

THE STANDARD.

ST. ANDREWS, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 29, 1849.

Charlotte County Bank.
Hon. HARRIS HATCH, President.
T. B. WILSON, Esq., Solicitor.
Discount Day—TUESDAY.
Hours of Business, from 10 to 2.
Bills and Notes for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Monday otherwise they must lie over until next week.

St. Andrews and Work House.
Commissioners—Geo. D. Street, John Bradford, Thos. Berry, John Bailey, R. Ker.

St. Andrews Steam Mills and Manufacturing Company.
R. M. ANDREWS, Esq., President.
J. Wetmore, Agent.

Saint Stephens Bank.
G. D. KISS, Esq., President.
Discount Day—SATURDAY.
Hours of business, from 10 to 1.
Bills and Notes for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Friday otherwise they must remain in his hands until the following discount day.

Arrival of the Steamship



Canada.

Interesting Intelligence

IMPORTANT FROM INDIA.
FALL OF MOULTAN—SINGULAR BATTLE.
Between the British and Sikh Forces.
93 Officers, and 2500 men killed.

The R. M. Steamship Canada, with dates to the 10th inst. arrived at Halifax about 10 P. M. on Thursday, in 19 days and 10 hours from Liverpool, bringing 99 passengers, 6 of whom were for Halifax, namely, Messrs. Crutchfield, Leavitt Stevens, Mackenzie, O'Dager, and H. Fry. The Canada was detained 15 hours off Halifax harbour by a very heavy gale of wind.

The Express left Halifax at 11 p. m. on Thursday night, and arrived at Granville Point at 25 minutes past 8 Friday morning, making the run in 9 hours and 25 minutes. The steamer Commodore, Capt. W. G. Brown, was in readiness, and left immediately for St. John. The whole distance from Halifax to St. John was performed in the remarkable short space of 15 hours and 20 minutes.

We are indebted to the New Brunswick, for a summary of the news.

The news will be found of much interest. Another sanguinary battle had taken place in India, on the identical spot, it is said, which two thousand years ago formed the battle-field of Alexander and Porus. Though the British were left masters of the field, yet it is said that two more such victories would be virtual ruin. Lieut. Col. Brooks, of the 24th Regt., who formerly commanded the 66th in St. John, and Capt. John S. Shore, of the 21st, son of the hon. George Shore, of Fredericton, were killed in the engagement.

MELANCHOLY ENTIRENESS.—A frightful wreck of an emigrant ship has taken place on the English coast off Harwich. The barque Florida, 500 tons, E. D. Whitmore, master, bound from Antwerp to New York, the property of Mr. E. D. Hubbert, of that city, chartered by a German company to convey emigrants, was wholly lost on Wednesday, the 15th ult., and all on board perished, with the exception of three individuals, who were miraculously rescued from death.

THE CHOLERA, although it re-appears in some localities at intervals, is now decidedly on the wane. In Scotland the disease appears now to be assuming the form of simple diarrhoea, the attacks of the latter being now four times as many as those of Asiatic cholera. The malady has appeared in the South of Ireland, and several fatal cases have occurred in Cork and Limerick.

COMMERCIAL.
Trade in all departments continues in a steady and satisfactory position.
Flour is held at 2s. 9d. to 2s. for choice Ohio and Southern, Western Canal, 2s. 2s. 6d.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 3d.; our, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 6d.; Canadian sweet, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. per barrel.

Liverpool Timber Market, March 10.—Since our printed report of the 25th January, the arrivals from British America consist of 16 vessels, 7503 tons; most of which cargoes have been sold from the quay. The demand from the country is still limited. **Brunswick and Nova Scotia Fir Planks, &c.**—Of St. John one cargo, of good quality, was sold at £7 10s. 6d. and one at £7 12s. 6d. per standard; another parcel at £7 10s.; another parcel at £6 15s.; and one, with about 60 standard Yellow Pine Boards, at 6s. per standard.

