs;
2 cases Liquorice JUICE;
5 casks Pickles, } "Crosse & Blacks.
2 do. Sauces, }
Ex "Selecia from Glasgow:
2 Puns. Cambelton WHISKY;
10 hhds. } Fine Pale GENEVA;
10 qr. casks }
20 matts Wine Bottles; 10 bales bottle Corks;
25 barrels fine Pot BARLEY;
5 bales Wrapping PAPER;
75 boxes Tobbacco Pipes, } very superior;
25 do. Woodstock, do }
10 casks Washing Soda; 2 do. Blue Vitriol;
1 cask Copperas; 2 brls. Cream Tartar.
For sale by
ROBERT ARMSTRONG,
July 7. No. 7, Dock-street.

SALT, FISH, MOLASSES, &c. &c.
SIX HUNDRED Bags Liverpool SALT;
200 Boxes Digby Smoked HERRINGS;
10 Barrels American Mess PORK;
10 Do. Prime Do.;
20 Tierces and 10 Hhds. MOLASSES;
20 Hhds. SUGAR; 10 Brls. Do.;
10 Brls. Pilot Bread; 25 Boxes Saleratus;
75 Boxes Liverpool SOAP;
10 Ditto St. John Manufacture Soap;
15 Boxes CANDLES; 15 Brls. Rye Flour;
50 Baxes Lozenges; 500 Yards Homespun;
10 Boxes PIPES; 10 Kegs Tobacco;
With a great variety of other articles, which will be sold at low rates for good pay.
In Store.—12M Bench TRENNAILS, 18 to 24.
Sept. 15 Visitor. G. M. BURNS.

We have obtained the Victory.

KENNAY & SCRIBNER,
PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURERS
South side King Square, St. John, N. B.

HAVING taken the First and Second Prizes, and the Diploma for their instruments, at the Provincial Exhibition, beg leave to inform the public that they can supply Pianofortes at the following prices:

Square Front Mahogany Piccolo,	£30	0	0
Rosewood O. G. Piccolo,	35	0	0
Do. Elegant do.	40	0	0
Cottage,	42	0	0
Semi-Cabinet,	45	10	0
Full Cabinet,	50	0	0
Elegant, with French front, turn legs, and circular bottom,	65	0	0

The whole of the above Instruments are 6 4-3 Octave to A above.

N. B.—All Instruments manufactured by K. & S. will be warranted for three years.

Every description of English and American Pianos tuned and repaired. March 18th.

LEECHES.—1 Case Superior LEECHES.—
May 12. S. L. TILLEY.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
Fire and Life Insurance Company.
Instituted in 1836.
Incorporated by Special Acts of Parliament.
Capital, Two Millions Sterling,
Unlimited liability of the Stockholders of the Company.
Subscribed Capital, £1,500,000.

Instalments called in,	£197,197	16	0
Accumulated funds,	346,972	4	9
	£544,169	14	9

THE 19th annual General Meeting of this company was held at Liverpool on the 16th Feb'ry last, when the following Report of the business of the Company during the past year was submitted:—

"The increase in the Fire Insurance Business must be satisfactory to the Proprietors, as shewing the rapid and safe progress which the Company is making. The receipts for the first year have increased considerably over those of 1852, while the losses have materially diminished.

	1852.	1853.
Receipts,	£98,654	£113,612
Losses,	59,091	42,846
Profits,	£39,563	£70,766

These results show, notwithstanding the very numerous and destructive fires that have occurred both in this country and especially in America, that great caution has been exercised in taking risks, on the part of those on whose judgement the Directors must necessarily in a great measure rely The reserved surplus fund now amounts to £143,712.

The officers for the current year at Liverpool are:

TRUSTEES.
Sir Thomas Bernard Birch, Bart.
Adam Hodgson, Esq.
Samuel Henry Thompson, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN LIVERPOOL.
Thomas Brocklebank, Esq., *Chairman.*

Thomas Booth, Esq.	Harrold Littledale, Esq.
Francis Cæsar Brunn, Esq	William Lowe, Esq.
William Earle, Esq.	Alex. Maggregor, Esq.
George Grant, Esq.	John Marriot, Esq
Francis A. Hamilton, "	Thomas Sellar, Esq.
Thomas Haigh, Esq.	Charles Saunders, Esq.
Robert Higgin, Esq.,	John Swainson, Esq.
James Aspinall Tobin, "	George, Holt, Esq.
Geo. Hall Lawrence, "	Hugh Hornby, Esq.

