

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Congress met on the 23d inst., but owing to the complicated nature of the business of the late elections no choice of Speaker had been made up to the 6th, the latest dates from Washington, and until this matter is disposed of, the President's Message will not be delivered, nor any other business transacted. In consequence of this usage, the President's Message has not been communicated to the Press in advance of its delivery, so that that document, which will be of much interest to all British subjects, is as yet withheld from the public eye. News from Central America is interesting. The filibusters Kinney and Walker still continued to meet with success in their expeditions, and volunteers from California were flocking to their standards. The new Nicaraguan government, of which the latter was a member, and de facto head and director, had been formally recognized by the American minister at Grenada, the Capital of the State, thus showing in the most unmistakable manner the approval of the United States. The latter will look on these piratical aggressions. The Boston Courier says, "it can scarcely be supposed, that so grave a step," as that alluded to, "would have been taken by our minister, without his having in advance submitted the matter to the State Department. Already annexation is spoken of as an inevitable sequence to the events just transpired, respecting which the same paper says:

"Besides the external aspect of the Central American question, we have another, which is wholly within our borders. It is this:—Are we ready to entertain the idea of another accession to the territory of the United States, if it shall come in the shape of more slave states?"

The foreign enlistment question has almost ceased to agitate the Union, although an effort still appears to be made by the government portion of the press to establish a new commission, and the late government has been insulted, and their laws violated by Great Britain, in the person of Mr. Crampton, for which the government of the latter country positively refused all explanation, or apology. A letter on the subject, addressed to "anybody else," who was the prosecuting Atty. in the late foreign enlistment trials in Philadelphia, by the hon. Joseph Howe of this Province, has been published, which goes far to confirm the statement formerly attributed to Mr. Crampton, that the attempt to implicate him was a vile scheme concocted by worthless foreigners and filibustering Americans, in the hope of embroiling the two nations, and that the American Government followed up the matter, more for the sake of the political capital to be made from it, than for the purpose of vindicating the national honor. If the United States is a land of slavery, fortunately it can at least boast a free press, otherwise this testimony would have been long since suppressed. Mr. General Cushing, as easily as he prevented any evidence being given on the trials above mentioned, but such as suited his own dishonourable purposes. Mr. Howe brings documentary evidence to prove that Mr. Crampton was guilty of countenancing any steps for procuring recruits, had obtained the written opinion of an eminent American lawyer, as to the correct interpretation of the neutrality laws, and that in all that he did, he in no way exceeded what he had perfect right to do, as conceded by that opinion. That the law was violated, he admits, but these violations were by irresponsible persons, who either exceeded their instructions or else acted solely on their own responsibility, with the object of making money or for worse purposes. These are the persons, upon whose testimony Mr. Crampton has been implicated. Mr. Howe's opinion of their character and credibility may be inferred from what he says of Hertz, the first witness.

"Hertz was not, and never had been a soldier. He was simply a Jew Crimp of great pretensions. Bustling, active, boastful, and mendacious. Judas Iscariot, in his younger days, might have been just as good a representation of him, in comparison of him, that he would not sell his Saviour for thirty pieces of silver, but the

President of the United States, and Mr. Crampton both, for half the money." This language is much more forcible than elegant, and not such as is expected from one gentleman addressing another; but probably Mr. Howe thought that from the conduct of Mr. Vandike and Mr. Cushing in conducting the prosecutions, he had a right to question their appreciation of a more courteous phrase, he must couch his contempt for them and their minions in terms which he can understand.—*Pictou Chronicle*.

The new ship *Black Watch*, owned by Geo. McKenzie, Esq., of New Glasgow, recently noticed in our columns, was wrecked at Bay St. Lawrence, near Cape North, on the 24th ult., three days after leaving port. The crew all saved, but much bruised and frostbitten. Capt. Menzies had his family on board and one of his children, aged about two years, was drowned in the surf; its body was afterwards recovered. A large number of clothing and other goods, the contributions of members of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia for the use of their Foreign Mission, valued at about £250, which was on board the *Black Watch*, were forwarded to England to Mr. G. G. Auld at Antigonish, by the mission ship John Williams, has been lost. This is a severe blow to the friends of the mission, and the loss will be severely felt by the devoted laborers in Antigonish, who must find it very unwise and unwise restricted for the want of these necessary articles, until they can be replaced.—*Pictou Chronicle*.

