Minister of War in France. One is to the effect that horses should be embarked in the train before feeding, and fed on the journey, which keeps them quieter. But, with regard to the railways, it is found, that when infantry travel by rail, the expense is double that of a march; that of cavalry, six times; and that of artillery, differs time for which reasons, as well as on account of the importance of keeping up the habit of long marches, the railway is resorted to only on particular emergencies.

Skill in measuring distances is an important branch in military education. The use of instruments, and certain mathematical rules, must, of course, be learnt; but without them distances can be accurately reckoned by the eye. If a gun is seen before the report is heard; multiply every second of that interval by three hundred and eighty yards, every beat of the pulse in half, by three hundred and four yards; and you get the exact distance of yourself from the gun. There is "the peak of a cap" method; which is said to be good for distances under a hundred yards, on level ground. Suppose you want to measure the distance of an inaccessible point, say on the opposite side of the river, draw your cap over your eyes, till the peak just meets the point; then turn smoothly on your heels, keep your head stiff, and notice where the peak meets some other point which is accessible. You can then measure the ground between yourself and that accessible point, by pacing. The distance will of course be the same as that to the accessible point. But the best, or rather the most useful of all calculators, is the eye itself; which, after repeated trials, will register distances with great accuracy. The use of measuring and arbitrary distances depends on an officer's judgment in this respect. His sketch of the field for the use of the general is executed with the eye, the pocket-compass, and by pacing. An officer on service had better be without his pocket-book and compass. Yet mother-wit is all in all. When Marlborough was sent on a mission to Charles the Twelfth, he noticed a pair of compasses lying on the map, with the legs pointing toward St. Petersburg. He instantly concluded, that the King's thoughts turned that way, which was the case. Major Gen. Arthur Wellesley, coming to a river which his guides insisted was fordable, was rather puzzled, his rear being exposed to an overwhelming force of the enemy's cavalry; but, seeing a few cottages on its banks, he took what seemed a desperate resolution of making for the river; discovered a ford, and won the battle of Assye; and all from guessing, that men did not build villages on opposite sides of a stream without some means of communication between them.

No soldier could be without some knowledge of the case of wounded or sick men, when the doctor is not at hand. Fever, ague, and dysentery, are the diseases soldiers are most liable to. For ague there are several common vegetable substitutes, in the absence of quinine, the king of all: such as willow-bark, orange-leaf water, the root of the sweet-scented flag, oak-bark, gentian—to which add cascha and quassia bitters in general for dysentery or diarrhœa, and holly-bark for ague. The last remedy on the list is a truly military one—namely, a charge of powder, swallowed in water, is a prompt and safe emetic.

Popularly, a regiment is said to consist of a thousand men; but, at present, the actual strength of an Infantry Regiment is a battalion of thirteen hundred and thirty-seven men of all ranks. One-third of the number, or four hundred men (each company being composed of a captain, two subalterns, five sergeants, five corporals, ninety-five privates), form the depot or reserve at home; while the other eight amounts to eight hundred and ninety-five men, are the service companies on duty abroad. A regiment of cavalry numbers two hundred and seventy-one horses, or three hundred and sixty-one men in the dragoons, and as many as seven hundred and three in the East Indies. What is called a division of an army is a force of from five to ten thousand men, in command of a general, and made up of two or three Brigades of three or four Regiments, each of Infantry, two or three gun-batteries of six pieces each, and a proportion of cavalry. In reckoning their number, it is customary to deduct ten per cent sick or disabled; so that three regiments of, say, eight hundred each, would represent three thousand two hundred fighting men actually in the field. A division in line of battle is posted in two lines, one in rear of the other, with the cavalry behind, and a reserve of guns and one or two regiments of Infantry, to be kept fresh in case of need. Some idea of the extent of a line may be gathered from these numbers—a regiment of eight hundred stretches two hundred and fifty yards; a division of three brigades, seven hundred and thirty-five yards, allowing for spaces between; and a regiment of cavalry, four hundred yards. The guns are posted in front, or on the flanks, at each end of the line; the right flank and wing is commanded by as you *face* the enemy, the left flank at your left hand. Generally, the artillery have the honor to begin the encounter, supported by the fire of the Infantry. When the forces are ready for actual execution, the latter advance with the bayonet to complete the business; and when the enemy is disorganized, or in flight, cavalry follow the blow and dart off in pursuit. Artillery are usually employed opposite artillery, cavalry against cavalry, and so on, according to circumstances. It is only "devils dressed in red and white" who go up—as the gallant Colonel Mitchell of Infantry at the Alma did—and, contrary to all the rules of strategy take a battery of artillery in the face of an astonished foe.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

