GLEANINGS FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

ARRIVAL OF THE RESOLUTE.

Portsmouth, Dec. 12.—The Resolute, in charge of Commander Hartstein, of the United States Navy, anchored at Spithead this afternoon. The weather was so foul that all communication with the shore was abandoned for the day. Captain Hartstein succeeded in sending a letter by a pilot to Pappalardo, the United States Vice-Consul, informing him of the impossibility of personally coming on shore this afternoon to pay his official respects to the authorities. An official invitation from the Corporation of Portsmouth to the commander and officers of the Resolute to a banquet was sent off to the ship as soon as a communication could be effected with her. The Resolute arrived under the American ensign and pendant, after she had shored she hoisted the English "White St George" ensign alongside of the American.

The Queen's Visit.—The Queen's visit, on Tuesday, the 16th, to the Resolute, lying off Cowes, in the Medina Water, excited much interest among the inhabitants of Portsmouth, Southampton, and Wight, and evidently afforded cordial gratification to the American officers in charge of the ship. The Queen, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, left Osborne at a quarter past ten o'clock, and drove to the ship in an open carriage drawn by four grey ponies. Her Majesty was attended by the Duchess of Athol and the Hon. Miss Cathcart, and in her suite were Sir James Clarke, M D., Major-General Bouverie, Colonel H. C. B. Phipps, Captain De Ros, Mr. Gibbs, and Dr. Becker. The Resolute, dressed in her colours, was lashed alongside of the royal embarkation place at Trinity Wharf. The English and American flags were flying at the peak, and as soon as the Queen set her foot on the deck, the royal standard was hoisted at the maine. The Retribution fired a salute, the boats' crews tossed their oars, and the ship's company, standing on the rail, received her Majesty with three rounds of cheers. Captain Hartstein received the royal party at the gangway, and the officers, in full uniform, were grouped on either side. They were Lieut. C. H. Wells, Lieut. E. E Stone, Lieut. H. Davidson, Dr. R. T. Macown, and Dr. Otis, Acting Secretary. The following gentlemen were present:—Mr. Croskey, Consul for the United States; Chevalier Vincent Pappalardo, Vice-Consul, Mr. Harding, Vice Consul for the United States at Cowes; Captain Higgins, commander of the United States mail-ship Hermann, and Mr. C. Grinnell, son of Mr. H. Grinnell, projector of the American Arctic Expedition. All were presented to the Queen by Captain Hartstein, who then addressed her Majesty in the following words—"Allow me to welcome your Majesty on board the Resolute, and, in obedience to the will of my countrymen and of the President of the United States, to restore her to you, not only as an evidence of a friendly feeling to your sovereignty, but as a token of love, admiration, and respect to your Majesty personally." The Queen seemed touched by the manly simplicity of this frank and sailor-like address, and replied with a gracious smile, "I thank you, sir." The royal party then went over the ship, and examined her with manifest interest. Captain Hartstein traced her course on a map, and indicated the most important discoveries of the American Arctic expeditions. In the course of conversation Prince Albert observed that Lady Franklin was very anxious for another expedition, to which Captain Hartstein replied that he was not surprised that she should be so, for he thought it very possible that Franklin or some of his comrades might still be alive among the Esquimaux. After completing the inspection of the ship, the royal party retired amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the spectators. It was originally intended to request her Majesty to take luncheon on board, but the idea was subsequently abandoned through a diffidence as to whether the proceeding would be quite *selon les regles*. But, after the withdrawel of the royal party there was an elegant *dejeuner* in the wardroom, at which the following toasts and sentiments were given among others;—"The Queen and the Royal Family," "The President of the United States," "The Union Jack and the Star-spangled Banner," "The Health of Mr. Cornelius Grinnell," "The future success of the Resolute, and may she be again employed in prosecuting the search for Sir John Franklin and his comrades." This last sentiment was proposed by Captain Higgins, seconded by Mr. Grinnell, and evoked cordial applause. Captain Hartstein was invited by the Queen to dine and to spend the night at Osborne, and all the officers were invited to visit the grounds at Osborne, a privilege of which they availed themselves at three o'clock. The Resolute was to return to Portsmouth and go into dock. [illegible] commanding the Royal Engineers at Portsmouth, Captain [the Hon.] J. Denman, R. N., and Captain Hartstein, United States' Navy, had the honour of dining with her Majesty on Wednesday evening.

After the departure of the Queen, the ship was thrown open to the inspection of all who chose to avail themselves of the opportunity of inspecting her, and about 3000 persons of all ranks visited the ship and partook of the hospitality of Captain Hartstein and his officers. At night Messrs. White, the shipbuilders of Cowes, illuminated their premises and Wharfs with flaming tarbarrels, and gave their men a liberal allowance of liquor, to drink success to the union between Great Britain and America. The officers of the Resolute entertained the officers of her Majesty's ship Retribution at dinner, and some most loyal and gratifying sentiments were exchanged.

