

THE SIEGE OF SEVASTOPOL.

Details of the Operations—Continued Attack by Land and by sea—The Russians hold their own.

LETTER FROM A NAVAL OFFICER.

H. M. S. BRITANNIA, Oct. 18th.

At 2 p. m., we were in action, and as time will not allow me to give a long description, all I can say is, I never heard such a row in all my life. We were firing 44 hours; then up anchor and went out at sunset. Our loss in the squadron is 44 killed and 266 wounded. We had a wonderful escape in this ship; the shot came into us in all directions, and yet, thank God! only 9 wounded. The worst of it is, the Russians have sunk their ships across the harbor; we can't get in, and not half near enough outside on account of shoal water. However, I think they got a good dose; but no one can believe what a place this is. However if all's well, we will have it yet. In a month or less, our army alone has been reduced from 25,000 to 16,000, by deaths and wounded. And yet I have no doubt people in England are crying out because Sevastopol is not yet taken, and upbraiding men who have passed through such as will never be described. Yesterday, the shot, shells, and rockets, began to fly about us before we anchored, and the deafening noise, the hiss of the missiles and the roar of some thousands of guns, you may amuse yourself by trying to imagine. We were ordered not to fire before orders were given to begin from on deck. I had charge of 8 of the heaviest guns, stood on the ladder, and waited for the word. At last it came. I tried to keep cool, but could not help getting a little excited, and sung out—"now you beggars let them have it." And then began the row, which lasted till we could not see, and has left us as deaf as beetles and thirsty as camels.

The loss of the Allied fleet in this fruitless cannonade—for such, in fact, it was—was estimated at 100 killed, and 3 or 400 wounded, and having two of their largest and best ships completely disabled.

The fire has been very heavy and well directed against the 21 gun battery to-day. One of the enemy's round shot struck the muzzle of a large 68-pounder, breaking it, and killing and wounding by the fragments several who were around. Among the victims of this shot was Lieut. Greathhead, First Lieut. of the Britannia, flag-ship. He had been invalided home, but returned to his duty, and was on the eve of promotion. A great part of his side was carried away.

Among the deaths is that of the Hon. Francis Hood, who was commanding the Grenadier Guards. He was killed by a round shot, while with a covering party of his regiment in the battery. His death was almost instantaneous. He led on his men with great coolness and gallantry at Alma, and was generally regarded as an able officer, he was much liked, and his loss is felt severely in the regiment.

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

In front of the camp on the brow of the hill is a house known as the Piqueur house. Round it is a yard, enclosed by a stone wall. Within this the Duke of Cambridge and Sir G. Brown were standing just now with many of the staff, looking at the bombardment. A round shot passed between the two generals, and whizzing across the yard was stopped by the wall on the opposite side. The Duke laughed the matter off, but Sir George, thinking the number of conspicuous uniforms had attracted the fire, immediately ordered the officer commanding the piqueur to clear the yard.

THE SLAUGHTER IS COMING.

No one can say what will be the number of wounded in the great assault which may oneday take place. It is well to state the truth at once; Alma is likely to have been far less deadly than the struggle which will take place in the trenches of Sevastopol. The enemy there will probably be unable to retreat, and if he have a trace of courage or natural instinct, he will defend himself with desperation. Every street may have its barricade, and the very ground over which the assaulting regiments pass may conceal the deadly mine.

A SACK EXPECTED.

The prisoners and even the deserters say that the Russian generals are determined to leave the place a ruin. The women and children may probably have been sent over to the northern side. It is to be hoped that they may be placed in safety before the final assault, for such is the obstinacy of the defense that the rage of the soldiers is being aroused, and assuredly the Zouaves and other African regiments will display no small ferocity when the place is sacked.

The allies are no doubt in want of fresh troops. The effective British force is not more than 16,000, so great has been the made by battle and disease. No less than 9,000 men are dead or hors de combat in the last 8 weeks. More Turkish troops are being sent up; to-day the Golden Fleece arrived here from Vola, with 2000 troops who were engaged in opposing the Greek invasion. But it could be wished that reinforcements of a better class could arrive from Portsmouth or Marseilles.

