The Observer.

St. John, Tuesday, May 23, 1854.

Wednesday, the 31st day of this month, having been appointed by proclamation, as a day of general prayer and humiliation, for the purpose of imploring the Divine favour towards the British nation and arms, in the present eventful struggle; we have no doubt that, after the example of the mother Country and some of our sister Colonies, it will be religiously observed by all classes and denominations in New Brunswick. But while we unanimously and warmly express our sympathy with our parent nation, in the righteous contest in which she is engaged, we should remember, that *deeds* are more substantial than *words*; and surely, in the enjoyment of such eminent prosperity as at present, the people of this Province may well express their loyalty and their sympathy in a timely pecuniary contribution. The brave soldiers and sailors who have gone forth to fight our country's battles, have left behind them sorrowing wives and helpless children; very many of whom will in all probability ere long become widowed and fatherless; and even at the best, most of them have no adequate means of support during the absence of their husbands and fathers. Moreover it is a well known fact, that many of those *wives are natives of these British American Colonies*; and, having *no parish settlement* in Great Britain, must become absolute paupers, without a local claim to support, if deprived of their husbands by death. Here then is a loud call, a strong claim on our *pecuniary* sympathy; provision for these helpless women and children, both during the absence and in case of the death of their lawful protectors, is a national *duty*; every individual throughout the British empire is interested in this work of charity and benevolence; nobly has the call been responded to in Great Britain; Canada has admirably discharged her part of the obligation; and surely New Brunswick will not be behind hand, in contributing to the funds devoted to so holy and necessary a purpose. We earnestly hope, that on the 31st inst. when all are assembled in their respective places of worship, every *local* object and purpose will be forgotten, and that *every* Church, of *every* denomination, will make a collection expressly in aid of the funds for Soldiers' and Sailors' wives and children; and that, to such collections, every member of the community will liberally contribute. It has also been properly suggested, that a *public subscription* for the same purpose should be forthwith got up; and we heartily respond to the suggestion. We could name one gentleman, who has declared his readiness to head the list with the munificent sum of *two hundred pounds*; and if his example be followed by all, in proportion to their means, New Brunswick will figure nobly in this righteous and charitable work of duty.

☞ To-morrow being Her Majesty's birth day, will be observed, (as we are given to understand,) under the present peculiar national circumstances with more than ordinary demonstration. A requisition, signed by a number of our most respectable citizens, has been presented to His Worship the Mayor, for the calling of a public meeting, for the purpose of arranging some general expression of the loyalty and fealty of our Citizens at the present crisis; and of organizing a Subscription for the benefit of the wives of Soldiers and Sailors. We heartily welcome this movement, and wish it abundant success.

By proclamation of His Excellency the Lt. Governor, dated 19th inst., the late House of Assembly is dissolved; and Writs for a general election of new Members have been issued, returnable on the 3d of July next. Those for this City and County have been received, and the High Sheriff has proclaimed Saturday, the 3d June next, as the nomination day for both County and City; Wednesday, June 7th, as the polling day for the County election; Thursday, June 8th, as the polling day for the City election; and Friday, June 9th, as the general summing up and declaring day.

Mr. Macallister.—We last evening visited this Gentleman's attractive "*Temple of Magic*," and were both astonished and delighted with his very remarkable performances. The hall is nightly filled to overflowing, many being unable even to obtain admittance; and considering the variety and eminent dexterity of the wonderful feats performed by the Great Wizard, his popularity is not at all surprising. Mr. Macallister is certainly a perfect Master of the Necromantic Art; and his astounding performances afford the highest amusement and excite the greatest wonder in uninitiated spectators. The entertainments will be continued every evening this week. Those who would duly appreciate Madam Macallister's wonderful ærial feat, must witness it for themselves. We would add, that the spectacle is greatly enlivened by the performances, at intervals, of an excellent Band of music.

In Nova Scotia, the elections have resulted in favour of the Government. In Windsor, Mr. Wilkins, the new Provincial Secretary, has been returned by a majority of 125 over Mr. McLatchey; Mr. Henry, Solicitor General, by majority of 412 over Mr. McDonald; Mr. Young, has been returned for Inverness county, &c.

The Illustrated Magazine of Art.—We have received from the Publisher, Mr. Alexander Montgomery, of New York, the *May* number of this highly interesting and beautifully embellished periodical. The great variety, interest and quantity of its literary contents, and the very numerous and admirable pictorial illustrations, of this well-conducted Magazine, render it one of the most attractive and cheapest of American periodicals; and therefore highly deserving of extensive patronage.—It can be obtained through any of our Booksellers.

New York Journal.—We have received from Mr. B. O'Brien, the May number of this very interesting periodical. Dickens's new Tale, "*Hard Times*," is commenced in this number.

More Light!—We received last evening the first number of a new paper, published at Woodstock, Carleton Co., and styled the *Woodstock Journal*. It presents a neat appearance; and its publisher has our best wishes for its success.