IRELAND.
The question of the Irish Poor-law and the means whereby further funds are to be provided to meet the destitution of some of the western districts of our country, have raised a tremendous outcry throughout Ulster, and a small temporary sixpenny "rate in aid" on a footing of the whole of Ireland is only £200,000, seems to have shaken the loyalty of the most loyal of our fellow subjects on

the other side the channel. Such an agitation was scarcely ever threatened before. Rather than submit to "English tyranny," and an unequal sixpenny rate, our excited friends demand that there should be an entirely equal system of taxation, and that the assessed tax and income tax should be levied upon all Ireland upon the same footing as it is in England, sooner than they should submit to a tumporary sixpenny rate to make up the deficiency caused by neglect of those landlords who are designated as the "lazy southern squires." The Ulster boys now insist that a more judicious administration of the Poor-laws by the Boards of Guardians in the south and west of Ireland would cause such a saving as to render the "rate in aid" unnecessary. It is very probable, and it is this very point to which the legislation of Parliament is directed. The aim of the Poor-law is to make the ratepayers exert themselves to keep down pauperism by judicious relief to the actually destitute, under some effective test of the existence of real destitution, and to find employment for the able-bodied without applying to the charitable feelings of England. It is the conviction which most prevails in England, that Ireland, if she set about it, can provide for Irish poverty, that has induced the Parliament to sanction the present proposition.

FRANCE.
The French Government continues to gather strength; and although the Thiers' party and the Bonapartists have not succeeded in forming a coalition, there is evidently a growing disposition on the part of the nation to crush any attempts at disorder, and altogether the prospects of tranquillity are more favorable than they have been during the past year. The labours of the Assembly have been chiefly occupied in passing the electoral laws. An attempt to censure the Ministers for calling out the troops on the 29th of January, was defeated by the large majority of 254. Public attention seems to be divided between the intrigues of the various parties respecting the elections, and the proceedings of the High Court at Bourges. Barges, Blancs, and the other state prisoners have been transferred to Bourges, which is surrounded by troops. The Act of Accusation against the prisoners has been published, and recapitulates all the acts of the accused on the memorable 4th and 15th of May last, on which latter day, it will be remembered, Barbes and Louis Blanc invaded the National Assembly, and succeeded for a few hours in seizing the reins of Government. There can be little doubt but that the guilt of most of the prisoners will be clearly established; and it is said that those who may be sentenced in transportation will be immediately shipped off to the Marquesas Islands.

Confidence was greatly increased, the advance of the funds has again been very considerable. Indeed, the rate has produced extensive facilities amongst the parties operating for a fall. One agent de change, whose transactions reached to 50 millions of francs, has invited others. The loss of one individual is alleged to amount to £12,000.

CONTINENTAL.
The current news from the various quarters of Europe is of the highest importance. The most striking feature is the march of the Imperial Guards of Russia from St. Petersburg. These men, numbering 52,000 strong, have proceeded through Wilna to the frontier, and will, no doubt, take such a position to be able to keep in check the disaffected Poles on the Prussian frontier, support the Imperialists in the Hungarian struggle, and assume such an attitude as shall plainly indicate the intention of the Czar to control as much as possible any disposition to revive the scenes which so unhappily occurred last year. A Russian note has appeared, in which the Czar declares his resolution of adhering firmly to the treaties of 1816, and any attempt to infringe them he shall deem a *casus belli*. The entrance of 10,000 Russian troops into Austrian Transylvania evidences the disposition of the Czar, who assuredly will not consent to any change in the territorial divisions of Italy, unless with the entire consent of Austria.

The Austrian war in Hungary has proceeded with variable success. In the south Hungary the German population, finding the insurgents carrying destruction in every quarter, called in the Russians, who now occupy Kronstadt and Hermannstadt. Several battles have taken place. One in the neighbourhood of Erlau lasted two days, with considerable slaughter, and the imperialists seemed to have had the advantage.

The Pope after halting between abdication and soliciting foreign intervention, has now, it is said, made an application to Austria, and it is confidently stated that Spain is about to send a division of 10,000 men to aid in restoring his Holiness.

LATEST CONTINENTAL NEWS.

ITALY.
The Roman Ministry has communicated to the Assembly that a joint intervention of Austria, Spain, and Naples is announced. France had not decided what part to take. Piedmont was resolved to intervene in Tuscany, to hinder civil war, and oppose the Austrian intervention.

