THE WAR.

There is, perhaps, scarcely an inhabitant of this land who does not, in some degree, share the common feeling of interest which animates England, as she gazes in the direction of those regions where our armies are at present engaged in mortal strife. How much, is at stake that involves the interest and security of Europe! How much, too, especially affecting the spiritual prosperity and happiness of men! Touched by the scenes enacting around him, the heart of the Christian is pained with deepest anguish by considerations that more particularly affect those who desire the establishment of the kingdom of peace and righteousness on the earth. Such minds are adverse to *all* war; and with troubled thoughts they kneel to pray, perplexed how to give utterance to the emotions which oppress them; and in what way to express the longings which cannot find ready utterance, because connected with subjects so incongruous with those which usually occupy them, when approaching the throne of their Father in heaven. They hope, and may even cherish the belief, that Christ's kingdom will be advanced by the results of this contest; but their part is rather that of "waiters," who keep silence," and observe what transpires around them. Their position seems indicated in the 46th Psalm, verses 8, 9, 10, 11. When they behold the "desolations which are made in the earth," they are "still'" because they know that God is the ruler of the nations, and that it is in his hand to give the award, and to determine the destiny of the people upon the face of the whole earth.

There are, however, some gleams of light, some indications of a hopeful character, which may encourage these servants of the Prince of Pecae. Small things indicate the movement of the tides, great changes begin with gentle under-currents, so slight as to be scarcely perceptible in the beginning; and it requires careful operation and attentive consideration to weigh the probable operation, and anticipate the coming results of such influence. There is one remark made by good and observant minds at the present time. It is the manifest reluctance, the earnest disinclination of men to engage in strife and warfare. So strong, indeed, was this feeling, and so protracted were the negotiations entered into for the purpose of averting if possible, the present contest, that many of the more impatient thought the thing was carried too far, and even to the verge of impropriety, so as even to risk unduly the honor of this nation. Is there not in this fact a pleasing and encouraging promise of good? May not the Christian mention it before God as a plea in favor of his beloved country at this juncture of her affairs?

We were struck and interested, the other day, while reading the life of the venerable Mr. Jay, to find him giving this testimony to the improvement and progression of things during his lifetime: "I have," he says, "a better opinion of mankind than I had, when I began my public life. I cannot, therefore, ask, 'What is the cause, why the former days were better than these?' I do not believe in the fact itself. God has not been throwing away duration upon the human race. The state of the world *has* been improved, and is improving. What noble efforts are made, in this day, to break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free! How is the tendency to war on every slight pretext, giving away to reference and negotiation! I cannot look at these various progressions without exclaiming, 'What hath God wrought!'" Our venerable friend proceeds to say that, when he first went to London, there were no missionary societies, but those of the Moravian and Wesleyan brethren; "nor had we then that noblest of all institutions since the apostolic era, the Bible Society, nor the Tract Society, nor the Anti-Slavery Society nor Peace Societies, nor the many other kindred institutions which are, at present, all sending forth the truth as it is in Jesus—all carrying on their operations with prayer, and all crowned with encouragement and success, proportioned to their means and endeavours."

In harmony with these hopeful opinions, are many things which a good man may hail as the legitimate result of such labours. There are not wanting these indications, even in the current wordly literature of the day; a different and more modified tone is now adopted. Courtesy and mutual forbearance among those who meet each other on the field of contest are recommended and praised, and the appeal is made no longer to brute force, but to higher and better influences. Pleasing too, and cheering beyond all that we have yet mentioned, are the evidences that among men of war there is a better spirit than there was of yore. Many, very many, among our officers and commanders are men who fear God, who sincerly deplore the evils of that profession which they follow, and whose faithful endeavour it is to mitigate to the utmost of their power the horrors of war. Is it a small thing to know, that Christian officers in the Madras Presidency can now assure us, that there is not one of their regiments in which there is not at least one decided Christian officer, and that there are many which have several? Can we forget, too, the stricking intelligence connected with the last campaign of the Punjaub, that there were held in the camp large prayer-meetings of united bodies of pious officers and men, and that in her majesty's twenty-fourth regiment, which suffered so severely at Chillianwallah, a large number of men, amounting to upwards of two hundred were communicants, and many of them devout believers.