Fire at Fredericton.—A fire broke out at Fredericton on Sunday night, about 9 o'clock, in a house in Westmorland-street, occupied by Mr. Sanderson, baker. The firemen were quickly on the ground, but notwithstanding their exertions the flames extended to the adjoining building, owned and occupied by Mr. Thomas Bradley.—Both houses were completely destroyed. Mr. Sanderson was insured for £200. Mr. Bradley was uninsured.—*New Bruns.*

The Freshet in the River Saint John is the greatest and most disastrous of any within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. All the low lands along the banks are submerged, and barns, cattle, lumber, &c., have been swept away. At Canning and some other settlements, the inhabitants have been compelled to leave their houses and remove to the high lands, in order to avoid the danger of being drowned. At Indian Town the water is several inches higher than it was ever before known, and the rain which has fallen for the past few days is causing it rapidly to advance. As there is yet considerable snow in the woods, it is feared that if more rain should fall, the result will be still more disastrous. Our harbour contains more or less full of logs and drift stuff, swept down from the upper country.

From other quarters, we learn that the rivers and streams are much swollen in consequence of the melting snow, and it is said that the bridge over Hammond River has been swept away.—1b.

The River.—Several bridges between this and Grand Falls have been carried away, and it is reported here to-day, that all those between the Grand and Little Falls, are gone in the same way.

The amount of damage in every department of business by the present rise in the river, is incalculable.—*Woodstock Journal.*

River falling at Fredericton slowly—at Woodstock rapidly.—*Telegraph to News Room*, 23d.

We are gratified to notice among the Admiralty promotions the name of Mr. William Huyghue, of this City, who has been serving as Clerk in the Impregnable flag-ship, at Devonport for some years back. He has now been promoted to be a Paymaster, and is appointed to the Algiers. He is a son of Samuel F. Huyghue, Esq., of the Ordnance Department at this station, and served for some years in the Imperial Customs at this port.—*Courier.*

The body of a man who had been drowned, was found floating in this harbour on Thursday, near Reed's Point. His name is Murphy—lately from the country; he had been in the water but a few hours.—*Chronicle.*

Launched, a few days ago, from the building yard of Henry Rowan of Indian Town, a most thorough built and substantial barque, of 549 tons, called the *Elizabeth*. She was built under the special survey of Lloyd's Agent, is constructed of Hackmatac, being copper fastened, and intended to class seven years.—*N. Br.*

A young man named William Foy was killed at Mr. Robertson's Mills in Carleton on the 7th inst. He was struck by a board which passed over a circular, and survived but 24 hours.

At Messrs. Dunham and Allen's Mills in Carleton, on the 9th inst. a boy named Edward Barrett, aged 14 years, accidentally fell over the Wharf and was drowned. We understand his body was not found.—*Religious Intelligencer.*

Charlotte County Bank.—At the annual meeting of the Stockholders, on the 1st instant, the Hon. Harris Hatch, and J. W. Street, W. Fisher, George D. Street, Daniel Gilmore, S. T. Gove, and L. H. DeVeber, Esquires, were elected Directors—and at a meeting of the Board, the Hon. Harris Hatch was unanimously elected President.—*Courier.*

VARIOUS EXTRACTS.

EUROPE.

Death of Montgomery, the Poet.—James Montgomery, the poet, died at his residence, the Mount, Sheffield, on the afternoon of the 30th ult. He presided at the weekly board of the infirmary only two days previously, and walked home, more than a mile, afterwards. He was born Nov. 4th, 1771, at Irvine, Ayrshire. We copy the following brief summary from the London Times:—

"When only twelve years old, the bent of the boy's mind was shown by the production of various small poems These indications could not save him at first from the fate of the poor, and he was sent to earn his bread as assistant in a general shop. He thirsted for other occupations, and set off with 3s. 6d. in his pocket to walk to London, to seek fame and fortune. In the first effort he broke down, and for a while gave up his plan to take service in another situation. Only for a time however, was he content, and a second effort to reach the metropolis was successful, so far as bringing him to the spot he had longed for, but unsuccessful in his main hope—that of finding a publisher for a volume of his verses. But the bookseller who refused Montgomery's poems accepted his labor, and made him his shopman. Fortune, however, as she generally does, smiled at last on the zealous youth, and in 1792 he gained a post in the establishment of Mr. Gales, a bookseller of Sheffield, who had set up a newspaper called the Sheffield Register. On this paper Montgomery worked *con amore*, and when his master had to fly from England to avoid imprisonment for printing articles too liberal for the then despotic government of England, the young poet became the editor and publisher of the paper, the name of which he changed to Sheffield Iris.

