

Legislative Council
Care of
Mr. Bonn

The Conception-Bay Man.

"TRUTH—EVER LOVELY SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN,"
"THE FOE OF TYRANTS AND THE FRIEND OF MAN."

VOL. 1. HARBOUR GRACE, NEWFOUNDLAND, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1856. NO. 1.

PROSPECTUS OF A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, TO BE ENTITLED "THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN."

THE Subscriber intends publishing a Weekly Newspaper at Harbour Grace, in Conception-Bay, about the last of the ensuing month of July.

It is unnecessary for him to make any observations upon the convenience and usefulness of a Local Journal in so populous and wealthy a district as that of Conception-Bay. That is admitted by every one. But it is necessary to state the political principles which shall guide such a Journal.

- 1st.—The Conception-Bay Man, shall be a strong advocate for the perpetuation of the true principles of Responsible Government.
- 2ndly.—Equality of political rights and privileges among all religious creeds.
- 3rdly.—We shall maintain Native Rights above all other, when character and qualification are equal.
- 4thly.—This Journal shall be the strenuous advocate, first, of the Fisheries—next of Agriculture.
- 5thly.—It shall in all matters of local interest, maintain a perfectly independent course.

Its Motto shall be TRUTH.
"Truth ever lovely since the world began,
The foe of tyrants and the friend of man."
We shall attack no party unless we ourselves are assailed—we shall enunciate our views of Constitutional Responsible Government and if these views be not in accordance with the views of others, we shall endeavor to defend them in the spirit of free discussion—but no interest shall cause us to blink the grand end of responsible rule—"The greatest happiness of the greatest number."

We shall endeavor by every means in our power to make the Conception-Bay Man an interesting weekly visitor, a political instructor to the rising genius of the colony, and a welcome moral miscellany.

As an advertising medium it will offer great advantages, circulating as it will a few hours after publication among a population of upwards of 50,000 people.

The price of the Conception-Bay Man will be fifteen shillings, per annum, half in advance.

It will be published on a demy sheet, and will contain sixteen columns.

The first number will be generally distributed, and those who feel desirous to support the establishment of a newspaper in Conception-Bay, by becoming SUBSCRIBERS, will please notify the undersigned now, or after they shall have received the first number, their intention of doing so, and to whom all correspondence must be addressed.

We are promised considerable support in St. John's, and anticipate nothing like disappointment.

GEORGE WEBBER.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

From *Wilmher*, July 26.

It seems not impossible that Spain may be again subjected to all the horrors of a civil war. The latest news is to the effect that the Queen and O'Donnell have triumphed in the capital, but that the Cortes is likely to establish itself in Arragon, and thence to wage war on Isabella and her advisers, in the name of Liberty and the Constitution. The Spanish race, both

in the Old and New World, has been now for so many years torn by intestine discords, political commotions have been so unceasing, that, like the tremblings of their volcanic soil, they have ceased to excite the notice of the world. The names of Narvaez, Espartero, and O'Donnell are connected in men's minds with violent disputes, incessant and unscrupulous intrigue, revolutions and counter-revolutions, but it cannot be said that the affairs of Spain are the subject of much attention, except among professed diplomatists. This time, however, the thing may possibly be serious. It is not now a question of succession, but a struggle of the principle of despotism, strong fore-armed, determined, and perhaps acquiesced in by a great part of the nation, against the principle of constitutional liberty, which in Spain has been weakened by many failures, but still preserves to a great extent the affections of a people not wanting in spirit and self-dependence. Espartero has long been the chief of the Liberal party. His great services to the reigning sovereign, his high rank, and his place in the national estimation would seem sufficient to protect him from any but legitimate opposition in the event of a change.

But Liberal principles are not to the taste of the royal lady who sits on the throne of Spain, and she has no lack of advisers who prompt her to follow her own inclination. Of these, one of the most courageous and unscrupulous is O'Donnell. This man, a hardy and determined soldier, and staunch adherent to despotic principles, is now the virtual ruler of Spain. Espartero, always somewhat irresolute and inactive, is now worn with age, and has held power for the last few years more from the strength of his former reputation than through any present vigour. If report be true, the Queen, the King, and O'Donnell thought that the time had come for a great victory over the Constitution, which gives them so much trouble. The Queen was anxious to be rid of the attendants with whom a Liberal Government surrounded her, and the restraints which it considered necessary to her position. O'Donnell was, of course, only desirous to grasp the power which should fall from the hands of his rival. A first essay is said to have been made some time since. Obviously the best plan for a ruler who wishes to be despotic is to encourage popular risings, which he knows he has power to suppress. The Queen and her adviser are supposed to have initiated and then to have crushed the insurrection in Valencia. Now the same coup d'état has been tried in Madrid. A Ministerial dispute, a resignation of the Liberal chief, a revolt of the National Guard, and their defeat by an overwhelming military force, are events which naturally preclude the establishment of something like pure despotism at Madrid. Everything was in readiness for an outbreak; we learn that 18,000 men were at once concentrated in the capital. The success of the Queen was certain from the beginning; and now the Constitution, on which the moral claim of the present Queen is based,

exists no longer in the capital of the country.