On Wednesday, about two o'clock, the Resolute was taken in tow by the government tug Echo, and left Cowes harbour loudly cheered by the inhabitants on both sides, and by the crews of all the crafts afloat. Her Majesty's steam-frigate Retribution, and the steam tender Sprightly were in company. The former, on passing Osborne, fired a royal salute, when the American and British ensigns at the peak of the Resolute were thrice dipped. On passing through Spithead cheers greeted the passage of the Resolute from all the vessels assembled there, and on entering the harbour's mouth a royal salute of 21 guns was fired in her honour from the governor's battery. The Victoria pier was thronged with a well-dressed multitude. As soon as Captain Hartstein dropped anchor in Portsmouth harbour, abreast of the King's-stairs, he assembled all his officers around the table in the state cabin below, and in a bumper of champagne proposed "The health of the Queen of Great Britain. God bless her!" which was most vociferously responded to in cheers. Her Majesty has sent Captain Hartstein £100 to be distributed among the crew. Colonel Eyre, and the officers of the Royal Artillery at Portsmouth, have invited Captain Hartstein and the other officers of the Resolute to dine with them on any day most convenient to them, during their sojourn at Portsmouth. A deputation waited upon Chevalier Pappalardo from the inhabitants of Portsmouth, to invite the crew of the Resolute to a dinner, to be given on the day after that given by the mayor and corporation to the officers. The deputation was afterwards presented to Captain Hartstein, on board the Resolute, by the consul, when Captain Hartstein expressed his warmest pleasure at such a mark of [hospitality], and gave his cordial consent to the acceptance of the invitation, saying at the same time he felt sure that any mark of respect shown to the American people would be as warmly appreciated on the other side of the Atlantic as it would be tendered by the people on this.

We regret to announce that, owing to the immediate departure of Captain Hartstein and the American officers of Her Majesty's ship Resolute, the invitations to dine with the President and Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society and other public bodies have necessarily been declined. Captain Hartstein and officers and crew will, we believe, return to the United States in her Majesty's steamer Retribution, now at Portsmouth.

THE WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND AND PERSIA.

The Paris *Pays* of December 17, offers the following remarks on the Anglo Persian difficulty:—

"Persian affairs have decidedly taken a very grave turn. After the capture of Herat by a Persian army England had only one step to take, and she has declared war against the court of Teheran. Whilst we are writing, warlike events are probably taking place in the Persian Gulf. What will be the consequence of this expedition? Will it have an immediate result, as occurred some years ago under analogous circumstances, or will Persia consider herself strong enough to sustain the struggle! In this event can the English force undertake a campaign in the southern provinces, and thus penetrate to Teheran? This is a military problem of the highest interest, but which still remains obscure. None can doubt that Persia, if left to her own resourses, will be speedily compelled to treat with England; therefore the serious part of the question lies in the attitude of the allies of Persia. The Russian journals recently acquainted us that Russia was labouring to effect a reconciliation beween the two belligerent powers, but the conditions which it advocated are unknown. In the event of these conditions not being accepted, it remains to be seen whether Russia will remain inactive. *In a few hours the Russian flotilla on the Caspian could transport a Russian corps-d'armee to Asterabad, that is between Teheran and Herat.* Such a demonstration would render the success of the English expedition extremely doubtful, but it would give rise to serious complications, and perhaps lead to an open rupture between Russia and England. We hope that matters will not attain these extremities. England doubtless proves herself with reason extremely susceptible with regard to everything that relates to the security of her Indian empire. But if the position of the Russians in the extreme East appears to a certain degree offensive it must be admitted that this menace is still very distant, that the nature of the territory opposes nearly invincible obstacles to any real or supposed projects. A century may pass over without a direct shock taking place in the centre of Asia between England and Russia. Has not England exaggerated that eventuality? We conceive that she seeks to anticipate in good time any possible invasion; but it would be a subject of regret were too great a caution to produce precisely that result which is feared for in future. It must not be dissimulated that the solution depends above all on the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. Persia, in taking possession of the town of Herat, has certainly failed in all her engagements with England, and she cannot re-establish those relations without abandoning her conquest. This policy depends entirely on the advice that the Shah may receive from Russia, and it is consequently to the Emperor Alexander that we must look for the immediate cessation of complications, the extent of which cannot now be defined."