LETTER FROM THE REV. [illegible]

Aneiteum, New Hebrides,
Aug. 24, 1854.

My Dear Brother:

I send this letter by a sandal-wood ship bound to China. About four weeks ago I sent letters addressed to you by H. M. steamer "Torch" to Sydney. It is quite possible, that these lines may reach you before the communications now on their way.

I have just received the joyful intelligence that two missionaries have arrived in Sydney, from England, on their way to the New Hebrides. We expect them here by the "John Williams," which we have reason to believe is now on her way to the islands. These brethren came as the agents of the New South Wales Auxiliary to the London Missionary Society. During that last year, a Society was formed in that colony, and funds to the amount of more than 1000 pounds sterling raised for missionary purposes, by a few congregations. An application was made to England for two missionaries to represent the Society in these islands, and the gentlemen alluded to, have been sent in answer to this application. The spirit displayed by this infant Colonial Society is creditable, and worthy of imitation. Eromanga is the island on which the New South Wales Society will most likely commence operations. It is the field which the Society has chosen; and at the present time it is more open for missionaries than any other unevangelized island of the group. It is a large island, but the population is thin and scattered; yet there are associations connected with it which will always cause it to be regarded with interest by the island, about 70 miles distant, and in intercourse between the two islands is frequently to see other Christian vessels. It is cheering to the friends of the Society, to know that another Society has become pledged to the evangelization of the New Hebrides group.

In my last communication, I mentioned about our new church at this station. It was commenced in March and finished by the end of June. It is a substantial and beautiful building. It was destined to accommodate 500 persons, but 1000 can crowd into it. The church cost two years and a half, which was found too small, as well as a school house and place of meeting for public purposes.

We met for the first time in our new church on July 7th inst. The occasion was one of no common interest. No less than eleven couples were married in the presence of nine hundred persons. Four of the couples married had been living in a state of polygamy, but in obedience to the doctrine of Christianity, had given up this practice, and made a public declaration, that they renounced all claims on the women with whom they had parted, they were regularly married to those whom they chose to retain as their wives. Three of the persons thus married are the highest chiefs in the district under my charge—their names are Nohoat, Karaheth and Yapen. They have since been admitted as members of the church. Among the other parties married were two of the catechists.

The meeting was attended by the commander and some of the officers of H. M. steamer "Torch," then in the harbor. In honor of the occasion, the commander of the steamer came on shore in the morning, bringing with him a great number of flags, with which the decorated the building inside and out, and also planted flags at short distances along the fence which surrounds the church. The day was fine, and the whole scene had an imposing effect on the natives. The occasion was extraordinary, and not likely again to occur, if did not interfere with Lieut. Chimmo, but left him to suit his own taste in the flag department.

I regard the marriages in question as a great triumph to the cause of God on this island. Fewer marriages have been celebrated than we could have wished or expected. Some have of the natives have not kept pace with their knowledge in other respects. When we landed on the island women were reserved and treated as brutes. Our object all along has been to elevate her in the position to which God has assigned to her, as man's equal and companion. The present example, especially of our chiefs, will have a favorable bearing on the female population of the island at large. And the presence of some of our own countrymen of respectable standing had its own weight with the natives, and I did not fail to tell them, that marriage was regarded by us not only as a divine, but honorable institution; otherwise the gentlemen from H. M. S. would not have shown their respect for it by their presence.