In the columns of this print he advocated political and religious freedom, and such conduct secured for him the attention of the Attorney General, by whom he was prosecuted, fined and imprisoned; in the first instance for reprinting a song commemorating "The Fall of the Bastile;" in the second case for an account he gave of a riot in Sheffield. Confinement could not crush his love of political justice, and on his second release he went on advocating the doctrines of freedom as before, in his paper and in his books. In the lengthy periods between those times and the present, the beliefs which James Montgomery early pioneered in England have obtained general recognition, and, as men became more and more liberal, our poet gained more and more esteem.—He contributed to the magazines, and despite of adverse criticism, in the Edinburgh Review, established his right to rank as a poet. In 1797 he published "Prison Amusements;" in 1805 the "Ocean;" in 1806, the "Wanderer in Switzerland;" in 1809, "The West Indies;" and 1812, "The World before the flood." By these works he obtained the chief reputation he has since enjoyed. In 1819 appeared "Greenland," a poem in five cantos; and in 1828, "The Pelican Island and other Poems." In 1851, the whole of his works were issued in one volume, 8vo., of which two editions are in circulation; and in 1853, "Original Hymns, for Public, Private, and Social Devotion." This venerable poet enjoyed a well-deserved literary pension of £150 a year."

Montgomery is admitted by all the critics to have been at the head of the religious poets of his age. Since the bard of Olney, no one surpassed him in purity of sentiment or fervor of devotion. For half a century he had been slowly and constantly increasing in the popular favor, and his reputation before his death acquired a compass and a solidity which forbid all thought of its decay. Of the throng of competitors among whom he won his laurels, Crabbe, Byron, Scott, Southey, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Campbell, Moore and Wilson, went before him into the region of the unknown; and now only Rogers, of all that illustrious company of men of genius, is permitted to linger at the gates of the future and listen to the applauses of posterity.

Privateers in Dutch Ports.—The official journal of the Hague has published the following very satisfactory notice:—"According to orders from the King, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Justice, and the Marine, make known to those whom it may concern, that, in order to observe a strict neutrality in the war which has just broken out, no privateers, having commissions or letters of marque, either alone or with any prizes which they may have made, shall be admitted to enter our ports, or the mouths of our rivers, except in case of actual stress of weather; in consequence, orders have been sent to keep a strict watch over such privateers and compel them to put to sea again as soon as possibe. The above ministers with the authorization of the King, warn all the inhabitants of the kingdom not to engage in any way in the present war, by means of armaments, as no letters of marque, issued by the belligerent powers to Dutch citizens, without the authorization of the King's government, will have legal value. The ministers hereby make known to the public, that the Dutch government, in observing the most absolute neutrality, will not sanction any commission or letter of marque: therefore, the subjects of the King, and all those who are subjected to the laws of the kingdom would, by taking any part in the war, by fitting out vessels, run the risk of being treated as pirates by other nations, and expose themselves to prosecutions before the Dutch tribunals, as well for making an attack on the safety of the state as for piracy."

Our Naval Reserve.—A full account has been given of the powerful fleets which have been designated for service in the Black Sea and the Baltic. We do not suppose it likely that they will prove inadequate for the hot work they will have to encounter; but even if they do, and supposing both of those magnificent fleets should be destroyed, we have ample material in our home ports to supply their places. From our ships in reserve and building we could form a naval force far surpassing that which any other nation in the world can boast of having afloat. We have in reserve at the four ports of Portsmouth, Devonport, Chatham, and Sheerness, not less than 161 vessels of the "effective ships of the Royal navy," and these estimated to carry not less than 6,808 guns. Besides these, too, we have a goodly number of paddlewheels and other small craft. Though some of the vessels may not without considerable repairs be in a state to send to sea, yet most of them are excellent sea-going vessels—far superior, indeed, to anything Russian—and could be fitted out for service on very short notice. Then we have of vessels building—5 at Portsmouth, 7 at Devonport, 1 at Sheerness, 6 at Chatham, 11 at Pembroke, 4 at Deptford, 4 at Woolwich, 1 at Mill wall.—*Portsmouth Guardian.*

The 8th Hussars, or "King's Royal Irish Light Dragoons," embarked on Saturday week at Plymouth, on board the Echunga transport. Some trouble had been found in getting the horses on board, and an accident occurred:—"Not all the caresses, which the Hussars bestowed unsparingly on their favourites, could induce some of them to submit to the trammels. They snorted, reared, plunged, darted to and fro, and in other ways gave much trouble to the courageous fellows, who invariably overcame them in the end. One of the creatures furiously resisted all efforts to put the slings upon him. Numbers of men clung to him, but he threw them off several times, except those who held the halter. At length an instrument, with a loop of leather to the end of it, was fastened to his upper lip. This had generally tamed the most refractory, but it only excited this noble creature; and kicking with fearful violence, all near him were dispersed except the man who held the instrument just named, and he was borne along off his legs, yet never slackened his hold.

