

well, \$1,500; Gasser, \$1,200; Stefani, \$1,200; Maretzek, \$1,000; Murio, \$800; Amadio, \$800; Juncos, \$800; Madame Strakosch, \$400; Squiers and Rocca \$400 each. The first violinist and first flautist get \$200 each.

CHINA.

THE UNEXPECTED PRECISION OF FIRE ON THE PRIMO.—A correspondent says, in endeavouring to explain the murderous fire on our troops in China:—

"When the Caucasus and its adjacent provinces, in 1838-9, in traversing the steppes bordering on the mountain range to the north, several highly intelligent Russian officers frequently reverted to the extraordinary incident which had left them in the desolate and gloomy desert they are in at present—viz., the total emigration of the Calmuc tribes, which, up to the latter period of the reign of the Empress Catharine, inhabited them, an event almost without parallel in the history of the world from its first creation, with the exception of that which, hundreds of years previous, preceded it—the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.

"A clear and succinct narrative, evidently gathered from Russian official sources, was published some years since in a magazine, and is the only account ever made public. After hardships almost without example, the emigrants who survived this terrible march reached the Chinese frontier, where they found a powerful Russian force of infantry and Cossacks drawn up to bar their further progress. Worn out and exhausted, they yet contrived to force their way and reached the Mongol territory, the Russian troops following in hot pursuit.

"Scarcely, however, had the latter crossed the boundary before a murderous fire of musketry and artillery was opened upon them, while on the same instant they were vigorously charged on all sides. Thunderstruck at this utterly unexpected phenomenon, the Russians retreated into their own territory, re-forming on the borders of a lake. But though no longer on Chinese ground, they were completely under the range of their enemy's guns, which played upon them till the waters became one seething cauldron of human slaughter, those that survived breaking and flying in every direction.

"What completely took the Russians by surprise, as they themselves informed me, was not so much the bravery of their adversaries, or even the spirit of discipline and order they manifested—but the superior train of field artillery they had to encounter, and the admirable manner in which it was served, which completely paralyzed their men by its murderous precision.

"When subsequently in China, in the years 1845-6, remembering what I had heard in Russia, I enquired of some intelligent Chinese how it was that these troops had not been brought down to meet the British in the war which had occurred between the two countries. The answer I received amounted to the old English saying, that the remedy was worse than the disease, or, more properly speaking, it would be inviting the wolf to take care of the sheep. They might easily be brought down, but who could bring them back again?"

Her Majesty's Government have resolved to send at once a military force to China, and to send it from India. We are glad to be able to make this announcement. It is of the first importance that our illusions which our recent check is calculated to encourage in the minds of the natives of the East should be dispelled without loss of time, and no less important that whatever operations may be required to convince the Chinese of the necessity of keeping faith, should be prosecuted to an early conclusion.

The hostilities we carried on at Canton against Commissioner Yeh left the commerce of the rest of China comparatively uninjured, but the transfer of the war to the north threatens to interfere seriously with trade. On every account, then, it is well that the expedition is not to be delayed, nor must our respect for the fantastic prejudices of the rulers of China be allowed this time to hold us back from Peking. It is for the interest of the untold millions of China, as well as for our own, that we should obtain that full commercial access to their empire, of which the presence of the ambassadors of the Western Powers in their capital is an indispensable guarantee.

The dispatch in which Admiral Hope reports to the Admiralty the disastrous attack of June 25, removes one or two doubts which have been left by the private accounts. Thus it shows that the Admiral was from the first informed of the existence of the ditches in which so many of our gallant countrymen perished, and that he appreciated generally the extent to which the new defences had increased the difficulty of his task. His report, like those of the unofficial correspondents, shows that the late landing under an unsubsided and heavy fire and on impracticable ground, was the cardinal mistake of the enterprise, but he contents himself with remarking that, "had the opposition they experienced been that usual in Chinese warfare, there is little doubt that the place would have been successfully carried at the point of the bayonet." This, after all, is the strongest point that can be urged to extenuate the errors of the commander in risking his brave men in a conflict so unequal. We trust that whoever may command the next force sent against the Chinese will do the public at home the justice to believe that it does not distrust the valour of its seamen and soldiers, and that it is not necessary that in war with barbarians they should undertake exploits forbidden by prudence and science, to maintain their credit for bravery in England.