The meeting which had been previously appointed for the opening of the church took place on Sabbath the 9th inst. The Rev. Mr. Inglis and Mrs. Inglis were present on the occasion. We had two services suited to the occasion; one conducted by Brother Inglis and the other by myself:—also in the evening a missionary prayer meeting at which several of the natives took a part. Natives had come from all parts of the island to attend the opening services. There were in the church upwards of 900 persons, and from 200 to 300 outside who could not gain admittance. The whole proceeding was of a deep interest, and will long be remembered by many persons.

I have given full details of the present state of the missionary work on this island, and of what which are now on their way to you. I am sure that you will unite with us in thanking God for the measure of his blessing which he has given to his own cause. Eromanga is the great moral revolution has taken place on the island through the instrumentality of the gospel. Heathenism disappears; while Christianity takes its place. We are now employing native teachers and open schools on every part of the island; and the desire of the people for Christian instruction is very encouraging. We have our hands full, and I may assure you, that we are contented and happy in our work.

The church under my charge now numbers about 40 members, exclusive of the two engaged in missionary work on Portunee, and three who are labouring as teachers in Mr. Inglis's district. The church ever which Mr. Inglis presides is of recent formation, and is still small, but he expects a considerable addition to it in a few weeks.

We are now in perfect health, and all the people of the Island. We find, that the population of the Island is much larger than we had anticipated, and that the heathen are still numerous. We find, however, a great disproportion between the sexes, owing to the horrid practice of strangling; and that infanticide has made sad havoc among the children. But I will communicate all results to you in due time.

You will not leave to me was received about nine months ago, so that I am still ignorant of your arrangements about a missionary or missionaries for these islands; I only wish that he or they may be here at the same time with the John Williams, which will visit the islands probably about October. If not, it is doubtful if any arrangements can be made for their permanent location before her return from Sydney, which may be one or three years hence. But do not delay on this account. If God has work for us here, islands will be open for the reception of missionaries, provided, which we trust, they are sent forward. Send your men forward you, if they are not already on their way, and let us act in the holy enterprise in which we have embarked, with zeal and energy commensurate with its importance. I trust that the example set by a few congregations in New South Wales of recent standing only, may not be lost on us, and that we may in a short time, by our united endeavour to surpass them in their works of faith and labours of love.

I must now repeat my appeal to the friends of the cause for assistance to the mission in the shape of clothing for the natives. I have now a large number of teachers at work who look to me for clothing, and several of them are married men. I expect, and will need a great quantity. They are valuable auxiliaries in the work, and limited as their attainments are, we could not get on well without them. The cause of education also suffers for want of clothing. Send your mites forward in the shape of paper, pens, lead pencils, inkstands, inkpowders, &c., would be invaluable to us at the present time. We have from time to time been supplied with paper by the Sabbath mission, but our wants are now so large, that we must look elsewhere for help. Perhaps the Board would order a few hundred to be sent to us through the Secretary of the London Missionary Society. The states which they send to their own mission for native use are coarse, ruled, and unframed, and could not, I think, cost 20s. per 100.