The horse soon stopped; it was pushed back to its place, and another attempt was made to put the sling under him, he, however, kicked it from him, and at the same time kicked one of the assistant riggers in the abdomen. The poor fellow walked a step or two and then fell. He was immediately taken in men's arms to the doctor's office. After this serious accident a rope was fastened round a hind leg of the creature, when his kicks became more violent than before, but having exhausted himself, the rope was brought between his fore legs, over his shoulders and round his neck. This being drawn tight materially prevented his struggles, the sling was fastened upon him quickly, the twinkling of an eye he was pawing the air, and the next moment was deposited in the ship's hold." Besides this, another horse knocked down a Dragoon; and the last that was put on board bit the arm of another Dragoon. The sailing orders of the Echunga arrived by electric telegraph on Monday, when she immediately put to sea with a fair wind.

Odessa.—The town of Odessa was founded by Catherine II, after she had extended her dominions, in 1792, to the banks of the Dneister, and in 60 years it has become the emporium of the trade of Southern Russia. Its population exclusive of the garrison is 70,000, and the total amount of its export and import trade was valued in 1849 at about four million and a half sterling. The town is built on cliffs, which rise to a considerable height above the sea, and form a sort of amphitheatre round the bay. It is fortified according to the modern principles of defence, and the citadel, on the east side of the town, commands the port. The port itself is formed by two large moles, one of which is regularly defended by a parapet, with embrasures for cannon. The anchorage in the bay is good, and the water so deep that vessels of the first class may lie within reach of the shore. It seems, however, by the brief account which has reached us from Vienna, that the only practicable harbor was attacked on the 23d by nine steamers of the fleet, and that one small battery was destroyed, and the ships in the harbour burnt. It is added that the city was bombarded with shells and rockets for *ten* (or, as another account says, *two*) hours; we must suspend our opinion upon the details of this affair until they are made known to us upon trustworthy authority.—*London Times.*

Silistria, on the Danube, which report says the Russians are about to attack, is a place of about 20,000 population. The town is badly laid out, and several mosques, public baths, bonded warehouse, and the citadel are the chief public places. Ramparts line the whole bank of the river, and it is a strong military post. In 1828 the Turks resisted successfully every attack upon it by the Russians, and the latter did not capture it in 1829 until after nine months' siege.

Reply of Russia to the Declaration of War.—The Russian manifesto, replying to the Eng[illegible] and French declaration of wa[illegible] in the *St. Petersburgh Journa*[illegible] 1st, is a speciously worded document, defending Russia's injured innocence, and throwing the responsibility of hostilities upon England and France. The same paper of the 12th contains some remarks respecting the "confidential correspondence." It states that the subject was brought confidentially to the knowledge of the Sovereigns of Prussia and Austria, but not to that of the Emperor of the French; because, at that moment, the French Envoy at Constantinople was employed in actively supplanting Russian influence there. The article defends the Emperor's motive as correct and honourable, and concludes as follows:—"These short observations will suffice to reduce, to its just value, all that falsehood, exaggeration, and malevolence has attributed to the language of his Majesty. In the eyes of impartial men, the publication which has just been made will prove only one thing, the abuse of a generous confidence, which has not been appreciated, and the injustice of suspicions, which have been made the pretence of a disastrous war, for which, had it not been for them, there would have been no cause."

First View of Constantinople.—There stood the swelling domes, the arrowy minarets, the shining palaces and towers of Constantinople gleaming in the morning sun. At first view a mass of temples and human habitations were crowded on a mountain side, and the gardens, cypresses, and pinnacles appeared to be thrown in the midst of them without regard to arrangement; but we soon distinguished Stamboul and Scutari, and then we rushed by the Seraglio Palace into the mouth of the Golden Horn. Pera rose from the water's edge with the new marble image of the Sultan on the Bosphorus, and there we came to anchor, having Scutari behind us, Stamboul on our right, with St. Sophia, the St. Peter's of the Moslem, and a score of mosques with their surrounding minarets in full view; and Pera surmounted by the Russian Palace on our left. The Golden Horn, an arm of the sea, was stretched out before us, clasped by a bridge, and filled with shipping of every clime; a sight, in all its parts, of such extraordinary elements of beauty and grandeur, as the approach to no other city in the world presents. No wonder it has been besieged twenty-six times! No wonder that every conqueror who comes in sight of it covets it and resolves to have it. No wonder that Nicholas longs to transfer his palace from the frozen borders of Finland to this enchanting zone!—*Letters of Irenæus.*

The Dobrudscha.—The following account of this desolate district, which has suddenly risen into interest and importance, is taken from the forthcoming new edition of Murray's Turkish Guide:

"At Tchernavoda the Danube approaches within 34 miles of the Black Sea, but is separated from it by a peninsula or tongue of high land, extending north, nearly opposite to Galatz, called Dobrudscha. From Tchernavoda a road runs to Kostendje, on the Black Sea, partly parallel with a stream, or rather a chain of lakes, called Karason. At Bourlack (four hours) the stream ceases, and the valley is shut in by hills crowned with downs, from which the sea is visible. Kostendje (Constantina) a small village on a height above the shore, has a little port, with remains of a Roman mole, now destroyed. From a point a little south of this, to Rassova, on the Danube, runs a rampart of earth called Trajan's Wall. It is certain that no branch of the Danube ever flowed into the sea across this tongue of land, which presents on the side of the sea an uninterrupted range of low hills and cliffs.