The *Correspondence Havas* publishes a curious plan of campaign in case of an intervention by Russia in favour of Persia against England. It is given in a letter from St. Petersburg of the 7th:—"Reports have reached the Minister of War from several of the generals who command the different detached corps in Asia. It is stated that General Chrulet, who commands the most advanced position, has submitted to the Minister a plan of campaign which could be successfully executed by the troops under his orders. He was waiting, before moving, for the arrival at Tiflis of Prince Baratzinski, who was still occupied in inspecting the new Asiatic frontiers. The new Governor-General of all the Caucassian possessions has extended his tour of inspection on the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea, where Russian generals had already commenced, in the time of the Emperor Nicholas, to erect four or five fortified stations, which will secure to Russia the possession of that coast. All the war steamers are now fully manned by the arrival of a large body of seamen from the naval ports. This squadron may at any time be used for the conveyance of provisions and military stores to the troops stationed at Khiva and to those who have take possession of different islands in the Caspian Sea, and who are thus placed in the immediate neighbourhood of the Persian port of Asterbad. According to the opinion of staff officers who have served in that country, all the military arrangements there have been made with so much order and regularity that the Russian columns may at the first signal enter Persia at three points at the same time. The first corps, composed of two divisions of infantry, with artillery and light cavalry, may without difficulty penetrate from Nachitscheran to Choi and to Tauris; the second corps, in moving from Bakou, may proceed along the western coast of the Caspian Sea as far as Asterbad, where, supported by the Russian squadron, it would readily cross the fertile valley as far as Herat. Third corps may penetrate into the Khorassan and into Khiva. These strategetic combinations have been prepared from the first moment it was known at St. Petersburg of the projects of England on Persia." On the other hand, a letter from St. Petersburg of the same date, in the *Borsenhalle* of Hamburgh, says:—"The statement made by several foreign journals of a convention having been concluded between Persia and Russia, by which the latter is bound to assist the former, is completely unfounded. Neither is it true that there are Russian officers in the service of Persia. The two officers, MM. Dukomel, stated by the journals to be with the Persian army before Herat, are now in this capital, one in the Senate, and the other unemployed. The military movements made by Russia are solely confined to placing a corps of observation on the Persian frontier."

The Swiss Crisis.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* is extremely severe in his critique on the Swiss note in the *Moniteur*, and adduces several striking arguments, showing the weakness and inconsistency of the position taken both by France and Prussia. The *Siécle* is the only one of the Paris journals which at present disapproves of the note on the Neufchatel question. The *Assemblee Nationale* and the *Gazette de France* award it the warmest praise. The *Presse* regrets that the question should have been raised at the moment of the convocation of the Conference, and regards the note simply as a declaration of neutrality, conceived in severe terms for Switzerland, and conciliatory terms for Prussia. France withdraws from the arena, and leaves Prussia and Switzerland in presence of each other; but it observes that Prussia must have regretted the sanction she gave to the extinction of the republic of Cracow, in spite of the protests of France and England; and as Prussia has not herself respected treaties, it is with a bad grace she now attempts to fasten them on Switzerland. The *Siecle* says—"We do not admit that the concession demanded would have solely been made to France after the firmly expressed demands of Prussia, and when France had repeated the same propositions." The *Gazette de France* remarks that the policy of the English Cabinet on the Swiss question is not in harmony with that of France, and asks on what question, in fact, does our ally agree with France.

A letter from Coblentz states that in the Prussian arsenals on the Rhine supplies of ammunition are being actively prepared.

It is stated, in a letter from Frankfort, that the Prussian envoy has formally communicated to the German Diet that there remains no other means for his Government to re-establish its authority than a resort to its own arms, which are declared to be sufficient. It does not appear, therefore, that Prussia contemplates asking the Diet for the armed intervention and aid of the contingents of the German Confederation.

The Grand Councils in two important Swiss cantons have commenced their sittings. The language of the Presidents is most decided. At Berne the Federal Council said that Switzerland would sacrifice all her sons rather than yield to unjust demands. In the canton of Thurgovea the address of M Kappler has been still more explicit and energetic.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte intends, it is said, making a voyage next year to the Indian and China seas, visiting Ceylon, Borneo, Java, &c. He will be accompanied, as on his first voyage, by some distinguished savans and literateures.

UNITED STATES.

The New York *Times* having lately asserted that Thomas Francis Meagher broke his parole in escaping from Australia, that gentleman has regarded it as an attack upon his honour, and has challenged Henry J. Raymond, the responsible editor. Mr. Raymond, retraced and explained the paragraph in a manner to satisfy the demands of the duellist.

Maid, Wife and Widow in Twenty Minutes.—Dr. James H. Bogardus, of Bingston, Ulster County, N. Y., died at the Girard House, on Sunday, after a very short illness, under singular circumstances.

