INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

THE STATE OF BALAKLAVA.—As to the town itself (says the correspondent of the *Times*), words cannot describe its filth, its horrors, its hospitals, its burials, its dead and dying Turks, its crowded lanes, its noisome sheds, its beastly purlieus, or its decay. All the pictures ever drawn of plague and pestilence, from the work of the inspired writer who chronicled the woes of infidel Egypt, down to the narratives of Boccaccio, De Foe, or Moltke, fall short of individual "bits" of disease and death which any one may see in half-a-dozen places during half-an-hour's walk in Balaklava. In spite of all our efforts, the dying Turks have made of every lane and street a *cloaca* and the forms of human suffering which meet the eye at every turn, and once were wont to shock us have now made us callous and have ceased even to attract passing attention. Raise up the piece of matting or coarse rug which hangs across the door-way of some miserable house, from within which you hear wailings and cries of pain and prayers to the Prophet, and you will see in one spot and in one instant a mass of accumulated woes that will serve you with nightmares for a lifetime. The dead, laid out as they died, are lying side by side with the living, and the latter present a spectacle beyond all imagination. The commonest necessaries of a hospital are wanting; there is not the least attention paid to decency or cleanliness—the stench is appalling—the fœtid air can barely struggle out to taint the atmosphere, save through the chinks in the walls and roofs, and, for all I can observe, these men die without the least effort being made to save them. There they lie just as they were let gently down on the ground by the poor fellows, their comrades, who brought them on their backs from the camp with the greatest tenderness, but who are not allowed to remain with them. The sick appear to be tended by the sick, and the dyiug by the dying.

HOW THE SIEGE IS CONDUCTED.—The siege' says a letter of the 28th ult., is practically suspended, and the utmost we do is to defend the trenches at night and return shot for shot whenever the enemy fire. We have plenty of ammunition, but our guns are shaken by the continual firing, and the vents are blown to such a size that a man could put his thumb into them, the aperture being at the same time irregular and jagged. The Russians during the day do not fire more than a gun every five minutes. Sometimes their fire is quicker. Sometimes they do not send a shot oftener than once in a quarter of an hour. As the puff of smoke curls out of the embrasure, the look-out man in the battery cries, "Tower," or "Redan," "or Garden Battery;" and when the iron messenger, whistling and roaring through the air, has thrown up a cloud of earth and bounded away up the hill side, bang goes an answering gun from one of the batteries opposite the work which has roused up our artillerymen. The fire on the French is, however, much more lively, and is kept up with some effect on their earthworks and parallels. Every night (generally about 9 o'clock) the Flag-staff batteries, Quarantine batteries, and Wall batteries, open a furious cannonade, which last for from 20 minutes to 45 minutes, as hard as the men can load the guns, right into the French line, and then follows instantly, as a matter of course, a sally, the result of which is invariable. The Russians push a strong column out of the place, rush towards the first line, drive in the pickets and riflemen, get up to the first parallel—sometimes into it—occasionally beyond it, and close to the second parallel are received as they advance by the French covering parties with a deadly fire, halt and fire in return, are charged by the French, who rout and pursue them into the town, but who are obliged to retire by the flank fire of the batteries and by the mitraille of the street guns. In this way, the French lose 40 or 50 men now and then, but the loss of the Russians in these *alertes* must be very considerable. Frequently, about daybreak in the morning, the Russians repeat the performances of the previous evening, but are not permitted to come so close.

Meanwhile Prince Gortschakoff is reported to talk most peaceably in Viennese diplomatic circles. He says, that the demolition of Sebastopol or the reduction of the Russian fleet in the Euxine are insulting demands, entirely out of the question; but that "Turkey may build a port in the Black Sea as strong as Sebastopol, and that the allies may keep any fleet they may consider necessary as a counterpoise to the Russian power in that sea." He is also reported to have said, with reference to the "overtures," now being made: "Within three weeks we shall have peace, or I shall have quitted Vienna."

A DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT.—A letter from the French camp before Sebastopol says:—"Recently in a house to which some Cossacks had set fire, we found in a room, and on the point of being suffocated with the smoke, a child about 18 months old, elegantly dressed, and having a gold cross suspended from its neck. The poor infant smiled upon our Grenadiers, who removed it, and have adopted it, until the family to whom it belongs shall be discovered. It is curious to see the Grenadiers fondling the baby, and treating it with as much tenderness as it could receive from its mother."

NEGLECT OF THE TURKISH ARMY.

A letter has been addressed to the Ministers of the Porte by Omer Pacha, complaining of the manner in which his troops are neglected. It appears that the army in the provinces, which has done so much for Turkey, which defended the line of the Danube for half a year against the whole power of Russia, and which has been brought to a great state of efficiency by the genius of its commander, is now destitute of the commonest necessaries. That the soldiers have not received their pay is comparatively a small matter, for to that they are accustomed, and no soldiers will more easily forego the little luxuries which are requisite to keep soldiers in good humour. The Turkish force in Thessaly, during the past spring, was for weeks fed on biscuit alone. Water was their only drink: coffee and tobacco they never saw, and yet they did well, and went through the campaign without complaint. But the army in the provinces is not only deprived of the comforts which ought to be provided for troops which have borne such hardships, or for the purchase of which their pay should be regularly given, but they are destitute of necessaries which are required to support existence during the present winter. Their clothes and shoes are worn out, and no pains have been taken to supply them with others. The provisions are bad in quality and the supply is small. No small mortality appears to be taking place. The letter of Omer Pacha is said to be a circular addressed to all the Ministers, and it is to be hoped, that immediate attention will be paid to it.

WINTER CLOTHING FOR THE TROOPS.

It has been already stated, that the Government had entered into a contract for the supply of 44,000 suits of warm winter clothing for the army in the East. The head dress or cap is of a shape similar to that worn by the Arctic region adventurers, and is composed of seal skin lined with silk. The officers are to wear a dark military cloak, lined with fur. The ordinary trousers will be used, to be covered, however, as far as the knee by thick leather overalls. The hands will be covered by gloves, gauntlet shape. The non-commissioned officers and privates will be similarly attired, save as regards the cloak, which will be lined with rabbit skin, and covered with a waterproof cape.

The troops embarking for the Crimea are provided, by the order of the Secretary-at-War, with the following articles of warm clothing:—One fur helmet, one pair Napoleon boots, one pair leather mits, lined with fur, two pair of lamb's wool drawers, two woollen Guernsey frocks, two pair worsted socks, two pair warm gloves, two flannel shirts, and with warm lining for the greatcoat.

RIGA: ANOTHER RUSSIAN HARBOUR SPOILED BY RUSSIANS.

RIGA, Dec. 1.—The fears of a hostile visit from the ships of England and France, entertained by our governor, were so great, as to induce him this summer to have large quantities of stones sunk in the channel to our harbour, so as to prevent the entrance of at least the ships of the line. And, indeed, this measure of precaution has been executed with such success, as entirely to impede the navigation. Now that the British ships are withdrawn, several loaded merchant vessels endeavoured to leave the port, but the obstructions were found to be insurmountable, and after several attempts to get out, the ships were obliged to return to the port and discharge their cargoes, some of them having suffered considerable damage from bumping on these artificial rocks, though the captains knew exactly where they were situated. The entrance to our port may therefore be considered as totally impervious to hostile ships of war, and, in the event of a peace, will require a vast amount of labour combined with great expense to clear away the obstructions, and restore our harbour to the *status quo ante bellum*.

FLOATING BATTERIES FOR THE WAR.—The floating batteries in course of construction in England, will be the most formidable ever projected. They are of forged or hammered iron plates, four and a half inches thick, lined inside with wood, and will measure 1500 tons. From actual experiment, it has been proved that they will be impervious to any shot or shell. The construction of these engines of war is a very dlfficult and expensive task.