SWINTON BOULT, Esq., *Secretary.*

The Agent at St. John, N.B., begs the attention of parties desirous of effecting Insurance against Fire on their property, to the position of the Company, as shewn from the foregoing extract from the annual report, and to the important fact that every Shareholder of the Company is liable to the extent of his means for claims on the Company.

EDWARD ALLISON, *Agent.*
April 1. A. JACK, *Agent.*

JOHN HARRY,
Silver Smith, Jeweller & Engraver
North side of King Street, St. John, N. B., a few doors below the *Waverley House.*

MANUFACTURER of all kinds Silver Plate viz: Tea, Table, and Dessert Spoons; Forks, Ladles, Fish and Butter Knives, &c. &c.; also, Silver Cups of different patterns, which he will furnish *Cheaper* than any other House in the City. The above work is warranted to be made of Sterling Silver, and for neatness of style and superiority of finish challenges competition.

JEWELLERY made to order and repaired.

All Kinds of ENGRAVING neatly executed.

Traders, Pedlers, and others furnished with plain Gold Finger RINGS *cheaper* than can be imported. In all cases punctuality may be relied on. Cash and the highest price given for Old Silver.

Now Landing from Liverpool:
AND OFFERED FOR SALE:—
40 PANES best PLATE GLASS, from 24 inches wide to 50 long.
—ALSO—
500 Lbs. Geese FEATHERS;
50 Kegs GINGER and MUSTARD;
3 Bls. Bleached African Root GINGER;
200 Lbs. Button BLUE; 100 lbs. NUTMEGS;
100 Boxes Raisins; 750 lbs. Cooking Raisins;
150 Looking Glass PLATES;
12 Boxes Ground CINNAMON;
12 Bbls. Crushed SUGAR.
JOHN KINNEAR,
St. John, December 1.

BRITISH HOUSE,
No. 17, King Street.
The Subscribers have received per steamship "NIAGARA;"
350 Pieces Black COBURGS, assorted;
200 do. Black Alpacas and Lustres, assorted;
50 do. Mourning Dress Goods, do;
20 do. Black CRAPE, do;
With an immense variety of all description of Fancy DRESS GOODS.
Sept 1, 1854. JAMES DOHERTY & CO.

Mackerel, Socks, and Cheese.
50 BARRELS MACKEREL.
100 Doz. HOMESPUN SOCKS.
700 Lbs. CHEESE.
30 Quintals COD FISH, for Sale.
G. M. BURNS,
October 20. South Wharf

FASHIUNABLE FURS,
Received at the Cheap Hat, Cap, and Fur Store, No. 17, King street.
Ex steamers "America," "Europa," & "Imperial"
LADIES' Fashionable FURS—newest styles,—and richest Furs, warranted genuine from first houses in the trade; Gents' Fur Caps—in north and south seal Beaver, Otter, and Nutria; Gents' Fur Caps—in North and south seal beaver, otter, and nutria Gent's Fur Gloves, in mink, seal, and british sable, long and short make; Gents' Fur Coats; Otter Mufflers, and Fancy Fur SLEIGH BONES; Youth's and Children's Fur CAPS, and satin Velvet HATS; Gent's French satin Velvet HATS—from Paris, New York and Boston; ladies Gloves and Mitts, in Cloth and Fur, large variety; UMBRELLAS—in silk, alpacka, and gingham; Cloth and Storm Caps, Kossuth Hats, Reversable and India Rubber Coats; Trunks, Valises, Carpet Bags, Wool Mats and Furnishing GOODS,
Wholesale and Retail at the lowest prices.
☞ FURS, HATS, and CAPS manufactured order.
November 24. *LOCKHART & CO.*

WROUGHT NAILS.—Just arrived by the Ship John Barbour—64 Packages, consisting of 6dy., 8dy., 10dy., and 20dy. Board NAILS; Fourpenny, 5dy., and 6dy. Ox NAILS; Ninepenny and 10dy. Horse NAILS. For Sale by JOHN KINNEAR.
January 5. Prince Wm.-street.

KENNEDY'S Medical Discovery.
1 Gross just received, and for sale by
January 19. FELLOWS & CO.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL & PILLS.—Just received a fresh supply and for sale by Jan. 19. FELLOWS & CO.

