

British Merchant Shipping.

The Russian preparations to attack British commerce attract great attention. The Times in its leading editorial on the general situation refers thereto. It says: "The United States may be depended upon to do all in their power to observe the Treaty of Washington, but even if the Russians succeed in equipping their little fleet it will hardly do much mischief, and is more likely to fall victims to our own cruisers than to inflict damage on our merchantmen. We might have some trouble at first, but a short time will suffice to clear the seas and make the passage of our vessels from one port to another as safe as now."

News from Samoa reports the British gunboat "Sapphire" has seized a small vessel, representing the Samoan navy, in satisfaction of indemnity claimed for losses sustained by a British subject at the time of Steinberger's troubles.

The tables showing the progress of British merchant shipping, which have just been issued for the year 1877, embody some remarkable figures illustrative of the growth and magnitude of our commercial marine. It can no longer be said that Britain is the workshop of the world in the full sense in which that was the case thirty or forty years ago, it is at least certain that she does the carrying business of the world. Not only is the great proportion of her own enormous trade conducted under her own flag, but much of the trade of other countries, as well with one another as with the United Kingdom. In 1877, the total tonnage of the vessels which entered and cleared with cargoes at ports in the three kingdoms—entirely excluding the coasting trade—was 43,326,980 tons; and of this immense total, 30,252,481 tons were British. Of all the vessels engaged in our over sea trade which entered and cleared during the year, both with cargoes and in ballast, at the ports of the United Kingdom, 87.5 per cent, or fully two-thirds, were under our flag. There is no other maritime country in which the proportion of native owned shipping at all approaches this, with the solitary exception of Norway, where, in 1876—the latest year for which the statistics are available—71.4 per cent, of the shipping that entered and cleared was Norwegian.

The size of our merchant navy bears a due proportion to the magnitude of the work it has to perform. The total tonnage of the ships entered on the registers of the British Empire for over-sea trade in 1887 was 8,133,837 tons.

These facts, and some others which may be extracted from the interesting tables mentioned above, are of great importance in view of the possibility, which unhappily cannot be ignored, that this country may ere long find itself involved in a war. It is obvious, in the first place, that a maritime commerce like ours—a commerce of which the like has never before been seen, which is carried over every sea—is, for that very reason, peculiarly exposed to attack. Russia may be impotent to assail us by land; but we have maritime interests of enormous magnitude, and though it may be admitted that our power of protecting those interests is very great, it is not and cannot be perfect. The experience of the United States on this point should be instructive.

The negotiations for a union between the Reformed Presbyterians and the Original Secession Church, in Scotland, have been suspended. The differences of opinion regarding the principle of "Covenant obligations" are found to be insurmountable, for the present at least.

LAWRENCE FENIANS.—A rumor is prevalent at Lawrence, Mass., that an English emissary is there inquiring into the strength of the Irish Nationalists. The report gained such credence that a watch was placed upon a suspicious looking individual who has been in the city the past two weeks unemployed, going among the Irish saloon keepers most of the time and spending considerable money. There is an unusual activity in the Fenian circles in Lawrence, and the leaders make no secret that in the event of war between Russia and England, Lawrence will furnish a large quota of Fenians as they did for the Canadian raids.

The Cape Ann Advertiser deserves a leather medal for its ability to compress so much bosh into so small a compass as it has done in the following extract:—

"The threatening relations between Great Britain and Russia, and the probability that the latter power may soon have a fleet of swift steamers afloat to harass English commerce tends to retard the shipment of fish from the provinces. The people there prefer to send their fish overland to the West, disposing of them at sacrifice, and thus unsettling our markets, rather than to run the risk of capture and loss, in order to secure better returns from the tropics. Nova Scotia fattened for half a dozen years on the misfortune of this country. If Russia and England come to blows the Nova Scotians will see their commerce knocked in the head, and have an opportunity of seeing another power thrive at their expense."

But in the way of predicting trouble and evil for these Provinces the Advertiser is no match for the Halifax Herald.

DELHI, Ont., May 22.—A most destructive fire occurred here this morning, commencing about 3 o'clock, consuming twelve buildings. The fire originated in an unoccupied store and dwelling owned by Mr. E. Morgan, which was being fitted up, the carpenter's tools being consumed. Total loss about \$10,000; insurance, \$2,500. The

fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

WATERPOOTS.—The theory of the water-pout is still somewhat unsettled, notwithstanding the numerous observations which have been made. Generally it appears as a diminutive whirlwind, lasting from a few seconds to an hour, and reaching down from the under surface of a cloud to, or nearly to, the surface of the earth or sea. In the center of this whirlwind appears a slender column of water or of dense vapour, probably hollow, and the air whirling around it is sometimes ascending, but more generally a descending current. The cloud, burst of Eastern Nevada, which have at times caused much damage, are of the latter type. Certain portions of the globe are peculiarly subject to waterpouts, which thus, like cyclones, have somewhat of a local character.