I have recently had severe attacks of fever and ague, but am well again. My daughter Elizabeth Kier also suffered from intermittent fever. In other respects we are well. The natives commenced a few days ago to erect a house on a small islandlet about a mile distant from the mainland to which we may repair in case of sickness. They have worked at it with great vigor, and it is now nearly finished. It will be pleasant to have such a retreat, to which we can at times repair and breathe the uncontaminated sea-breeze. My last attack of fever and ague was brought on by exposure to the sun, while superintending the erection of a printing office. My excellent assistant, Mr. Inglis, who is something of a medical man, gives me some information on the score of health. While writing this, a letter has just come in from him, in which he says, "Perhaps you think I hardly always on one string, that it is a kind of hobby of mine, but I cannot help again repeating, that I look upon it as one of your first duties upon this island to attend with something like a religious care to the laws of health. I do not mean that we should be all in idleness, or even work little, but we should beware of overtaxing our strength at any one time, or exposing ourselves too much to damp or sun. I am afraid that you have allowed the perspiration to be suddenly checked, or exposed yourself to some malign influence. There can be no doubt at your station especially, there is a good amount of malaria continually afloat, and if the system is not in a fit condition to resist it, we are liable to uncertainty fevers and ague will ensue. But I have no wish to censure. Where so much is to be done, the temptation is often strong to stretch the cords of this frail tenement, and some of them gives way." These are common-sense observations, but the messenger who brought the letter that contains them, carries another from Mrs. Inglis, who writes, "Mr. Inglis is well, but exposing himself to the sun, and barely escaped a severe fit of illness. It is easier to theorize on health here than to attend to its laws. Nevertheless, some degree of caution must be exercised by those who expect to do anything for the cause of Christ here, for without health we are useless.

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I must now conclude, asking for the mission and ourselves an interest in your prayers.

I remain, my dear brother,
Very sincerely yours, &c.,
JOHN GEDDIE.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

SALE OF SHIPS AT LIVERPOOL.

We beg to hand you, as customary at this time, our annual statement of the past year's business in the sale of ships at this port, and though we may consider it as almost tiresome, ting with September, there being but few transactions in the last quarter to report, we are enabled to offer before you just such a result as we predicted—the returns for the year just ended, showing an increase of 21,570 tons in excess of the previous year. In last January's annual report we stated, nothing was likely to interfere with this result but the unsettled state of our national peace, and which is here clearly proved. When in the month of May, war was proclaimed, though producing effect upon most other trades, it was hailed by the shipping interest large requirements of Government for the transport service, rather to give an increased stimulus to shipping property than otherwise, which continued unabated throughout the year, when the unfortunate stoppage of Mr. Oliver, with a fleet of 98 ships on hand, and which it was obvious must be thrown upon the market, brought about a reaction, and consequently paralysis that has seriously affected us to the present hour. The difficulty of speedily arranging for the liquidation of an estate of such magnitude has proved a most satisfactory to all the parties interested, has hitherto retarded the payment of a dividend, but it is understood that all difficulties have at length been removed. The sale of the fleet of Mr. Oliver's ships, amounting to 15,706 tons and realizing £96,185, being an average of £6 2s 6d per ton has been already effected, while many others are likely to be speedily sold, so that there is every prospect of an early dividend.

From January to October our high quotations of last year were fully maintained and in some instances exceeded, and for all that period, we may quote the sale of colonial ships by class seven years at £10 to £12, those classing six years at £9 to £11, and spruce ships £8 to £10, small vessels suitable for the coasting trade at £7 to £8. From October to the present, there has been a fall in prices equal to 30s per ton on large ships, and from 20s to 30s per ton upon the smaller craft. We have noticed with regret the decidedly unfavorable feeling among ship-buyers within the last fortnight, when more sales have been made than for the previous two months. A considerable number of Russian prizes have lately come upon the market, and been sold in some instances at very low prices.

As regards our prospects for the year before us, we may state that we are very few ships to come forward from the Colonies. The restriction that has taken place in our market, and the high rate of wages now paid to shipwrights, together with the considerable monetary depression experienced in Canada, Australia, and N.S.W., will prevent much building, and as our stocks are not excessive, and the losses of the past year greatly above average, we have reason to think the supply will come short of the usual demand and prices must considerably improve before spring. In confirmation of this opinion we request your attention to the following fact. In the December of 1853, there were on the stocks at Quebec 29 ships, equal to 35,000 tons—in the December of 1854 there were but 4, from 5000 to 6000 tons collectively, in any state of forwardness or likely to be ready for launching during the spring, and building is comparatively nothing is doing, and the same may be stated of most of the other Colonial building stations.