FIGHTING FOR LIFE.—Major Goodwyn, 41st Regiment, was surrounded by the enemy, and two of them dashed up to his horse; he deliberately shot them, and, spurring his charger, broke through the thick crowd, but just as he deemed himself secure, a Russian came at him with his bayonet. The Englishman waited until he was almost up, and shot him dead.

FRENCH AMBULANCES.—Whether it arises from the natural disposition of John Bull to grumble at everything, or from whatever cause, nearly all English accounts from the Crimea represent the French medical arrangements as much superior to those of our army. In the *Service des Ambulances Françaises*, for example, we are told that the plan adopted by the French is mnch simpler and more commodious than that of the English army; and certainly, as regards simplicity, the French Ambulances could not easily be surpassed. They are of two sorts. Those for invalids who are seriously ill, or severely wounded, are in the form of a cradle, covered with a white canopy. Two of these are slung across the mule's back, one on each side, with patients stretched at full length in them. The other sort have two chairs placed so that two invalids can sit comfortably in them. The soldiers who accompany the mules belong to a particular corps called the *Service des Ambulances Françaises*. They are dressed and armed the same as the infantry.

The officers of the Commissariat Department are enlisting in Ireland, through the agency of the constabulary, a corps of drivers to be employed with the army under Lord Raglan,—to consist of 350 men, who are to receive a daily pay of 2s. 6d, free rations, and clothing. The candidates must not be under 18, nor over 30 years of age. Upwards of 80 eligible men have already offered their services. Commissary General Hewetson is specially employed on this service.

STEAM VS. GUNPOWDER—Mr. Perkins, the son of a gentleman who some years ago invented and exhibited in the metropolis a steam-gun, has, through a contemporary, made the following offer: He says, "I am prepared to undertake to supply the goverment with a steam-gun, capable of throwing a ball of a ton weight a distance of five miles. If such a gun were fixed in Brunel's large ship of 10,000 tons, I venture to say, that Sebastopol would be destroyed, without losing a man."

MEDIATION BETWEEN THE ALLIES AND RUSSIA.—The following Memorial has received the signatures of a large number of most respectable citizens of New York.

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled.

The undersigned citizens of New York respectfully represent to your Honourable bodies: That they view with deep concern the bloody war now raging in the Crimea, between Russia on the one hand, and Turkey, France and England on the other:—a war that has already been attended with a fearful waste of life and treasure, and which, unless speedily ended, threatens to involve the whole of Europe and to retard the civilization and commerce of the world.

It has occurred to your memorialists, in view of the friendly relations existing between the United States and each of the contending Powers: of the mutual interest of all parts of Christendom in the common welfare: and of the high position of this country among the Nations of the Earth,—that while adhering to our established policy of avoiding all impertinent intervention in foreign affairs, and all entangling alliances,—this Country might, with great propriety, impartially tender its friendly mediation to the four belligerents, in the hope of staying the slaughter of their gallant armies, and restoring, if possible, the blessings of peace.

Your memorialists do therefore respectfully and earnestly entreat your Honourable Bodies, to take the subject into your instant and serious consideration; and if no constitutional or other sufficient objection shall appear thereto, to express in such terms as to your wisdom shall seem meet, the desire of this nation for the reinstatement of the peace of Europe: and to proffer, in such manner and to such extent as shall be found convenient, our friendly mediation to that end.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

The veil which covers the face of futurity is woven by the hand of mercy.

GLEANINGS FROM LATE PAPERS.

THE CHESHIRE PROPHET'S DOOM OF RUSSIA.—Most of your readers (says a correspondent of the *Cheshire Courant*) have doubtless heard of Nixon, the Cheshire prophet. In looking over the prophecies attributed to him the other day, I find the following, which is to say the least, curious at the present moment:—"The cock of the north shall be made to flee, and his feather shall be so plucked for his pride, that he shall almost curse the day he was born."—*Cheshire Courant*.