We have advices from Sevastopol to the 25th.

Women and children are said to be lying unburied in the street; everything is neglected in order to keep up the defence. The Russians are constructing another line of works behind their present ones, they have plenty of guns and ammunition.

VERMONT.—The Legislature of this State adjourned on the 15th inst., after a session of five weeks. Three new banks were chartered during the session—one at Hyde Park, one at Bennington, and one at Lyndon. An act was passed amendatory of the prohibitory liquor law, of which the following is the principal provision:

"No person shall be allowed, at any time or place within this State, to own, keep or possess any intoxicating liquor, with intent to sell, furnish or give away the same contrary to the provisions of this act, or the act to which this is an amendment; and any person who shall so own, keep, or possess any such liquor, with any such intent, shall be liable to the same penalties as are now provided for the offenses specified in section five of the act to which this is an amendment."

This section, according to the Woodstock Standard, was enacted "to meet an objection which Judge Pierpont had raised against the constitutionality of the law."

Live up to your engagements. Have no very intimate friends.

THE GRAND RIVER TIMES.

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 20, 1854.

No news of interest from the seat of war, in the Crimea, except that the English are transmitting reinforcements without intermission. Every available steamship is taken up by the government for that purpose. It is stated in the London Times that the British Government is now paying at the rate of £3,000,000 per annum for the charter of steamers alone, beside the expense of fuel.

It is generally supposed that a winter campaign will take place in the Crimea, and wooden barracks for 20,000 men are being shipped by the government for that place.

THE BANKS AGAIN.—Some of our exchanges complain, bitterly, of the speculative spirit of the New York brokers (at the head of whom is Thompson, of the Reporter,) who assume to affix a standard of value to all western currency, both to suit themselves and the banks, and thus far have been quite successful and are absolutely coining money out of the operation.

We mentioned in our last issue that dependence could not be put upon quotations given from Thompson's Reporter in relation to the banks mentioned in the list then given. Many banks amply secured were quoted at a large discount, owing to the speculative spirit of Wall street and influential bankers of the "metropolis." We think it would be policy for the holders of western bills to remain quiet. Money matters will soon, doubtless, assume an equilibrium. Some banks quoted at a discount may fail. But others, and by far the majority, will, doubtless, regain their former standing. We have nothing new to quote in relation to money matters this week. The "panic" seems in a great measure to have subsided, and a pleasing serenity pervades the "troubled waters."

BANK FIGHT.—The Cincinnati Enquirer thinks there will be a tremendous fight in the next General Assembly of Indiana, over the question of the re-charter of the State bank, which has but a year of active business existence remaining; and on the question of amending and perhaps repealing the general banking law. Should this be the case, it is hoped that those banks which are non-com-at-i-bus may be placed between the combatants and knocked into pi.

On Monday last the Indians assembled at this place to receive their annual stipend from the Government. It is a matter of much regret that they should have been so generously supplied by some of our citizens with a "Fire Water," that bane of the Indian as well as of the white man. How many little comforts might they procure with money thus spent for that which is eating into their very hearts' cores, and which with other causes is fast dwindling their tribes into oblivion! How lamentable is the idea that in a few years more, according to the past ratio of decrease, they will all have passed away and be known only as a race that once existed but are no more! We fear the account against us, as respects their ultimate destiny, will be long and fearful.

We mentioned in our paper of last week that the propeller Ottawa, owned by Messrs. FERRY & SONS, of this place, was ashore, a little below the north bar. On Friday last, after much exertion, she was rescued from her perilous position, and was moored at her dock, having sustained no material injury. Also the Vermont, owned by Mr. C. B. ALBEE, after having been on the beach, near the position of the Ottawa, for several days, was got afloat and entered the harbor on Saturday last.

