

Admiral Lalende's squadron, says the Commerce, "will not remain long at Toulon, but as soon as it is re-viceuall'd, and reinforced by the Montebello of the line and the Armide frigate, which are expected from the Levant, will take another cruise along the Italian coast, and then resume its station at Tunis. It appears that there is reason to believe that the Capitan Pacha will re-appear off the coast of Barbary, in order to support the plans for maintaining the sovereignty of the Porte in those countries."

The Messenger states that "the Marquis d'Esperja has frequent conferences with the President of the Council, and on Sunday morning passed upwards of an hour with the minister in his cabinet. It is stated that in consequence of dispatches received the day before from Madrid, the Representative of the Queen of Spain has addressed to the Government new distinct, and urgent questions as to its intentions with regard to Spain."

The Sylphe brig-of-war is about to sail from Toulon with 1,000,000f. for King Otho of Greece, and with several boxes full of presents, which the Queen of the French was sending to the church of the Holy Spulchre in Jerusalem

(From the Globe.)

Captain Boldro's motion was withdrawn, on the ground urged by Lord Howick, that it might have the effect of suggesting to the soldiers about to be sent to that country the crime of desertion while it could have no effect in guiding the House or the Government in the measures that might be adopted for checking the practice. It is not, perhaps, to be wondered at that such an offence should be occasional occurrence in the North American colonies. The Soldiers are enlisted in this country, and are placed in a situation superior in some respects to that of the independent labourer, and having a prospect of a pension at the termination of their service. When however, they are sent to our North American possessions, they find themselves at once brought into contact with individuals in the same class of life with themselves, but whose position is in every respect superior to their own. It is impossible but that they should draw comparisons between the life and the prospects of a soldier and those of the labourer in America. In the immediate vicinity of the place where they are quartered they will see many who in England were far worse off than themselves, but who by a few years of quiet and persevering industry, are placed in independent circumstances, the owners of 50 or 100 acres of land, and assured of a comfortable and

independent subsistence for the remainder of their lives. Contrasting this condition with their own, it is but natural that they should become dissatisfied, and the immediate vicinity of the United States furnishes them with the means of realizing precisely the same results for themselves which have excited their envy in another, and secures them a perfectly safe asylum against the pursuit of the military authorities. There is no doubt but that from these causes we have lost a considerable proportion of our soldiers, and that those who have thus deserted have often been among the most valuable. The energetic and enterprising are at once most liable to be tempted, and most likely to run the risk necessarily incurred by the attempt to desert. To perceive the cause of the evil, is however, far more easy than to suggest an effectual remedy. The pay, food, and prospects of a soldier are necessarily regulated in a considerable degree by the standard of comfort and the rate of wages among that portion of the population from which they are generally selected. But as the average standard of the labouring classes in the colonies is far higher than in this country, especially of the unskilled portion—those who are nothing but labourers—it follows inevitably that the scale of remuneration to the soldier will appear to him too low when he has the opportunity of instituting a comparison between himself and even a common farm labourer. This it is that supplies the inducement to desert; and as long as the existing difference between the position of the working classes in England and in the colonies continues, this inducement will remain. To free the soldier from every temptation to leave the service when in the colonies, by raising his pay, &c., would be a more expensive process than that of replacing those who do actually desert.

We are, however, disposed to think that this very circumstance might under proper management, be made useful in keeping up the discipline of the army and improving the character of the soldiers. The plan which has already been adopted by Government of substituting a new plan of reliefs in the different colonies—sending the troops to Malta and Gibraltar first, and then to Canada might be combined with a system of military colonization. The soldier would then have served a very considerable portion of his time before he was sent to a place where he was exposed to the temptation to desert, and on his arrival there he might be allowed, in lieu of a portion of his party, to have a few acres of land which he might cultivate. This need not interfere with the preservation of discipline, or with the regular muster and exercise of the troops. And if such a plan were adopted, the being allowed to join a regiment in the colonies might be made a privilege dependent upon previous good conduct.—It would be also no small recommendation of this or some similar system, that it might be made a means of permitting marriages among the soldiers to a greater extent than is at present allowed, when only a few out of each regiment are, as a general rule, suffered to marry.

Some of the French papers exult at the revolt in Canada; and it is said that emissaries had three months since been sent out from France.

GENERAL VAN EGMONT, who had been an officer under NAPOLEON in 1812, during the disastrous Campaign in Russia died last Friday in the Hospital of this city, through chagrin and fatigue, in his 73d year. He was taken at Montgomery's Tavern where he had arrived on the very morning of the battle, to take command of the Rebels.—*Toronto Palladium, Jan. 10.*

George Young, Esq. of Halifax, in a letter in the *Evening Mail* of the 29th December, repels with just indignation, a charge of disloyalty made by Mr. Leader in the *House of Commons*, against this Colony and New Brunswick.

The news of the capture of the schooner at Amherstburgh, and also of the evacuation of Navy Island, had reached Montreal. The military Chest of the Patriots was taken, containing seven hundred dollars in specie, and five hundred in good bills. The captors were obliged to wade breast high to board her.

Lount, the blacksmith, & one of Mackenzie's Colonels, for whom a reward of £500 has been offered, has been captured by two honest labouring men. He had been wandering in the woods since the 8th of December.