PURE COD-LIVER OIL & LIME.—A further supply of this Valuable Medicine received by Steamer from Boston. W. O. SMITH

NEW GOODS.
NORTH AMERICAN CLOTHING STORE.
SEARS' BRICK BUILDING, NORTH SIDE OF KING STRT.
R. HUNTER,

HAVING completed his FALL IMPORTATION from Great Britain and the United States, has now on hand, and offers For Sale at his usually low prices, a large and varied assortment of Goods, suitable for the Season—
IN PART CONSISTS OF
Beaver, Pilot, Witney and Mohair CLOTHS, with numerous other materials suitable for Over Coats; Broad Cloths, Cassimeres, Doeskins, Tweeds, Satinets, &c., &c.
VESTINGS—In Silk Velvet, Plush, Satins, Quiltings, &c., &c.
The Clothing Department—The largest and most varied assortment of CLOTHING in the Province—cut and made up on the premises. The assortment being continually kept up, having a great number of hands employed.
The Furnishing Department comprises a general assortment of Gent's White and Fancy Shirts Collars, Shirt Fronts, Neck and Pocket Hdkfs, Fancy Ties, Mufflers, Socks, Braces, Umbrellas Carpet Bags, Valises, Trunks, Snow Stockings, Hats, Caps, &c., &c.
Goodyears' Patent India Rubber Coats, Capes and Leggins.
The principle on which this Establishment was first commenced, and which has given such general satisfaction to the public for the last five years, is still continued—that is
No second price—all Goods marked in plain figures.
Nov. 21, 1854. R. HUNTER.

Fall Importations,
FRANCIS NEIL, Sign of the Royal Arms, Water Street, Wholesale and Retail Clothing Store.

RECEIVED per Ships "Joseph Tarrat" and "Imperial" from England, "Eastern City" and "Adelaide" from Boston, a large and Extensive Stock of Mohair Whitney BEAVER, PILOTS and BEARSKIN CLOTHS; Fancy DOESKIN and CASSIMERE, TWEEDS and VESTINGS, in French cut and Plain Velvets and Satins a beautiful article purchased from the Manufacturers; Red, Blue and White FLANNELS, heavey Kerseys; Lambs Wool Shirts and Drawers; Grey White and Painted COTTONS, Orleans "Coburghs" and Luster "Coburghs."

READY-MADE CLOTHING
DEPARTMENT.
500 Men's and Boy's OVER COATS—in Mohair, Bearskin, Witney, Beaver and Pilot CLOTHS, made and Trimmed in the best style;
French Figured and plain Silk Velvets; Figured and plain Satins and Cassimeres, VESTS, Kossuth and every descriptions of Winter Vests; 2000 pair of PANTALOONS from 5s. to 25s.; Boys CLOTHING in Great Variety of Texture and prices; 500 Reefing JACKETS in Beaver and Pilot Clothes; 4 Bales of Buffaloes Robes; 2 Bales of Buffaloe and Seal Skin Coats; Goodyears Rubber Clothing of every description; Mushrat FURS, Beaver and Seal Skin CAPS; Beaver and Kossuth HATS and every description of Outfitting GOODS at this Establishment.
If you want to purchase Cheap Clothing go to the Old Established "St. John Clothing Mart," of sixteen years standing well known to be the Largest and Cheapest Establishment in the City, where all can be fitted with the best of Clothing. All Goods marked in plain figures. No Reduction.
Gentlemen's Clothing made to Order at the Shortest Notice.
F. NEILL.
St. John, N. B., Nov. 19th, 1854.

NEW GOODS for Fall Trade
AT
COMMERCE HOUSE,
KING STREET.
OCTOBER 6TH, 1854.
HORSFALL & SHERATON
Have received per Steamers "CANADA," and "NIAGARA," and Packet Ships David G. Fleming," "John Barbour," "John Bannerman," and "Joseph Tarratt";
161 Packages of English and French Goods.
Being a part of their extensive purchases for the Fall Business; and comprising a good assortment of every discription of
WOLLENS, LINENS, COTTONS.
SILKS, Furs, Hosiery, Gloves, Laces,
and SMALL WARES of every description, which are offered to Wholesale Buyers at the lowest rates, and most favourable terms.