The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, May 29, 1878.

THE CANDIDATES for the local legislature whose cards are published in these columns, are well known to the electors, and being desirous to act impartially, we cannot exalt one above another, while, at the same time as an elector, we have, like others, our preferences, which will be acted on through the ballot box. We hold, and we believe correctly, that no man is respected, indeed no man can be respected, who has no opinions of his own, and we can respect a man of strong and decided convictions, even though he may differ from us, admitting that there is "a stern joy which warriors feel in foemen worthy of their steel."

The three late members, who are seeking reelection, Messrs. Stevenson, Cotterell, and McKay, have a political record, with which the constituency are familiar. The new candidates Messrs. Lyne, McGee, Dr. Cameron and D. Main are men of intelligence and ability; two of them Messrs. Lyne and McGee are natives of this County, and were candidates at a former election, and proved themselves men of thought and good speaking power, they have many warm political friends throughout the county, who it is probable will work hard to secure their election. Mr. McGee retired at the nomination at the last election, but promised to be a candidate on another occasion, which he has fulfilled. Mr. Lyne ran his election in 1870, and received a large vote, but was defeated by a small majority; in his address at the declaration, he said "he hoped on the next occasion, the young candidates would receive more generous support," and present appearances indicate that they will. Dr. Cameron, of Grand Mannan, is reputed to be a good physician and well read man; our contemporary, Mr. Main of the Courier, has had a long political experience, is acquainted with the requirements of the country, and is known in all parts of the county as a successful journalist—a qualification that fits a man for any position. The present canvass reminds one of a hive of bees swarming, and the electors should be careful not to get stung, by electing drones.

FRUIT CULTURE.—The climate of New Brunswick is well adapted for raising fruit, with proper care, and it is satisfactory to know that some persons are devoting their attention to the fruit tree nursery business in this County, and in other parts of the Province, not alone by the importation of choice young trees, but also raising native stock and grafting. Some localities in the Province are possibly better adapted than others for fruit culture, but there is scarcely any farm that has not soil suitable for raising the hardier kinds of apples, and we learn many farmers are planting out such trees. The plum and cherry trees in this vicinity have been a failure for the past few years owing to a disease called the black knot, and many of the trees were cut down. Efforts might be made to foster the cultivation of these fruits by the importation of young trees from places where the disease has not existed. Several of the apple and pear trees imported from States have failed, while those from the nurseries in this Province with common care have succeeded.

THE LATEST EGG.—Not long since our contemporaries claimed for their several localities "the biggest egg out," but now St. Andrews possesses the smallest egg ever laid by a decent hen. We have now lying on our desk, an egg laid by a Cochon China hen, which is only 1 1/2-1 3/4 in. in length, 1 1/2-1 3/4 in. in diameter, 2 1/2-3 in. in short circumference, 3 1/2-4 in. long circumference. The average sized egg laid by the same fowl is 2 1/2-3 in. long, 1 1/2-1 3/4 in. in diameter, 5 1/4-6 in. in short circumference, and 6 1/2-7 in. long circumference. This hen is owned by Wm. Ingram, confectioner and caterer, and we hope the example of smallness set him by his fowl will not influence him to lessen the quantity of egg in his custards and pastry, which are in such demand by our townsmen.

ANNUAL DRILL.—We notice in the general orders issued at Ottawa, the companies in this County, selected for the performance of the annual drill for 1878-9, are Garrison Artillery, No 4 Capt. Polleys. Independent Companies—St. George Infantry Co., Lt. Major Magee; St. Stephen Infantry Co., Capt. Robinson; Deer Island Infantry Co., Capt. Lloyd.

Hon. Isaac Burpee arrived at St. John from Ottawa, on Saturday last.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE LOCAL ELECTION will take place as follows:—Nomination on the 8th June, Polling day 13th, Declaration day 17th June. There is therefore but a short time for canvassing the constituency.

A party of young friends caught in the lakes some speckled beauties within a few days, and others encouraged by their success, are off trout fishing.

