Providence that we are now spared from being a nation of mourners, and that you also are spared from the still greater aggravation which would have attended the successful accomplishment of your wicked design. We earnestly entreat you to address yourself to that Almighty Being before whom you must soon appear to answer for your offence, and we trust that as He has been pleased to save you from the additional aggravation that might have attended your offence, you may receive pardon at His hands. It only now remains for me to pass upon you the sentence of the law, which is—that you, John Francis, be taken hence to the place from whence you came, and that you be drawn from thence on a hurdle to the place of execution, and there hanged by the neck until you are dead; that your head be then severed from your body, and your body divided into four quarters, to be disposed of as her Majesty may think fit—and may the Lord God Almighty have mercy on your soul!"

Mr. Hooker, the usher, replied—Amen!

The prisoner, whose demeanour throughout the entire day had been remarkably firm, though demonstrative rather of a gentle firmness than a bold or audacious daring, appeared to be totally overcome towards the conclusion. He seemed to be sinking rapidly from the moment of the finding of the verdict; his breathing became quick and oppressed; and on the termination of the learned judge's address and the sound of the solemn "Amen," which rang like a death-knell through the court, he sunk back with a convulsive sob into the arms of the gaoler, and was in that state removed from the bar.

### AFFGHANISTAN—INDIA—AND CHINA.

Despatches from India and China, together with files of the Journals published in the several Presidencies and at Canton, have been received. The intelligence from Bombay is of three days' later date than usual, the mail having been detained until the 4th of May, to wait for the Governor General's despatches. Our dates from Calcutta are to the 24th of April, and from China to the 10th of March.

The gloom which surrounded the news received by the four preceding mails from India will be considerably lessened by the highly important events detailed by the intelligence which has now reached us.

The British Indian troops have re-entered Affghanistan, and have gained higher honours and more glory than ever. They have forced, with very little loss, the dreaded pass of the Khyber. The redoubted leader of the Affghans, Akbbar Khan, with 6,000 men, has been routed by the garrison which he professed to blockade. As if to serve as a foil to these successes, there have been two partial reverses, one of which had during some time been expected, while the other is comparatively trifling, and can be easily retrieved.

The British Indian armies to the West of the Indus during the months of March and April may be classed under five distinct heads, viz, those of—

1st. The Bengal division under General Pollock, which has entered the Khyber pass from the neighbourhood of Peshawar.

2d. The troops forming the garrison commanded by General Sale at Jellalabad.

3d. The Bombay detachment, under the orders of General England, which having gone through the celebrated pass of Bolan, had, after some fighting, taken its station at Quetta.

4th. The garrison at Candahar, under the command of General Nott; and

5th. The surrender of Ghuznee.

The division under General Pollock, originally a Bengal artillery officer, have gained the renown of opening a pass, which even Nadir Shah was obliged to purchase. Having taken due precautions, this division, consisting of Her Majesty's 9th regiment of infantry, and the 26th, 30th 33d, 53d, and 64th Bengal Native infantry, and a regiment of Jezailchees, with artillery, in three columns, on the 5th of April, forced the difficult pass of the Khyber, and, notwithstanding the determined resistance of the Afreedees tribe, succeeded in reaching Ali Musjeed, with the loss of only one officer (Lieutenant Cumming, of the 9th,) and 13 rank and file killed, and 104 wounded.—On the 9th of April the division was at Lundee Khant, whence to the point of junction with the garrison of Jellalabad, nothing like effectual opposition was to be expected. The Sikhs troops, who on the occasion attacked another part of the pass, co-operated cordially with the British, and behaved with great gallantry.

During the period of the attack on the Khyber, Akhbar Khan, who with 6,000 Affghans had invested Jellalabad, exhibited great eagerness, as if to aid the tribes around the pass in defending it. On the evening of the 6th he caused a *feu de joie* to be fired in honour, as he said, of the repulse which the British troops had met with at the entrance of the pass, near Jurmood. But the gallant and experienced warrior, General Sale, was not to be deceived; he resolved to anticipate what he considered to be an intended retreat of the Sirdar, and on the morning of the 7th sallied forth to attack the Affghan camp. Three columns, composed of Her Majesty's 13th Infantry, and 35th Bengal Native Infantry with a detachment of the Sappers and Miners, supported by a light field battery and a small cavalry force, issued from the "blockaded" town, and completely routed Akbar Khan and his 6000 men, burned their camp, and retook four guns of those seized at the massacre of Khoord Cabul in January last, "the restoration of which is regarded by the troops with much honest exultation." This victory, glorious as it is, has been dearly purchased by the fall of Colonel Dennie, whose death, even upon the field of honour, will be regarded as a great calamity, while his memory will be always held sacred as of a brave and worthy officer.