The district of the Dobrudscha is at most seasons a wilderness, partly owing to its having been deprived of its Tartar inhabitants, after 1820, by the Russians, but chiefly owing to its subsoil, which, excepting to the north extremity, where rise the hills of Matschin, (granite,) consists of porous limestone, which retains no water, and furnishes no springs on the surface.—Population is scanty, and villages wide scattered, and drinking water is obtained only through a few deep wells. Corn is scarcely cultivated at all, hay and fodder are very scarce, the scanty herbage dries up early in the summer, and the flocks of sheep and herds of buffaloes repair to the borders of the Danube for pasture. This desert extends south of the wall of Trajan, nearly as far as Dasajik and Varna. It is not tenable by troops, unless they carry food, forage, and water with them. A canal was at one time projected between the Danube at Tchernavoda, and the Black Sea at Kostendje, but a survey made by a Prussian engineer proved that the head of the valley of Karasou was 164 feet above the sea, and not a drop of water was to be obtained on the summit-level (limestone hills) to feed a canal if it were made.

The King of Sparta, it is said, described his militia as "the walls of Sparta; each man, being a perfect brick;" hence the expression "a regular brick."

Count Nesselrode, the veteran prime minister of Russia, who is now 84 years of age, is the son of German parents. He was first a sailor, then a soldier.

Messrs. Wright, of Birmingham, England, have recently patented a rope, constructed of the best hemp and galvanized wire, spun together by machinery; and a rope so manufactured, four and a half inches in circumference, was found on trial capable of drawing three hundred tons weight, which required two engines to propel it.

The following notice was observed on the floor of one of the churches in London—"It is particularly requested that moustaches be not worn in this church during divine service."

Madame St. Arnaud, the wife of General St. Arnaud, takes with her no less than sixty dresses of the latest Parisian fashion, to make a proper appearance at Constantinople.

At a meeting in England lately, Mr. Postgate stated, that if asked what commodities are unadulterated, he could but reply, only raw materials—fish, flesh, vegetables.

An eccentric old Bachelor died at Hull lately, and the condition upon which his descendant holds the property is, that he will never marry.

Throughout the Douro, the vine disease is said to have made its appearance in a serious form.

An annuity of £100 a year has been collected for the benefit of the Madiai.

Redschid Pasha is said to have stated, that he will never allow either Kossuth or Mazzini to enter the Turkish dominions.

UNITED STATES.

Scarcely a day passes but we are called upon to chronicle the total shipwreck of vessels, often attended with a melancholy destruction of life. The loss of the ships Winchester and Argo and of the brig Byron was mentioned yesterday, and to-day the list is continued. The ship W. H. Harbeck, bound to Mobile, with a cargo of hay, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning while at anchor on the S. W. Spit, at the entrance of our harbor. The captain and crew were rescued with some difficulty, saving nothing but what they stood in. The ship Black Hawk, from Liverpool for this port, was abandoned at sea on the 23d ult., after being reduced to an unmanageable wreck. She had eight hundred and fifty-eight souls on board all told, three hundred and fifty-six of whom arrived at this port yesterday in the ship Currituck. The remainder were taken off by the British bark Caroline and the ship Dirigo, from this city bound to Glasgow. Notwithstanding the large number of people on board the wreck and the violent storm which prevailed but one life was lost.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The Winchester's Passengers.—The emigrants of this wretched ship who arrived by the Washington on Saturday, were, with the exception of about forty yesterday, sent to Boston, their place of destination, by the steamboat Knickerbocker, which took 386. They are all Irish, and through the privations undergone, presented a pitiable appearance. The Commissioner of Emigrants has cared for them to the fullest extent, having furnished them plentifully with provisions and bedding, and done all in his power to afford them relief. The remaining 40 will be shipped to-day. The Winchester had, when she left Liverpool, 420 passengers, and 32 of a crew. Seventeen on the Washington, and four of the crew were washed off the Winchester. The brig Edward, from Liverpool, took off 50 passengers, Brig "Ann," for Quebec, 25; and brig Robert Bruce, for same place, 40. These passengers will be likewise transferred to Boston. A few remain in the Quarantine Hospital.—*N. Y. Tour. Commerce.*

The late Passage of the Atlantic.—Gen. Webb, who was a passenger in the Atlantic, reports that Capt. West, for the purpose of avoiding icebergs mixed with field ice, which would be more dangerous and cause more delay than icebergs alone, took a northerly course, and in consequence fell in with a large number of icebergs of magnificent dimensions. The ship passed them all without danger.—*N. Y. Paper.*

Antiquities of Chicago!—One of the Chicago papers states that the oldest inhabitant *born* in Chicago, and now living there, is a lady only *twenty-two years of age*. The editor, not enjoying her acquaintance, ventures to incur her displeasure by the statement, that the "oldest *native* inhabitant" of Chicago, a city of more than sixty thousand people, is Miss Ellen Hamilton, the daughter of Col. R. J. Hamilton.