THE NEW YORK VITRIOL MAN.—We learn from an exchange, that Gray, the New York vitriol man, has finally been examined and bound over. More than eighty ladies have entered complaint against him, and the value of dresses, &c., which he has destroyed, is estimated at over \$10,000. The man is undoubtedly a monomaniac.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, for January, is before us, constituting the first number of the fiftieth volume, which promises to be superior in interest to any of the preceding ones. It is, certainly, a work that every lady should possess. Will some of our ladies pass those papers that all may have an opportunity of becoming subscribers?

"The Young Bridegroom" is received. We feel ourselves flattered when called upon to publish the contributions of our fair ladies; but owing to certain circumstances, we trust we shall be excused from publishing the above.

ADVICE TO SUIT ALL.—Fear God; love your wife (if you have no wife love somebody's sweetheart); take the Times; pay the Printer promptly; eat buckwheat cakes; drink cold water; keep your temper and be saved. If this don't suit go your own way and perish.

It won't do to conclude that a man is always happy because he is smiling, or that he is a house builder because you often find him with a "brick in his hat."

Professor Agassiz, the celebrated Geologist, thinks that man existed on the earth at least 150,000 years ago. Wonder if he took the papers.

BAREFACED FALSEHOODS.—Fibs told by the ladies in the present style of bonnets.

A TALK WITH THE BOYS.—Come, boys, sit down here and let us have a social chat. What do you intend to do when you become men? I understand you are good boys at school; take an interest in your studies; now working busily as bees at your arithmetic, and now conning over your grammar; and, again committing to memory the important truths presented to you in astronomy, teaching you the wonderful workmanship of "Hand Divine;" and then pouring over your physiologies, that you may treasure up the laws that regulate your physical systems, and instead of being poor, sickly, deformed creatures, you may grow up to be strong, robust, healthy men, and thus keep in tune that "Harp of a thousand strings" so admirably adjusted by the wisest Architect. Now, boys, this is all right. You can never become useful and respected citizens without being educated, and the more useful information you possess the better are you prepared to benefit your fellows, and enjoy life as you pass along its rugged paths. But what do you intend to do when your school days are past? Some of you are just emerging into manhood; the time to begin to think of the future. You may not all of you be able to become lawyers, or doctors, or merchants. What then do you say to learning some useful trade. Some young men seem to go up and down in the world and find nothing they can turn their hand to. They have no useful trade. Soon you will leave your paternal roof and act for yourselves. Prosperity may not always smile upon you, though you may be heirs to your family estates. If adversity frowns upon you be prepared to meet it. Have a trade. We repeat, have something, boys, that you can turn your energies to when times pinch. Educate your hands; it will be an effectual resource against want and its attendant ills. Who ever knew a man with a good trade, who was industrious and frugal, that could not obtain a good living. What though you are going to college, or intend to study a profession. The case is not altered; you need it just as much. Some of the first men in our country learned a trade before they studied a profession. They thought it necessary. Discipline of the hand, as well as of the mind, is essential to ensure you success in life. We never knew a college boy that was not a better student for having a substantial trade. He always graduates with honor. He is sure to be a scholar. He knows how to work, how to conquer difficulties.

So, boys, decide to learn some useful trade; and when you commence it, apply yourself with all your mind and heart, and be its master; don't be a bungler; if you are not obliged to work at it, you have stored up so much wealth that can never be taken from you.

FACTS ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.—The first newspaper established in North America was the Boston News Letter, the first number of which appeared on Monday, April 24, 1704, one hundred and fifty years ago. Rev. James Apinwall once remarked, that the ancients counted up seven wonders of the world; if they had possessed a newspaper press, they would have had an eighth, more marvelous and of more worth than all the rest together.

It is said the London Times has no "free list;" its own editors are obliged to purchase copies for home reading. Emperor Nicholas is so much in favor of popular education that he allows three newspapers to each million of his subjects. Their contents are submitted to royal approval before they are printed.

The American Messenger, a monthly paper of the American tract Society, is thought to have the largest circulation of any paper in the United States; over 125,000 copies are printed.

