BALACLAVA RAILROAD.

The last division of Navvies bound for work in the Crimea—left for the scene of operations. The vessels conveying them, and the material to construct the railway from Balaklava to the trenches before Sebastopol, consist of seven steam-ships and two sailing vessels of the aggregate tonnage of 5491 tons, and 900 Horse power. The material consists of 1800 tons of rails and fastenings, 6000 sleepers, 600 loads of timber, and about 3000 tons of other material and machinery, consisting of fixed engines, cranes, pile engines, truck waggons, barrows, blocks, cain-falls, wire-rope, picks, bars, capstans, crabs, and a variety of other plant and tools; besides sawing-machines, forges, carpenters' and smiths' tools &c. This material is distributed over the different vessels in such a manner that should any one or two vessels be lost or disabled, it will not endanger the efficiency of the whole. The ships convey, in parties of 50 or 80, 500 workmen; each party under the charge of a foreman and assistant; as well as a surgeon to each vessel, and a clerk to attend to the victualling and care of the stores. The allowance of provisions will be on a liberal scale; both of the same description as usually supplied to ships' crews. Each man is supplied with clothing suitable for the voyage and for the service he will have to perform on his arrival, as follows:—1 painted bag, 1 painted suit, 3 coloured cotton shirts, 1 flannel shirt (red), 1 flannel shirt (white), 1 flannel belt, 1 pair moleskin trousers, 1 moleskin vest lined with serge, 1 fear-nought slop, 1 linsey drawers, 1 blue cravat, 1 blue worsted cravat, 1 pair of leggings, 1 pair of boots, 1 strap and buckle, 1 bed and pillow, 1 pair of mitts, 1 portable stove for every ten men, 1 rug and blanket, 1 pair of blankets, 1 woollen coat, 1 pair of waterproof boots, 1 pair fisherman's boots, 1 pair grey stockings, and 2 pounds of tobacco for present use. By the above list, it will be observed, that each man is provided with a painted waterproof bag, capable of containing his kit, and also three days' provisions; no boxes or lumber of any kind being allowed. The fisherman's boots, reaching to the knee, are for their use on board, as well as in wet weather in the Crimea. But, besides, there is a pair of strongly nailed boots, commonly called navvies' boots, to be served out to each man on arrival in the country. One hundred pairs of long boots, reaching to the hip, are also provided for the use of parties requiring to work in the water. Besides ten huts, each capable of housing 40 men, 100 railway sheets or covers generally used to cover goods-waggons are sent, with a large quantity of boards and scantlings, with the temporary tents and huts, impervious to wet, and not easily inflammable which can in a few hours be erected and as easily removed. The sheets will also afford temporary covering to provisions or fuel likely to be injured or destroyed by water. Coal, coke, and firewood are also furnished in large quantities. To each party of ten a cooking stove, of a very portable but efficient character, is provided, which will boil, bake, and fry in the open air. The staff consists of one chief engineer and three assistants, one accountant and clerk, one storekeeper and clerk, besides foreman and time-keepers. Whilst everything is provided to render their work efficient, the sanitary condition of the men has not been forgotten, the medical staff consist of a surgeon, four assistant surgeons, and four nurses, selected from the first hospitals in London. An ample stock of medical stores and comforts is provided, and a large number of Dean and Adam's revolvers have also been provided in case any of the workmen should need them. Two railway missionaries will likewise accompany the men, and a selection of books is provided for their use. On arriving at Balaklava, one of the sailing ships will be appropriated as a store and hospital ship, the rest of the squadron will be employed as circumstances may render expedient.

Embodiment of the Entire Militia.—It is intended to call out the whole of the Militia regiments of the United Kingdom, including the Irish as well as Scotch Militia.—Already sixty-four English and Welsh regiments are embodied, and sixteen more are ordered out, making eighty out of the hundred of England and Wales. The remaining twenty will make the last batch. The number of men authorised by Parliament for this part of the local force is 80,000, whilst the number for Scotland is 10,000, and for Ireland 30,000.—If out of these, 80,000 can be got together, it will be an outside number. Some 15,000 of the better prepared Militia regiments will garrison the Mediterranean colonies, requiring a fourth more to remain at home for the purposes of depots and keeping up the force abroad. Thus, 20,000 are provided for. The remaining 60,000 will be required for home duty, in conjunction with the depots of the regular army, and for volunteering into the Line. It is expected, that sufficient barracks will soon be ready for the whole number; sooner, in fact, than the men can be procured. In the military colonies of Malta, Gibraltar, and Corfu, the Militia regiments will do the garrison duty. At Malta, in addition, it is intended to have a reserve force of regulars in training, and ready for immediate embarkation to any point where their services may be required in the field. We understand that already a most lively competition is displayed by the Militia regiments longest enrolled, for the first turn of garrison service in the Mediterranean.