THE NEW TELEGRAPH.—The New York Herald announces the formation of a mammoth telegraph company, who propose to build a line of build new ones, so as to bring under the control of one concern a network of wires leading from New York to every prominent business point in the Union. They have leased all the direct lines of telegraph in the State of New York, the management of which they will assume in January. They propose in the spring to build new lines to the South and West. The newly invented telegraphic machine, which this company intends to employ, is, it is claimed, a most useful and simple one, the most wonderful realization of the inventive faculty that the world has yet seen. It is the work of a citizen of Kentucky, before unknown to fame, and is known as Hughes' Electro-Magnetic Printing Telegraph. The machine is worked by his machine, that it will deliver messages in printed words with a celerity before unthought of—that it can be operated by any person who can read—that for strictly private messages, it can omit intermediate stations—and that it requires but one wire, upon which messages can be sent each way at the same time, that is, from Boston to St. John and from St. John to Boston at the same time! The Company have purchased the rights for 300,000 shares for \$100,000. The agent of the inventor has gone to Europe to secure patents. The London Times has offered a large sum for the right for England.

SAMUEL ZIMMERMAN, owner of the Chifton House, on the Canadian side, 25 years since, paid \$12,000 for 300 acres of rockland, from his premises to the suspension bridge on the Canada side, now called Elgin. An offer of £240,000 from a company, last week, for the same purchase, deducting the loss already sold at the bridge, which amount to some £30,000, was refused.

THE MILK VEIN.—We often hear, in the description of cows, the "milk vein" spoken of as though it communicated with the udder and supplied it with the milk. Mr. Stephens says: "The milk vein is a milk vessel, and to the milking properties of a cow, should be exposed—mean the notion of a large milk vein being the cause of a cow's producing milk for cow. The vein, commonly called the milk vein, is the subcutaneous vein, and has nothing to do with the udder; it belongs to the respiratory system, and is an equilibrium in the blood between the fore and hind quarters. This vein certainly indicates a strongly developing vascular system, which is favourable to the secretion of milk. It is so that of the milk among the rest."

The weather for the past two weeks has been boisterous and unsettled, there having been heavy and dry periods, and rain, especially at night, and accompanied with slight squalls of snow. On Friday afternoon, it blew a gale from the north-east, which caused the tide to rise in this harbor, higher than it has been known before, within a few hours, and the water rose to a high level. All the wharves were flooded, and many of the cellars of Water street were filled to the depth of from two and a half to four feet, causing a good deal of damage to such goods as could not be removed. An accident occurred on board the steamer *George McKenzie* on the same evening and from Pictou on that day, on attempting to come to, at her wharf at New Glasgow, the tide which was running up the river with considerable strength, caught the boat and swept her against the bridge with such force as to smash the paddle-boxes, and break down the smoke pipe, which fell on deck, seriously injuring the captain, and another person less severely.—*Pictou paper*.

THE TELEGRAPH LINE between Antigonish and McNair's Cove has been out of order, so that no messages could be transmitted, and the service of the steamship service was across the strait of Canoe has also been damaged, so as to prevent the transmission of messages, but we have not heard whether to such an extent as to render it necessary to take up and relay the cable.

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.—An accident of a most distressing character, which resulted in the death of Mrs. Barbara Harris, a daughter of the late Mr. Isaac Harris, and second daughter of Mr. Robert Dawson, of Pictou, occurred in that town on the 20th inst. While engaged in some domestic employment she was terribly scalded with a kettle of boiling water. She was the same evening, after suffering the most dreadful agony for ten hours. It is not clearly known how the accident occurred, she being alone at the time. The deceased was about 22 years of age, and leaves an infant daughter, fifteen months old. The amiable character and Christian virtues of Mrs. Harris had endeared her to a very large circle of friends, and her sudden decease has cast a gloom over the whole community of Pictou.

HALIFAX, Dec. 9. THE RAILWAY.—The *Gazette* of Wednesday contains a statement of the Traffic and Revenue of the Nova Scotia Railway, and the incidental expenses, in three periods, between the 28th June and 22d November, 1855. The Trains commenced running on the 8th of June—four trains per day—to 9 mile station, 6 miles, two months, and to Sackville, 8 miles, one month. The returns for the quarter ending 28th September, give the number of miles run 4,466, and the passengers carried from station to station 17,692.