AUSTRIA.
We have intelligence from Vienna dated the 4th inst. All in the capital agree in thinking that many such victories as the Austrian one at Erlau would, ere long, bring the Magyars to the gates of Vienna.

There is again a rather uneasy feeling on the continent, and various rumours are circulated respecting warlike operations in Italy, Austria, &c.

INDIA.

On the 12th January, Lord Gough, after his long interval of inactivity, was made acquainted with the fall of Attock, and the advance of Chuttur Singh to join Shere Singh, who was in front of Lord Gough, on the south bank of the Jhelum, with an army of 30,000 to 40,000 men, and 62 guns. Being urged by Major Mackeson, the political agent, to give the enemy battle, Lord Gough set his troops in motion, and advanced through the jungles on the 13th ult. later than noon, and at two o'clock had determined to encamp his troops for the night, when some of the enemy's forces reached within the ground marked by the English flags. Whether this irritated Lord Gough, or induced him to fear that the Sikhs would surprise his encampment and force him to battle, his lordship suddenly, without any previous recognition, resolved to anticipate him, and accordingly formed his troops in line, and, deaf to all remonstrance, rashly gave the word of command to advance. A confused and bloody action, reported to describe the heroic exploits of our armies during the last century, was in vain to discover any settled plan of action such as it is the duty of a general to conceive and execute in the face of an enemy so brave and resolute as the Sikhs. The never-fading pluck of the English troops seems to have been the only resource of Lord Gough, and although it prevailed as heretofore, the victory was achieved at the most disastrous sacrifice of human life. During this fearful encounter, in which the Sikhs, possibly advantageously in a well-selected position, poured from their batteries on all sides the most murderous fire, a private enemy seized a body of the 9th Lancers, who, instead of charging the enemy as ordered, faced about, and rushed pell-mell through our own artillery, upset the wagons, and never pulled up till they reached the hospital. The enemy, seeing this disorder, followed up their advantage, got amongst our artillery, cut down 73 gunners, and carried off six of our guns. Col. Lane seems to have poured in his grape and put a stop to the disorder. With this inexplicable exception and some defection of a regiment of Sepoys, the gallant fellows seem to have behaved most nobly. Fights of heroism and of individual bravery are described in every line of the despatches and letters. The Sikhs were beaten in on all sides, 12 of their guns were captured, and the British remaining masters of the field, might put an end to the engagement. We have to deplore the loss of no less than 93 officers and about 2500 men. Amongst the general officers who have perished in this indecisive, fruitless battle, we find the honorable names of Brig. Genrs. J. Pennycuik, Lieut. Col. R. Brooks, Brev. Maj. C. Ekins, Dep. Adj. Genl. Brig. Genrs. Pope and C. Campbell were also wounded, the first severely. In the 21st foot, 11 officers were killed, and half the regiment was either killed or wounded. Whilst some of our colors have fallen into the hands of the enemy, he was scarce enough to retire during the night six of the guns we had captured, and Lord Gough says, "I did not feel justified in remaining longer out." The night was dark. I knew not how far I had advanced? The loss of the Sikhs is not known; but they must have suffered severely. Indeed we perceive some symptoms of their desiring to come to terms. If, however, Chuttur Singh comes up with his army, before Gen. Whisham can reach the Jhelum, the Sikhs will probably hazard another conflict. Besides the fall of Mooltan and this sad battle of Chillianwallah, which we have reported, the action has been fought by Wheeler's division, under the highest of Dalhousie, the Ravee, in which the position of Rani Singh was attacked and carried with considerable loss. The affair was signalled by great individual bravery, but the inaccessible nature of the place seems to have enabled Rani Singh not only to make a vigorous resistance, but further, to effect his escape with all his band. Here again our gallant soldiers suffered severely. These unwelcome events created the deepest sensation throughout England. It was felt that the *sublime* Naper should be sent to India to assume the command of the army of the Punjab, and to be acted upon without an instant's delay.