SEBASTOPOL, *alias* SEVASTOPOL, *alias* SEWASTOPOL, (or by what ever name the place is to be spoken of.) In "A Woman's Journey round the World," written by Ida Pfeifler, there appears the following allusion to this stronghold of the Russians. "29th Sept.—To-day we stopped at the strong and beautiful fortress, Sewastopol. The works are partly situated at the entrance of the harbour, and partly in the harbour itself; they are executed in massive stone, and possess a number of towers and outworks which defend the entrance to the harbour. The harbour itself is almost entirely surrounded by hills, and is one of the safest and most excellent in the world. It can hold the largest fleets, and is so deep, that the most gigantic man-of-war can lie at anchor close to the quays. Sluices, docks, and quays have been constructed in unlimited splendour and magnificence. The whole of the works were not quite finished, and there was an unparalleled activity apparent. Thousands of men were busy on all sides. Among the workmen I was shown many of the captured Polish nobles who had been sent here as a punishment for their attempt in 1831, to shake off the Russian yoke. The works of the fortress and the barracks are so large that they will hold about 30,000 men."

WILLIAM THE FOURTH.—His Majesty, when a midshipman, was present at a ball at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and being struck with the charms of a young lady present, selected her for his partner in a contra dance, at the conclusion of which he laughingly told her, that if he should ever attain power, she need only send him a copy of the music of that dance accompanied by a request, and that he would, if possible, attend to any demand so authenticated. Years rolled on; the lady married, became a widow, and a grandmother. Prince William Henry became King William IV., and on the return of Mr. Stanley from Spain in 1835, he expressed a wish to enter the British Army, on which his grand mother forwarded a copy of the music to his Majesty, accompanied by a letter reminding him of his promise, and concluding by asking for an ensigncy without purchase for her grandson. In a few days she was honoured with an autograph letter from the King, stating his perfect remembrance of the dance, and the promise referred to, and his intention to accede to her request with respect to the nomination of her grandson to an ensigncy, which accordingly took place in May 1835. Captain Stanley joined the 57th Regiment at Madras the same year, and has served with it ever since.

It is stated, that Lady Franklin has resolved to expend the last remnant of the fortune coming to her by her husband's will in fitting out another expedition for the quarter mentioned by Dr. Rae.

There is at present sojourning at Mallow, Co. Cork, a returned emigrant from Australia, who is said to be possessed of property in Melbourne valued at £20,000, and in cash about £15,000. He left Ireland about 10 years since, and was at that time a barefooted errand boy.

The *Novedades* says, that Lord Palmerston is expected in Madrid, with the object of obtaining the consent of the Spanish government to raise a legion of 20,000 men at English expense, to proceed to the theatre of war in the East.

SINGULAR CAUSE OF A WRECK.—The propeller Cincinnati, while on her trip from Chicago to Oswego, was caught in the gale of week before last, on Lake Huron. During the storm a heavy hawser, with a light line attached, which was coiled ready for use on the forecastle deck, was washed overboard by the sea. Soon after this, the engine of the propeller stopped on its centre, and all the efforts of the engineer and his men were insufficient to move it either way. On examination, it was found that the hawser had been caught by the screw, and wound completely about it, in numerous complicated coils. Axes and chisels were procured, and the attempt was made to relieve the screw of its burden, but before this could be done, the unmanageable craft went ashore on the Canada side, where she now lies. Probably no wreck was ever attributable to such a cause before.—*Chicago Times*.

THE APPLETON DONATION.—The splendid legacies of the late Samuel Appleton of Boston, have recently been distributed by his executors, so that the amount and the direction of the bequests are now known. The aggregate sum distributed is two hundred and ten thousand dollars. The largest bequest was $50,000 to Harvard Univesity for the erection of a chapel; $10,000 goes to Amherst College for a Zoological Cabinet; $10,000 for a University in Wisconsin; $15,000 to Dartmouth College, to complete the Appleton Professorship; $10,000 to a School of Design for Females, and $10,000 for Education in Liberia.