Already there have been presented some encouraging prospects of usefulness through the medium of the Bible and Sailors' Societies, and the Tract Society, in connection with the operations of our countrymen in the present war. An interesting letter from Captain H. C. Otter, H. M. S. Alban was published in the Monthly Extracts of the British and Foreign Bible Society, on July the 31st of last year. After stating that the grant of Bibles made by the Society has been very useful, especially those in the Swedish language, which is spoken in the greater part of the Baltic, the captain says: "As every man and child I have met, can read the tracts and Bibles which have been dispensed, I trust that there are good hopes of much benefit being derived from them," In Turkey, also, kindred movements have taken place.

Among those, too, who are opposed to our arms, we have occasion thankfully to acknowledge instances of kindly feeling, and some even of true devout goodness. Such cases are not unfrequent, blessed be God! and they are sometimes unexpectedly brought to notice. Perhaps our readers will find pleasure in reading the following cheering instances of the blessed influence of piety and good will between men unhappily engaged in strife and bloodshedding.

Few events have excited more interest in the course of the present war than the wreck and capture of H. M. S. Tiger near Odessa. A narration of this disastrous affair has been recently given by the first lieutenant Alfred Royer, who was himself an actor in it, and who went as prisoner of war to St. Petersburgh where he saw the grand duke Constantine as well as the Emperor, from whom he received his liberty, and permission to England. After the capture of the ship, and the night after the crew of the Tiger had been landed at Odessa, the lieutenant says: "It may afford some consolation to our friends at home to know, that in the confusion of disembarking, there were many who brought away their prayer-books and Bibles, in preference to other property which remained on board." Aye, truly, it may and does afford consolation to the Christian's heart to learn that these poor captives, amid the haste and terror of those scenes, forgot not the treasure of the heavenly word—nay-even preferred it before the goods of the earth!

The Russian general Osten Sacken, showed great kindness to the unfortunate prisoners during their detention at Odessa. He paid daily visits to the captain and officers, and also to the hospital, and seemed much gratified when he saw William Tanner, (one of the men who had been wounded, but who recovered,) engaged in frequently reading his Bible. The general was evidently a man of kindly nature and of religious feelings. "He never visited the establishment" (the lieutenant says,) "without going to the graves of his enemies, and there he might often be seen, absorbed in meditation, offering up supplication to the Lord of Hosts." The amiable lady of this kind general also manifested no less kindness and and considerate attention towards the prisoners and the wounded. She supplied them from her own house with various delicacies and necessaries, and when the poor boy, Thomas Hood died, she caused an iron railing to be placed around his grave, and planted trees to overshadow it. She had, not long before, lost a son about the age of this lad, and appeared deeply interested for the parents of the deceased, and also for those of the young midshipman, who also died; and to the mother of the latter, she sent a gold locket containing some of his hair.

Our limits do not permit us to add any further details from this very interesting narrative. The compassionate benevolence evinced by these kind individuals towards our countrymen, whom the "chances of war" consigned to their tender mercies, naturally lead us to ask how have their countrymen, who have been taken prisoners by our arms, been cared for? And it is some consolation to know, that a favourable answer may be given to this inquiry. The Russian prisoners, while at Sheerness, were visited by Mr. Hahn, the excellent agent of the British and Foreign Sailors Society, and supplied with copies of the Scriptures, which were received with alacrity. Divine service, too, was performed on board one of the vessels, at which the men readily attended.

Surely every friend of humanity must applaud the attempts of the learned and excellent Grotius to blend maxims of humanity with military operations, and thus mitigate the woes of the most awful scourge that Providence employs for the chastisement of man! "Instead of snowing our love to our country by engaging eagerly in the strife of parties, let us choose to signalize it rather by beneficence, by piety, by an exemplary discharge of the duties of private life, under a persuasion that *that* man, in the final issue of things, would seem to have been the best patriot, who is the best Christian." These are the words of that eloquent preacher, Robert Hall, in his sermon entitled, "Reflections on war," from which wise, beautiful, and pathetic address, we will give one more short passage as a conclusion to this paper.