MORE TROUBLE IN CHINA.—A private letter from Shanghai, under date of August 1, gives an account of a serious disturbance there through the alleged kidnapping of Chinese, by the captain of a French ship called the *Gertrude*, for the purpose of carrying them off to Havana. Some days previous to the date of the letter, five of those said to be employed by the captain in kidnapping the Celestials were caught in the settlement, and would have been killed were it not for the police and some of the residents interfering. The Chinese were in a very excited state. The streets were all crowded with them, and a Mr. Lay, the inspector-general of the maritime customs, as he was passing through, was attacked and stabbed in the breast and throat several times, and would have been killed at once had not three men run to his rescue, one of whom caught Mr. Lay in his arms and made off with him as fast as he could, whilst the others kept the mob at bay. One of them unfortunately had nothing but his hands to do so with, so they knocked him down and killed him at once; he who had a good stick kept the whole of them off until Mr. Lay and his friends got clear, although the shopkeepers threw stools, forms, and all sorts of things in his way, to trip him up, as he gradually retreated before them. He had one of his cheeks cut right open, so that he could put his tongue through, and was most severely bruised about the body with bricks and stones that were thrown at him. Several other parties were killed since then. There was such an uproar in the Chinese city and all round the settlement for two nights after, that everybody was up and armed all night, expecting to be attacked, but fortunately it passed off all right, although it would be almost certain death to have gone into the city. The writer adds—"I hope it will soon quiet down, as they have brought the French ship into port, and she is to be examined by the mandarin and the French consul, as the captain utterly denies the charge of kidnapping, though few persons believe him."

ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.—The following statement respecting British Newspapers, may interest our readers:— "It was in the reign of Queen Anne that London first enjoyed the luxury of a newspaper 'every day.' In 1700

there was one daily paper, and seventeen other papers; in 1724 three daily papers were published, and eighteen others. In 1753 the number of newspapers sold in all England, according to an average of three years preceding, was 7,411,757; in 1760 it was 9,404,790; in 1790 it was 14,035,629; in 1791 it was 14,794,153; and in 1792 it was 15,005,760."

UNITED STATES.

INSURRECTION AT HARPER'S FERRY.

A mob of negro insurrectionists, numbering several hundred, and led by "Old Ossawatimie Brown, whose feats in Kansas have had such wide notice," had seized on Sunday night upon the United States Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, possessed themselves of the government arms there deposited, sent wagon-loads of rifles into the interior, stopped and fired into passing trains, planted cannon upon the bridge over the Potomac, cut the telegraph wires, seized and kept in custody the peaceable and orderly citizens of the place, levied contributions upon the hotels and provision stores, shot several persons, and otherwise committed havoc and onslaughts, all against the peace and sovereignty of the people of the United States.

It appears to have been a regular negro conspiracy, or insurrection, planned and organized for some time past, to free the slaves. The Secretary of War had information months since of the existence of such a conspiracy, and of the intention of the negro plotters to seize upon the Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, possess themselves of arms therewith to arm the slaves of Virginia and the neighbouring States, establish themselves at Wheeling and other points, and regain their freedom. He seems to have given no credence to the story when he first heard it, but it was literally verified.

On Tuesday last at 8 o'clock in the morning, the army had been stormed and taken, after a determined resistance.

The telegraph despatch says:— Col. Shute approached with a flag of truce, and demanded a surrender. After expostulating sometime, the rioters refused to surrender.

The marines advanced to the charge, and endeavoured to break the door down with sledge hammers, but it resisted all their efforts.

A large ladder was then used as a battering ram, and the door gave way.

The rioters fired briskly and shot three marines, the marines firing in turn through the partly broken door.

The marines then forced their way through the break, and in a few minutes resistance was at an end.

The rioters were brought out amidst the most intense excitement, many of the militia present trying to get an opportunity to shoot them.