The deceased was about forty-five years old, of the highest respectability, and ranked the first in his profession in the country in which he resided. For about two years he had been engaged to Miss Isabella Hamilton, a young lady, also a resident of Kingston, and on two occasions days were fixed for their nuptials, on each of which a death presented a barrier to the consummation of their wishes. On the former instance the death of his brother's child rendered a postponement of the day of their contemplated marriage necessary, and both the doctor and his affianced bride attended the funeral. On the second occasion fixed for their union, Miss Hamilton's sister lost a child, and again they both attended a funeral service instead of their marriage ceremony.

On Monday of last week Dr. Bogardus came to the city and put up at the Girard House, in Chambers-street, and on retiring, complained to Mr. Davis, with whom he was well acquainted, that he was quite unwell. The following day, not feeling able to leave his bed, Dr. Sayre and other eminent physicians were called in and consulted. After several days' attendance, they came to the conclusion that there was something more than disease of the body in the case of their patient, and they intimated to him the fact, whereupon Dr. Bogardus frankly informed his medical advisers that he was deeply attached to a young lady, to whom he was to be married on Tuesday; that their marriage had been twice frustrated by death, and now he feared that his own illness would prove a third interposition to his happiness.

Dr. Sayre perceiving the sad effect which the fear of another disappointment had upon his mind, sent a telegraphic despatch to Miss Hamilton to come to New York without delay, for the purpose of carrying out the wishes of Dr. Bogardus. Miss Hamilton arrived about four o'clock on Sunday morning, and, as early as possible, some of their friends, residing at Newark, were sent for to attend the marriage ceremony. At one o'clock the same day Dr. Sayre visited his patient, and found him so much better that he considered that it would be unnecessary for him to attend again. At half-past two o'clock the parties were united, and Dr. Bogardus expressed his thankfulness in being enabled to carry out his intentions of marriage to the lady in question. Their friends then retired for a few moments for the purpose of partaking of some refreshments. He then remarked that he felt so much better that he would get up, and at once proceeded to raise himself in bed; his bride perceiving his efforts to rise, went to assist him, only to discover that he was expiring in her arms. She instantly sprang to the bell and rang for assistance; but before their friends could reach the room he was a corpse, and yesterday afternoon his remains were taken to Kingston for interment. The deceased was a member of the Kingston Lodge of Free Masons, and was very much esteemed by his brother members, and in accordance with his previously expressed wish, he will be attended by the Order to his last resting place.—*New York Herald.*

COLONIAL MATTERS.

The Railway between Shediac and Moncton.—The *Westmorland Times* gives the details of the experimental trip on this line, a telegraphic despatch announcing its opening appeared in our last. The *Times* says, "Having travelled on several of the Railways in the United States, and having also had many opportunities of travelling in all parts of England, we think we may safely affirm that the short line now spoken of may be travelled with equal safety to any of them, with the exception of about two miles on Messrs. Rankin & Walker's section, which runs through a swamp, and which the lateness of the season prevented from being properly ballasted, and which will be made perfectly secure by a few days work when the snow disappears in the spring, by which time also, we have no doubt the bridges and other work from Humphrey's mill to the Town of Moncton will be fully completed.

On arriving at Shediac, an opportunity was afforded us of making an examination of the works, and the further progress now being made towards Point De Chene, a distance of about two miles from the station, which we have no doubt will be completed early in the spring. We also examined the Scadouc Bridge which has been a very tedious and expensive piece of business; and from the progress already made, great hopes are entertained that this part will be finished early in the ensuing season."—*St. John Courier.*

A meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade was held on the 3d ult., at which were present a considerable number of the leading citizens and several gentlemen long residing in the Hudson Bay territory. The intention was to call public notice to the advantage of opening direct commercial intercourse with that extensive field of enterprise. Captain Kennedy, who had passed twenty-five years in the territory, said the entire country, extending 400 miles from the boundry line to the north, was capable of cultivation of the same kind as was carried on in Canada; particularly by flax, tallow and hides, which it is now necessary to procure from Russia, could just as easily be raised on those prairies. The country was as fertile as it possibly could be.

The prospectus of the Liverpool and Portland Steamship Company, issued by Messrs. Wier, Cochran & Co., has been placed upon our table, and from which it appears that the new, first-class, and powerful steamship Circassian, A. 1. at Lloyd's, 2400 tons burthen, and 350 horse power, will leave Liverpool for Potland, Maine, on the 7th March next, and will be succeeded by the Khersonese, 2300 tons burthen, to sustain a monthly communication, calling at St. John's Newfoundland, and Halifax, out and home. The Circassian is a new and beautiful Iron Steamship, built in five-water tight compartments of extra strength, for the North American Trade, and has superior arrangements for passengers.—The Khersonese will have alterations to increase her speed, and will be much improved in her saloon and cabin arrangements. The first class passage from Liverpool to St. John's, Halifax or Portland, 16 guineas; for third class passengers, £7 sterling. Further particulars can be obtained on application to the enterprising firm of B. Wier & Co, in this city.—*Halifax Daily Sun.*

A Canadian paper says:—"Great are the mysteries of Ocean Postage. It costs more now to send an ounce of paper to Europe than it does to send a barrel of flour. A man may have a state-room; eat, drink and lounge all over the ship, and yet a quiet mail-bag that has stood all the time in a dark corner, is charged seven times as much passage money as he is."