Strengthening the Fortified Places in Russia.—Letters from St. Petersburg state, that several councils have lately taken place there under the presidency of the Minister at War with the attendance of the naval and military officers commanding in the Gulf of Finland and its shores. These councils recognised the necessity of strengthening and augmenting the various fortified places, and of adding to the most important of them an entrenched camp, capable of accommodating a division of infantry. In fact, it is stated that this system of entrenched camps is to be carried out on a large scale, and to extend from Cronstadt to most of the military positions in Poland. This among other matters, is the cause of the visit made by General Dehem, the governor of the town and citidel of Cronstadt to Field-Marshal Paskiewitsch at Warsaw, in order to confer with him on a grand plan of defence for the whole length of the Vistula, and thence to Neva, in case of an invasion during the ensuing campaign.

ATTACK ON THE FRENCH BATTERIES.

The *Courier de Marseilles*, of the 28th ultimo, publishes the following letter from the seat of war:

Bazour Sebastopol, Dec. 12.—I have very little to communicate to you, and were it not for two sorties made by the Russians against the French batteries, the monotony of our life would not have been interrupted. On Sunday, the 10th, about half-past eight o'clock, p. m., the night being very dark and stormy, the wind blowing a regular hurricane, a large body of the enemy sallied out of Sebastopol by the battery of the gardens, opposite the most advanced works of the French. Favoured by the obscurity, the Russians had approached within forty yards of the French batteries when the alarm was given, but before our troops could be ready, the enemy rushed forward, and some of them had even succeded in scaling the parapets of the batteries. The surprise, however, was only momentary. The Russians who penetrated into the works were all killed, and the French to the number of 700 or 800, charged the remainder with the bayonet. The Russians, thrown into the greatest confusion, fled towards their lines, leaving several hundred killed, wounded, and prisoners in the hands of the French, who pursued them to the very walls of the place. All the forts opened fire to protect the retreat, but, owing to the darkness and the nature of the ground, the French suffered no material loss. At one o'clock, a. m., strong detachments of the Russian infantry effected a second sortie, with a view to dislodge the French from the positions they had taken. On their approach, the latter retired in silence and dispersed among the neighbouring ruins. The Russians continued to advance, but meeting none of our soldiers they thought they had returned to their camp, when all of a sudden the French opened upon them a deadly fusillade. The enemy, so cruelly surprised, was compelled to retreat, and re-entered the city in the greatest disorder. It was a real *sauve qui peut*. All the batteries of the place then began to fire, and the shots so closely followed each other, that the whole sky was illuminated and the ground trembled under our feet. This frightful uproar gave me an idea of hell. In all these attacks the French, had not more than 40 men placed *hors de combat*. At two o'clock all was again tranquil. The Russian loss must have been 300 men. Our troops have mounted the artillery they lately received in their third parallel, and they are ready to open fire with 100 guns, among which are several mortars of the heaviest calibre. The French will, however, wait, until the English be prepared to operate.

The French had taken their precautions before the bad weather set in, by constructing a good military road between Kherson and their camp, so that they were able to get up in the time their amunition and provisions of every sort. The English, unfortunately, were less provident; but their allies came to their assistance, and worked day and night to construct a fine stone road from Balaclava to their camp. They, moreover, lent their horses and mules for the conveyance of their artillery. It has been admitted by all the English officers that, while their horses present a wretched appearance, those of the French are in a far better condition than the day they landed in the Crimea. Our Allies cannot understand how our men and horses enjoy such good health. Before the end of the week, the English will have placed eighty guns in position. They have resolved to establish a second parallel. The two batteries constructed at Inkerman are admirably situated, and two redoubts will soon be erected on the hill which commands them. Those batteries are to be armed with four 18-inch mortars and twelve 32 pounders. This position is to be defended by the French and the two redoubts by the English. The redoubts are to mount four 6-inch mortars, ten 32 pounders, and other guns of long range. All this artillery will be so disposed, as to fire upon all the points of the city, particularly upon the port. We reckon on these new works to destroy and burn the Russian fleet. The fine weather has fortunately returned, the wind has ceased, and the temperature is mild. The French lent their ambulance wagons to the English for the conveyance to Balaclava of the sick, who are to be embarked for Scutari. The English frequently visit the port of Kherson, which, as you know, is the French port. They are surprised at the order we have established there. The French navy has constructed several landing-places, one for the cavalry, another for the infantry, and a third for ammunition and provisions. At Balaclava, the service is not so well organised. General Canrobert and the other chiefs inspect the troops every day; they visit the hospitals, regardless of the weather, their presence animates the soldiers and consoles the sick.