CALIFORNIA ICE MARKET.—Ice sells at three cents per pound in San Francisco, and three companies have been competing for supplying the city. The first was the Boston company, which brings its ice from Boston by way of Cape Horn; but this long voyage renders it difficult for the company to sell ice cheap, and consequently its depot at Sacramento has been converted into a grist mill, and the company itself is said to be about used up. The second is the Sitka Ice Company, which obtains its supplies from the Russian possessions. The third is the North-west Company, which also gets its ice somewhere up the northern coast. These two sell much cheaper than the Bostonians, and are gradually getting possession of the market.

A HARD CASE.—It may not be generally known, that immediately a Russian officer is taken prisoner, his pay ceases, upon the principle that a man who could not die for his country rather than be taken, must be utterly unworthy of support from the public purse. A poor officer on board one of our men-of-war was deeply lamenting this cruel regulation. "My wife," he observed, "who was lately so comfortable, and daily expecting my return after the completion of my military period, is now compelled to live penniless until this war shall end, and even then, I may be deprived of my commission by the emperor."

COALS.—The coal trade of Newcastle-on-Tyne, which is the most important coal field in England, gives employment to 26,000 workmen, and annually supplies about eight million tons of coal.

According to the St. John, N. F. *Ledger* "the Carbonear Electric Telegraph Company have secured the services of Hartly J. Gisborne, Esq., as their Superintendent, from whose energy and long practical acquaintance with the proper management of the Telegraph, the Company may reasonably expect to derive much advantage. Mr. Gisborne a short time since inspected the line, and reported it in very bad condition, and it was clear in some places that the wire had been mischievously cut."

The Gas Company of St. John have demanded from the city increased rates for gas, and not receiving it have cut off the supply from 129 out of 189 lamps.

SERMONS LAST SUNDAY.—We had the pleasure, last Lord's day, of hearing two able, faithful and practical discourses delivered in St. Matthew's and St. Andrew's Churches in this City, by the Rev. George Harper, of Aberdeen, who has been lately sent out by the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland as a Missionary to Prince Edward Island. Mr. Harper seems to be well qualified for the situation he has been appointed to, being possessed of a healthy and robust constitution, winning manners, and a large share of good common sense, in addition to his excellent theological attainments. He has before him a most extensive and promising field of labor and usefulness, in which we wish him success; and we understand that additional missionaries will soon make their appearance to supply the other vacancies in our colonial vineyard, and by their arrival among us from time to time, is afforded undoubted testimony that

"The guid auld Kirk o' Scotland
She's no in ruins yet."

Hx. Colonist.

LATEST EUROPEAN NEWS.

Arrival of the Baltic at New York.

The Africa arrived out on the 24th. The Arabia sailed from Marseilles on the 21st Dec., with 1,640 French troops for the Crimea.

There is no news of importance from the Crimea.

A high diplomatic conference was to be held at the residence of the British Minister in Vienna on the 28th December, between the ambassadors of England, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia. Prince Gortschakoff was to take part in the discussion. The conference was to be of a private character.

A Vienna despatch of the 26th says, that Gortschakoff presented a note which he has received from St. Petersburgh for Count Boul. It is believed to be unsatisfactory, but it is not the final reply of Russia.

In regard to the Russian mission to London, of which high expectation had been formed, it was surmised that M. Usedatt was merely the bearer of an autograph letter to the Queen, and that his instructions are merely to watch on the spot the course of events. Nothing certain, however, was known.

The affairs before Sebastopol were unchanged up to the 20th December. The Russians claim to be doing considerable damage to the approaches of the Allies; nevertheless the French third parallel was mounted with cannon. The reinforcements of the Allies due to the 18th December reached 18,000.