The reverse already mentioned as comparitively trifling, was experienced by General England at the pass of Kojuck, 63 miles from Quetta, on the march to Candahar. His force was composed of five companies of her Majesty's 41st Regiment, six companies of the light battalion of Native Infantry, one troop of Light Cavalry, four guns of Leslie's Horse Brigade, and fifty Poonah Horse, having in charge a convoy, consisting of treasure, medical stores, and ammunition, together with 1,500 camels, &c. destined for the relief of the troops at Candahar. The convoy proceeded, without encountering any great obstacles, and without receiving notice from the inhabitants of any contemplated plan of resistance, to the pass, where it, on the 28th of March, found that some field-works had been erected. An attempt was made, by sending two hundred men to attack those works, to dislodge the enemy, when they showed a strong force of infantry and cavalry. Captain May, of the 41st, was shot dead, as well as several of his men. Major Abthorp, of the 20th Native Infantry, was cut down (he died of his wounds on the following day), when the General resolved not to risk the loss of the convoy, and made a skilful retreat to a neighbouring village which he defended, and thence withdrew to Quetta, where he intrenched himself and waited for more troops, then on the march from Dadur and Sukkur, to join him. The loss on this occasion, besides the officers mentioned was 2 serjeants, 1 corporal, and 14 privates of the 41st killed, and 1 serjeant, 1 corporal and 50 privates wounded of the light battalion. Of the 20th, 25th, and 6th regiments Bombay Native Infantry, there were 9 killed and 18 wounded. The great difficulty of the position at Quetta had been the want of forage for the camels, and the efforts of the Government are directed towards enabling their troops to proceed onwards as speedily as possible.

As a contrast to this reverse, a force from Candahar, which was sent by General Nott to meet General England, having been attacked, after two days' march, by a large body of Affghans, gave the assailants such a reception as obliged them to take to flight. They are described as fighting with reckless bravery, and charging up to the bayonet's point: they therefore suffered a great slaughter, particularly as they were charged by the British cavalry during their flight. About 300 are said to have fallen, including five of their Chiefs. The loss on the side of the British was five killed and twenty-five wounded. The commander of the British force was Colonel Wymer. Candahar is stated to have abundant provisions, but there is a want of ammunition. The pass of Kojuck can, as it is now affirmed, be easily turned.

The event calculated to produce the most striking impression is the surrender, on the first of March, by Colonel Palmer, of the celebrated fortress of Ghuznee. The letter of the Colonel, whose regiment, the 27th Bengal Native Infantry, formed the garrison, has afforded ground for various comments. Attempts have been made in India to excuse his conduct, on the ground of the difficulties with which he had to contend; but it certainly does appear strange that a commandant should venture to surrender such a fortress upon the authority of a letter received, as it were, from his superior, by the hands of an enemy, and that he notifies that surrender not to that superior, but to another officer placed also in command of a distant garrison, and which latter officer has immortalised himself by his gallant defence. The opinion which we have always maintained, that the disastrous occurrences at Cabul (and now at Ghuznee, the garrison of which place is described as having, in March, suffered the same fate as the troops in Cabul, in January, the soldiers being massacred by the Ghazees, or dispersed, and the officers being prisoners for the sake of their ransom) are to be ascribed to the want of efficient military arrangements and proper precaution, and not to the prowess of the Affghans, has been confirmed by the publication of several Orders in Council. These orders were published on the receipt of the news of the fall of Ghuznee, and are as follows:—

"The Governor-General, in Council, has directed that the Commander-in-Chief will submit the conduct of Lieut.-Colonel Palmer, in surrendering the citadel of Ghuznee, to the judgment of a court-martial, at the earliest period at which such court can be duly assembled.

"The Governor-General, in Council, has already (on the 28th of January last) directed that a full military inquiry shall be made into all the circumstances connected with the direction and conduct of the troops at Cabul, at the earliest period at which such an inquiry may be practicable.

"The Governor-General, in Council, has now directed that the conduct of Major-General Elphinstone, in Affghanistan, shall be submitted to the judgment of a court-martial, at the earliest period at which such court can be duly assembled.

"The Governor-General, in Council, will further direct that a full inquiry shall likewise be made into the conduct of all the political functionaries employed at Cabul, at the earliest possible period after he shall be in possession of certain material documents, of which he has already ordered the immediate transmission to Government.

"By order of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council.

"T. H. MADDOCK,
"Secretary to the Government of India."

The fate of Affghanistan forms now a curious problem. Schah Soojah, who, by temporising and truckling to his enemies, and by many other manœuvres available amongst the Affghans, had contrived to secure to himself a precarious existence in the Bala Hissar, at Cabul, has at length, as it is now stated, been murdered. His sons have, as it appears, taken different parties, one or two being favourable to the British alliance, while two or three are opposed to it. Various factions are described as at present contending for the lion's share of influence and power, and general confusion, uproar, and bloodshed prevail in Cabul. Schah Kamram, of Herat, nephew of Schah Soojah, after a long contest with his Vizier, Yar Mahomed, is also stated to be dead; so that Affghanistan, from the frontiers of Persia to the mountains west of the Indus, may be regarded as in perfect anarchy. The news of the death of Schah Soojah is confirmed by the *Agra Ukhbar*, of the 23rd ultimo. As an event, it will produce the result of liberating the Honourable Company from an alliance calculated to produce but little benefit. Rumour in India asserts that the present chiefs at Cabul are disposed to surrender their prisoners, and to make terms with the Indian Government. When the aversion of the Hindoo Sepoys to cross the Indus, when their dislike to fight with the Affghans there, when the poverty of the Affghan country and its small rapacious and unruly population, when the repeated cry for more European soldiers, and, above all, when the great drain on the treasury which the war produces, are taken into consideration, it may be presumed that the councils of the empire will recommend an arrangement with the Affghans; particularly when the British victories have secured the mountain passes, which constitute the gates of India, and over which our future care must be to exercise a rigid controul.