The Revenue received during the same period was £1,018 4 3. Against which are the expenses, including maintenance of Way, Locomotive charges, repairs, traffic charges, and depreciation of rolling stock. 437 15 11

Net Receipts. £580 8 10
The second period is from the 8th to the 21st September, when the running of the trains was accidentally interrupted—four trains a day—the miles run during that time being 656, the number of passengers carried, 3,253, and the gross earnings of the road, £174, 13, 6d.

The trains recommenced running on the 22d of October, from which time to the 23d November, the number of miles run was 1,315, the passengers carried, 4,715, and the gross receipts, £272 13s. 7d.—*Recorder*

A WELL MERITED TESTIMONIAL.—It is gratifying to learn that the inhabitants of St. John's, Newfoundland, comprising all classes of the community, have determined on presenting a testimonial of their respect and esteem to F. N. Gisborne, Esq., the British Consul, in recognition of his communication by the Electric Telegraph into that Colony. The plate agreed upon for this purpose is to be manufactured in London,

and will be completed at an early date. The whole of British North America is indebted to the British Consul for his exertions in securing and perfecting the Electric Telegraph in the several Provinces.—*Chronicle*.

At Woolwich, on Thursday, one of the cast-iron guns taken at the capture of Bomarsund, and presented to us by the Emperor, was fired. The gun, a 52-pounder, has been bored for our Lancaster shells, which on this occasion were heavily filled with lead to the weight of 3 cwt. 8 lb. each shell, and the result was a most extraordinary one, contrary to all expectation, and to experiment unharmed, when a second round was fired with the same result. A few more of this class of guns, likewise captured at Bomarsund, are lying on the arsenal quay, and are to be subjected to a like change in their calibre. Colonel Wilmot, Capt. Boxer, and the officer who accompanied them in their inspection of the continental foundries, have returned to Woolwich, with the conviction, that our foreign neighbors will be supplied with gun materials far superior to our own.

Our clandestine trade with Russia was frankly confessed to in a case which came before the Southward magistrate, on Wednesday, when a laborer was charged with stealing gunpowder, imported from Mark Brown's wharf in that city. Mr. Combe asked, who the tallow belonged to? One of the owners of Mark Brown's wharf said, that the tallow had just come from Russia, conveyed to an English firm; and it was loaded on the wharf, to be bonded for the owners.—

Mr. Combe.—You say, this is Russian tallow, and unloading from a vessel just arrived; how is it that you have Russian tallow, when it is quite known to be from Russia? Wharfiger.—Easy enough, sir. We have large dealings with Russia, although we are at war, and our money is extensively received there in return. Nearly all our tallow comes from Russia." Mr. Combe asked, how is it that you have Russian tallow, when all her ports are blockaded, and war is proceeding? Witness.—It comes through Russia, your worship. The tallow in question came from Memel, in a vessel called the *Combe*. What part of Russia does this tallow come from? Wharfiger.—From St. Petersburg. It is there sold by the merchants on English account to the care of a Prussian firm, who convey it through Russia and Prussia to the coast of the Baltic, and thence to England. Not only tallow comes into the market largely from Russia, but hemp, flax, and dyewoods. We are constantly receiving those sort of goods; but tallow is declining, so much so, that the prices are much higher, having risen to 73s. the cwt."

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Wednesday, December 19, 1855.

There are some things upon which men continue to differ most unaccountably, and those of a nature which it might be supposed there would be the greatest unanimity; one of these is climate. Ask any of the old people of your acquaintance, who have lived in either America or more severe than when they were young; many will say, that the winters are much milder, formerly, and all long stories about sleighing in November, and Christmas, the rivers were invariably frozen over. Others will seem to accede to this truth, and then, when asked to give an instance, such a number of open winters during their youthful days, that one is compelled to think, that the climate has undergone no very material change since the last century at least. There is, we apprehend, as yet, too much food and waste land between this and the Pacific, in which immense masses of snow accumulate, and which the atmosphere, to a certain height, is deprived of its caloric or warmth, and when set in motion by electrical or other causes, sends the chilling blasts we experience after the month of October. The British Isles are warmer than these Provinces, though situated under more northerly parallels of latitude; and this is accounted for by the occurrence of north-westwardly winds blowing over large portions of the open water of the Atlantic. The Oregon territory is said to possess a most agreeable climate, and is well adapted for its proximity to the Pacific. We are