Mr. Hatheway disposed of at auction a superior lot of Oil Chromes at remunerative prices, on Tuesday.

The many friends of Dr. Cjckburn were pleased to meet him this week. The Dr. is visiting his family here and will remain for a few days only, as his patients in York county, require his professional services.

Mr. Magee, of St. George was here on Monday last pushing his canvass, in this, his birth place.

DEATH OF COL. INCHES.—We regret to learn, that Mr. Inches, died at St. Stephen on the 25th inst. He had been unwell for some time, and had not recovered from the shock experienced at the death of his wife, a few months since.

George S. Grimmer, Esq., is having extensive repairs and alterations made on his residence at Chamecock; modern windows are replacing the old, the cornice is being built anew, and other improvements in progress on his handsome property.

It rumored that a "Government Ticket" has been formed, for the present contest.

The Queens Birth Day passed off very quietly, the only demonstrations were flag flying from public and private buildings, and closing of the Government offices. Not a shot was fired—the stores were open and business carried on. There was no drunkenness, but the health of the best Sovereign the world ever saw, was drunk by many loyal subjects, after the "cares of the day were over."

The new Commander-in-Chief Lieut Gen MacDougall, and wife, arrived at Halifax on Friday last from England, in R. M. S. Hibernian, about 300 men for the different corps, also came in the same steamer.

The Albert Railway Directors presented a well merited testimonial to Mr. W. M. Buck, C. E. on his tendering his resignation at the completion of the work on the Railway.

J. R. Bradford Esq. and Dr. Gove arrived at New York on Monday morning. The Dr. went to Montreal, and Mr. Bradford will be home on Friday.

Fredericton News.

The funeral obsequies of the late Judge Wilmot on Thursday last, were very imposing, and showed marked respect to his memory. The funeral was attended by large representations of the Bench and Bar, the several Educational institutions, Civic officers, and a large concourse of citizens. After a lengthy service in the Methodist Church, the procession with the members of the Sabbath School at its head, moved up Queen St. to the Cemetery. During its passage through Queen St. the stores were closed. At the grave a touching tribute was paid to the memory of their late superintendent, by the S. S. children, each in turn advancing, and throwing in a flower as the casket was lowered to its last resting place. Thus a great and good man passed away.

Dr. Robert's funeral on the same day was also largely attended by all classes of the community.

The 24th opened with a cloudy sky, but despite its threatening appearance there was no rain to mar the festivities of the day. The morning was ushered in with a salute fired from the Barrack square, and a good display of bunting. During the forenoon large numbers of excursionists arrived from St. John, St. Stephen, Woodstock and other places, most of them intent on the grand temperance demonstration. This commenced at 2 p. m., when a general rush was made for the Barrack square, where the procession formed under the marshalling of Capt. McKenzie. At the head of the line was the Fredericton Reform Band, following which in a barouche came the presidents of the Clubs represented. The Fredericton contingent and others on foot, the Woodstock Band and its club coming next, while the Marysville club, led by the 71st Batt'n. band, brought up the rear. All carried banners bearing appropriate devices. After marching through the principal streets the procession arrived at the Officers Square, and an open air meeting was held, which was addressed by Blue-ribbon men from all parts of the province. Speechifying was kept up for about an hour, when the crowd dispersed, and this brought to a close the greatest temperance display that has ever been seen here.

A base-ball match between the St. Steph.

en "Resolutes" and the "Mutuals" of this city proved unsatisfactory to the onlookers. When a few innings had been played, a dispute with regard to an umpire arose, and the game was broken up. The score stood 6 to 8 in favor of the celestials.

The Baptist Bazaar held on the 23rd and 24th was more successful than was expected, and furnished attractive resort for the holiday visitors. The Bazaar was prettily trimmed.

Only two companies of the 71st are selected for the Annual Drill—Major Staples and Capt. Cropleys.

Glances about Calais and Vicinity.

A sad drowning case occurred at Maguraw stream, between the railroad bridge and the main river, Milltown, on Saturday last, August 14 years, son of Mrs. McLean, while fishing, went on some small logs, which rolled over, precipitating the boy into the water, and he was drowned. The body was recovered the same evening.

The new brick building in course of erection by Hamerton & Pichard, for a meat shop on the Knight lot, Main street, is nearly finished. Mr. Silverstone intends erecting a building adjoining the former.

The Queens Birth Day was observed in St. Stephen, as usual with a display of bunting. A train left for Fredericton in the morning with nearly 200 excursionists.