HOUSE FURNISHING.
NEW STYLES.—Oct. 2nd, 1854.
HORSFALL & SHERETON respectfully request the attention of persons furnishing house, to the following description of GOODS, the assortment of which is superior to any heretofore in this market, and are offered at rates to suit the most economical.
Rich Gilt and Mahogany Poles and Cornices, of superior style and finish;
DAMASKS and MOREENS, in all of the Fashionable Colours, with suitable Trimmings;
Silk Brocatelles, very rich;
Silk and Wollen DAMASKS;
Cords and Tassell, for Ottoma
Rich Velvet Pile, and Tapes CARPETINGS;
Brussels 3-ply Kid dermi nsterd Scotch do.;
Hearth Rugs, Sheepskin and Rope Mats;
DRUGGETS, from 4.4 to 16.4;
English and American Floor Oil CLOTHS, new patterns, in all the useful widths;
BLANKETS, QUILTS and Counterpanes;
Table Linens and Sheetings;
Cloth, Worsted, and Linen Table COVERS, &c.
Oct. 4.

IN WANT.
MEN in want of either BOOTS, Bootees, or SHOES, will find it to their advantage to call into No. 5 Prince Wm.-Street, before purchasing else there. I have a large Stock on hand, and will sell: hem cheap for cash.
ALEXANDER A. COUGHLAN.
Prince Wm.-Street, Sept. 15.

MEN & WOMEN'S
RUB, RUB, RUBBER SHOES, For Sale Cheap.
ALEXANDER A. COUGHLAN.
Dec. 8, 1854. No. 5, Prince William Street

GEORGE F. ROUSE.
Attorney, Barrister, Conveyancer, &c. &c. &c.
☞ Office in Prince Wm. street, over the Boot and Shoe Store of M. Francis. Sept. 29.

Children's Socks and Stockings.
450 DOZEN Pairs Children's White Cotton SOCKS and STOCKINGS, very superior quality, for sale cheap by
A. A. COUGHLAN,

POETRY.

BRIEF SKETCH—EXTEMPORE—ON THE BATTLE OF INKERMANN.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

What high, immortal energetic flame
Ran thro' the British Heroes—sons of Fame!
To stand so long 'gainst more than five to one—
For savage-like, with wily steps and slow—
Veil'd by dense and misty fog—the foe,
With barb'rous vile intent, like fiends, stole on—
By one dread onslaught—plan'd by Satan's will—
To wreak triumphant vengeance on the dead!
The wounded Hero—or the dying knell!
But dimly seen—when one tremendous roar—
In ousit dire!—proclaim'd the foe before!
The Heroes sprang—and charged with martial skill—
Long, on doubtful point, the Battle raged—
And man with men, and hand with hands engaged—
With arms, revers'd, as clubs—the foemen fell!
The Lord of Hosts beheld—for Sion's sake,
And to fulfil His will—at will conceal'd—
Call'd gallant aid to clear the Battle field!
That, all, as one, of well-earn'd fame partake.
The Time's at hand—the impious Czar shall know,
With his Satanic Priests and millions too—
For crimes of Heresy—of the blackest dye!
T' attempt to mar the Eternal Three in One
To filch coequal grade from God The Son!
"The Way of Sion's Recompence" is nigh!
When fierce destruction sweeps our foes away—
And Protestants proclaim, "Millenium Day!"
Glory to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The Eternal Three in One!
The God that aids our highly favour'd Host,
Thro' Jesus—God the Son!
God save Victoria—England's glorious Queen!
Long may she live, for Sion's sake, to Reign.
J. R. L.
Lansdale, Sussex, Jan. 1st, 1855. Loyalist of '83.

LITERATURE OF THE RANKS.

Lord Farnham has received the following letter from his brother, the Rev. Captain Maxwell, of the 50th Regiment:—

Malta, Dec. 2.