At no period since the last reduction of the army has the Government possessed a larger available force than at the present moment should the unsettled state of Canada call for the augmentation of the troops serving there. Independent of the brigade of guards and cavalry, twenty-five battalions of infantry are now in the United Kingdom.—The following corps are now in Great Britain, and several of them are the very best in the service:—the 1st batt. of the 7th, 10th, 20th, 22d, 23d, 25th, 38th, 42d, 48th, 71st, 78th, 79th, 86th, 88th, 93d, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, and the two battalions of the rifle brigade—a finer force for its numbers England never possessed during the war; and this will shortly be augmented by the 11th and 73d, from the Mediterranean. So much for the croakers about the Canadas! Thanks to Lord Hill, England has a disposable force and in the best discipline, ready and willing to assert Her Majesty's rights and put down rebellion whether at home or abroad.—*Naval and Military Gazette, Dec. 26.*

*Rumoured increase in the Army and Navy.*—It is stated in the city with confidence, that Her Majesty's Ministers have under consideration the propriety of recommending to Parliament, immediately after the re-assembling of both Houses, an increase both of Army and Navy.—The augmentation of the former, it is stated, will be from 15,000 to 20,000 men, and in the navy from 5000 to 8,000. The affairs of Canada will render it necessary that the troops at that direction should be greatly increased, orders to that purport, have in fact, already been given.

In the dock-yards there has been a great number of additional hands placed upon full employment, preparatory to an increase of the British fleet.

CHOLERA IN WATERFORD.—Accounts have reached town that the *Asiatic Cholera* prevails in Waterford, and that it has extended to the neighbouring town of Carrick-on-Suir. There were, it is said, 19 cases on the first day of the appearance of the disease. On Wednesday, the Mayor of that city presided at a meeting in the Town Hall, when it was determined to apply to the Lord Lieutenant to appoint a local board of health.

Twelve sail of French men-of-war have sailed for St. Domingo, to enforce the claims of that country. This measure has created much anxiety amongst British merchants engaged in the trade of that Island.

Differences have taken place with the Kings of Ava, which is supposed would lead to war with Great Britain.

PROPOSED CANADIAN FENCIBLE REGIMENT.

A proposal, of which the following is the abstract, has been made by William Alexander Mackinnon, Esq., the Member for Lympington, to Her Majesty's government:—

"That considerable distress is felt at this time in the Western Highlands of Scotland, from want of employment.

"That an active and hardy race of young men are left destitute, and prove a burden to their families and to the landed proprietors. That these men are willing to emigrate, and that their attachment to the mother country would continue as colonists.

"That in the year 1794 some fencible regiments were embodied in the Highlands, who afterwards went and settled in some of our colonial possessions, and have always evinced a strong attachment to the mother country.

"The offer has been made by Mr. Meckinnon to raise one regiment of 1,000 men, or more, from the population of the clan that bears his name, and neighbouring clans, on the following conditions:—

"That every man who is enlisted shall be entitled to 50 acres of land in Canada, which shall be assigned him if his services are no longer required in that Province, after the expiration of three years. The non-commissioned officers to have a proportionate number of acres.

"Mr. M. to have the disposal of the commissions, and the regiments to receive their pay and clothing from government.

"Officers on half-pay of the British army to be eligible to take commissions, retaining their half-pay.

"At the end of three years' service, the regiment to be disembodied, and located in their land adjoining each other, which land they are to retain on fee on condition of doing eight days' exercise under their officers in the course of the year, and of being again embodied should the local government of Canada, or the executive government here, deem their services necessary for the public tranquillity. If embodied, to receive the same pay, clothing, and allowance, as the other forces in Her Majesty's service.

"February, 1838.

(From the *Quebec Morning Herald, January 27.*)

On Sunday morning our city and suburbs were visited by an inundation of water greater than ever had been witnessed by the oldest inhabitant in this city, and which we regret to say still continued to increase. Commissioners Street, Point a Calliere, M'Gill and St. Paul Streets are partially covered with water, varying from two to eight feet in depth, as also the St. Antoine and Griffintown suburbs; in the latter it has been attended with great loss of cattle. In the city damage to the amount of several thousand pounds has been sustained, chiefly in flour, grain, sugar, salt, &c.

We have been also informed, that the steam boat Princess Victoria and two other vessels, have been removed from off the stocks, and sustained more or less injury. The water has now become perfectly congealed except where canoes are employed on the streets (as is the case in M'Gill and St. Paul streets,) and consequently will be attended with much trouble and difficulty in cutting the furniture, storage, &c. out of the cellars and lower stories.

ARRESTS.—Elias Moore, Esq. M.P.P.; Charles Latimer, Esq. merchant, London, and Alvaro Lagd, Esq. merchant, Delaware, are lodged in the District jail, on charges implicating them in the late treasonable attempts to subvert the Government. Robert Alway, Esq. M. P. P. for Oxford, is also captured, and in safe keeping. So is Finlay Malcom, an ex-M.P.P. for the same county. John Moor, farmer, in this township, is also in jail.—His farm is said to be worth eight thousand dollars.

The disbanding of the force at Navy Island has furnished an opportunity for ascertaining the number who were there assembled. They mustered in all 510, who were enrolled. Beside these there were something like 150 supernumeraries.