The first paper published north of the Ohio River, was the "Centinel of the North-West Territory," started in Cincinnati, on the 9th of Nov., 1793, by William Maxwell.

Mr. Mahlon Day, who with his wife and daughter was lost on the Arctic, was one of the founders of the New York Sun, the first penny paper in New York, established in 1832.

We are indebted to Hon. ROBERT McCLELLAND, Secretary of the Interior, for a copy of his Annual Report to the President of the U. States for 1854, from which we make the following extract in relation to the Public Lands:

"During the last fiscal year 11,070,935 acres have been surveyed, and 8,190,017 acres brought into market. Within the same period there were sold for cash, 7,035,735 07 acres.

And the amount received therefor, \$9,285,533 58
Located with military scrip and land warrants, 3,416,802 26
Swamp Lands selected for States, 11,033,313 53
Selected lands on donations for roads, &c., 1,751,963 19

Making a total of, 23,238,313 05

Exhibiting an increase of 5,952,240 17-100 acres over the previous year, of lands sold for cash, and a sensible diminution in the amount located with scrip and land warrants, and selected for States."

We hear that the Secretary of the Treasury has determined upon the sites for eight of the new custom houses directed by Congress at its last session to be built. They are, with the owners of the land and the prices paid for them, (the sites,) as follows, viz:

City.	Owner.	Price.
N. Haven, Ct.	Samuel Bishop	\$24,000
Burlington, Vt.	J. W. Pomeroy	7,750
Oswego, N. Y.	Cheney Ames	12,000
Sandusky, Ohio	Geo. Reber	11,000
Toledo, Ohio	S. L. Collins	12,000
Chicago, Illinois	Chas. V. Dyer	26,600
Milwaukee, Wis.	Geo. D. Dousman	12,200
Wheeling, Va.	John W. Gill	20,500

THE ARMIES OF EUROPE.

A German officer has just published at Leipzig a pamphlet on the armies of Europe.

Russia has 450,000 infantry, 80,000 cavalry, 44,000 artillery men, 12,000 engineers, besides a reserve of 478,000 men of irregular arms, making a total of 1,154,000 men, and 2,250 cannons. The naval force of Russia is composed of 52 men-of-war, 48 frigates and 84 small vessels, making together 185 boats, armed with 9000 pieces of artillery.

Turkey has 180,000 infantry, 17,280 cavalry, 1,700 engineers, and a reserve body of 325,000 men, in all 457,680 soldiers and 360 cannons. The naval force of Turkey is, 10 men-of-war, 7 frigates and 60 small vessels, in all 77 vessels, and 3,000 cannon.

England has 119,000 infantry, 13,600 cavalry, 15,122 artillery men, 2460 engineers, 80,000 militia, or a total of 230,200 men. The army of English possessions in India numbers 348,000 men, including 31,000 royal troops. The English navy consists in 94 men-of-war, 92 frigates, 185 small vessels, in all 371, carrying 15,234 cannon. Her steam navy represents a power of 54,254 horses.

France has 282,000 infantry, 86,000 cavalry, 8,200 engineers, and 38,000 of other troops, including 25,000 gen d'armes, the whole being an effective force of 566,000 men, with 1,182 cannon. The French naval power is composed of 60 men-of-war, 78 frigates, and 283 light vessels, being in all 41 boats and 11,733 cannons. Not including 113 steamers representing a horse power of 40,270 horses.

Austria, Prussia and the other German States have considerable military forces.

Austria has under arms 458,000 infantry, 67,000 cavalry, 47,000 artillery, 16,800 engineers and 5,200 other troops, total effective 593,000 men and 1,140 cannon.

Prussia has 372,000 infantry, 67,600 cavalry, 6,000 artillery, 7,740 engineers, and 72,700 men of other troops, in all 580,800 men.