Liverpool and Portland Steamship Company.—We have received a circular setting forth the arrangements of this Company for the coming season. By this we learn that the Company have completed their arrangements for the continuous monthly sailing of their steamers, the first of them, that fine new ship "Circassian," of 2400 tons, being advertised to sail from Liverpool on the 7th of March next. To importers of goods, as well as to the passengers from Great Britain, special inducements are held out by this Company. By arrangements made by them with the Grand Trunk and other Railroad and Steamboat Companies in America, as well as in England, through tickets for passengers and through bills of lading for goods may be obtained, carrying them to the port, or railway station, nearest to their destination. The "Liverpool and Portland Company" is the first which has taken any considerable step towards cheapening steam communication between England and America, and as such they are entitled to the hearty support of all interested in such communication, until at least they obtain a fair trial.—*Acadian Recorder.*

Railway Accident.—A number of laborers, on the railway, near Windsor, were on Thursday last, buried or partially so, by the falling in of a bank of earth. Three men were seriously injured; and one of them, named Flynn, has since died.—*Ib.*

Another Railway Riot.—There has been another riot on the Windsor Railway, near St. Croix river. According to a version published in the *Chronicle*, a small fight took place, on New Year's day, between one small party of Irishmen and another of Scotchmen in which the former were worsted. As there was a prospect of hostilities being renewed on a large scale, the contractor under whom all the belligerents were employed, discharged the whole of them and then came down to town to lay his complant before the Government and receive their instructions.

Peace Proclaimed.—Since writing the above, we learn that order has been restored, and that Mr. Cameron, the contractor under whom the rioters were employed, has taken them all back to work again *at an abatement of sixpence per day upon their wages*, A masterly stroke of financial policy.—*Ib.*

How to make Manure.—The Connecticut Homestead, in answer to the enquiry of a correspondent as to the best manner of making manure on a small farm, gives the following directions which we commend, all but the having a manure cellar under the barn. In this case the foul gases will arise, pollute the atmosphere which the cattle breathe, and impregnate the hay and other fodder with noxious particles. We think much better of a shed over the manure heap outside the barn.

"In the first place, if he has not a barn cellar, he cannot begin better for the increase of his fertilizers than to construct one; or if this be impossible, he can, on the side of his barn, where he throws out his manure from his stables, dig a vat some three feet deep, and ten wide, and as long as he pleases, covering it with a good roof, with an arrangement for conducting the water from his roof into the vat when he chooses to do so. He has then provided himself with a convenient and proper place for the deposit of such articles as he may be able to gather for composting with the droppings of his cows.

There are few places of a dozen acres that will not afford a number of loads of earth from the sides and corners of walls and fences. Few men are so cleanly in their cultivation as to thoroughly clean all the walls about the cultivated fields so that nothing can be picked up in a cart. All matter that can be gained in that way is of value both in the compost vat and in its absence from the field, as weeds and briars are apt to thrive where care is not taken to clear the walls.

Leaves in the roads and all places where they can be gathered in the Autumn will be found to furnish an amount matter totally incomprehensible to one who has not tried what he can do in their gathering. These, with weeds, potato tops, and such other vegetable matter as can be raked or scraped together, furnish, in the first place, admirable litter for the stock, are great absorbents, and in their decay supply very valuable constituents for the compost heap.

In most localities where we are acquainted, clean roadsides are the exception, and if our friend has been in the habit of cutting everything that grows by the side of the road on his own premises, we are confident that all his neighbors, in a circle of two miles about him, have not been as careful, and presume they would not object to his mowing the roadside and carrying off the yield. He may, in this way, obtain a very large amount of organic matter for his manure heap, and will constitute himself a public benefactor in the prevention of seeding of the foul weeds that now ripen their seed and allow the four winds to scatter them, to the discomfort and misfortune of the public.

The careful saving of every article in the house or on the premises that can be made of use in the manure heap will give astonishing results at the year's end. Let no sort of wash or waste about the house be thrown away, but let it be cared for and husbanded. No dish water, or anything that contains a particle of grease or soap, or any slops, but should be put into a receptacle, and taken at convenient times to the compost heap.

All bones accumulated from the house, or that be picked up should be saved, and at some convenient season be subjected to the action of diluted sulphuric acid in a tight cask. After these become sufficiently softened to break down and crumble, they can be put to the compost heap, or perhaps better, can be mixed with the droppings of the hens from the poultry house, and mixed with enough of the earth from the bottom of a coal pit, or any other dry earth full of organic matter, dried peat and muck, and used very advantageously on corn at its second hoeing, or on the vegetable garden.