On Monday afternoon, during a thunder squall to the north of New York, a flash came into the city on one of the House line telegraph wires, entered the office at the corner of Wall street, and set fire to a file of messages hanging near the operator's head.

On Monday, as a fashionable looking man was examining some boots in a New York store, the proprietor of the establishment saw two thieves stealing shoes from his show case. He immediately rushed out and gave unsuccessful chase; and upon his return, wearied and out of breath, was exceedingly mortified to find that his customer had made off with half a dozen of the best pairs of boots in the shop.

There are said to be 10,000 destitute children in the city of New York—wretched girls and outcast boys who live by beggary and shame.

The carriage way over the new suspension bridge at Niagara Falls, will open on the 1st of July, and the passage for railway trains some time in the fall.

Mormonism makes rapid strides at the Sandwich Islands. About a thousand are said to have been "converted" within two months.

The wheat crop of Michigan promises to be larger this season than usual.

The first vessel launched on Lake Erie was in 1679; it was built by the French for the expedition of La Salle. The first American vessel was launched in 1797. The first steamer in 1814.

CANADA.

The Government of Canada have taken the Music Hall, at Quebec, for the use of the next sitting of Parliament.

The Montreal Herald announces that the British and Russian fur colonies, and the Hudson Bay Company, through Gov. Simpson, and the Russian company at Sitka, have already had an understanding that they will not go to war because their home sovereigns have drawn the sword. The neutrality, as we understand it, does not insure either settlement against the forces of the adverse nation, but only extends to making each of them non-combatants as respects the other.

Hay is so scarce in the Midland districts of Upper Canada that cattle are everywhere perishing. For sometime past $15 per ton had been freely paid for the most indifferent qualities.

The towns of Coburg and Port Hope are about to extend their harbor facilities. The railways now being constructed by these two towns into the interior, are going ahead very rapidly.

The cost of all the railways now being constructed in the provinces is estimated at $92,000,000. The money comes chiefly from England, on Municipal Debentures and Government Stocks.

The Grand Trunk Railway is progressing at various points. It is estimated there are 10,000 laborers at work upon it.

The Excessive Rise in Beef and Mutton—The unprecedented price of beef, mutton, and in fact every description of butcher's meat, is just now an object of universal complaint with all housekeepers. Not a bit of prime beef can be purchased in this market for less than 9d per lb; and mutton sells readily in the carcase at 7½d. per lb. The price was never so high before. As a general rule, prime beef never exceeded 6d per lb. in this market before last year.—*Toronto Patriot.*

Enormous Price of Hay.—The Kingston Herald of the 19th inst., says.—Hay sold yesterday in our city for $14 a ton.

Brantford, U. C. May 9.—The Freight House and Car Depot on the Buffalo and Brantford Rail Road, were burned this morning, together with two locomotives, several passenger cars, and a quantity of freight. Loss £25,000.

It is said near 1,000 new buildings will be erected in Toronto during 1854. Mechanics of all kinds are wanted.

Latest from Europe.

The steamship *Europa* arrived at New York on Friday at 1 o'clock.

A pitched battle took place on the 18th and 19th April, between 70,000 Turks, under Omar Pacha, and the Russians, under General Luders. The Russians retreated behind Czisurvona, with the loss of many guns, their baggage and military chest, &c. Silistria remained undamaged up to the 23, amidst continued attacks.

The Allied fleets had bombarded Salina, but no details had been received.

Much excitement had been caused in consequence of the reported capture of a French brig by an American privateer. The British steamer Grape Shot had been sent in pursuit of her.

Flour declined 6d. Corn 2s. Cotton dull Wheat advanced 3d.

Lord Raglan arrived at Malta on the 25th, and left the same day for Turkey. The Caradoc left on the 26th for Corfu, to convey the Duke of Cambridge.

On the 26th ult., 19 English officers and 550 artillery men arrived in Malta, with 536 horses—20 horses having died on the passage. Lieutenant King had gone to Tunis to purchase 1000 horses. Preparations are making at Malta for lodging 5000 French troops.

The Moniteur declares that as Russia has withdrawn the *exequaturs* of the French Consuls at Odessa, Warsaw and other Russian towns, the French Government has withdrawn the *exequaturs* from the Russian Consuls at Marseilles, Cette, Toulon, Havre, and Bordeaux.

The Journal de St. Petersburgh of the 27th ult. contains a proclamation from the Emperor to his people, in which he represents the war against England and France as one undertaken in defence of the Orthodox Faith.

England and France, he says, have thrown off the mask and revealed their real object, which is to weaken Russia and deprive her of her powerful position in Europe.

Russia will fight for the christian faith, in defence of her co-religionists, oppressed by her merciless enemies.