Dec. 13.—The enemy made another sortie last night against the French lines. At nine o'clock, 2000 Russians sallied out again from the Garden Battery, but finding the French prepared to receive them, they made a movement as if they intended to attack in flank one of the English batteries. The English being also on their guard, the assailants met with a warm reception, and were obliged to retreat in great disorder. I think they will now leave us quiet for some time, for they have been unfortunate in all their nightly expeditions. The division of General Liprandi has not altogether abandoned the neighbourhood of Balaklava. Part of it is encamped about a league from its former position, 25,000 men quartered a little to the south, and a division of between 15,000 and 18,000 men has strongly entrenched itself near Inkerman. It is generally believed, that the Russians intended to attack our advanced batteries in that direction. The *corps d'armee* of that General has lately received reinforcements, and he has now upwards of 40,000 men. The 34th English Regiment coming from Corfu has arrived, and 4,000 French have landed at Kherson. The moment all our reinforcements have arrived we shall, in all probability, march against the Russian army in the field.

A Russian Shell Popped into an English Gun.—The Artillery have taken advantage of the fine weather to bring up two-inch mortars, and the French have dragged up five cannon; they began to repair our platforms yesterday in the batteries, which looks as if they intended to have another brush at them. Our last 68-pounder on the left attack was disabled two days ago in a curious manner. It was a ship gun, and the sailors had loaded, and were standing by ready to fire, when a shell from one of the Russian guns, entered the muzzle. The concussion sent our gun off and at the same time the enemy's shell burst inside the gun, tearing two or three feet of the lip to pieces. I saw the gun yesterday in the trenches, all jagged and splintered. Not one of the eight sailors was touched.

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 20th, in the *Constitutionnel*, says,—"The health of the Empress is very bad. Her sons, Nicholas and Michael, have, on her pressing solicitations, been recalled from the Crimea by a special order from the Emperor. They went direct to Gatschina, where the Court is residing, and are only to leave in a few days. The aide-de-camp of the Grand Duke Michael, who was wounded at Inkermann, has received leave of absence for eight months to recover his health. He protected the Prince against the enemy's balls, and was at last seriously wounded. During the last few days the Emperor has not come to St. Petersburg. Christmas will not be very gay this year. The furious enemies of the West make declamations in the Russian journals against the purchase of French and English articles for presents. The prices of these articles have risen incredibly high. To make up the deficit resulting from the Treasury by the diminution of the duties on foreign imports, the Minister of Finance, M. de Brock, has had recourse to various expedients. The price of salt, for example, has been considerably increased in a great part of the empire, and a recent ukase provides for the augmentation of the revenue from the monopoly of tobacco. The Minister of the Interior, Count Panin, on his part, animated with the same financial zeal, excites by different measures, and especially by the direct action of Government functionaries and the clergy, the patriotic enthusiasm of the people, so as to cause them to make voluntary donations. Thus, for example, when, in a province, a contractor for the sale of liquors, which is a Government monopoly, does not make a voluntary sacrifice of some hundred quarts of spirits of wine for the troops on the march, it is certain, that the contract will not be prolonged. The fanaticism of the people is excited by different means; but a great many people are now already learning to make a distinction between the interests of the country and those of Czarism. It is only when the Government fears to cause misery and famine that it lessens somewhat the rigour of its fiscal measures. Thus, in Finland, it has not dared yet to prohibit the exportation of hemp, flax, pitch, and timber, as it has prohibited the export of the raw material of the south of Russia. The Government appears decided to defend Sebastopol with all its disposable forces. The Ministers Nesselrode, Dolgorouki, and Panin have a great deal to do. The former has had to abandon his favourite pleasure of playing at whist and ombre; Dolgorouki is required to present every day an increase of the army; and Panin to present a new register of voluntary donations. Unfortunately, most of these augmentations only figure on paper."