All old woollen rags, pieces of leather, anything and everything that is denominated good for nothing, may be made to answer useful purposes in the economy of the husbandman.

Haszard's Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1857.

WAR! WAR! WAR!

The following startling telegraph despatch was received at the News Room on Saturday last.

DECLARATION OF WAR!—CANTON BOMBARDED!—BASQUE PORTS TAKEN!

Sackville, N. B., 17th January, 1857.

Steamer *City of Washington* from Liverpool, December 31st, arrived at New York to-day. Canton bombarded by British Fleet under Admiral Seymour, caused by imprisonment of English sailors. Bombardment commenced twenty-fourth of October, and had continued two days; the walls were breached and Basque ports taken. Commerce paralyzed and teas gone up.

Another telegraph despatch from Halifax, yesterday, confirms the above news thus:

America arrived at 5 p.m. on Sunday, the 18th inst.

Asia.—No news reached India from Persian expedition, but 78th Highlanders and other reinforcements would be forwarded.

Bombardment of Canton by the British confirmed. Eighth of October, Chinese having taken twelve Chinese seamen from a coaster under the British flag, were called on by the British Consul for reparation. They refused and insulted Consul, who called the assistance of Admiral Seymour's squadron. Fire opened 24th. All the forts captured. Twenty-four war junks destroyed. Twenty scuttled. City walls and Viceroy's palace bombarded. Fire continued to the 15th November, the day on which the mail left. British loss trifling.

American steamer was fired upon by Chinese fort, whereupon the United States' frigate "Portsmouth" proceeded to destroy it. Also notified Chinese unless instant reparation was made for the insult, hostilities would be commenced.

Trade paralized.

Swiss difficulty peaceful. Hopes preponderate, but warlike preparations continue with vigour. Two thousand Swiss in Paris demanded passports to return to their native country.

Paris Congress and Plenipotentiaries met 31st.

British Atlantic Telegraph shares London Exchange appear 30 to 50 per cent. permium.

Italy.—Dissatisfaction reported in the Neapolitan army, but statement vague.

It will be seen by the above that the English Mail arrived at Halifax on Sunday, but, owing to the badness of the roads, it has not yet reached us.

SUPREME COURT.

The following Civil and Criminal cases have been disposed of since our last issue:

Civil Cases.—Stephen Rice *vs.* H. W. Lobban. Verdict for plaintiff £20 2s. Hensley attorney.

Andrew Duncan and others *vs.* William Dingwell. Verdict for plaintiffs £220 11s. 4d. Hensley attorney.

John MacDonald *vs.* Patrick Mooney. Verdict for plaintiff £28 17s. 6d. Hensley attorney.

Jas. N. Harris *vs.* Geo Harris and others, absent debtors. Verdict for plaintiff £275 3s. 8d. C. Palmer attorney.

James Smith *vs.* James Dewar. Verdict for plaintiff £20 0s. 2½d. E. Palmer attorney.

Gas Company *vs.* Thomas Pleadwell. Verdict for plaintiffs £7 7s. Haviland & Brecken attorneys.

Doe Dorn Rider *vs.* Rattery. Verdict for defendant. Haviland & Brecken attorneys.

Wm. Murdoch and others *vs.* Thomas Clow, absent debtor. Verdict for plaintiffs [£237 14s. 6d.] Haviland & Brecke attorneys.

James Stewart *vs.* John S. Macleod and others. Verdict for plaintiff £8 C. Palmer attorney.

Donald MacIsaac, appellant, *vs.* Daniel Brenan, respondent. Judgment in favor of respondent. E. Palmer attorney.

Edward Carey appellant, *vs.* Daniel Brenan, respondent. Judgment in favor of respondent.

Daniel Brenan, appellant, *vs.* Thos. Pleadwell, respondent. Judgment for appellant.

Criminal Cases.—The Queen *vs.* John Hunter. Larceny. Convicted. Sentence—two calendar months imprisonment in County Jail with hard labour.

The Queen *vs.* Ann Wood. Larceny. Convicted. Sentence—six calendar months imprisonment in County Jail with hard labour.

The Queen *vs.* William Winchester. Larceny. Convicted. Sentence—one calendar month imprisonment in County Jail with hard labour.

The Queen *vs.* Alexander Galbraith and Elisha Crockett. Larceny. Convicted. Sentence—Galbraith to be imprisoned in County Jail for four Calendar months with hard labour, and Crockett to be imprisoned one month with hard labour.

The Queen *vs.* Elisha Crockett and James Cahill. Larceny. Convicted. Sentence—each to be imprisoned for one calendar month in the County Jail with hard labour. Crockett's imprisonment to commence at the termination of the period of his former sentence.