You will, I sure, be surprised on finding this letter dated Malta, and I know you will be glad to learn that I am on my way home; and now for the cause of my having left the Crimea:—On the 26th of October, when sitting in the trenches with the regiment on duty, as an armed covering force for the protection of the siege batteries, a large round shot (36 pounder) hopped over the part of the parapet of the trench where I was sitting, grazing in its progress the top of my unfortunate head and inflicting a wound on the scalp. You will be astonished when I tell you that I was neither stunned nor made sick by the shock, and could hardly myself believe that I had been touched by so large and weighty a piece of metal, and yet be alive to tell the tale. However, soon after I had received injury, I began to feel that I was much more hurt than was at first thought. I never shall forget the suffering I endured for five or six days in a miserable, cold tent, with nothing but the ground to rest on, and two blankets to cover me. My face and head at last swelled up fearfully, and I was convinced that I was about to have an attack erysipelas in the head. I was then ordered on board ship, and accordingly on November 2 went on board the Arabia transport, then in Balaklava harbour, and after remaining several days at anchor there to take in sick and wounded men and officers, we put to sea, and sailed for constantinople. I derived much benefit from the voyage and sea air; and enjoyed the blessing of sleep, which I had not known for everal days when on shore. The discharge from the known for several days when on shore. The discharge from the wound (which was deep) was extraordinary, and required dressing five a day. The tightness about the pericranium, and soreness of the head generally were intense. I have indeed had the narrowest escape, ever known, and it is the wonder of all the doctors who examited me how I escaped at all; and at all events, how I did not receive concussion of the brain; but God, is his infinite mercy, ordained it otherwise, and has spared me to see you all again, which I trust I shall be permitted ere long to do. I was obliged to take up my lodging in the hospital at Scutari, in order to undergo treatment for my wound and to appear before the Medical Board. They considered my case to be one which entitled me to be sent home, and decided accordingly. I went on board the Cambria steamer, and arrived here the day before yesterday. I feel my head, thank God, much better; and the wound is quite healed, but I am told that for many months I must be very cautious, and refrain from much excitement. I forgot to mention that at the time I was struck by the shot I was engaged in eating my frugal breakfast, and most fortunately my head was bent forward, as had it been raised the heigh of an inch more, the head must have been taken off. I cannot now enter upon any account of our campaign, as I am informed the mail will shortly be closed. Indeed, I cannot bear to dwell upon all the past horrors and miseries, &c., of the war.

Letter of a youngster of 17, from the county Cork, a midshipman serving in the fleet off Sebastopol:—

December 3.—Hurra! my dear father, I have volunteered to go to the trenches, and am off to-morrow for them. We send 60 men. It will be rather cold work, but I should prefer being there, to remain down here all the winter in a state of inactivity. This is the third time I have volunteered for the trenches, and am very glad I am going to fight for Greenwhich Hospital or Westminster Abby. I am very busy getting ready. If you direct my letters to the———, they will be forwarded to me through I now belong to the second naval brigade, and our position is within 500 yards of the Russian forts, and is called the Kodi-noor battery. You must not be surprised at not hearing often, as I suppose we will not have time. If anything happens to me, my particular friend and chum will let you know; at any rate, my dear father, you will not find your son disgrace you by showing the white feather before the Russians, or any one else. I must now say good bye, &c.

Extract of a letter from a private soldier—an only son—to his mother, living in a poor cabin near Moynalty:—

The Camp at Balleklava

O! ahager Jewel—Shure its sorry your own boy wod be to listen your auld hart by telling you all the desprer work we is having been every day. Mutther of Meses, if you and my own darling Kitty—by my conscience I was near forgetting her. How is every bone in her body? As I was going to tell you when I began to speak of darling—if you and she only saw us lying in the trenches—bad luck to them—and it raining cat and dogs. Oh! an'throth and its yourself would drop sauspanful of tears for the poor fellow that left the sweet little house and the cow—not to say anything about you and Kitty—and all to seek for *ooer*. Musha and its a little of it goes a great wayhere, and mighty little I've seen unless you'd think it was the mark to get a bullet from one of those hairy vagabonds, the Rushans. Pon my conscience I'd think it muck more onerable to die of starvation in Skibereen, and be taken home and beried what you might call decently. But, a,ra macre, sure I must tell you of my coraglious exploits. You must know, avourmern, that I was one of bravest fellows in the army, so I was chosen to cross the river at Alma first; so in I dashed, and the rest of them after me; and if you only saw the biggest and shells flying about me, sure it was enough to make my heart fall. Well, I got to the other side of the river, after being wet up to my neck, and just as I reached the bank my shaco was struck off by a cannon ball, and if you only saw your own beautiful noby-head without a bit of a cashleen to save his heel from the sun, sure you would have break your hart out and out. On I marched till I got a bullet right thro' the cut of my leg; so down I fell. Well I looks about me and I sees no red coats, but lot of them hairy villains only, half dead about me, and one in particular, Holy Saint Pether! will I ever forget the cut of the vagabond till the day I get the mould over me? Well, I saw the scoundrel lift himself upon his elbow, and with great pain raise the gun and fire at me; but St. Patrick saved me, and the gun missed. With that I ev ushed over to the wretch and caught him by the gullet; and says I, "By the hole of my coat, if my mother's son had you down in Moynalty its little bee'd think of kicking half a score of ye's." Well, tho the spalpeen fired at me and I lying, I could not murther him in cold blood. Well end here, and entroth if I was down with you once more it would take a power of talking about honor to coaxe me away. And hoping you and Kitty all the happyness of the Brad's.