Notwithstanding the very decided assurance given by the Government, that a strict blockade of the ports of the Sea of Azof, and the Sea of Azof was to be enforced, we may name, that we have lately sold several vessels for this trade, and as cargoes continue to arrive freely from these waters, we are led to fear, that, however unjust it may be to the merchant and improper this outlet for small vessels is not likely to be closed.

The number of new colonial vessels that have come into Liverpool and been registered is 125, equal to 128,994 tons, against 112,83,376 tons, in 1853; showing an increase in tonnage of 45,618 tons over the previous year, and making the average measurement of each vessel 1048 tons.

Iron ships are somewhat less in favour owing to the present difficulty of adjusting the compasses, and the recent severe disasters arising therefrom.

Mr. Ezra Miles, of Stoke Hammond, has invented a mode of extracting bullets, by the use of an air-pump and a flexible tube. By this means, one surgeon and assistant can accomplish the work which formerly used to require several.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A new feature has been added to the Crystal Palace in the shape of a news-room, the price of admission to which is a penney each visit, or 10s. a year. The papers and reviews are filed,—writing materials are at hand,—a post-box is provided,—and the telegraphic despatches are exhibited on the boards. It is a good local feature,—and adds one more to the many attractions to the place.

UNITED STATES.

Professor De Bow, who has recently published an Appendix to the "Census Report" of the United States, furnishes some curious, if not valuable, statistics.

And first, as regards the "nativity" of the population of the Union, it is stated that the foreign-born are to those born in the United States as *one to eight*.

The greatest number of immigrants to the United States in any one year, was 439,437 (i. e.) in 1853

The most valuable crop in the United States is that of *Indian Corn*, which, in 1850, was estimated at 826,000,000! being nearly three times as valuable as the Wheat crop, and more than three times the value of the *Cotton* crop. Six times the area is devoted to Indian Corn as is given to Cotton, and four times as much as to Wheat.

The value of Butter made annually within the bounds of the Union exceeds $50,000,000.

There are only 347,525 Slave-holders, of whom only two own one thousand Negroes; nine own over five hundred; and seventy-nine over one hundred.

The statement of the occupation of the people shows that the Farmers out-number, by "a long chalk," any other profession. Their number is 2,369,950. Next to them in the list of occupations, we number 909,786. Next the Carpenters, counting 164,671.—Then come the Cord wainers 130,473

REPARATION FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF GREYTOWN.—It is reported, says the Jamaica correspondent of the Boston Traveller, that while H. M. S. *Espiegle* was at Havana, the U. S. steamer of war *Princeton* arrived there on her way to Greytown, her commander having instructions from his Government to salute the Mosquitian flag, make an ample apology to the king of Mosquitia, and offer to His Majesty full compensation in hard dollars for the destruction of Greytown by Commander Hollins, of the U. S. corvette Cyane.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, February 3, 1855.

THE WINTER MAILS.—In the *Islander* of January 19th there appeared a letter dated "Cape Traverse, 11th Jan., 1852," and signed "James Irving, jun." In it Mr. Irving proposed to take notice when it first met our eye, and had written a short article, calling upon Mr. Lord and the Colonial Secretary to come forward and explain the matter, and to discharge the office of the honour and credit of both,—the former in his individual, and the latter in his official, but in the anticipation that a full answer to the charge would appear in one or other of the administration papers, we laid it aside. No such answer has appeared, and we now, for the information of such of our readers as may not have seen Mr. Irving's letter, give a short history of the transaction, from the data on basis of the charge. According to Mr. Irving, John Bell, jr., of Cape Traverse, and he, after some consideration, agreed to tender for the transport of the Winter Mails, Mr. Irving undertaking to convey the Mails across the Strait, and Mr. Bell to carry them to town. Mr. Bell was authorized to use Mr. Irving's name in making the tender, which was for the sum of £5 12s the trip. Mr. Bell informed Mr. Irving of what he had done, and that he had paid 6s 3d for getting the Tender drawn out, half of which sum Mr. Irving paid Mr. Bell. We will continue the history of the transaction in Mr. Irving's own words.