The Young British Officers.—Previous to the war, luxury and indulgence appeared to have reached a point the most extravagant. Young men and elderly men seemed to vie with one another in providing means of inordinate self-gratification. The club-houses of the metropolis became joint-stock palaces of refined and elaborate luxuriousness. If, on the Derby day, or Oak's day of 1853, one had walked into St. James's street about 11 o'clock in the morning, there were to be seen the young men of fashion with their admirably appointed carriages, preparing for the sports of the day, and most of them with blue veils tied round their hats, intended to be used as guards for their complexion, when encountering the sun and dust of the road. If one walked on to the Army and Navy Clubhouses in Pall-Mall, the most preposterously luxurious of all the places in that neighbourhood, there were other similar groups.—Among all these young men, though in the dress of civilians, were officers of the regiments which have been performing such astonishing feats of valor! These young men, who thought it necessary to guard their faces from the sun of a British summer day, are the same who have lain in their tents upon the heights above Sebastopol, scarcely sheltered from the cold damps of a November night, and have started with alacrity at the first sound of the morning, to lead their men into the most terrible conflicts that ever soldiers were engaged in, and to face death in every terrible aspect that death can assume.—*London paper.*

Ministerial Crisis—*Threatened Resignation.*—In well informed circles the impression is general, that a ministerial crisis is at hand, if it has not actually arrived. Lord John Russell, it appears, and a party who act with him in the Cabinet, are determined not to incur the responsibility of acting further with the men to whom the management of the War Department has been confided. The vague rumour of Cabinet dissension has at length assumed a definite shape. The Lord President of the Council has demanded, it is said, the removal of the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Sydney Herbert from the posts for which they have proved themselves so miserably disqualified, and the dismissal of those poor incapables involves the retirement of the remainder of the "gang," including, of course, the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Lord John Russell can neither have forgotten nor forgiven the slight to himself and the great party he represents, of placing every office connected with the War Department in the hands of the Peelite clique, while Whigs have been carefully excluded. The few men of ability and experience in the Cabinet have been compelled to look on, while their incompetent colleagues were blundering along their ruinous course; and they had the satisfaction of reflecting, that although they were powerless to control the mischief daily accumulating through the ignorance and presumption of the War Office, they were held accountable for it by the country at large. It is not surprising, therefore, that Lord John Russell should have resolved no longer to peril the remnant of the expedition in the Crimea, and his own reputation as a statesman, by an association with the most incompetent and perverse Ministry who ever scrambled to office.

The advantages which the people of the United States expected to have derived from the war in the East have not been realized; on the contrary, it has seriously affected their commerce, and caused mercantile stagnation and bankruptcy among them. When the contest first commenced between Russian despotism on the one hand, and justice and moral advancement, as exhibited by the Western Powers, on the other, our Republican friends vainly indulged the hope that they would be in the position of the fox while the two sturdier animals were contending for the prize; they imagined that piratical vessels bearing the Russian flag would swarm the seas, that British commerce would be sadly molested, and that they would have the carrying trade almost exclusively in their own hands. But these anticipations have not been realized, the vigilance and activity of the allied cruisers having effectually prevented any depredations upon their commerce. Hence we find, that the American papers are altering their tone, and that the most rabid among them are earnestly wishing for the return of peace. This, however, cannot be expected, until Russia has been completely humbled:—the Crimea will be wrested from her grasp, and the fortifications of Sebastopol, it is said, will be razed to the ground, leaving nothing but the site of the city.

Mr. Evans, an American, writes from St. Petersburg to the New Bedford Mercury, under date Nov. 1, as follows:—

I am confident that we shall have peace by the 1st of April next, or a general European war. If peace is not concluded by spring, the campaign will be continued by the allies on a gigantic scale, and we may expect to see the French and English armies in St. Petersburgh and Moscow. The Russians will show a good front, but they cannot stand before all Europe, or even the French and English *alone*, if they should put their whole force against Russia.