But Spain is not a land of centralisation. She resisted Napoleon because each province had a feeling of independence, and would not submit to an enemy merely because he occupies Madrid. Liberty driven from the capital finds refuge in Arragon. The provinces which lie between Madrid and the Pyrenees are strongholds of the Constitutional party. The present retreat of Espartero is unknown, but his friends hold command in Saragossa. The troops and the National Guard have both joined the same cause, and made that city the head-quarters of a Constitutional Government. Eighty-five members of the Cortes have retired from Madrid to Saragossa, and will no doubt be joined by as many more of the Liberal party as can escape thither. In Arragon the Constitutionists have long anticipated a struggle, and are believed to be not unprepared. It is therefore not impossible that a stern contest may be expected. Madrid is crushed, Barcelona is said to be quiet, but a strong inland district is still unconquered, and may resist a larger force than the successful Government can bring against it. On the other hand, the Queen and O'Donnell are no doubt eager to complete their victory, and the character of the Minister is not such as to make us doubt that he will resort to all means for the enforcement of submission. Spain is a country so little known and so difficult to understand that no one can venture to say what a day may bring forth. The Royal authority may triumph easily, or many months of bloodshed may add another page to the annals of distracted Spain. All that we can do is to point out the direction to which events seem tending. The assembling of the Cortes at Saragossa divests the resistance of its merely insurrectionary character. The contest now resembles that of the Long Parliament against Charles I, and we can conceive that thousands who are not Republicans, and would repudiate the thought of treason, may now feel at liberty to fight for the assembly which, in the name of law and the constitution, calls on them to resist a tyrannical Government. A singular coincidence is likely to furnish the insurgents with the sinews of war. A convoy of 13,000,000*l.* from the Credit Mobilier has just entered Spain, it has to pass through the provinces in arms against the crown; and, if Spain be not changed from its ancient character, little of this money is likely to reach Madrid.

Such is the state of Spain after so many years of what is called a Constitutional reign. The sword is to decide between the Sovereign and the institutions with which the law has surrounded her. The position of the Queen is indeed deplorable. All that made men fight for her in former times is now destroyed. She represented the hope, if not the fulfilment of a liberal policy. The Monarch who was, according to the old Spanish law, legitimate, found the country against him because he was resolute to support despotic government, and to submit himself and those

he ruled unconditionally to the priesthood. For these reasons the infant Isabella's claim became the rallying cry of the nation, and roused neighbouring peoples to sympathy and help. But what now remains of the Christiano's hopes? What argument can he bring against the Carlist who is obstinate in the assertion of divine right? The Queen's title rests on the Constitution, and the Constitution she is bent on destroying. She is Queen now only by possession; if she reigns neither by the right of sovereign nor the rights of the people, her title is indeed endangered. However, we have nothing to do but to stand apart, interested, but still not interfering. We know too little of that mysterious country to say whether its ultimate happiness is to be insured by the ascendancy of an Espartero or an O'Donnell. We should be glad to see a free Government, but there are things still more necessary—tranquillity and a cessation from civil strife. We cannot say whether Spaniards are ever to be a race self-governed, with all those feelings of responsibility and civil reciprocity which characterise free citizens. It may be that they are incapable of such a condition, and the constitution, after the British pattern, may be doomed to perish. But one thing every nation may possess,—a Government expressing its feelings and answering its expectations; such a Government, we trust, will in some form or another be the result of the long trials which Spain has endured.

THE CRIMEA.

The 'Constantinople Journal' of the 10th inst. contains the following letter, dated Kamiesh, 5th:— Marshal Pelissier having issued the last orders for the complete embarkation of the troops and war materiel on the 4th and 5th, all the ships of war and transports on board of which they had been placed went into the roads to await the signal of departure. The troops and the personnel of the intendance, the provision department, the treasury, gendarmerie, and police, still amounted to about 8000 men. At nine o'clock in the morning of the 5th the marshal, after taking leave of Sir William Codrington and the Russian authorities, arrived in his carriage at Kamiesh, and having got into a boat repaired on board the steamer Roland with General Martimprey and the other officers of his staff. At three o'clock p.m., the Roland weighed anchor, followed by the Bretagne, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Trehouart, and a number of steamers towing the transports lying in the roads. At that moment the English admiral's ship fired in honour of Marshal Pelissier a salute of nineteen guns, which was returned by the Bretagne. The troops embarked consisted of the 44th and 94th regiments of the line and the 17th battalion of Chasseurs. When the Marshal left the roads of Kamiesh a Russian battalion of infantry and a sotnia of Cossacks, commanded by a superior officer, took possession of the town, and hoisted the Russian flag, in lieu of the French colours, which had