"On Saturday, the 11th November, I met the Hon. Mr. Lord on the road from Cape Traverse to Charlottetown, and concluding, without doubt, that Mr. Lord had seen at Bell's, I immediately called on Mr. Bell to know whether he had heard any thing respecting our Tender. He informed me that he had understood from Mr. Lord, that it was not then decided, and would not be until the following week. On Monday evening, the 13th November, I received the following letter at the Post Office here:

"General Post Office,
"Charlottetown, Nov. 11, 1854.

"SIRS—I am instructed to inform you that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to accept your Tender for the conveyance of the Mails between this Office and Cape Traverse, and an agreement and bond will immediately be prepared, and notice given you that it may be executed.

"I am, Sirs, your obedt. servt.
THOMAS OWEN.

"Mr. John Bell, jun. and
"Mr. James Irving, jun., Cape Traverse.'

On receipt of this letter, I immediately commenced making preparations—purchased some lumber for building a Boat—spoke to several persons that I intended taking as hands, and in consequence, neglected my ploughing that I otherwise would have done. On the following Saturday, I was in town, and seeing a letter addressed to my name, I opened it, and found it was from Mr. Bell, and that the Tender was withdrawn, for some days in expectation of receiving notice that the agreement and bond were ready for execution, and hearing none after that other parties were preparing Boats, &c., for carrying the Mails, I wrote to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor complaining of the course adopted, and denying most positively that I had authorized the withdrawal, to my knowledge, and some days after I received the following reply.

"Colonial Secretary's office,
"Charlottetown, 7th December, 1854.

"SIR—I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter (without date) regarding the Tender of Mr. John Bell and yourself, and stating your objection to the course that has been pursued by the Government in reference thereto.

"In reply His Excellency directs me to inform you that the Tender in question was withdrawn at the request of Mr. Bell, who as the leading party signed it, was considered competent.

"I am your obedt. servt.,
"ANDREW MITCHELL,
Deputy Col. Sec.'

"That some few days after I received the above reply, I saw Mr. Bell, and asked him whether he had withdrawn the Tender, or if he had authorized any other person to do so. He most positively denied having either done so himself, or authorized any other person to do so; and stated he was willing to swear he had not done so. That since then he offered to sign a document denying that he had done any thing of the kind, and on my asking him to do so, his only excuse was, that he had understood Mr. Lord intended publishing a statement to the effect of the document, and wished to know if other parties concerned; and he wou'd like to see that before he done so. Since then I went to Charlottetown and called at the Colonial Secretary's Office for information, and more particularly to see the letter that had been written by Mr. Bell, or any other person, withdrawing our Tender, and ascertained there was no such letter; but I understood from the Colonial Secretary that Lord had stated, that he had been up at Cape Traverse, and that Mr. Bell had told him to withdraw the Tender!!!"

Now, with respect to the above, we have to remark that, in the first place, there can be no reason of doubt that a tender for carrying the Winter Mails for the next three years, was put in by Messrs. John Bell and James Irving, and that this tender was accepted. The official letter of the Postmaster General and the Deputy Colonial Secretary both testify as to this fact. Nor, is there in the second place, any less doubt that this tender was withdrawn, after it had been accepted, without the concurrence of Mr. James Irving, one of the parties tendering. Mr. Lord is not officially known in the transaction, so we will not attribute to him any intentional violation of the Government in the matter, irrespective of him or his doings. In all public or private transactions, when tenders are advertised for, there can be no doubt that, while the successful tendering party has a right to withdraw; as soon, however, as the tender is accepted, and its acceptance ratified, they both—the tender and its acceptance—become a contract, from which neither party can at liberty to withdraw without the consent of the other, and this consent ought—in Government contracts particularly—to be explicit, and, for that purpose, in writing. As to the tender being signed in the language of the Deputy Colonial Secretary is, to say the least of it, inofficial; the power to withdraw it, after acception had ceased; it might have been *conceded*. But, in order to effect this, two things are requisite; first, that there should have been a request to that effect, in writing, signed by *both* parties, and that this request should have been submitted to the Executive Council, either with their acquiescence testified, by an entry to that effect on their minutes: and the only answer of the Colonial Secretary, or his Deputy, given to Mr. Irving's letter by the Lieut. Governor, should have been the verbatim copy of the Order in Council, taken from the Minute Book. Let us look, however, to the answer actually given by Mr. Mitchel.