Capt. Brown and his son were both shot. The latter is dead, and the former in a dying state. He lies in the armory enclosure, talking freely. He says he is old Ossawatimie Brown, whose feats in Kansas have had such wide notice; that his whole object was to free the slaves, and justifies his action. He says that he had possession of the town, and could have murdered all the people, and that he has been murdered in return.

Baltimore, Oct. 18.—An eye witness, who has returned from Harper's Ferry, describes the scene there as follows:—

The first attack was made by a detachment of the Charleston, Va., Guards, which crossed the Potomac River above Harper's Ferry, and reached a building, where the insurgents were posted by the canal, on the Maryland side. Smart firing occurred, and the rioters were driven from the bridge. One man was killed, and another wounded. A man ran out and tried to escape by swimming the river. A dozen shots were fired after him. He partially fell, but rose again, threw his gun away and drew his pistols, but both snapped. He drew his bowie knife and cut his heavy accoutrements off, and plunged into the river. One of the soldiers was about ten feet behind; the man turned round, threw up his hands and said—"Don't shoot." The soldier fired, and the man fell into the water, with his face blown away. His coat-skirts were cut from his person, and in the pockets was found a captain's commission, to Capt. E. H. Leeman, from the provisional government. The commission was dated Oct. 15, 1859, and signed by A. W. Brown, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Provisional Government of the United States.

A party of five of the insurgents, armed with Minnie rifles, and posted in the rifle armory, were expelled by the Charleston Guards. They all ran for the river, and one, who was unable to swim, was drowned. The other four swam out to the rocks in the middle of the Shenandoah, and fired upon the citizens and troops upon both banks. This drew upon them the muskets of between 200 and 300 men, and not less than 400 shots were fired at them from Harper's Ferry, about 200 yards distant. One was finally shot dead; the second, a negro, attempted to jump over the dam, but fell short and was not seen afterwards; the third was badly wounded, and the remaining one was taken unharmed. The white insurgent, wounded and captured, died in a few moments after, in the arms of our informant. He was shot through the heart and stomach. He declared that there were only nineteen whites engaged in the insurrection.

For nearly an hour a running and random firing was kept up by the troops against the rioters. Several were shot down, and many managed to jump away wounded.

During the firing the women and children ran shrieking in every direction, but when they learned that the soldiers were their protectors, they took courage, and did good service in the way of preparing refreshments and attending to the wounded. Our informant, who was on the hill when the firing was going on, says all the terrible scenes of a battle passed in reality before his eyes. Soldiers singly and in couples; and the crack of a musket or rifle was generally followed by one or more of the insurgents biting the dust. The dead lay in the streets where they fell; the wounded were cared for.

A body of 40 mounted men left Baltimore this afternoon for Harper's Ferry, to pursue the rioters. It is reported that many have escaped who are secreted in the mountains.

The President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad telegraphed to New York that the insurrection is entirely suppressed; all the outlaws are killed or arrested; all the freight and passenger trains are running with entire regularity and safety. No damage has been done to any portion of the railway track, trains or property.

RAILROAD TO THE PACIFIC.

The subject of a railroad across the American continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific States, is at present exciting the serious attention of the United States citizens on the Pacific coast. A Convention, composed of delegates from all the Pacific States and Territories, was at last accounts in session at San Francisco, and very largely attended. A vast amount of statistical arguments in favor of the various routes, and also in favor of the road itself, comprise the substance of the proceedings thus far, but it was thought that some action towards building the California portion of the road would be recommended before the Convention adjourned.

DUELING IN CALIFORNIA.

While the duel in California between Judge Terry and Senator Broderick, with all its painful and censurable details, are yet fresh in our minds, we read of another affair of a similar character between two prominent men of the same State. The coolness and business-like style in which these tragedies are conducted and terminated in California cannot but be read with surprise by persons who have the happiness of living in countries where such deeds of blood are now rarely,

if ever, enacted. The duel we are about to notice was fought on the 16th of September, at a place about 5 miles from San Andreas, between Dr. Preston Goodwin and Col. William J. Gatewood. The parties fought with rifles; distance, 40 yards. At the first fire Dr. Goodwin fell mortally wounded, and died about two hours afterwards.