The Paris Moniteur of the 2d, represents the bombardment of the town of Odessa on the 23d, by the allied fleet, as an act of retaliation for the conduct of the military authorities of the place towards a flag of truce, sent from the English steam vessel Furious. It is stated that one of the Russian batteries had been completely destroyed, and several vessels in port burnt.

A letter from Silistria of April 25th, says that the Russian bombardment had produced no effect. It is said that an attack was to be made on the 1st of May, by 30,000 Russians, and that the passage of the river at Oltenitza would be made at the same time.

Wreck of an Australian Steamer.—The British steamship Australia, from Australia for London, with gold and passengers, was wrecked March 30, on Green Point at the Cape of Good Hope. The passengers and treasure were all saved.

Loss of Barque Favorite.—A dreadful calamity occurred in the English Channel, at two o'clock on the morning of the 28th. American barque Hesper, of Charleston, S. C. for Antwerp, came in collision with the Bremen barque Favorite, Capt. Hogueman, from Bremen for Baltimore, with 180 passengers. The Favorite was struck on the starboard bow, cut down to the water's edge and the foremast carried away. Capt. Hogueman, the mate, and four seamen got on board the Hesper while the vessels were in contact, and the remainder of the crew are thought to have taken to the boats, but have not since been heard of. At day break nothing was seen of the Favorite, which no doubt sank immediately with all on board. The Hesper also sustained damage, but proceeded on her voyage, having sent the rescued to Portsmouth in a pilot boat.

The screw steamer Great Britain, from Liverpool, having burst a flue, off Holyhead. She has gone into dock and will partially unload, and may be detained two or three weeks.

The great strike at Preston has at length ended after continuing thirty six weeks. On the 1st inst. the operatives returned to the work without the increase which they had been contending for.

Tenders for £6,000,000, Exchequer Bonds were opened on Wednesday, May 3d, and we have the following important despatch by telegraph to Liverpool, announcing the result;—

"Exchequer Bonds. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has agreed to accept 98¾ for the first series, ten days for tender."

London, May 2.—An authentic despatch states that Odessa was bombarded for ten hours by the allied fleets, and part of the city laid in ruins Four gun fortresses were dismantled; four Russian and one Austrian merchant ship were burnt in the harbor. Three British bombarding steamers were badly damaged. The attempt of the allies to land 1800 men failed.

The Russian fleet came out of Sebastapol during the fight and threatened the allied fleet, but retired without a battle.

The Russian account is in these terms, "The English and French Admirals demanded the surrender of the Russian ships in the port of Odessa. This being refused, bombardment began from eighteen ships. A small part of the city was destroyed. An attempt to land 1800 men failed; the bombardment produced no effect."

Details of the bombardment of Odessa are not received.

The Russians have completely evacuated Little Wallachia. The Russian right wing now rests on the Aluta river, with the head quarters at Bucharest, therefore the interest of the campaign is again concentrated on operations below Nicopolis.

The Turks have come out of Kalfaat and are occupying all the towns in the track of the Russians. The allied troops were idle.

No news of any importance from Asia.

On the 19th, Sir Charles Napier with 19 vessels was at Stockholm.

Ports in the Gulf of Finland and Bothnia are in a state of blockade.

France has ordered Russian consuls to leave.

A despatch in the Vienna Oeste. states that the Woronzoff Palace was entirely destroyed during the bombardment, and that four frigates were severely damaged.

The gigantic new screw steam ship, the Royal Albert, of 131 guns, is to be launched on the 12th of May, in the presence of the Queen.

Another despatch says that 26 sail of the combined fleet arrived before Odessa on the 10th. On the 18th the fleet bombarded the city for an hour, and during the whole day of the 22d. The magazines of the outer town were in flames. This is official.

The London Times says, "We receive intelligence of the bombardment of Odessa with feelings which are not unmixed with regret. It was expected that the first operations of war, which the combined fleets now in the Black Sea would inflict, would be a severe blow on the enemy, and would prove with what overwhelming force the naval armaments of England and France are provided; but we must be allowed, without the slightest disparagement to the gallantry of the officers of the magnificent fleets under their orders, to feel some regret that the first blow in the war should have fallen upon a commercial city, rather than a military or naval post."

Sir Charles Napier arrived at Stockholm on the 25th, and had an audience with King Oscar.

Siege of Silistria.—The important position of Silistria is closely invested, but a telegraph despatch of the 26th says that up to then the fortress suffered no damage.

St. Petersburgh, April 23.—The following war tax is now being levied:—On tradesmen and merchants of the first guild, 300 silver rubles; on those of the second, 160; and on the third, 106. All house-keepers without distinction are assessed 10 per cent. on the actual rent they pay or receive.

☞ We understand that the Congregation of Saint Andrew's Church intend taking up a Collection on the approaching General Fast, (the 31st inst.,) for the benefit of the Wives and Children of the Soldiers who have gone to the continent in the service of their country. We are pleased to observe this, and hope the example will be followed by all the Churches of this city.