I remain your Son
And Kitty's ever true hearted love,
PAT BRADY.

[From a Soldier of the Royal Artillery.]

Balaklava, Dec. 2.

Nothing has happened to me yet, altho' I have stood under the fire of the enemy's guns for hours and hours, and, thank God, I am enjoying the best of health, although we never take off any of our clothes. The words "Stand to your arms" runs throughout the camp like lightning, and every man puts on his sword in a moment and is at his gun ready to give the Cossack welcome, and the same with the infantry. They lie down in their tents or wherever they are, with their firelock loaded on the half-cock, wrapped inside of their blankets. Now this is the way we have to live around Sebastopol. Not many nights cover our head but we have to turn out once or twice either by the Cossacks coming down upon our outlying pickets, or by the Turkish pickets giving false alarms; for if they only see a large dog they will fire their muskets at them, thinking they are the Cossacks. Then of course every man is at his gun, and after a while it turns out a bottle of smoke. Then, I am sorry to say, a great many of our men give them an oath or two. Those Turkish soldiers are bad ones—we are obliged to keep them in the centre of our troops; we cannot trust them to a position to defend, for as soon as a shot or two go through their ranks they will run, but by having them in the centre and a few of our troops in the rear, they must stand their ground or else they will get their brains knocked out. We have a fine old General commanding our division, Sir C. Campbell. It comprises the 93rd, 42nd, 79th, Highlanders, about 700 or 800 Marines, about 400 sailors, about 5,000 of the French, and the same number of the Turks. Some are up on hills of tremendous height, called the hills of Balaklava. The road from this to Sebastopol is up above a man's knee in mud, with so much rain that has fallen here this last fortnight and is likely to continue for a while longer. The traffic is very great between us drawing up heavy guns and others drawing rations. We are obliged to have from 20 to 30 horses drawing one gun, and every thing must go on, rain or shine, or else the enemy will take the advantage. But here we are, soldiers, sailors, and everybody else, whistling or singing, and us splashing through the mud, and the rain coming down in streams, and obliged to let our clothes remain on, but all content! We expect to storm Sebastopol in a day or two. That will be a great day's fighting, and I live in hopes that I might be able to tell you that the English flag waves on the doomed town, but great will be the struggle. If you were only here to see us you would scarce know us, with our long beards and hairy lips. Some of our men's faces are covered with hair, which is very acceptable to keep the cold dew off . . . . Everything is very dear; a shirt that cost two shillings at home costs five here, fourpence for a halfpenny candle, so you must guess how dear everything else is here. But, thank God, I do not despair yet. We are preparing huts for the winter, for if the war ends before the new year, we cannot possibly get home thro' the rough weather. So we all expect to be home in the summer, if God permits. Our infantry expect to go to the Baltic next summer.

[From a Non-commissioned Officer.]

Camp, near Sebastopol, Dec. 2, 1854.