Immediately upon Dr. Goodwin's fall, Mr. Gatewood advanced towards him, extending his hand, and remarking, "Doctor, I am very sorry that this affair has terminated so—very sorry indeed." To which the doctor replied, "I am glad to know that you acted like a gentleman." Gatewood thanked him for his kind remark, and left the field in company with his surgeon.

Both parties were democratic politicians—the deceased a Lecomptonite and the survivor an anti-Lecomptonite. They quarrelled prior to the late election, and engaged in a melee. Goodwin was the challenging party, and he has paid the penalty of his act with his life. Both gentlemen were highly esteemed in the community.

A San Andreas journal has the following apt remarks:— "We might here, with much appropriateness, indulge in a moral essay upon the general evils of the duello, and prove, for the thousandth time, its utter incompatibility with the faith of a Christian; but when the Supreme Judge of the State lays down his ermine to fight a duel; when a United States Senator does not think it so terrible to face the shot of an experienced marksman, at ten paces, as to look public opinion in the eye and incur its scorn by refusing to accept a challenge when society and the people lavish their favors and caresses upon those who have fought duels and honor them—we see no recognized crime or violence to the Commonwealth in the act just perpetrated. If the people desire to put an end to the 'code,' let them say so in some unmistakable manner; but so long as the record stands as it does, and the public are more eager to scorn him who refuses than to punish him who accepts a challenge, we cannot hold duelling a very obnoxious exception to our public morality, whatever may be said and written under the impulse which some great or good man's fall gives to our sympathies."

THE SAN JUAN AFFAIR.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17, 1859.—The Cabinet has had a series of protracted meetings lately, at all of which Mr. Buchanan presided, in which the trouble at our Northwestern boundary was the principal topic, and it has been finally determined to take no further action in the matter until after the receipt of advices from General Scott.

THE NEW AERIAL SHIP—THE DAY OF GREAT THINGS.

—Mr. Lowe's Aerial Ship, City of New York, rivals the Great Eastern in wonder. With it he confidently expects to make the trip from New York to Europe in 48 hours. It is nearly five times larger than the largest balloon ever built, its dimensions being as follows: Greatest diameter, 130 feet; traverse diameter, 104; height, from valve to boat, 350 feet; weight, with outfit, 3½ tons; lifting power (aggregate), 22½ tons; capacity of gas envelope, 725,000 feet. Six thousand yards of twilled cloth have been used in the construction of the envelope. Reduced to feet the actual measurement of this material is 54,000 feet, or nearly 11 miles. Six of Wheeler & Wilson's sewing-machines were employed 12 days to connect the pieces. The upper extremity of the envelope, intended to receive the gas valve, is of triple thickness, strengthened with heavy brown linen, and sewed in triple seams. The pressure being greatest at this point, extraordinary power of resistance is requisite. It is asserted that 100 men, sewing constantly for two years, could not have accomplished this work, which measures by miles. The material is stout, and the stitching is stouter.

Ruffianism in Baltimore appears to be yet alarmingly in the ascendant, notwithstanding the attitude recently assumed by the respectable citizens of that place. In the late city election the polls were controlled to a great extent by villainy and rowdiness. In this same city, on the evening of the 12th, a young man named Huble, passing quietly along the street towards his home, met a party of three men, one of whom struck him, and when he started to run, a shot was fired by one of them which entered his head near the temple, causing instant death. On the same night four men went on board a vessel in the dock, and one of them shot the mate, named Smith, who attempted to drive them away.

New York, Oct. 12.—Advices from Washington state that Mr. McLane is about to resume his official post near the Mexican Government; that there is a rumor about that Mr. Thos. F. Meagher has gone to Costa Rica in the interest of Ex-President Mora, and will make an effort, with the aid of his Irish countrymen, to assist him in regaining supreme power; and that the action of Com. Tatnall and our Minister Ward, with regard to the recent events in China, has met with the entire approbation of government.

A Fireman's Parade, on a stupendous scale, took place in New York a few days ago, comprising 109 Engine and Hose Companies and 57 Bands of Music. It is said to have been the grandest display of the kind ever made in the world. The parade cost \$100,000.