On Monday the body of an infant was found near Duke street. It did not appear to have been long born. This is the fourth instance of the kind that has been brought before our notice within the last two weeks, and it speaks volumes for the increase of crime in our city.—*Morning Times.*

The barque Sarah arrived at Richibucto yesterday, having on board 130 passengers, chiefly masons, rescued from the Helen Thomson, bound to Quebec.

Holloway's Pills, for the Cure of Indigestion, Liver, and Bilious Complaints.—These Pills are the finest stomachic and the most invigorating medicines ever known for weak stomachs. Persons of the most delicate constitution may use them with perfect safety. A few doses improves the tone of the stomach, and induces healthy digestion, by which means sufferers are restored to a state of vigorous health, which they had never dared to anticipate. Holloway's Pills are equally efficacious for bile, sick head aches, liver complaints, and affections of the lungs, and may be resorted to at any season without fear of danger arising from catching cold whilst taking them.

Passengers per ship *Barbara*, Captain Houston, from London:—Miss Fuller, and Messrs. Davis, Lellyth, Blackwall, Smith, and Walter.

☞ A Bazaar will be held in the Vestry of the Baptist Chapel, Brussels street, on Thursday next, 25th inst., at 2 o'clock, P. M., and will be continued during the evening.

The proceeds of the Bazaar are intended to purchase a Library for the Sabbath School held in said Chapel. May 23.

LITERATURE.

I. 'The Recreations of Christopher North.' —Complete in one Volume.—Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co. New-York: James C. Derby. 1854. 8 vo. pp. 307.]

A noble mind, of the highest order, has lately passed away from the earth. But a very few days have elapsed since we chronicled the decease of Professor Wilson, of Edinburgh, the *quondam* "Christopher North," the bright and brilliant poet and philosopher of old Blackwood. Who that has has ever delectated in the charming "*Noctes Ambrosianæ*," but felt a glowing sympathy with the erudite and enchanting author while he lived, and mourned his death as an irreparable loss to the literary world! *He* is gone: but his works will forever survive him; and every one who has enjoyed the attractive products of his pen in days of yore, will rejoice to possess a memorial of the lamented author, whom they have loved so well. The present volume is a choice collection of Professor Wilson's *Essays* and *Miscellanies*; and is embellished with an excellent mezzotint Portrait of the author "in his sporting jacket." The Volume requires no recommendation; the fame of the departed needs no posthumous blazoning; "Christopher North," though dead, yet speaketh, and will always command abundant listeners and readers. This collection of his "*Recreations*," therefore, will meet universal patronage, as it well deserves.

II. "This, That, and the Other."—By Ellen Louise Chandler.—With Illustrations by Rowse. —[Boston; Phillips, Sampson & Co. *New York*; James C. Derby, 1854.] 12 mo. p.p. 412.

A new *Book* by a new Author; and a very charming *Book* it is. The Volume comprises a collection of original Tales, Sketches, and Poetical pieces, that would do honour to many a Writer of old established fame. We have been truly delighted in the perusal of Miss Chandler's graphic compositions; her Characters are sketched with striking spirit, truth and force; the plot and interest of her Tales are artistical and exciting in a high degree; they enlist the best feelings and sympathies of the reader in their behalf, and leave the purest and most beneficial influences upon the mind and heart. We cordially welcome the fair Author into the fraternity of attractive and humanising Literary Labourers, whose pens are employed in promoting the best interests of their species; and we heartily recommend her delightful book to general patronage.

*** Epes Sargent's "*First Class Standard Reader*," and No. 2 of "*Martin Merrivale*," received; and to be noticed next week. B.

☞ This Paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge at Holloway's Pill and Ointment Establishment, 244, Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

TAPE WORM CURED BY
DR. M'LANE'S VERMIFUGE.
New York, August, 2, 1852

☞ A certain lady in this city testifies that, after using Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge, she passed a tape worm ten inches long; and has no hesitation in recommending it to every person afflicted with worms; as, in her opinion, it far excels every other remedy now in use. The name of the lady, and further particulars, can be learned by calling on Mrs. Hardie, Manhattan place, or E. L. Theall Druggist, corner of Rutger and Monroe streets.

P. S. The above valuable remedy, also Dr. M'Lane's Celebrated Liver Pills, can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores in this city.

☞ Purchasers will please be careful to ask for **Dr McLane's Vermifuge**, and take none else. All other Vermifuges, in comparison, are worthless. Dr. McLane's genuine Vermifuge, also his celebrated Liver Pills can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores in the United States and British provinces.

☞ Sold in St. John by ChalonER & Hunt and T. Walker & Son.

Married.

At St. John's Church, Parish of St. Mark, on Wednesday last, by the Rev. George Armstrong, Rector, Nelson Arnold, Esq., of Sussex, to Anna Maria, second daughter of Thomas Smith, Esq., late of St. John, N. B.

On Tuesday last, by the Rev. William Harrison, Mr. John Hoffy, of the Parish of Portland, to Miss Isab