In the mean time Lord Ellenborough, accompanied by two or three secretaries, had set out from Calcutta to the upper provinces of Bengal. His object in this journey is stated to be twofold—first, to be enabled to communicate without delay with the Generals of the army west of the Indus, and the officers commissioned with the management of those provinces; and next, to introduce some reforms there. His Lordship, whose decision and promptitude are highly praised, has, it is asserted, required that the Commander-in-Chief of the Army should quit his cool retreats at Simla, in order to join him at a more central position. The want of vigour, which was much felt from the beginning of November last, when the Cabul insurrection broke forth, for Lord Auckland hesitated to compromise his successor by any active measures, is no longer complained of. Regret is, however, expressed that Lord Ellenborough had not come out *vid* Egypt, since his presence at Bombay in December last, and on the banks of the Sutlej in January, would have given energy and activity to every proceeding, and the unfortunate delays and doubts which paralyzed everything during four months would have been avoided.—Ghuznee would not, it is supposed, have fallen, neither would Colonel Wilde have been forced to retreat at the Khyber, nor General England have been repulsed at Kojuck. Notwithstanding the activity of the measures now carried on in Affghanistan, it is stated that his Lordship was at the departure of the mail waiting for the resolution that may be adopted in London relative to ulterior proceedings, which resolution would, it was expected, be such as to confirm fully the measures already adopted. The great point insisted upon by the journals of India was the inexpediency of forming any treaties with the leaders at Cabul and Candahar, Ghuznee, &c. There is, it seems, no longer any monarch to rule the country, and they argue that it cannot be useful to us to attempt to force any one of Schah Soojah's or Schah Zeeman's sons on the whole nation. All there is disorganization, and if the hatred of some religious enthusiasts to the Kaffirs, and the love of plunder of all, did not unite them in attacking the British troops, there would be, it is said, a general civil war. Affghanistan may, therefore, be said to be, in a great measure, at the mercy of Lord Ellenborough, whose principal difficulty will be how to settle with its disunited rulers.

The determination of Lord Ellenborough to reward military merit is evidenced by his appointing five officers distinguished for late exploits to the grade of honorary aides-de-camp to the Governor-General; the cancelling of appointments conferred upon inexperienced youths, and the naming to them of men having professional claims: the creation of a native aide-de-camp, and the bestowal of that rank on a deserving soldier of the local cavalry, had gained for the new Governor-General very high opinions among the troops.

In the interior of India general tranquillity prevails, except that in Bundelcund, a movement, which is more particularly noticed in our private correspondence, had taken place. The Governor of the Madras Presidency had published some stringent orders respecting the insubordinate conduct of some native troops at Secunderabad. Subscriptions to a considerable amount had been entered into all over the country in favour of the widows and orphans (unprovided for by the regulations of Government), during the recent disasters at Cabul. A commercial crisis has taken place at Calcutta; but confidence was beginning to return. A large sale of opium was effected there on the 18th, which produced to the Government upwards of 300,000*l.* The steamer India arrived in Calcutta on the 9th of April, after a voyage of twenty-eight days, from Suez, having been delayed eleven days at different places, chiefly by taking in coal. She went into dock immediately, and was advertised for another voyage to Egypt about the 28th ult.

The cholera has committed frightful ravages at Kurachee. Her Majesty's 22nd regiment had lost 98 men in six weeks up to the 24th of April. The ship Harriet, bound for London, took fire and blew up at Calcutta. There is a rumour of Lord Ellenborough's intention to reduce the great salaries of the higher branches of the civil servants, particularly in Bengal.

Tharawaddie, King of Burmah, whose movements towards Rangoon produced "a sensation" some time back, was occupied at home in suppressing a rebellion. The British troops sent to Moulmein, in order to keep him in check, are therefore at liberty to be removed to other places.

The Chinese soldiers who drove the Sikhs out of Thibet appeared disposed to revenge themselves upon the invaders, by attacking some of the frontier garrisons of the province of Cashmere. This attempt is important, as it may lead the British Generals, on terminating the campaigns in Cabul, to turn their arms against the Chinese in Thibet, and produce, by the defence of the country, the cession of Cashmere and of the Punjaub, by the present weak Government, to the rulers of India.