The Detroit Free Press says:—"The extent to which amalgamation is carried in this city is really beyond the knowledge of nine-tenths of the inhabitants. There are hundreds of families the parents of which are of opposite colors, and, although the marriage of whites and blacks is illegal and void, yet they live together and bear children. It is a remarkable fact that, out of all this number, no instance exists where a white man lives with a black woman. They are all white women and generally the blackest kind of men."

We see it stated in an exchange paper that the number of suicides in the United States amount to nine a week. Our contemporary is not alive to the real state of things in this matter, else he would have written otherwise. In New York alone, they have on an average the above number weekly.

COLONIAL.

Extract of a letter from Amherst of 19th inst.:—"A fire broke out last night at half-past nine o'clock, in the stables adjoining Smith's large Hotel, and in two hours the hotel, stables, and a house owned by Mr. Treven, were entirely consumed. The stores of C. Black & Son and R. B. Hennis, were with great difficulty saved. The Hotel was insured in the Halifax Fire Office for £200, the building of Treven's in the Times Fire Office for £300.

Mr. Alexander Hardy, while moose-hunting at Indian River, in the County of Shelburne, was accidentally shot on the 5th instant. The deceased was 27 years of age—the son of Mr. Lot Hardy, formerly of Brookfield, Queen's County—and has left a widow and two children.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—There is a complaint in the *Islander* against the inhabitants of East Point, who petitioned for aid to make a harbour of the North Lake. Perhaps I ought to have sent this to the *Islander*, but as you were the Chairman of the Committee to whom the petition was referred, I have sent it to you in the first place, and request the *Islander* will copy.

When a complaint is brought before the public it ought to be fairly stated for the public to understand it. The North Lake has been a small estuary, but formed into a Lake by a sand bank across its mouth. The sand is narrow at the west end, and wide at the east end, running far into the Lake which receives its mill streams, and the outlet is at the east side, a sharp stream, perhaps thirty chains, from deep water in the Lake to the sea. But on the west side there is only a narrow neck between the tide and deep water in the Lake, and through this neck the inhabitants have cut a passage for boats, and petitioned the Legislature for aid to enable them to make a channel fit to receive small craft; but a few persons on the east side are opposed to it, on the ground that to deepen the

channel on the west side would dry up the eastern channel and expose their land on that side, to be covered with drifted sand. And they assume that for these reasons the representatives did not support the prayer of the petition.

The complainants may rest assured that Messrs. Knight and Cooper would no more encourage one party to injure the property of another than they would neglect to represent to the Legislature the reasonable wishes of any party of their constituents. And to show that the petition was reasonable, we will suppose a canal made through the narrow neck, walled up on both sides, and floored in the bottom, nineteen or twenty feet wide, and seven or eight feet deep; and fitted with gates to form a lock to keep a head of water in the Lake, and keep the sand out of it. The gates to be fitted with a sluice, to let go a gush of water when required at low water ebb tide, to wash away any loose sand from the gate and outer channel. All this does not appear a difficult matter, and there is reason to believe it would answer the purpose. Keeping the Lake full would overflow the most of the sand, and the surplus water would follow its old channel, and consequently would injure no one. But such a harbour gained would be a general benefit to a neighbourhood where there is no harbour from St. Peter's, on the north side, to Souris on the south side. To meet the expense of the canal and lock is the only question. If an open channel is made to admit the tide, it would be likely to carry sand with it to fill up the Lake, and render it useless for a harbour hereafter, when the inhabitants might become more unanimous to assist each other to perform the work; but at any rate, to wait until Government send a competent person to see and report upon the practicability and probable expense of such a work.

As you were Chairman of the Committee who reported on the petition for the improvement of the harbours of St. Peter's, North Lake, and Souris, please to obtain a copy of the Report and Address, and publish them for the information of the petitioners.

The *Islander* will be pleased to copy. SAILOR'S HOPE, Oct. 18, 1859. Wm. COOPER.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The following is the Report of the Special Committee of the House of Assembly, referred to by Mr. Cooper. The Address merely conveyed the request of the House to the Governor, and its insertion here is not necessary. Whether the present Government has ever acted upon the request of the House, is more than we can positively say. We believe, however, they have not done so.—Ed. Ex.