Shows have commenced to arrive: Armene's Trans-Atlantic Combination, gave entertainments along the river. The performance in Pike's Opera on Saturday evening, was highly spoken of.

A committee to arrange for an entertainment 4th July, under the auspices of the Calais Reform Club, has been appointed. It is rumored that the programme for the day will embrace an excursion on the steamers and railways. An announcement is made by posters, that a combination company will perform at Pike's Opera House on Friday 31st inst. and 1st June, and that something grand may be expected.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for June, while it has that largeness in the character of the subjects treated which usually distinguishes this periodical, is exceedingly beautiful in its numerous illustrations and surprising in its variety. Lovers of the picturesque will read with interest Miss Mitchell's animated description of Heligoland, the "Enchanted Isle." An illustration, by Elytinge, represents the old well on the Woodworth place—the original of the "Old Oak on Bucket;" another, by Moran, illustrates the wilderness of lakes in the vicinity of Plymouth; another, by Abbey, is a very effective picture, illustrating an incident in the War of 1812.

For those interested in art and music, the paper on J. Q. A. Ward, and his methods of work, by G. W. Sheldon, Mrs. Despard's entertaining reminiscences of music in New York thirty years ago, and the "Easy Chair's" defence of the artist against indiscriminating and ignorant critics, will have special attractions.

To the distinctively literary field belong the Rev. Mr. Baldwin's contribution, in which is published for the first time a pleasant correspondence in verse between Fitz Greene Halleck and a young lady of Guilford, Connecticut.

Science is duly recognized not only in the "Editor's Scientific Record"—the only authentic monthly summary of scientific progress which is published—but also a paper by George W. Beaman, entitled "How shall our Boys be fitted for the Scientific School?" and in Simon Newcomb's story of "A Manufactured Comet."

In another field—that of religious biography—we have a concise but graphic portrait of Hugh Latimer, the "Paladin of the Reformation"—from the pen of Charles D. Dealder.

In fiction we have further instalments of the two great novels of the season—William Black's "Macloed of Dare" and Thomas Hardy's "Return of the Native"—also three excellent short stories.

The Editorial Departments are full of interesting and entertaining matter in their several fields.

EARTHQUAKE.

Advices by steamer at New York from Venezuela ports state that the earthquake which destroyed the town of Oca on April 12th, burying 300 people, commenced at nine in the evening, and without warning the houses all fell at once. Fire kindled in the ruins and completed the destruction. The shocks continued up to May 3rd, and were felt at Cuzco, 50 miles away. Thousands left the city. Those who remained slept in gardens or public squares. The President and family occupy a tent in the Plaza Bolivar. The destruction of property is immense.

The New York Sun says Eugene Schuyler Secretary of Legation at Constantinople, has been given leave of absence, with instructions to report to Washington. He will probably make satisfactory explanations of the complaints by the Turkish Government, but it is not likely he will again be attached to our legation at Constantinople.

TO Correspondents.—The letters of "Felix," "Max," and "Above Board," received this morning, too late.

Tax Vitalizing Nutritive Tonic qualities of Robinson's Phosphorized Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Lacto-phosphate of Lime would indicate its great value as a Restorative and Invigorator in that condition of the System prevailing in patients recovering from Diphtheria as well as Fevers, especially those of a Typhoid character; while, if taken when the premonitory signs of lassitude and weakness appear, it would have a tendency to prevent the attack, or lighten and shorten its duration. The cases in which it has been used fully bear out this hypothesis. It stimulates the enfeebled powers and builds up and gives fresh life and vitality to the whole system. For sale by Druggists and General Dealers Price \$1.00 per bottle for \$5.

Prepared by J. H. Robinson, St. John, N. B.

A commission has been taking testimony in some of the principal cities of the United States about alleged undervaluations of imported goods and excessive rebates for damages. The inquiry is now to go forward in New York. The sessions will be private. Leading merchants in the principal branches of the import trade are expected to furnish information to the commission. Mr. Wm. Lilby, of the firm of A. T. Stewart & Co. will represent the New York importers on the commission. The cases, about which Special Agent Curtis made some charges of fraud at Washington recently, are again brought to attention by the arrest of Almon W. Griswold, one of the counsel in some of the suits, but the Government withdrew the complaint.

LONDON, May 26. The Observer says that the rumors of the impending resignation in the Ministry, which were current on Saturday, are unfounded.