We are very busily employed, when we have spare time, in erecting huts, to protect us from the inclemency of the approaching winter. Just lately we have been completely inundated by the heavy falls of rain; our camp is a miserable-looking place, up to the knees in mud. Oh! for a pair of good long sleeve boots, what a valuable acquisition they would be! The Commander-in-Chief of the forces, with his usual liberality, is going to furnish every soldier here with one flanned shirt, and one pair of woollen stockings, from his own private purse, and I believe we have likewise a new suit of clothes each on their way out from England, and also a second blanket per man to be issued; so on the whole I think we shall be able to winter in the trenches, especially if our fuel (the brushwood on the common) holds out. We get two glasses of rum daily, and a third if coming off duty. Our men believe in this; they say it is the only thing that stands to them; as for myself, I am getting quite fond of it; I take it medicinally, because I think it highly necessary; in fact, I consider a person could not exist in this country, undergoing the same privations as we do, viz., lying on the ground, sleeping in the wet trenches night after night, never taking off clothes, not so much as boots, never a change of dress, up to the knees in mud, being wet through, and letting the clothes dry on your back, and everlastingly being exposed to the wind, rain, snow, and last, though not least, the night air, without the aid of stimulants. Our rations are very good, altho' the biscuit is rather scarce, or else my appetite has sharpened of late with the cold weather. We made an attack on one of the Russian advanced posts, and took it the other night, with loss of one officer (Riles), one man killed, and 12 wounded. The deceased officer was brother to Captain Tyson; he was reckoned the best shot in the army; it is said he shot, with his own hand, on the 5th of November (the battle of Inkerman) 35 Russians. The position gained is a very valuable one; it commands one of the branches of the harbour where most of the enemy's shipping is kid. I believe it is intended to construct a battery on that spot to destroy the shipping. I pity those new regiments that come out here, they lose such lots of men by cholera; it has almost disappeared from the old regiments; now and then some of the latest comers take it, especially it coming from Scutari or Varna. We buried three one day, but two out of the three had only been here a fortnight, having arrived from Scutari, where they have been in hospital. There seems to be very little going on between us and the Russians, scarcely a shot exchanged during the day; the only time Jack Russ likes to catch us is when relieving picket, or coming or going; if late leaving the battery at day-break we are sure to be seen, and then such a volley of shot and shell he sends after us; but we generally "dodge" them—very few of us get hurt. We received a fine draft from England last week, fine young fellows, nearly all volunteers from the Militia. It is very amusing to watch them while being initiated by some old hands in coffee roasting, grinding, cooking, &c.; or while listening to the hair-breadth escapes during the recent battles, or the last sortie made by the enemy, or night attacks made on working parties, or tales of the Russian officer, and the white horse that cannot be shot and killed. How intently they watch the countenance of the relater.

N.B.—(On the envelope.)—We have just received our Guernsey shirts.

The following letter is dated Balaklava, Dec. 8, 1854:—

Here we are, going on very quietly, nothing alarmed, that I can distinguish, for the last two months in the direction of Sebastopol. The Russian army, which for some time past has been threatening Balaklava, is withdrawn; they say fallen back on the Belbeck. A report, too, is afloat in the town to-day that a great fight has taken place again at the Alma between the Russians and 4,000 French, supported by a large force of Janissaries that were landed at Eupatoria nearly a fortnight since. No result is given, though the withdrawal of the army has given rise to hopes of a victory having been again obtained there. Sickness is again commencing to devastate our army, 30 men at least *per diem* dying from cholera and dysentery. Fever and rheumatism become general,—just what one might expect from the fact of men being hard worked, ill-fed, ill-clothed and never dry. Hardly an officer, and not a man, has a dry bed to lie down upon. Many of the men have not been really dry for now close upon three weeks; added to this is another misfortune, in the shape of scarcity of fuel, which compels a great majority of the army to eat their rations of salt pork uncooked.

A great number of the commissariat animals are dying daily, and many fear that an issue of short rations will be the result. Large quantities of warm clothing are now being distributed, which is unquestionably a great boon to the poor men. On the whole I fancy the spirits of the army are better to-day than for many past.

They seem to fancy that the retreat of this force from Balaklava will allow Lord Raglan to concentrate his attention on Sebastopol, which may result in some bold, and, it is to be hoped, successful attempt to get possession of it. There is no use attempting to conceal the fact that it will not be taken without great loss to the attacking party.—This has settled down into a firm conviction in the minds of nearly all fighting men, and yet one and all are earnestly praying for the moment that shall win them an honourable retreat out of this miserable position, or a hero's death, that makes it a matter of indifference what the issue be. Lord Raglan is getting into great disrepute for want of proper attention to the comforts of his troops.—They say he receives news of the sickness, misery and death surrounding him with observant impatient shrug of disbelief, or a petulant exclamation of "Oh, you are merely exaggerating; quite impossible things are so bad as all that." You will say at once that it is an easy matter for himself to inquire into the actual truth of such reports by a personal inspection of each division; the answer to this is, that many of the regiments have never seen him, or he them, since the Alma.

[From a Correspondent of the United Service Gazette.]