The Queen has been pleased to command that, as a mark of her Majesty's recognition of the meritorious services of the non-commissioned officers of the army under the command of Field Marshal Lord Raglan, in the recent brilliant operations in the Crimea, the Field Marshal submit, through the General Commanding-in-Chief, the name of one sergeant of each regiment of Cavalry, of the three batalions of the Foot Guards, and of every regiment of infantry of the line, to be promoted to a cornetcy or ensigncy, for her Majesty's approval and, with the view to render immediately available the services of these meritorious men, her Majesty has directed that the Field Marshal do appoint, provisionally and pending her Majesty's pleasure, the sergeants so recommended, to regiments in the army under his command; and her Majesty has further been graciously pleased to signify her intention that, on the several recommendations receiving her Majesty's approval, the commission shall in each case bear date the 5th November, 1854.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to command that, one sergeant in each regiment of cavalry and infantry, and of each battalion of Foot Guards and the Rifle Brigade serving in the East, in the Crimea or elsewhere, under the command of Field Marshal Lord Raglan, shall be selected by the commanding officer and recommended for the grant of an annuity not exceeding £20, provided that the aggregate of grants now made, and to be made, shall not exceed £4,000 in any one year.

And further that the commanding officer of each regiment of cavalry shall be allowed to recommend one sergeant, two corporals, four privates, and the commanding officer of each regiment of infantry, and of each battalion of Foot Guards, and of the Rifle Brigade shall be allowed to recommend one sergeant, four corporals, and ten privates, to receive a medal and gratuity of

For a sergeant,	£15
For a corporal,	10
For a private,	5

The Gratuity to be placed in the Regimental Savings' Bank, there to remain in deposit at intérest until his discharge.

OBITUARY.

The great biographer of Sir Walter Scott, John Gibson Lockhart, is no more. He died in the 65th year of his age. He early abandoned the profession of Law to engage in literary pursuits. He contributed some articles to Blackwood's Magazine, which first brought him under the notice of Sir W. Scott, 1818, after his return from study in Germany. He was employed about this time by the Ballantynes to write the historical part of the "Edinburgh Annual Register," and his first published work, issued soon after, was entitled "Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk," which was a series of sketches of notable personages of Edinburgh, which contained a deal of caustic satire. In 1820, the same year of his marriage with Sophia, Scott's eldest daughter, he published "Valerius, a Roman Story," a Romance, followed by "Reginald Dalton," "Adam Blair," and "Gilbert Earl," all novels of great interest. Early in 1825 he issued his "Life of Burns," as a contribution to *Constable's Miscellany*, then newly started. During this year he removed to London, and succeeded Gifford as the editor of the *Quarterly*, and conducted that journal with marked ability, although his articles are justly chargeable with harshness, severity, and prejudice. His "Life of Scott," furnishes materials which make it a standard work in English Biography. Besides these works, his "Ancient Spanish Ballads" will long be remembered and admired. Left quite alone in his old age, his only remaining daughter having become a Roman Catholic recluse, his situation was desolate and cheerless in the extreme. A London Correspondent of the Traveller thus writes:

"In person Lockart was slight and handsome. In manners very gentlemanly. A turn for the satirical, and a touch of the cynic perhaps, obscured the real kindness of his nature. His sneer was dreaded; but I can bear witness from a hundred occasions, that he was a warm friend to many who never knew whence the services emanated. Where best known he was most esteemed. Be this his true epitaph. It is the testimony of one who knew him long and intimately."

The Rev. Dr. Kitto, who had been suffering ill health for some time, ended his useful career on the 25th of November, at Canstadt, near Stuttgard, whether he had gone in hopes of recovery by foreign travel. Dr. Kitto will be long remembered by the Christian public, on account of his contributions to Biblical literature. His works on the Holy Land, and those illustrative of the Antiquities and History of Scripture, and his practical, common-sense expositions of the Text, are of special value. We subjoin a list of his publications:—"Bible History of the Holy Land," 8vo.; "Court and People of Persia," 12mo.; "Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature," 2vols. roy. 8vo.; also, an "Abridged" and a "People's" edition of this Cyclopædia. "Daily Bible Illustrations," 8 vols. 12mo.; "Geography of the Holy Land," with Atlas, roy. 8vo.; "History of Palestine," 12mo; "Pictorial" ditto, 2 vols. roy. 8vo.; "Lost Senses, Deafness and Blindness," 2 vols. 18mo.; "Physical Geography of the Holy Land," 2 vols. 18mo.; "Pictorial Life of our Saviour," 4to.; Scripture Lands and Bible Atlas," 12mo.; "The Tabernacle and its Furniture," 4to. He also established and conducted, until within two years, "The Journal of Sacred Literature," which has since passed into the hands of Rev. G. Burgess.