The other states of the German confederation have in all 166,000 infantry, 25,000 cavalry, 14,500 artillery, 2,027 engineers and 17,000 men of other troops, in all 224,900 men and 500 cannon. Thus Germany can put in action an army of 995,600 infantry, 159,600 cavalry, 121,600 artillery men, 26,000 engineers, and 94,000 other troops. The general effective force will then show 1,298,500 soldiers, and 2,572 cannon.

[Extract of a letter by the Rev. Mr. Churchill, of Boston, who is now traveling for his health in the East:]

"It gives one an ever present idea of the expansive enterprise of his countrymen, to find their commodities of commerce continually in his path wherever he goes. I have not yet visited any considerable city of Turkey where I did not find the medicines of my country represented by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. In Smyrna, Aleppo, Jaffa, Jerusalem and Constantinople, we see in each, on the door post of some bazaar, the peculiarly American looking iron card, of Dr. Ayer, saying in a language which not one in a thousand of the passers by can read,—'Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for Coughs, Colds and Consumption, Sold Here.' On a shelf behind the cross-legged mussulman are seen the bottles with their English, Spanish, French and German faces turned to the crowd, and on inquiring we are told that foreigners are not the only purchasers, but the true believers themselves waive their trust in fate to try his product of American skill, when they find there is no other cure for them.

"I was told here yesterday that the Cherry Pectoral had been presented to the Sultan, and is now in constant use in his harem, and in the Hospitals of the Empire."

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.

Mr. Don Platt, Secretary of Legation at Paris, is in town. Mr. Platt says that the most friendly disposition prevails towards Mr. Soule at the Spanish court. He embarked at Bordeaux for the Spanish court, a short time before the sailing of the last steamer, under a salute appropriate to his station.

Mr. Platt has some original opinions about the war. He thinks that the governments of France and England were in possession, when he left, of news from the Crimea to the 10th, which, from the ominous silence that prevailed, was believed to be of the most disastrous character. In fact, the events occurring from the 17th October to the 5th of November, left hardly a doubt that the allied army was reduced to the alternative of a hasty embarkation without their artillery, or a surrender as prisoners of war.

The consequences of this great reverse will be very important, beside its immediate effect upon the progress of the war. In the first place it is feared, with great reason, that it will be followed by a revolution in France against Louis Napoleon, and probably in favor of Henry V.—That is Mr. Platt's opinion. Next, it may be assumed that it will produce a change of Ministry in England.

MECHANICS WANTED.—The Kansas Herald, published at Leavenworth, Kansas Territory, contains the following in its issue of November 24th:

There is wanted at Leavenworth two or three good Shoemakers. This is a good opening, and would pay well. There is a large settlement in and around this place, and for the want of a shoemaker people have almost to go barefooted. Will not some one come here this winter.

A good Blacksmith or two would find immediate and constant employment, at his own prices. Bricklayers and brickmakers wanted here very badly. There are many persons who want to build brick houses next spring and summer.—Brick will readily command here \$6 to \$7 per 1000. There is good soil here for making brick, and wood in abundance on the Island below the town.

A good wagon maker, would do a land office business here and at the Fort, and get more than he could do.

PAUPERS TO BE SENT HOME.—Forty Irish paupers were brought from Deer Island this forenoon, for the purpose of placing them on board a ship which is to transport them back to Ireland whence they came or were sent to this country. There are some others who will be provided with a free passage to "Ould Ireland."

[Boston Journal.] This is a matter which we trust will engage the attention of our Legislature. Paupers are

habitually sent here from the old country, and their passage paid by the authorities. The emigrant tax is also paid the same way by the N. York authorities, who with it pay the passage of them to the west, reaching here destitute, to become inmates of poor houses.

Every day almost paupers are taken directly from the Railroad depot to the county poor house. On Saturday last one entire family arrived here who were paupers in the country from which they came—whose passage was paid by the town authorities from which they were sent, and who are now the guests of Cook county.—We trust our Legislature will at once pass some stringent law to remedy an evil which is becoming so burdensome to the west, that while it is an asylum for the oppressed, it does not become a lazar house for Europe.

[Chicago Journal.]