The House of Commons re-echoed in a manner not to be misunderstood the universal opinion of our country. Ministers of the Crown were not behind. They have superseded Lord Gough; Sir Charles Napier reached London on Monday last. On Tuesday he had an interview with Lord John Russell and the Duke of Wellington; his appointment was ratified by the Court of Directors, and he will proceed to India on the 20th inst., invested with full command, and backed by approving voice of the whole United Kingdom.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, March 16.—OREGON PLEASING IN DISTRESS. The Steamer Trent has just arrived from Bermuda, and reports the steamer Hartford from New York bound to California, put into Bermuda 4th inst. in distress. 16 of her passengers returned in the Trent.

Important Decision in the Telegraph Case of Alexander Bain and S. F. B. Morse.—The Chief Justice of the Circuit and District Court of the District of Columbia, to whom, under the laws of 1839 and 1836, the power is given to reverse or approve the decision of the Commissioner of Patents, has just laid before the Commissioner his opinion in the case of Bain and Morse. The case was argued some weeks since, in chambers; since when there has been much anxiety to learn the opinion of the Judge.

This decision insures a patent to Mr. Bain, and opens the way for a vindication to that

odious monopoly which has made the whole telegraphic system on the season old odious to almost all who have had any thing to do with it.

ATTORNEY TO EXTORT FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM W. L. B. ASTOR.—Isaac A. Biggs and Franklin D. Brogg, were arrested by officers Bowyer, Calrow, Reed, and Coles, charged with attempting to extort \$50,000 from W. L. B. Astor, Esq. A few days since Mr. Astor called on the Chief of Police and stated that he and his wife had received several letters signed E. K. Baswood, charging his father with having committed heinous crimes, and threatening, unless he should send him \$50,000, that his house would be burnt—his wives taken, &c. In the letter to Mr. Astor's wife, Mr. Astor was directed, if he complied with the demand to insert an advertisement to that effect in the *Standard*. The whole matter for detecting the parties concerned, officer Bowyer inserted an advertisement in the *Standard* that the \$50,000 could be had by addressing A. B. D. at the *Standard* office. This advertisement called forth an answer, in which it was stated that the money would be called for at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 13th, and directed that the money should be put up in packages, in bills of the denomination of \$50, and \$100, and saying that it was useless to attempt to find out the writer, as everything had been arranged so as to render it impossible. Officer Bowyer then made up a package of worthless bills, and took them to Mr. Astor and told him to deliver them to any person that called for them, and the officers then stationed themselves in different places to keep a lookout. At 10 o'clock Brogg appeared at Mr. Astor's door, and received the package, and then left, closely followed by the several officers to the corner of Cliff and Fulton streets, when he stepped into a store and put a newspaper around the package, and proceeded to direct it, when the officers walked in and arrested him. He then told the officers that he was directed to get the package and leave it at the United States Hotel for the bar-keeper, and it would be called for by a letter from Baswood, most likely so, but charged not to open his mouth, to speak or make a sign, and Officer Reed went with him. After delivering the package they both sat down and waited, but no person came and after a short time they left. Immediately afterwards Biggs made his appearance in the room, and received the package and then left, with the officers close upon his heels. He got into a stage and rode to the corner of Broadway and Canal streets, where he got out, and the officers also alighted from the top of the stage. He then went to an exchange office on the corner of Mercer street, where the officers arrested him, with the package in his possession. He told the officers he had received a letter from Baswood, telling him that he must get the package of money from the hotel and have it exchanged for other money, and as fast as he exchanged it he must forward it to Philadelphia, and that he might retain \$1000 for his services, and if he did not do his life would be taken. The officers deserve the thanks of the community for their very ingenious manner in which they detected these rogues.—*New York Sun*.

The Navigation Laws.—The question now before Parliament for repealing or modifying the Navigation Laws, is exciting considerable discussion in the American journals, particularly those published in the State of Maine, our next door neighbours, who look upon the declaration of Mr. Bancroft, their Minister at London, as likely to inflict a serious blow on their interests, and which, if carried out, will throw the greater part of the coasting trade into our hands. Mr. Bancroft is reported to have said, that whatever is disposed to legislate in this matter, he was ready to sign a convention to-morrow based upon a complete reciprocity, and opening the entire coasting trade of the two countries to vessels of both nations. This explicit declaration evidently shows that the American Government is prepared to go to the full extent with Great Britain in this matter, notwithstanding the opposition of certain papers in Maine.