The *Bombay Gazette* in an extra sheet, dated 12 o'clock, May 4, and published just at the departure of the steamer, gives the following extract from the *Delhi Gazette* of April 23:—

"After our matter was arranged, and almost in the press, the Loodiana and Simla daks arrived, bringing us from our correspondents full accounts of the "doings" in camp from the 5th to the 12th instant. The Simla letter dated the 20th of April, mentions that news had been received of General Pollock's arrival at Jellalabad, but the date is not given, and also that an express had arrived which gives out that there is not the least doubt of the murder of Schah Soojah by the Ghazees as he was returning form a mosque where he had been praying; after this the Bala Hissar was attacked, ransacked, and plundered, and the Zenana became the scene of every atrocity that these savages could commit. It is now supposed that there will be no delay in pushing on at once to Cabul; the Queen's 31st and the 6th Native Infantry and the whole of that Brigade had arrived at Peshawur, and marched for Jellalabad, and Colonel Bolton having received orders to push on will lose no time in reaching that place. The murder of Schah Soojah appears to have wrought a complete change in the minds of our great men, and, instead of a withdrawal to Peshawur, nothing but a speedy advance is talked of. A wing of the 33rd, and light company of the 6th Native Infantry, remain at Ali Musjid. They have a couple of guns, and it would be difficult for the Afreedis to do any thing in that quarter.

### CHINA.

Intelligence from Macao to the 6th of March has been received; but it is not of great importance. Sir Henry Pottinger remained at Hongkong, whither he was about to remove the Post-office and all other British establishments from Macao. There were occasional fires in the wooden buildings there. He has issued some proclamations; by one of them Hongkong and Tinghae in Chusan, were declared to be free ports, and to remain, as well as Amoy, in our possession until the British demands are satisfied. If any one of them is to be vacated due notice is to be given, and a special stipulation is to be made for the safety of the native Chinese who may have sided with the English. The batteries along the Canton river were completed, and some of them unmasked; yet no apprehension was entertained of immediate hostilities. Business was dull there. The troops of the expedition were healthy. A Madras regiment and the Bengal Volunteers were about to return to India.—The head-quarters of Sir Hugh Gough continued at Ningpo: he and the naval commander were, as it is stated, authorised to act in cases requiring urgent decision, without waiting to consult the Plenipotentiary. Sir H. Gough was about to disperse a body of Chinese troops collected near Yu-Yuou.

The French Vice-Consul, M. Challaye, and some Frenchmen, having ventured too far, were seized and insulted by the Chinese, but released after some parley. It was said that there were Russian officers at Pekin, giving instruction in military matters to the Chinese. The coast is now infested with pirates.

A war about to break out between Cochin China and Siam is interesting solely as likely to have some influence in the settlement of the British demands upon China. The Siamese Monarch threatens to invade Cochin, which is tributary to China, and this may tend to embarrass the councils of the Court of Pekin. The King of Siam has, through the influence of the neighbouring British, been induced to grant a portion of his ancient territory to the son of the old Rajah of Quedda.—The Governor of Prince of Wales's Island has published a proclamation, announcing the final cessation of slavery within that district.

### SURRENDER OF GHUZNEE.

NOTIFICATION.

Fort William, Secret Department, April 4, 1842.

The following copy of a despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding at Ghuznee, to the address of the officer commanding at Jellalabad, dated March 1, 1842, is published for general information, by order of the Governor-General in Council:—

"Ghuznee, March 1.

"SIR,—It is with much concern that I acquaint you, that, from want of water, and by an over-powering force, under cover, and within fifty yards of us in the city, I have been compelled to enter into terms to evacuate the citadel and fort within six days. The garrison is to occupy the North-East corner of the town. The garrison is exhausted by fatigue and constant duty, and the men have suffered greatly from cold, the thermometer having been 14 below zero. The terms are, honourable treatment and safety whilst here and on the march to Cabul, solemnly sworn to by the chiefs. In capitulating, I have only acted up to the orders of Major Pottinger and General Elphinstone, who directed me, in an official letter, to evacuate the citadel and city on the arrival of Rohilla Khan, son of Amenoolah Khan, Sirdar of Logur. This chief arrived, and promised to escort us in safety to Cabul. Amooun Shumsoodeen Khan, nephew of Dost Mahomed Khan, has also arrived, as governor of Ghuznee and as political agent. I received instructions to march immediately on his arrival, for Cabul, from the late Sir W. Macnaghten, Bart. Abandoned as this garrison has been, in the very centre of the enemy's country, cut off from all communication with any quarter, and without a sufficiency of water even at this season, with 200 men detached to hold an outpost which is destitute of water, and must have fallen in 48 hours, nothing but capitulation remained; from the out-post falling into the hands of the enemy, they would command our only well and commanding fort, and the whole garrison would have been destroyed in a few days. The bearer has received only subsistance on the road, and is to receive a handsome reward on delivering this letter. We have upwards of 100 sick and wounded, and 13 casualties. The officers, including Captain Burnett, 54th, and Lieutenant Crawford, Schah Soojah's Force, are all well.