"To acknowledge the hand of God is a duty, indeed, at all times; but there are seasons when it is made so bare, that it is next to impossible, and, therefore, signally criminal, to overlook it. It is almost unecessary to add that the present is one of those seasons. If ever we are expected to 'be still, and know that he is God,' it is on such an occassion as this, when we so evidently behold 'the works of the Lord, and the desolations which he maketh in the earth.' It is surely of the utmost consequence to see to it, that our humiliations are deep, our repentance sincere, and the disposition we cherish, as well as the resolutions we form, suitable to the nature of the crisis, and the solemnity of the occasion; such in a word, as Omniscience will approve," — *Cottager's Friend.*

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

On the evening of the 20th, the Chanceller of the Exchequer snbmitted his financial budget. The following is the exact statement:—Estimated expenditures of the year:—interest, charges, &c. on existing debt £27,950,000; other charges on the Consolidated Fund, £1,750,000; for army, £16,200,000; navy, £16,700,000; ordnance, £7,800,000; civil service, £6,500,000; for vote of credit, £50,260,000, to meet temporary loans; already borrowed from the savings banks, £2,800,000; miscellaneous unforseen items £2,639,000; Sardinian loan £1,000,000. Expenses, £86,339,000. Revenue from present taxes, £63,339,000; deficiency to be met, £23-000,000.

The Baltic—Two hundred labourers are strengthening the fortifications of Riga. Cronstadt, Sweaborg, Helsingfors, Weiberg and other fortresses on the Baltic have been provisioned for eighteen months, and ships laden with rocks have been sunk at the entrances of the harbors.

120,000 is the present nominal strength of the army concentrated in the Russo-Baltic provinces.

Most of the British advanced squadron was in the Great Belt, detained by ice. But one or two ships had penetrated into the sea.

Later.—Twelve ships of the line with four steamers, under Admiral Dundas, had come off and anchored at Kyle.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Railway.—We were informed by the Hon. Joseph Howe, as he passed through the city last week on his return from the United States, that the Railway in Nova Scotia is progressing most satisfactorily; that there is no lack of talent, men or funds to prosecute their plans. He says the cost of the road as far as completed will not exceed £6,500 per mile, and a new contract has recently been effected for a sum not far exceeding £5,000 per mile. Mr. Howe's impression is that so soon as they reach the alluvial soil the cost will be diminished to £4,000 a mile, and for that sum the road could be built through the valley of Hants, Kings, and Annapolis, and a fortune be made by the transaction. As far as they have gone they have not been under the necessity of going out of the Province for money. If the independant farmers along the valley as far as Annapolis would take hold heartily of the matter we believe they could put the road through the entire valley without foreign aid. Such a movement would add immensely to the value of their property, and then they would have the satisfaction of owning the road when completed.—*Christian Messenger.*

RAILWAY SURVEYS.

We have heard from good authority, that an Engineering Staff left here on Monday on their road to Pictou, to commence the railway surveys, preparatory to the location of a line between this city and the Gulf. Another staff will take up the ground at Truro and work eastward—the intermediate portion from Schultz to Truro being occupied by other parties. These preliminary surveys augur well of the disposition of the Government, if the people but back their efforts in the approaching struggle.

Pictou in particular will hail the appearance of a surveying, as an omen of the "goon time coming there." But all we think must depend upon the returns and the class of men who are to compose the new House.—*Chronicle.*

Holloway's Pills a certain Cure for determination of Blood to the Head.—Elias Hope, one of the most celebrated advocates of temperance admits that he suffered more than any one he ever heard of from determination of Blood to the head, although he was abstemious both in eating and drinking, also in taking rest, yet he was so bad at times, that in the midst of his most eloquent discourses, he was compelled to leave off addressing his auditors, and on several occasions has been carried away from meeting completely senseless. Having seen the good effects of Holloway's Pills, he was induced to giv- them a trial, and to use his own words, they acted like magic. It is fourteen months ago since he commenced taking this celebrated medicine, which completely cured him in two months, and he has not had any return of this complaint since. These Pills are wonderfully efficacious in all disorders of the stomach and bowels.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, May 19, 1855.