ST. STEPHEN.—The Bill to incorporate a company for the erection of a Bridge on the St. Croix at Salt Water, in St. Stephen, in the County of Charlotte passed the House, after a long debate; Mr. Brown advocating and Mr. Boyd opposing the Bill.—*Head Quarters*.

PUBLIC MEETING.—There was a Public Meeting on the subject of Railways, held in the County Court House, in this City, on Monday evening last, at which Resolutions were passed, and a Petition accompanying these Resolutions was presented to the House by the Attorney General, during his opening speech yesterday. The intention of the framers of these Resolutions seemed to be to oppose the erection of the St. John and Shediac Railway, and one of them objected to the movement on the ground of hasty legislation.—*Ibid.*

ACCIDENT.—We regret to state that Mr. D. Caldwell, of this City, Mail Contractor, in carrying the Canada Mail to Halifax on Tuesday last, lost three of his best horses in the ice on the Kennebecasis river.—*New Brunswick*.

PORTLAND POLICE OFFICE.—A young man named Edward Collins, a baker by trade, was arrested on Portland Bridge, by one of the Portland Police, on Sunday evening last, between 7 and 8 o'clock, for making use of violent language, and also for an attempt to commit an assault on the said Policeman. He was brought up for trial yesterday, before the Sij-

pendary Magistrate, Jacob Allan, Esq., and after a lengthy investigation, he was fined £20—in default of payment of which, he was committed to the Penitentiary for ten months.

We have been favoured with the perusal of a letter from the Central Fire Insurance Office of Fredericton to the Agent in this City, Mr. Geo. Thomas, requesting him to inform those who have claims for loss by the late fires, that the same would be immediately paid without waiting the time stipulated for in the policies. We also learn that the Central Office have been most fortunate, as the only loss they have sustained in this City for nearly 3 years, is £500 on the premises of Thomas M. Smith Esq., destroyed in the late York Point fire.—*Courier*.

COMMUNICATION.

For the *Standard*.
Mr. Editor,
I have just been favoured with a reading of the Report of the Railway Committee to whom were referred all matters relative to Railways in this Province, and assuredly every candid and unprejudiced mind must deplore that such a mass of incoherent incoherence, founded upon the grossest bigotry, never before emanated from a committee of that House.

Passing over that part of the Report relative to the great Trunk line (as it is termed), which is so much of other's axe as time lost, and that project has received its quietus, we come to the proposed Shediac line, where they say, "Being unanimously of opinion that a work of this kind should be forthwith commenced within the Province, we respectfully recommend that line as preferable to any other for the following reasons." Now, Sir, these gentlemen I suppose, are not aware that a work of this kind is already commenced within the Province—that £5,000 has already been expended on this work in hard cash—and that near £50,000 of English capital is now ready to come into the Province to be expended on this work so soon as we, the Provincial Stockholders perform our part of the undertaking—that it is a work that has the approval of the Colonial Minister and also that the noblemen and gentlemen composing the Board of Directors of the Company in England, and more, that it is a work that has been commenced by the enterprise of individuals who have invested large amounts of their property in the undertaking, and who are as capable of forming opinions as to advantages arising from the completion of such a work, as the hon. gentlemen who compose this Committee. Yes, Sir, they are perfectly aware of the whole of this, but it would not suit their sinister purposes to acknowledge it.

I should be very indeed if the Representatives of our interests and advocates of our Rail Road should, in order to accomplish their purposes, have recourse to such unworthy, libellous and wicked means as misrepresenting or drawing invidious comparisons with other lines. A cause that can only be sustained by the abuse of contemporary causes is poor indeed. No Sir, the St. Andrews and Woodstock Railway does not require such support (I grant) as its own merits, and although the Committee very modestly refer to give an opinion on the Bill before them, from this Company, the public generally, can and have given their opinion in this matter, and also can easily form an opinion as to its merit in which this beautiful Report has been discovered.

But Sir, they have created the mark, in their obstinate and ridiculous attempt to the advantage and claims of the Shediac line, and suppress from notice the St. Andrews line, they have allowed their zeal to overcome their prudence, and the Report carries along an extraordinary partiality and prejudice on its face, and the result will be a reaction from what they intended to accomplish.