An official despatch in the Paris Moniteur from Balaklava, says that the situation of the Allies is excellent. Gen. Liprandi with 40,000 men, was manœuvring in the vicinity of Balaklava.

Menschikoff was sick, and Gen. Ostensacken was in command.

In the meantime, 5000 Turks had landed at Eupatoria.

The destination of Omer Pasha's army was kept a profound secret. It was thought they would invest the North side of Sebastopol.

The Railway expedition from England was already on the way in seven steamers and two sailing ships, with all the materials for constructing a Railway from Balaklava to Sebastopol. The wretched state of the country had put almost a stop to all operations.

The communication between Perekop and Simpheropol was completely interrupted, and a week had transpired, since a courier had arrived at Odessa from Sebastopol.

At the last accounts, the weather had improved, with heavy frost, and both armies were renewing their activity.

Admiral Hamelin, writing on the 12th, says that for the last four days, the place has kept up a tolerably brisk fire. The enemy have made vigorous sorties against our lines, and those of the English. As soon as they reached the parapet, they were received by a well-directed volley of musketry, and repulsed.

An obstinate struggle at the point of the bayonet, a skirmish, occurred near Inkerman, on the 15th.

On the 17th, Omer Pasha left Schumla for Constantinople. His proposed future movement was not known.

The Turkish troops began to arrive from Varna on the 18th.

Twenty-two ships have been equipped and are now ready for sea.

It is probable the Russian garrison have mined the places in Sebastobol which they pretend to have left.

We have further particulars as to the naval sortie at Sebastopol. Two Russian steamers, towing six gun-boats, went out of the harbour on the 6th Dec. After firing at the French, they were compelled to retire.

The passage left between the sunken ships is only wide enough for one vessel to pass at a time. The Allied fleet has moved outside the double bay Chersonesus.

POLAND.—Orders had been received at Warsaw to complete the additional works of the citadel within the two first weeks of January.

THE BALTIC.—France and England have notified the Swedish Government, that all intercourse between Finland and the Russian harbors in the White Sea is to be stopped.

Osten Sacken is removed from the 3d to the 4th corps, vice Dannenberg, who is disgraced. The chief engineer officer who conducts the defence of Sebastopol is Gen. Destrim, a Frenchman.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 20th.—It is confidently asserted that a resolution has been adopted to storm Sebastopol, as soon as the Turkish reinforcements come up. The French, it is said, are to storm, while the British and Turks attack Menschikoff.

There is a report that Omar Pacha has written to the Sultan, making it a condition of his accepting the command that he shall have two votes in the council of war, in order to prevent his being out-voted by Lord Raglan and General Canrobert.

VIENNA, Dec. 28th.—A despatch from Warsaw states, that the Russian naval artillerymen were taken out of the Baltic fleet, and had arrived at Sebastopol, and that to their presence is due the precision of the fire from Sebastopol, as well as the sound boldness of the fleet.

The result of the meeting of the representatives at Vienna had not transpired.

The event of the week is Napoleon's speech to the French Chambers. It is warlike in tone, and makes no mention of a prospect of peace.—The speech was immediately followed by a vote of a loan of 5,000,000 francs.

The British Parliament is not in session. The Royal assent has been given to the Foreign Enlistment Bill, but the measure continues as unpopular as ever.

The Money Market was unchanged. Consols steady at 91¼ to 91⅜. The bullion in the Bank of England has increased £108,000 sterling.

The Arctic exploring ship Enterprise, Capt. Collinson, has arrived at Hong Kong, on her way to England.

ANTICIPATED CHANGE IN THE FRENCH CONSTITUTION.—A Paris correspondent of a London paper says, that an extraordinary council of the ministers, convoked by the Emperor, has recommended that the Constitution of France be revised, with a view to increasing the popularity of the government, by calling upon the nation to take a more active part in public affairs. The modifications are said to be favourable to the liberty of the tribune and the liberty of the press.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, January 20, 1855.

THE LATE GRAND JURY, AND TEMPERANCE.