"I have, &c.,
"J. PALMER, Lieutent-Colonel,
"Political Agent, commanding at Ghuznee.

"P.S. There is great reason to fear for our safety, as there are some thousands of Ghazis in the city, whom the chiefs cannot disperse. The snow is still deep. No tidings from the southward, but report says the troops hold the city of Candahar, and are daily fighting.

"To the Officer commanding at Jellalabad."

True copy.
H. WADE, Captain, Major of Brigade.
True copy.
R. H. POLLOCK, Aide-de-Camp.

## Canada.

### RE-ELECTION OF THE HON. F. HINCKS.

(*From the Woodstock Herald.*)

The election is now over, and the hon. the Inspector General has been returned by a majority over Mr. Armstrong of 348 to 130—the whole of the votes polled thus being only 478, whereas at the last election, the number polled was 1165.—There seems to have been a great degree of apathy manifested throughout the whole affair. THE PEOPLE HAVING BEEN TAKEN BY SURPRISE, had had no time to make up their minds on the subject of Mr. Hincks's appointment, under such singular circumstances. If tact in keeping secret the *probability*, up to the moment of the *certainty* of his appointment being revealed, and IN HURRYING ON THE ELECTION—if low and vulgar abuse of his opponents, whether Tory or Radical—if an unmitigated spirit of bitter and relentless dictatorship—if these, and several other equally meritorious and amiable qualities, make the Hon. Francis Hincks a fitting representative for the people of Oxford—then they are abundantly accommodated.—As Inspector General, we are persuaded, and after all his gross and unmerited slander of us on the hustings, we hesitate not to say, the Province is fortunate in having the benefit of his services. We admit, and we never denied, that his power to serve the constituency of this or any other country, is fully equal to that of any other member of the House, whether in the Executive Council or not; but we do not approve of his being permitted to ride rough-shod over the country, because he has the word *honourable* prefixed to his name.

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An expression of opinion, on the part of the Electors, has *not* been given. The majority of both extreme parties did not seem to care which of the Candidates should succeed; and we doubt if any beyond those who were actually engaged in electioneering bestowed a moment's careful consideration on the subject.

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We are not displeased at his return; because he is a useful member of the Legislature. But his defence of the course he has pursued, was "stale, flat, and unprofitable." We have already expressed our approbation of the change which has come over him; but we do not believe in the honesty of denying that change; nor can we see the common-sense of it; inasmuch as it is patent as daylight to the simplest understanding. We should, moreover, have been very glad to see him have a struggle for his return, in order to teach him proper respect for his constituency. He should be taught hereafter to consider himself as the Representative of the County, and not as his toad-eaters look upon him—that of a particular party. But we repeat, the sense of the constituency has *not* been expressed—and we venture to predict, that HE IS NOW RETURNED FOR THE LAST TIME AS THE MEMBER FOR OXFORD. If there is any truth in the representations which are made to us every day, he *has lost the confidence of the majority of his former supporters*; and of many even of those who voted for him on the present occasion.

Well, the Hon. Francis Hincks is Inspector General, and Member for Oxford; and we have no doubt he will efficiently perform the duties of both; but we tell him that the rude manner in which he thought proper to handle the characters of people quite as honourable as himself, and the attributing of base motives to some of them, have not raised him in the estimation of any body whose good opinion is worth a barley-corn, and will not advance his interests here in future.

### BELLEVILLE.

(*From the Belleville Intelligencer.*)

With this year commences a new description of buildings, that will hereafter tell of the rise and progress of the Town of Belleville. Belleville is much improved in the eight years that we have resided in it. Eight years ago, we were connected with the Midland District. Eight years ago, not a foot of side-walk was to be seen in the town, but after an hour's rain, all was mud and mire. Eight years ago the population of the town was about 970 souls, and of the county about 7000 souls. Eight years ago we had but one Boat on the Bay, and this was deemed quite equal to the wants of the town and country. Eight years ago, there were many stores in the place, which were unable, from the ruinous period to which credits were extended, to continue their business; of the twenty that were here eight years ago, but two are left.

How very different is our town and country at present, after the elapse of eight very eventful years in the history of Canada! We are now a separate and an independent District, with our own Court House and Gaol, by which the inhabitants of the county save a yearly loss of £3000. Now, in the worst of weather, we can travel on foot, from the wharf to the mills, and in every other direction of the town, on good side-walks. Now the population of the town of Belleville is about 1700 souls, and the county about 15,000 souls,—an increase, more than proportionate to the increase of the inhabitants of the town, and which fully accounts for the prosperous business transacted generally, by the merchants of Belleville. Now, the old Boat, which eight years ago satisfied the inhabitants of the town and country, has disappeared, and in her stead we have three navigating the Bay, with the prospects of a fourth coming on the route. Now, the business of the town is transacted upon such a healthy system, although upon smaller profits, that while the farmer is encouraged, from the great reduction in prices, to purchase more largely, the merchant finds that the security of his receipts enables him to extend his purchases, and thus to add to the general increase of trade, and prosperity of the town.