PARIS, May 26. The Journal Des Debates says that Count Schouvaloff's mission has led to the most satisfactory results. Russia consents to lay the treaty before a congress. All the powers have adhered to this proposal and the congress will meet in Berlin on June 1st.

ATHENS, May 26. The British Consul at Canoa Crete, was recently fired at by Turks, but was not injured.

LONDON, May 25. The Duchess of Argyll is dead.

MARRIED.

On the 23rd inst, by Rev. Mr. Millon, Mr. Joseph Lamb, to Kate, youngest daughter of Mr. James Neill, all of this town.

DIED.

At Baillie, Parish of St. James, on Saturday, 25th inst., Wm. Somerville Robinson, Esq., late Inspector of Schools for Charlotte Co., in the 34th year of his age, leaving a wife and a large circle of relatives to mourn their sad bereavement.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

ARRIVED.

May 22, Matilda, Stinson St. Stephen, Gen. car. 24, Charley Ross, Eastport, Nails. 29, Jane, Craig, Boston, Ballast. Ned, Hooper, do do. Clara, Brit, do do. Harris, Mcquaid do do.

CLEARED.

May 24, Charley Ross, Eastport, Ross, Hal.

ELECTION CARDS.

To the Electors of the County of Charlotte.

GENTLEMEN: I shall be a Candidate at the approaching Election for members to serve in the General Assembly of this Province, and respectfully solicit your suffrages.

I direct my best energies shall be directed towards securing a prudent and economical administration of public affairs, and the promotion of such legislative measures as shall seem best fitted to subserve the varied interests of this County in particular and the Province in general.

Before Election day I shall, as far as practicable, visit the various sections of the County and explain my views on public questions more fully.

I am, GENTLEMEN, Yours faithfully, DAVID MAIN.

St. Stephen, N. B., May 23, 1878.

To the Electors of the County of Charlotte.

GENTLEMEN.—Having been nominated by a large majority of the Electors of this portion of the County as a Candidate to serve in the Local Legislature of this Province, I have accepted the nomination and now solicit your suffrages. I hope to visit the different parts of the County before election and explain to you my political views.

Respectfully soliciting your support, I remain, Yours, &c. E. CAMERON.

Woodwards Cove, Grand Mannan, May 14th, 1878.

Hecker's SALT RAINBOWS Griddle cake Flour Italian Macaroni & Tapioca at Campbell's. Also Flower Lots of all sizes.

TO THE EL OF THE COUNTY OF

GENTLEMEN: At the approaching

for the representation of House of Assembly, I shall your suffrages.

As your representative, Government, I have faithfully discharge the varied duties as to justify the confidence ally accorded to me; and I press of that confidence, of the continuance of my promoting your welfare, influence of the Local Legislature I have the honor

Gentlemen, Your obe

St. Andrews, May 22, 18

To the Electors Count

GENTLEMEN.

You are again called elective franchise in elec present your interests in of this Province. Having your Representatives for my acts and views upon fore you, and being assu have pursued meets will large majority of the elec shall be a Candidate for y ict your support.

Should I again share ye returned as one of your Re as in the past use your ability in assisting to prom of the County.

As the intermediate P interests of the County, I should, if returned devote a large share of t the advancement of this ter, and keep a sharp wa ure of the Public Revenue it requires the strictest e present financial position taxation.

I remain you TH Oak Bay, May 21st, 18

To the Elector Cou

GENTLEMEN: In com of a great number, I sh seat in the Local Legisla ing Election.

The support I receive under adverse circumst agement voluntarily off every section of Charlott elusion that I may be o

Our present financial abilities, and limited i a keen supervision of order to avoid increase Fully imbued with th tion—familiar with t es—and deeply interest welfare of our Province, me worthy of your conl Hoping to address y the hustings,

I am Gent Yo

St. George, Charlotte May 20, 1878.

TO THE ELECTOR COU

GENTLEMEN.—As roaching when ye choose Four Members Local Legislature, I res that I will again be a frages.

I am thankful for th me, at the last general as one of your Rep that the course pursued ture, during the past fo as you can approve of, dient to further honor r confidence, I shall, in t try to legislate wicly best interests of the Pr County in particular, an to carry out the wishe constituents.

I hope to be able to election, and shall be my views on all quest ance. I have the honor

Your obe

Pennfield, May 15, 1

To the Elector of Cha

GENTLEMEN.—O of a large numbe section of the County, Candidate at the coming to the General As should I be favored votes, I will endeavor interests of the Provinc County in particu Resp

St. George, May 22,