We would direct the attention of our readers of either sex to the advertisement in another part of this day's paper, announcing the meeting of the Charlottetown Horticultural Society. The experience of every succeeding season has served to convince us, that were only a common degree of attention paid to the raising of fruit and vegetables, our market would, in the course of a very few years, be little, if at all inferior to those of Quebec, Halifax, or St. John. As to soil, there could scarcely be found one better suited for Horticultural purposes, for it may be trenched to any required depth—the greater the better—and having the proper admixture of clay and sand, it needs but lime in very small quantity with vegetable manure—of which last, most people are too sparing—to enable the gardener to effect the greatest wonders of his art. Charlottetown market is miserably deficient in the vegetable line, and one of the principal objects of the society has been to encourage the production of food of this description, by premiums for the exhibition of the finest specimens in market; this has effected some good, and will if persevered in, do more. Charlottetown is beginning now to assume a more dense and compact appearance, and the value of land for building on, encreasing every day, so that in the course of a short time there will be few or no gardens within the town. It becomes then a matter of public concern that there should be market gardeners, who will be at all times ready to supply the deficiency. No dinner table is tastefully set out, unless there be a due proportion between the vegetable and the other descriptions of food; and no table is *healthfully* appointed nuless there be a profusion of vegetable food, both for the sake of variety as well as quality. There is nothing in which people so much differ, as in their choice of the products of the garden, nothing in which there is such an universal concurrence of opinion as to their presence being indispensable to both health and comfort. We trust, therefore, that there will be a good gathering on Thursday the 25th inst. The Lieut. Governor has been pleased to allow himself to be nominated as the Patron and Mrs. Daly the Lady Patroness of the Society. It is the intention of the present Committee to propose at the meeting an extention of the constitution, and consequently, of the views of the Society, and it is hoped that this will induce a greater number to become subscribers. As far as its exertions bave been extended, it has done an immensity of good, and has proved beyond any question of doubt, that as good fruit and vegetables may be raised, if the proper attention is bestowed upon their cultivation, in Prince Edward Island as in any of the surrounding Colonies. The public are under great obligations, therefore, to the generous and beneficent lady, the late tenant of Holland Grove, and Miss Grubb, her enthusiastic and persevering daughter, for having been the means of exciting the attention of the inhabitants of the Island, to what will, we are persuaded, be one of the means of increasing their stock of comforts, luxuries, and wealth.

It is to the unwearied efforts of Mrs. and Miss Grubb, that the Charlottetown Horticultural Society owes its existence, and though the absence of the aid and co-operation of these ladies is severely felt, we trust that there is still a sufficiency of public spirit and energy left, not only to keep alive what has been so happily begun, but to preserve and render its existence of more and more benefit to the Town and the Country at large in every succeeding year.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE PROPRIETOR ON A TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES.

The proprietor of this paper being on his way to the United States to purchase stock for the ensuing summer, would be glad to give his readers any information he may have picked up on the route.—

We left on Wednesday morning the 9th May, in the Lady Le Marchant, at 6 o'clock, and arrived at Summerside at 11½. Strolling round this rising town, we noticed a marked improvement in the number and description of houses to what we observed last year, business however, seems to be very dull, and the stores are not doing much. Mr. Todd has a carriage manufactory, and is turning out some very well finished work, carriages we believe better suited to our roads and our circumstances generally than any imported; when we visited his establishment he was fitting up a stage coach for the road between Summerside and Charlottetown. There are some vessels in progress of building, but they are not pushing them out of hand with the same spirit as they were doing last year. It is a great detriment to this place, that the steamer is unable to go to the wharf. We think the people ought to apply to the Govern-