But we fear that the District of Victoria has not many friends at Head Quarters, or from the acknowledged richness of its soil, and its great fertility, some pains would surely be taken, to send the Emigrant of means, as well as the Emigrant without means, to the County of Hastings. But we fear that a wicked game is being played, and this results more from design, than from accident.

PICTON (U. C.) SPA.—Among the many natural attractions of the vicinity of the town, there is one which bids fair to become a successful rival of the far-famed Caledonia Springs. Early in the history of Hallowell [now Picton] a sulphur spring was discovered, which was found by the early settlers to possess many great medicinal qualities, especially in cutaneous diseases, and other diseases of the blood, and it was also successfully tried in rheumatic complaints. Its reputation, however, extended but little further than the surrounding neighbourhood, from which invalids usually came for the improvement of their health. Some years ago the people finding that it produced so many cures, made an attempt to separate the mineral water from a spring of fresh water, directly above it, which greatly reduced its strength, but in digging for this purpose, by some means the mineral fount was lost, and the fresh water remained master of the spot. Lately, however, the property on which the spring is situated, changed hands, and at the solicitation of the people, the present proprietor, Mr. G. Webster, has been induced to dig down to the rock and separate the waters. The attempt, we are happy to state, has proved successful, and a well, built with water lime, with a foundation on the solid rock, now protects the mineral water from the encroachments of its less potent neighbour, and through which it rises to the surface in its natural purity. Since the spring has been re-opened its fame has gone abroad, and people are hourly flocking to drink of its Hygeian waters, and enjoy the fresh air and beautiful scenery of its neighbourhood. The water has not yet been very exactly analyzed, but it is found by medical men to contain among other chemical parts, Sulphuretted Hydrogen gas, Nitrate of Potash, and Salts of Soda and Magnesia. The quantity to be drunk may be so regulated as either to act on the bowels, or to be powerfully diuretic. In the neighbourhood are many saline springs, the nearest of which is within an half hour's drive of the Spa, which by little expense could be converted into a valuable auxiliary, by the erection of efficient baths, &c. The location of this spring cannot be surpassed for beauty and grandeur of prospect. It is situated on a beautiful green plat, completely fringed in by groves of trees, about midway up the range of hills which bounds the town of Picton on the south, and commanding a view of the town, the harbour, and the surrounding country. Immediately in the rear the hill rises abruptly, forming a table-land—on a level with which, at a few miles distant, is the celebrated Lake on the Mountain. From this spot the view is truly grand. Below lies the town of Picton, from which you are separated by a deep valley, which is agreeably diversified by hill and dale in its descent from the summit; to the west and north the eye travels over a rich and well-cultivated country, until it rests upon the blue Cramahe mountains which fill up the distance; to the east is a view, extending eleven miles, of the Bay of Quinte, the most beautiful sheet of water on this continent, with its delightfully varying scenery—its bays and inlets—the harbour of Picton, and the numerous water craft passing to and fro—the green fields of the Midland District making a beautiful back-ground. Upon the whole, Picton, from its near neighbourhood to the seat of Government, the salubrity of its air, and the advantages to be derived from this fountain of health, cannot fail to become a favourite watering-place.—*Prince Edward Gazette.*

### DESCRIPTION OF THE LAKE SIMCOE COUNTRY.

(*From The Patriot*).