Had the Editor of the *Examiner* taken but common pains to inform himself of the facts connected with the report of the Grand Jury, having come to the determination of licensing no more public houses, he would not have been guilty of the egregious mistatement, that it was owing to there being two Sons of Temperance on the Jury, who—to use the Editor's own words—'of course had conscientious scruples against encouraging "the traffic," leaving eleven Jurors utterly powerless to act." Now nothing can be more incorrect. It is somewhat strange, that when the Editor of the *Examiner* makes any allusion to, or quotes the law of the land, either Common or Statute, British or Colonial, he is certain to betray his unqualified ignorance of all and each of them. It requires thirteen certainly, to constitute a Grand Jury, and the Court will not proceed to administer the oath, until that number be present, and in case of finding a Bill of Indictment, twelve at the least, must concur. But when the statute constituted the Grand Jury, a Court for the trial of offences against the provisions of the acts limiting the sale of Spirituous Liquors, or gave it power as a deliberative body, to determine who should be entrusted with the keeping of taverns, and how many of these taverns should be permitted, the same strictness was not insisted upon, and Grand Juries have considered themselves entitled to decide any differences of opinion by a division, on which the majority carry the question, whether in the affirmative or negative, so that there must have been five others at the least, who concurred with the two Sons of Temperance in any measure respecting granting of the licences to keep taverns. So much for the facts. Now for the law of the case. The *Examiner* states:—"The tavern-keepers, therefore, who took out licence this time last year—and we presume they are a very large proportion of the tavern-keepers of the whole County—must either shut up shop or become illicit traders, if they can not afford to take out a £10 licence; while a considerable sum of money is lost to the public treasury, with no corresponding benefit to the morals of the community." One single glance at the statute book would have shewn him that the contrary is exactly the case. So far from those who took out licences last year, having to go again before the Grand Jury with a similar application, there is in the Act an express exemption in their favor, and all they have to do in order to renew their licence is, to prove that they have the same accommodations for travellers that they had at the time when the licence was first allowed; and the certificate of good character is dispensed with on acconnt, we presume, of its having been sufficiently investigated by the previous Grand Jury, and the fact, that no complaint has been made of their conduct as tavern-keepers. The whole question, therefore, before the late Grand Jury, was, whether there were in the County a sufficient number of houses for the accommodation of travellers already licensed for the sale of Spirituous Liquors, and they decided, that there were, and who, we should like to ask, can say that they were in error? Four of the Jury, the *Examiner* says, "were more or less engaged in the liquor traffic," and these four, he surmises, must have been in opposition to the two temperance men; we think so too, so that the former with two others, formed the minority. Under all the circumstances, therefore, we think that the Grand Jury must have been justified in not licensing any new taverns for the accommodation of travellers, for with tippling houses or taverns, in the common acceptation of the word, they have nothing to do. It is amusing, however, to read the following from the pen of one who had a voice in the enacting of the law in question:—"It was certainly, not the intention of the Legislature, in passing the amended Licence Act, that the Grand Jury should have the power of withholding licences, when applicants conformed to the requirements of the law; and if the act is so defective, as we fear it is, that it may be thus interpreted with impunity, it will become the duty of the Legislature, on their re-assembling next February, so to amend the law, that no irresponsible Grand Jury—no matter how respectable and influential they may be—shall have any pretext for setting aside the intentions of Parliament. Indeed, we doubted from the first the propriety of conferring upon that body the power of granting or withholding licences." We have heard of men sitting and voting in Parliament without knowing either the provisions of the law they were aiding to enact, or even the spirit in which its provisions were framed. So far from the assertion quoted above being correct, the very reverse is the fact. Prior to the passing of the amended law, any person, no matter what his character, or how unfit soever to be entrusted with a power which certainly enables the party holding it, to do a great deal of injury both to society at large, as well as to individuals, had nothing to do but present himself at the office of the private or Colonial Secretary,