Sir Joseph Paxton, the designer of the Crystal Palace, has been elected to represent Coventry in Parliament without opposition.

The Glasgow contribution to the Patriotic Fund amounts to £37,000.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Cuba—It appears that the Government and people of the United States now despair of acquiring possession of Cuba, by hook or by crook. The New York Herald thus writes:—

One thing is certain, *General Pierce has abandoned all idea of obtaining Cuba, for the present at least, either by purchase or conquest.* The hopes of the Cubans, which were raised in anticipation of moral aid from the government of the United States, are blasted. And even those who clung to the President as a man of nerve in our foreign relations—and were willing to consider his failures at home were more the result of accidents than fault—now bitterly complain of his weakness and his abandonment of the policy which they were led to believe would, under all circumstances, be adhered to.

There is reason to believe that a firm course on the part of the government of the United States would have so expedited matters in the island, that ere this Spain would gladly have accepted even a more moderate compensation for the loss of her tottering power than would willingly have been given by this country. But the moment has passed by—the weakness of the President, palsying all it touches, and the strength of Marcy, have laid hands upon the flickering torch of liberty in Cuba, and English policy and European diplomacy are triumphant.

The Steamship North Star, from Aspinwall, arrived at New York on Wednesday morning, having about 200 passengers, $1,119,623 in gold, and the California mails to December 16, brought down to Panama by the steamship John L. Stephens.

New Guano Discoveries.—The following is an extract from a letter from Guayaquil, published in the Panama Star:—"A seaman applied to M. P. Game, Esq., U. S. Consul, some days since, for relief, stating that he had deserted from a whaling ship, and, on his passage to this port, landed on the island of La Plata. During his search for birds' eggs, he found what he supposed to be guano. Mr. Game chartered a vessel, and proceeded to the island, where he found guano to exist, according to his estimate, to the amount of five hundred thousand tons. I understood the anchorage is good, the water smooth, and that vessels may lie in ten fathoms within forty yards of the base of the cliff. He also discovered a large quantity to exist on another island. In fact, the discovery appears of such importance that it causes a great excitement."

"Nautilus Bell."—One day last week an exhibition was made, from a ship in the harbor, of the perfection to which the art of constructing and employing diving bells has been carried. The apparatus tested is called the "Nautilus Diving Bell." It is provided with air-tight compartments, which hold either air or water, as ascent or descent is required: and is so ballasted that, when filled with water, buoyancy is destroyed, and the machine gradually sinks. Expel the water from the tanks, and the machine comes of course at once to the surface. By opening a valve near the bottom of the bell, the water enters through a pipe into the tanks; the air at the same time escaping through a valve at the top, opened or closed by the operator at will. Descent is thus effected. On the contrary, let air be turned into the tanks, escape at top closed and valves at bottom opened, water is expelled and ascent secured. To raise heavy weights, a greater or less amount of water is expelled. Suspension chains attached to weight immediately tighten; machine and weight become buoyant, and then by cables attached to anchors working through stuffing boxes, our windlasses may be transported to any desired spot, and there deposited. Free communication may be held with the bottom through an opening of between twelve and fifty square feet, according to size of bell, closed by an iron door, and secured by bolts. By throwing the door back, an equilibrium between air and water may be attained at any depth, by greater or less amounts of air as determined by suitable guages permanently fastened in the bell. Such is the ingenious mechanism of this wonderful contrivance.

"The New-York Citizen."—John Mitchell has withdrawn from the editorship of the Citizen. Failing eyesight is among the reasons for this step. He is also, it is said, convinced that his personal identification with the paper has been injurious to its prosperity. His course in regard to slavery lost 10,000 subscribers, and his war on Bishop Hughes several thousands more. Mr. Mitchell declares his intention to remain in entire obscurity for at least "four" years. He will contribute, however, to the Citizen, mainly on literary topics; and always under his own signature. The paper will be conducted hereafter by Mr. Clenchan, who has been connected with its editorial department from the beginning.—

On Friday night in Boston, a destructive fire occurred on School street, in what is called the "Newspaper Exchange," which destroyed the offices of the "Puritan Recorder" and the "New England Farmer." A temporary suspension of both those journals is thereby occasioned.