With the drive through the beautiful country on either side the Great North Road [Yonge Street], we were highly delighted. The crops, though late, were luxuriant, and hold out to the farmer promise of a large return, and good prices.—Gentlemen's seats and handsome farm houses cheered the sight until we reached the "Oak Ridges." We there found the road naturally very good, though a gravel track, and arrived at the "Pinnacle Inn"—after attaining a height of 800 feet above the waters of Ontario;—having passed the picturesque little sheet of water called "Bond Lake" on the right, said to be *without* soundings; a little beyond "The Pinnacle" the road gradually descends until the eye at length rests upon a rich and widely-extended region, consisting of hill and dale, thickly covered with rich farms of the most valuable description.—Before us lay this beautiful picture, stretching fifteen or twenty miles, whilst far off to the right we now and then obtained peeps at the vales of Newmarket and Davidtown. On our left we passed scores of thriving, beautiful farms, whose brick houses and comfortable out-buildings betokened the wealth of the owners. Among these stands conspicuous the handsome residence of Captain Irving. At Holland Landing (head of the Holland river), we came to a pretty little village, with mills, shops, &c., and were comfortably lodged at Frarer's hotel, after a pleasing drive of six miles. The following morning at seven, we were on board the well-regulated steamboat *Simcoe*. A calm lake, and the good fare provided by our obliging and intelligent host, Capt. Laughton, made this part of our excursion peculiarly pleasant. The windings of Holland river for seven miles through a meadow of reeds and wild grass, are extremely curious: in one instance the angle of the Elbow was so acute that the head of the boat was within a few points of the compass of the house from which we started. This prairie abounds with wild duck, and on its margin are found woodcock and snipe, in numbers to gratify the most fastidious sportsman. Emerging from this crooked stream, we struck boldly into the transparent waters of old Simcoe. On the East shore of the lake, and seven miles from the mouth of the river, we stopped at Roach's Point, a pretty little settlement, with an inn, store, &c. The farms we passed in coming to this place, studded thickly the whole shore, and the wheat crops particularly were remarkable for their fine appearance. Leaving this place, we passed close to Snake Island, a pretty spot, containing 400 acres, or thereabouts. Here the Government has erected twenty or more comfortable cottages for Indian families, who pass their time happily and profitably in cultivating their farms, in hunting and in fishing. A Church, with a tin-covered spire, is soon to be built for them: this will greatly add to the present cheering aspect of their little hamlet.—Twelve miles from Roach's Point, after running by scores of fine farms and fields waving with luxuriant wheat, we came to Jackson's Landing, a sheltered, pretty little nook, with a shore so bold that the steamer could any where lay alongside it. A little in the rear of this harbour, is a populous settlement on the road leading to Toronto. Near the Landing is the fine farm and pretty stone cottage, with green verandah, of Capt. Bouchier, R. N. A mile beyond this, the spire of a neat Church rears its head above the rich surrounding foliage. A resident clergyman is in charge. Near the Church, on a pretty jutting point, stands the handsome residence of Mrs. Sibbald, surrounded apparently by that neatness and comfort which render a country life desirable. Capt. Lee's fine farm, and one belonging to Mr. Campbell, (late of the North American Hotel,) adjoin that of Mrs. Sibbald. The forest is here pierced every quarter of a mile by a pretty clearing, with its dwelling, barns and out-houses around it, until we arrive at Beavertown or Little Talbot, where the Lesser branch of the Talbot river falls into the lake. We passed between the main shore and Georgina Island, a naturally beautiful spot, six miles in length, and containing perhaps 2,000 acres. It belongs, like all the other Islands, to the Indians, and is taken care of by the Government for their use as a hunting and fishing station.

Beavertown, or Beaver*ton*, is a flourishing little place, contains two saw-mills and a grist-mill, and is supported by a fine settlement in the rear: the water would drive extensive machinery. Opposite this village is another Indian Island, called Thorah Island, containing about 1,200 acres. Beyond this we passed the mouth of the Great Talbot river, over which a bridge was visible from the boat. We now came to Chewett's Point, in the township of Mara, and then stretched across a deep bay, to Creighton Point. This is a beautiful strip of land, containing upwards of 900 acres, covered with fine forest trees,—among which the elm, the ash, the oak and the maple predominate. On this Point the Indians make, every spring, many thousands of pounds of maple sugar. This beautiful Point, together with the whole frontage, until we passed through the Narrows (probably fifteen miles along the line of shore), is the property of Capt. Creighton, of Toronto, who purchased it as long since as 1831. We now rapidly approached the beautiful entrance to the far-famed Narrows.

Lake Simcoe is in length about forty five miles, and varies in breadth from two to twenty miles: perhaps the widest part is between Thorah and the county town, Barrie. The basin which contains this limpid lake is formed of secondary limestone, alternating with clay and marl. At Holland Landing the lake has evidently receded from the foot of the hill, where Thorne's Mill now stands. This hill branches off to the North at the Landing, and passing by the rear of Barrie, skirts the lake until it arrives at the Narrows, where, passing in rear of the little village of Orillia, it shoots away towards the North-west. On the East shore of the lake, the soil is said to be richer than that on the West. This may be occasioned by the westerly winds causing the *debris* of the West bank to be deposited on the shore. The country rises gradually from the water on the East shore of the lake, until it attains an elevation of 300 feet. The circumference of Lake Simcoe being 120 miles, it is natural to suppose so large a body of water would make for itself a channel in some direction. This has been effected at the Narrows, where the hills begin to recede *from* the lake. At this point there is a perceptible current toward the North, which, increasing as it flows through this contracted highway, acquires the velocity of three or four miles per hour, until it becomes mingled with the waters of the pretty Lake Coochasing. Lake Coo-cha-sing is 40 miles in circumference, and forms, at its N. W. extremity the river Severn.—Here its waters, mingled with those of Lake Simcoe, are hurried over rocky precipices and rapids, until finally they reach the surface of Lake Huron. The Narrows, from shore to shore, are only 300 yards. The bottom is a greasy marl, through which the water has worn a channel nine feet deep, and only thirty feet in width. We saw shoals of large fish as we passed through, the transparency of the water enabling us to distinguish the class they belonged to at a depth of several feet. The steamer at length landed us within the little lake, at the village of Orillia. A comfortable inn and clean beds induced us to prolong our stay three days. At Orillia, a good road conducts the traveller to Coldwater, on Lake Huron. At Coldwater, the sportsman may "joy to hear," that eighteen couple of snipe have been shot, "by one who knows how," before breakfast. In the townships bordering on Lake Simcoe, we were told between forty and fifty thousand acres of good land were open for settlement, at prices varying from 8*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* and 20*s.* per acre. About 2,000 bushels of surplus wheat were purchased last winter at Mr. Dallas's fine mills, near the Narrows, for which he paid (and is now paying) 5*s.* cash per bushel. At Holland Landing, 10,000 bushels were brought from the circuit of the lake, and produced the same price. So superior in quality is the wheat grown around the lake, that it is much sought after for seed. In the Indian Village, in Lake Coochasing, are quarries of free-stone, lime-stone of several shades and kinds, and abundance of fire-stone. These quarries are worked without the use of gunpowder, and produce slabs of an extraordinary size. The day is probably not far off when all the pretty points of the Narrows will be studded with the cottages of gentlemen, attracted thither by the healthiness of the climate, the beauty of the scenery, or the richness of the soil. Shooting they will have in abundance, and the waters abound with maskinonge, the white-fish, salmon-trout, black bass, and herrings of a very fine and large kind; the smaller fish are also plentiful.