"The Tender in question was withdrawn at the request of Mr. Bell, who, *as the leading party signing it*, was considered competent." Now, Mr. Mitchel, in this answer discloses the fact that the Government, or what perhaps is the same thing, the Colonial Secretary,

"Mr. Coles, was aware that Mr. Irving was no party to the withdrawal—as he chooses to term it—of the tender; and that, if withdrawn at all, it was at the request of Mr. Bell. And now for the reason who "as the leading party signing it was considered competent." What in the name of common sense, we would ask, is the meaning of the phrase "leading party?" It is strong a statement that the leading party is the forlorn hope, and of the greatest share of the danger, risk and responsibility entitles one party more than another to be considered competent? The party, Mr. Irving was, most unquestionably so, for it is a matter of notoriety that the Irvings have, for several years, taken upon themselves the dangerous and difficult post of conveying the mails across the strait. Mr. Bell was willing to go for £5 12s. Bell to do was to see to their being safely carried to town. Mr. Bell "was considered competent," to do what? to annul a contract entered into jointly, and with another party, without the consent of that other? And now, by whom was he considered competent? By the Lieut. Governor in Council? By the Colonial Secretary or the Deputy Colonial Secretary? These are questions to which the public are entitled to an answer, for there is no one point of the administration of the Government which ought to be more open to inspection than its conduct with respect to the manner in which the public money is expended. In every thing dealing shares to contracts for public works or public services there ought not to be the shadow of a suspicion of favoritism, partiality, or scheming, of any kind; and whenever a charge for paying anything of the kind is made, it should be promptly met, and the public mind satisfied. If this course is not pursued, what will the result? The result will be, sooner or later, that the tizing for tenders will be laughed at, and its force, and parties will betake themselves to the different members of the Government and consult with them as to what shall be the terms, and if, unfortunately, however, tenders shall have crept in, as to how they are to be got rid of, and the favorites of Government enabled to deliver the contract with impunity. We shall consider the case in connection with Mr. Lord in our next. In the mean time we trust that some answer will be vouchsafed by the Colonial Secretary to the questions above proposed, with the addition of the following: Was the advice of the Attorney General was asked before the *ex parte* cancellation by the Government of the contract made before Messrs. Bell and Irving, and if it was made, or attempted to be made?

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Lot [illegible] 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, in King's County, holden at the house of Mr. John Sutherland, at the [illegible] Bay, on Wednesday the 17th day of January 1855, called by the undersigned, in pursuance of a requisition addressed to the High Sheriff or his Deputy.

The under Sheriff called the meeting to order, and stated the object for which the meeting had been called.

The under sheriff was unanimously requested to act as Chairman, and the Rev. Henry Crawford to act as Secretary.

The Chairman then read the Royal Commission, affording the loving subjects of Queen Victoria an opportunity to testify their loyal and love to her and to her Consort, to succour the numerous benevolence towards the widows and orphans of the soldiers, sailors and marines, who have fallen, or who may hereafter, amid the ravages and sufferings of war.

Mr. John Sutherland moved and Mr. William Sterns seconded the following resolution:

1 Resolved, That this meeting entertaining sincere sympathy for the widows and orphans of the valiant soldiers who fall in the war with Russia, expresses its willingness to contribute to the patriotic Fund intended for their assistance.

Passed unanimously.

Moved by Rev. Henry Crawford, and seconded by Mr. Edward Needam,