I should with every wish wish to the Province be most happy to see a Railway from Shediac to St. John, or from St. John to any other part of the Province, where they could be constructed with reasonable prospects of success, but not to the exclusion of another line possessing prior rights and superior advantages. Nor will it impede with them, in the performance of their duty to select one line as they term it, for the present only.

We will now pass on to where they have concluded to allude to the St. Andrews and Woodstock line, and this they have found time and place for at the tail end of their Report, compressed in about half a dozen lines; after saying they have such a Bill under their consideration, asking for assistance to enable the company to complete the line. Now mark their generous observation.—"The Legislature have already granted 6 per cent per ann. for 25 years, as one half the estimated cost of the line, and we regret that the company have not been able with this guarantee to prosecute their operations with success.—Surely the Company must feel grateful for the sympathy conveyed with so much feeling and modesty. Yes Sir, they regret that the company has not been able to prosecute their operations with this assistance, while they recommend for the Shediac line the Province to take one half the Stock to be raised on Provincial Scrip, and give a guarantee of interest of five per cent for the balance, in all amounting to £500,000, the whole estimated cost of the line with the declaration that the capital must come from abroad, and if left to private enterprise the work would not be undertaken. Well may they say this, for assuredly it never would be undertaken. Here then is a reward for enterprise.

The greatest opponents to the St. Andrews line acknowledge and must do so, that the County of Charlotte has done more towards the introduction of Railways into this Province, than all the other Counties put together.—The Directors of the St. Andrews and Woodstock Railway have, by their spirited and determined exertions in the face of every kind of opposition that jealousy and malice could invent accomplished what the projector of the Shediac Line dare not attempt.—Here in a Company formed and nearly all the Stock disposed of, £5,000 in cash actually expended, a tenth part of the sum for which they now ask (and not a gift, they offer the whole Line as a gift), and when the completion of every mile is so much towards the accomplishment of what they themselves consider actually indispensable to retain these Colonies, for they will soon be compelled to acknowledge if we ever have a Railway to connect the Lower Provinces

with the interior of C. Line when they see Railways schemes, numbered have been—and just claims for will allow sectional with public rights, a (powerful words) this mediate operations (I decided course irrespect sectional jealousies w

Nor would the assistance for by the Company e sent prevailing these reason is made in the in a great degree by of the British Tariff, other parts of the Province.

But Sir I trust the its decision that the general good, irrespect sectional jealousies, draws and Woods, and that assistance and a

Yours A Farmer and 23 (We have been oblig of "Stockholders," other matter.)

DEBATE ON RAILWAY upon the Report of the Railways, was continued every day. Several new schemes rejected. Mr. Rich Report of the select die & St. John Rai was negatived.

Mr. Boyd, then Regent, That per alid Lower Coloni British sympathy, re trade and mutual inter most direct line betwe Quebec. That the S already in progress is combines much more national, intercolonial, with other undertak immediate aid from t an early completion o stock.

When the follow Year—Fishery, Tibbels, Potter, Ba Street, Council, H. NAD—Speaker, Hamilton, Wilson, Reed, J. Earle, Ste ford, Vail, Jordan, K. D. Wilmore, Mil ney, Esq.—24

Bermuda papers Boston, state that t out the British W, in the vicinity of I

The Montreal 6 tion from Washing as the United Stat is no change of the en up for action d

Heads of the sorry to say, that nes around us, a which has not nu month, one or mo to the house. Su very prevalent. I that while there h to be, numerous c in Chatham, Dou settlements in our yet made its app number of persou in early life, have most instances it.

In consequence of the operation assurance doubt sure of the times, and difficulty of j life, this distress will be deeply ar cur hearts, and t ter in consequen through wh pass.—[Gleaner.

Much of the day last has been ways. We expe sketch of the spe but the debate h left Fredericton division, howev today, and, we has all the appea us—two of our (Messrs Wood declared they w line, in which Ansley. There for Railways in It is galling t ment is to be a to from whom so t we are informe they would hav the divided the

The other M St. John and Hon. Mr. Boyd, Brown, Boyd, Milnes, Milnes er made some t ing the Shedi