The steamer, including her numerous "landings," performed the trip from the Narrows to Holland Landing in six hours; and the drive to town, when the roads are dry, will occupy five more: thus might a gentleman residing there leave his house at eight o'clock in the morning, and with his own horse drive into town to dinner at seven.

THE "TRUCKLE-BED" MINISTRY DEFEATED.—Col. de Salaberry, a very estimable and loyal gentleman, has been defeated, at the County of Rouville election, by a large majority. The anti-government and successful candidate is William Walker, Esq.

RIOTS ON THE WELLAND CANAL.—There have been serious disturbances between two parties of Roman Catholic Irish,—Munster and Connaught men,—employed on the Canal. The Canadian Rifles were called out, but we believe no lives were lost.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.—MELANCHOLY LOSS OF LIFE.—It becomes our painful duty to record one of the most distressing casualities which has occurred in this Province since the introduction of Steam on the St. Lawrence. The high-pressure Steamer *Shamrock*, while between Lachine and Pointe Claire, on her way to Kingston, about ten o'clock on Saturday morning, burst her boiler, and, her bows being blown out by the explosion, she went down head foremost. There were on board of her at the time about 120 persons, of whom 48 were taken up unhurt by three barges in tow, and 18 were conveyed to the Montreal General Hospital wounded,—54 remain to be accounted for. Of the 18 conveyed to the Hospital, one has died under the amputation of both legs. The passengers were composed of English, Irish, and Scotch; of whom the English are supposed to have suffered most from being in the fore part of the boat. The first engineer, who was saved, declares that he has no other consciousness of the transaction than that the explosion took place, and that he afterwards found himself on board one of the barges, the interval between those events being to his mind a perfect blank. Much money is said to have been lost, the emigrants being of a superior description. Early yesterday morning, Mr. Jones, the Coroner, repaired to the spot and proceeded to the wreck, which he found with the hind part of the stern alone above water. Suspecting that some bodies might be in the cabin, he caused it to be burst open, when the corpse of a female was found. After giving all the necessary directions, and performing the melancholy duty of ordering a number of coffins to be made at Lachine, that officer returned to town yesterday, but is to repair to the spot to-day. We think it probable that this disastrous event will occasion some Legislative enactment against the use of high-pressure engines. The *Shamrock* belonged to Messrs. Atkinson, Matthie & Co. of this city. Rumour, (according to her usual custom,) grossly exaggerated this calamity, declaring on Saturday evening that there had perished one hundred persons, and yesterday, augmenting the loss to one hundred and fifty. Such are the particulars which we have been able to learn; in which, however, there may be, as usual on such occasions, some error; but we have most of them from an authentic source.

The Captain was the last person who left the boat, and at the risk of his life swam out a considerable distance and succeeded in saving one of the passengers from drowning.—*Montreal Courier* 11*th July.*

DEATH BY LIGHTNING.—On the evening of Sunday last, a young man by the name of G. A. Bell, who had become a preacher in the Episcopal Methodist connexion, was instantly killed by lightning. He had preached twice that day in the Old's neighbourhood in rear of Elizabethtown, and was on his return to Beverley where he resided. Having got as far as Mr. Brown's the threatening aspect of the clouds caused him to stop. As it was about sun set, by the request of Mr. Brown he concluded to stop over night, and went with him to the Barn to help to put up his horse. Being near the door, while Mr. Brown was getting out some hay, the shock occurred which deprived him of life. Mr. Brown was severely stunned, but soon recovered, and went to Mr. Bell who had fallen, and found him lifeless. The Barn was at the same time set on fire; it was, however, subdued by the prompt exertions of those who hastily collected on the spot, and the copious shower of rain which followed.—*Brockville Recorder, 7th July.*

THE CROPS.—Great fears are entertained by the farmers with respect to the state of the crops in this part of the country, particularly the Wheat and Pea crops in the new settlements in the bush; the former is partially destroyed by the late frosts which we have had this spring, and the latter from the excessive rains, have grown so lux