The Queen *vs.* James McGonnell. Indicted for Manslaughter Jury could not agree, and were discharged, and the prisoner re-committed to Jail.

We beg to call attention to the letter of our correspondent Sneezer, as we are informed it is the intention of some of our representatives, during the approaching Session, to introduce a Bill to establish the ballot system of voting in this Colony. The defects in that system pointed out by our correspondent will, no doubt, receive the consideration of those whose intention it is to move in the matter.

We would also call the attention of our representatives, and the country generally, to the views of our correspondent Rusticus. His plain and forcible reasoning relative to the Central Academy and the establishment of a superior scholastic institution, we conceive to be well-timed and no doubt will attract attention.

Mental Provender.—We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. L. Scott & Co. in our present Number. This firm republishes the British Periodicals in a superior style, and furnishes them to subscribers in the Provinces for the low price of Ten Dollars a year, while the British price is Thirty-one and a half Dollars—a vast difference, especially to those lovers of standard literature whose pecuniary means are limited. We have received *Blackwood* for December, and intend treating our readers to one of its very interesting papers next week. George T. Haszard is Messrs. Scott & Co's Agent in this Island. The first of the year is *not* a bad time to subscribe for the British Periodicals or—our paper.

Telegraphic Offices.—The Government have entered into arrangements for the establishment of two Telegraph Offices, one at Cape Tormentine and the other at Cape Traverse, so as to expedite intelligence with regard to the transmission of the Mails across the Strait, and afford information, when necessary, relating to passengers. These offices will be worked at the expense of the Government, and will incur no heavy outlay. We have no hesitation in saying that their establishment will be hailed with much satisfaction by the whole community, and especially by those who may be more immediately interested in the arrival of mails and passengers.—*Examiner.*

We understand that the Legislature of this Colony will meet for the dispatch of business, on Thursday, the 26th of February next.—*Ib.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of Haszard's Gazette.

Sir,—I understand that a number of individuals in Charlottetown have banded together, and formed what they call a Political Alliance. It seems that they are dissatisfied with the present Government, and have adopted this method to promote political reform. Among the beneficial changes which the Alliance purposes to introduce is vote by ballot. I have looked over the *Islander*—which seems to be the organ of the Alliance—at different times, to find some reasons why we should copy this "peculiar institution" of our republican neighbours, in preference to our present system of voting, but could discover nothing of the kind, until the 9th of January. In that number of the *Islander*, the editor, in an editorial commenting on Mr. Cooper's letter in the same paper, says:

"The great evil, true or alleged, in this Island, affecting the suffrage, is proprietary *intimidation*. Adopt the Ballot, and intimidation of *every sort* is at an end."

And he thus laconically describes the process of voting by ballot;

"It means that instead of *coming up* to the hustings, and *shouting out* the name of the candidate, the elector drops a folded bit of paper, containing a name which *nobody sees*, into a box, and at the end of the election the candidate having the most of those bits of paper, is declared elected!"

And from these statements he draws the following conclusion, which, if it does not countenance deception, certainly does *not* appiaud honesty of purpose:

"Hence it is evident that although an elector *may* receive a *consideration* for his vote, he may, nevertheless, vote *according to his conscience* by the Ballot, and the *disappointed* corruptor be ne'er the wiser!"

I am no political partizan, Mr. Editor, and endeavour to speak of men as I find them; and I must say that if we are to take this as a specimen of the *reforms* which the Political Alliance would vouchsafe to us, then well may we exclaim, "Save us from our friends!" What a conscience that man must have who could receive a "consideration" for his vote, then vote *against* the man who paid him, and yet, after all, be able to vote "according to his conscience!" A beautiful reform truly! I do not believe that there are twenty voters in Prince Edward Island who vote against the dictates of their conscience, notwithstanding all that may be said about "intimidation." The days of "Ledger and Proprietary intimidation" are gone by. Farmers now get too good a price for their produce to be intimidated into voting against their conscience by landlords, merchants, or small shopkeepers; for they, be it known, are dependent on the hardy tiller of the soil far more than the farmer is upon them.