Yesterday (Dec. 3), I witnessed the most extraordinary instance of escape from death which has occurred since we have been in the Crimea. The covering-parties in the trenches who are not actually on sentry, have excavated large holes in the bank, inside of the guns, to screen themselves from the cold wind. Two men had ensconced themselves in one of these holes, and were comfortably rolled in their blankets, when a large shell fell exactly between them, without injuring either; one of the men, who happened to be awake, got out as quickly as he could, but the other poor fellow, who was sound asleep, remained quietly "taking his rest," wrapped up in his blankets, unconscious of his danger; most fortunately the fuze had been extinguished in its flight, or had burst out without reaching the inside, and the shell did not explode. Had it not been for this fortunate circumstance, the two men and some officers standing near would, in all probability, have been killed or maimed on the spot. Our first impulse was to throw ourselves flat on the ground, as the only chance of escape, and we remained there some time before being satisfied that the fuze was not burning. We then awoke the man who had remained in the hole from his sleep, which was nearly proving his last, but who, for some time, did not appear to comprehend the danger he had escaped, and after a little time, and rubbing his eyes, he said, "Damn them, I'll knock over a few more Russians for this trick that they have played me."

[Extract from a letter dated Balaklava, Dec. 13.]

Finer weather seems now to have set in. Cavalry and artillery, in two or three days more, will be able to manœuvre on any ground, and then you may expect news of another battle. Depend upon it 40,000 men, under an able General, will not stay quiet in their cantonments, watching us destroying Sebastopol, without some desperate efforts to raise the siege and raise the siege.

[illegible] Regiment, 1,000 strong, has arrived from [illegible]; 3,500 French have also landed at Kerson.

All kinds of provisions are at fam ne prices: 14s. for a goose, 7s. 6d. for fowls, 5s. a lb. for ham and so on.

THE ATTACK ON LORD RAGLAN BY THE "TIMES."

The *United Service Gazette* explains the reasons of the late attack on Lord Raglan in the following article:—

The public mind, "that very fiery particle," had a narrow escape of being "snuffed out" by an article in the *Times* of Saturday last. The leading journal has been lately seized with a morbid antipathy to everything connected with the siege operations before Sebastopol. The antipathy dates from the sudden appearance of the Foreign Enlistment Bill without due notice being given to the *Times* of the Ministerial intentions, and it is also hinted that the coevally with this piece of official reserve came the news that the cold shoulder had had been given to "our own correspondent" in the Crimea. Happily, the article which was intended to arouse popular feeling missed fire. People did not echo the cry that everything was badly conducted in the Crimea, and that Lord Ragian wanted accessibility, and "Head, head, head." They simply asked themselves what all this bubbub was about—what the *Times* meant—what was the cause of so singular an outbreak—what was there behind the scenes? The leading journal saw it had made a mistake, and became as and only silent as it had previously been spontaneously vociferous. Altogether the exhibition was unfortunate—anything but creditable to the chief member of the British press.

We do not suppose that the onslaught will be repeated—but lest there should be a second edition of the attack, it may be as well to put on record that the allegation that Lord Raglan keeps himself entirely out of sight of the officers and men, and is unfit for the high task entrusted to him, is very remote from the truth. Our contemporary has been entirely misinformed. We grant that the British commander is not quite so much the companion of his subordinate as General Canrobert, and that he does not ride from place to place with the rapidity which used to characterise the Duke of Wellington in the hey day of his manhood; but we thought like to know whether there is any affinity between British and French soldiers—whether the *camaraderie* now deemed so necessary is quite compatible with the relative positions of officers and men—whether, in a word, advantage would not be taken of the familiarities so strongly inculcated? The French soldier, in the most familiar intercourse with his officer, never forgets what is due to superior rank—a colonel may, with impunity, light his cigar at a private's pipe.—The British soldier, on the other hand, is prone to mistake the courtesy of a subaltern; his obedience and love are best secured by his being kept at a reasonable distance. That Lord Raglan is not "Jack and Tom" with his subordinates may therefore be admitted, but that he is [illegible] himself [illegible], and is rarely among them, the following paragraph from the correspondence column of the *Morning Post*, published only three or four days since, sufficiently disproves it:

"Dec. 5.—Lord Raglan and the members of his staff rode through the whole of the British camp yesterday. After the drenching rain of the pre-