"The Hon. Mr. Whelan on the Committee to whom were referred the petition of inhabitants of St. Peter's Bay and its vicinity, the petition of inhabitants of Souris and adjacent Settlements, and the petition of inhabitants of Township No. 47 and others—severally praying for grants in aid of individual subscriptions to improve the navigation of their respective harbours—to examine the same and report thereon, presented to the House the report of the said Committee; which report being again read at the Clerk's table, was agreed to by the House, and is as follows:—

"Your Committee to whom were referred the following petitions, beg to report as follows, viz:—

"A petition from certain inhabitants of St. Peter's Bay and adjacent settlements in King's County, praying for a grant of money to enable them to improve the navigation of St. Peter's Harbour, in aid of which object the petitioners have subscribed about two hundred pounds.

"A petition from the inhabitants of East Point, praying for a grant of money to aid them in deepening the channel from the North Lake to the sea, so as to admit of the ingress and egress of small craft. And also a petition from the inhabitants of Souris, praying for a grant to aid them in constructing an embankment by which the ebb and flow of the tide in the harbour of Souris could be confined within its proper channel, and the depth of water be thereby considerably increased. The two last named petitions, as well as the first, are accompanied by subscription lists; and your Committee are of opinion that if the objects which they severally recommend to the favourable consideration of the House, could be accomplished by an expenditure of public money commensurate with the means of the Colony, great advantages would be conferred, not only upon the petitioners, but upon all classes of the community generally. Your Committee, however, believing that in the present depressed state of the revenue, a sufficient amount could not be appropriated to commence with any prospect of success the improvements contemplated, they recommend that the further consideration of the prayer of the several petitions be deferred until next Session, and that, in the meantime, an address be presented to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, requesting that some efficient person or persons may be appointed to examine the sites of the proposed improvements—report on their practicability—furnish an estimate of the probable expense that would be incurred on them, and if practicable, accompany said report by such plans as would tend to direct the deliberations of the House on this subject, so that it may be fully and maturely considered in its next Session.—All of which is respectfully submitted."

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., OCTOBER 31, 1859.

POLITICAL CONSISTENCY.

The dearth of materials with which to advocate the position of the present Proprietary Government must be very apparent to any one who has read the last No. of its organ. The Colonial Secretary therein reads the Hon. Col. Swabey's lecture on inconsistency, and draws his inspiration from documents more than half a generation old. It appears that in 1842 or 1843, when the Escheat question had a considerable hold upon the public mind, and just about the time the *Islander* was ushered into existence, Mr. Swabey was one of those who saw that no advantage was likely to result to the tenantry from the continued agitation of that question, so the right to the grants, even should the lands be forfeited, was in the Crown—the local Government having no control over them whatever; and what made agitation still more futile in his estimation, the Government here were apparently in office for life—owed no responsibility to the people, and had a decided hostility to the escheat movement. Acting under the impression that the agitation was at that time impracticable, Mr. Swabey did his best to discourage it by various compositions for the press, amongst which were editorials for the *Islander*, and a begging appeal to the Proprietors to stomp down their money to support that paper.

Now, because Mr. Swabey will not do as he did nearly twenty years ago, he is to be abused. Because he will not support the pretensions of the proprietors, when the circumstances of their position with regard to this Island are entirely changed, he is to be proclaimed as a person guilty of the most flagrant inconsistency. But while we contend that there is nothing criminal in a man changing his political opinions in the course of half a life time—a thing which has occurred in the career of some of the most eminent statesmen of Great Britain, and has distinguished many of our own Island politicians, the present editor of the *Islander*, his father Mr. Joseph Pope, and his predecessor in the editorial chair, Mr. McLean, being included in the list of recreants to their principles—while we admit the right of a public man to change his views, if altered circumstances should require him to do so, we believe that Mr. Swabey's opinions on the Escheat question have undergone no material change. When we had no Responsible Government, and the titles to the lands were in the Crown, he did not consider the condition of the tenantry would be much improved by a change of masters. But now the question