I am opposed to vote by ballot for these reasons—it will nourish trickery, cause suspicion and ill-will between landlord and tenant, and because it is anti-British. The trickery of it can be seen by reading the paragraph which I have quoted from the *Islander*, in which the editor, while attempting to show the graceful form and beauties of the *animal*, unwittingly turns it wrong side up, and exposes its deformity. It will create suspicion and ill-will in this way: A candidate—the friend of a landlord—is preparing for a political campaign. The landlord, accompanied by the embryo member, visits his tenants, and sincerely hopes that they will vote for his friend Mr. So-and-so; and portrays in graphic language the benefits that will accrue to the country from having the said Mr. So-and-so elected. The tenant—if he is as frail, and as fond of "creature comforts" as the majority of men—will consent, of course, and the embryo member and the "lord of hills and forests" will depart in high glee. But no sooner are their backs turned than a loud guffaw from the tenant indicates his intentions. Thanks to the lie-concealing and lie-encouraging ballot box, he will vote contrary to his promise, *because* the "corruptor" will be "ne'er the wiser!" When the time comes for "dropping the bits of paper," Mr. So-and-so finds that he is minus several bits—that he is defeated; then the landlord fumes, and cries treachery, deception, and calls his tenants hard names, and perhaps will take advantage of the first opportunity that offers to inconvenience some poor man who really *did* vote, according to promise, for Mr. So-and-so, while he who was *forced* to practise deception, will get off—if he pays his rent promptly—with only a suspicious scowl; if not, he will likewise suffer unjustly.

Vote by ballot is anti-British. True independence is the boast of Britain; and nowhere is it shown more truly than in the British Provinces on election day. See the burly, broad-chested, horny-knuckled, weather-tanned, jovial farmer—proud of his homespun suit—unterrified by frowns, unflattered by smiles—walk up to the hustings, and pronounce, in a voice that tells that his lungs as well his heart are sound—"A plumper for Mr. Getin!" Is not that independence? Is there a man in this Island—I care not to what party he belongs—who does not feel *proud* in being able to let the multitude around the hustings know for whom he votes? And yet this Political Alliance would *reform* this manly British practise—this independent expression of British pluck and openheartedness—and substitute the sneaking, cowardly, unmanly "drop game!" Out upon such reform! Are we slaves? Are we *afraid* to have it known that we vote for one whom we consider an honest man, regardless of the opinions of others? If the people want to introduce a state of moral depravity into this Island, when every man will think his neighbour a rogue, and treat him as such, let them adopt the dropping-paper-into-a-box system at elections, and I venture to say they will not be disappointed.

Any one at all acquainted with the United States, knows that there is far more trickery and corruption practised there at elections than in the British Colonies. Did the Political Alliance ever hear of "spurious tickets?" In the States, political quacks and sharpers are always stationed around the polling-places, with bundles of "bits of paper," on the top of which are printed "Democratic ticket," while the body is unmistakeably Whig, and *vice versa;* and many a poor "naturalized American," not having had the use of a schoolmaster in his youth, is obliged to vote in direct opposition to his conscientious convictions. And there is no intimidation used, either. All that is required is a little manœuvring, and the Yankee can compare favourably with the native of any clime in this qualification. I need not say anything of the chances, in a crowd, of snatching the ballot from a man's hand—supposing he cannot read—and some indignant friend coming to the rescue, condoling with him, and kindly supplying him with an *opposition* ticket, which the unsophisticated "naturalized" deposits in the box under the firm conviction that he is giving a vote for his pet candidate. Nor need I say anything of the "stuffing" dodge, so extensively practised in California, not long since, by means of which the greatest set of ruffians that ever disgraced a civilized community were returned to office. If vote by ballot is introduced into this Island, the *et ceteras* will surely accompany it—for they are *a part* of the system.

Another reason, Mr. Editor, why I object to the ballot is this: The party who *now* favour it would, in times past, when they were in power, have pointed to the man who would have dared to insinuate that vote by ballot was necessary to complete the harmony of our political system, as a dangerous demagogue, and would have stigmatized him, perhaps, as one who was endeavouring to overturn the "glorious constitution under which we live," as they *used* to say. I am suspicious of their motives—I doubt their disinterestedness—I despise their secret discussions; and unless they throw their meetings open to the public, and find something more worthy of *reform* than honest, straightforward, independent *viva voce* voting, I fear the Political Alliance and I will hold different opinions. As "Measures, not men," is your motto, I trust you will publish those remarks.

Yours, &c.,
SNEEZER.

Charlottetown Royalty, Jan. 12, 1857.

To the Editor of Haszard's Gazette.

Sir,—In the *Examiner* of the 5th inst., the editor of that journal has offered some remarks relating to the Central Academy. His views respecting the future management of that institution are somewhat remarkable. The truth of the *important* conclusion at which he has arrived after much thought, viz., "that by a mere change of name from Academy to College, nothing would be gained," certainly few will question. The name that may be given to the institution, is a matter of little consequence to the country at large; but not so its efficiency. As some change with reference to the Academy appears now to be considered necessary, we have a right to expect a change for the better. The Central Academy has doubtless rendered important service to the cause of education throughout the Island; but that is no reason why we should not now have a superior institution. Our common schools have been improved, and shall not our leading educational establishment also be improved? The population and wealth of the Colony have greatly increased since 1829, the year in which the Act was passed for establishing the Academy, and shall we now after the lapse