RESTORATION OF THE MISSOURI LINE.

The real slavery propagandists of the South, like the abolitionists of the North do not approve of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. It is found to be a measure not calculated to expand the institution of slavery, and we shall not be surprised to see a considerable body of southern fire-eaters ready to unite with northern fanatics in demanding its repeal. We find the subjoined paragraph in the Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer.

"A writer in the Daily South Carolinian over the signature of 'Calhoun,' strongly urges the re-establishment of the Missouri compromise line. The South, he thinks, was badly duped in the passage of the Nebraska-Kansas bill; and, without in the slightest degree censuring those Southern members of Congress who voted for the ill-advised obliteration of the line, he advises that they retrace their steps 'at the earliest opportunity.'"

The Union men of the South who supported the Nebraska-Kansas bill did so that a great uniform principle might be established, in respect to the organization of new Territories, by which the question of slavery should forever be banished from the halls of Congress, and given over to the people, directly interested, for settlement in all cases; and this was the ground occupied by Cass, Douglas, Bright, and the true democracy of the North. It was common ground, which all the friends of peace, harmony and concord could consistently occupy. The fire-eaters of the South and the abolitionists of the North are about to unite upon opposite ground—with what consistency is seen in the fact that the first regard the repeal of the Missouri compromise line as extinguishing slavery extension, and the latter affect to regard it as promoting slavery extension.

[Detroit Free Press.]

SUFFERING IN NEBRASKA.—A gentleman recently returned from the far west, informs us that there is already much suffering among the Nebraska emigrants for the necessities of life; and that the coming winter threatened to prove fatal to a large portion of the settlers. Without houses to live in—without markets (if they had any) to supply them with food, with no fish, and very little game, the poor emigrants who have gone out there under the lead of Anti-slavery fanatics, must hurry home or die for want of food. In most cases the poor squatters have not money enough to pay their way back to their comfortable New England homes for which they are now sadly sighing. Will our Abolition philanthropists who have been instrumental in getting up this exodus, provide some miraculous manner to save their deluded victims from starvation.

[Evening Mirror.]

THE KNOW-NOTHINGS AFFLICTED WITH THE BOTTS.—John M. Botts, wrote a very reasonable and witty letter to the Know Nothings of N. Jersey, who had a banquet lately in honor of their victories in that State.

"I think it quite manifest that there is about to be a total revolution in the political affairs of this country; and for my own part, I am satisfied that no change is likely to be for the worse. And if the organization of the Whig party is to be broken up, it leaves no alternative for us, but to choose between the two other parties.—The Know Nothings, on the one hand, and the Good-for-Nothings on the other; and having fought against the Good-for-Nothings for twenty odd years, (ever since the whig and democrat parties were formed) I am strongly inclined to fight on the side of Know Nothings—a name, by the way that I think they are no more entitled to than the party now in power are to the name of Democratic, for so far from knowing nothing, I think they know a great deal more than any other party in the country. They know how to do what they undertake to do, and generally do it up pretty brown."

MELANCHOLY INSANITY.—We are informed that A. B. Wyncoop, once a prominent citizen of Waukegan, and the pioneer editor in that young city, is now inmate of an insane asylum in California. "He had become a believer in 'Spiritualism,'" so called, and the spirits had directed him to knock down every person whom he heard doubting the truth of the spiritual theory. He attempted to obey the command so often and persistently, that no recourse was left but to lock him up in a mad-house, where he now is, a hopeless lunatic.

[Chicago Tribune.]

Keep good company or none. Make few promises.

MARINE LIST.

ARRIVED, Dec. 15th.

Schr. Vermont, Cuddy; which went ashore on the 13th inst. Prop. Ottawa, —; was got off and came up to her dock.

CLEARED, Dec. 15th.

No departures, navigation having closed. There entered this port, in 1854, 135 vessels, making 927 trips. The vessels are as follows: Steamboats 2, Propellers 9, Brigs 7, Schooners 112, sloops 5. Total 135 vessels.

The schooner Illinois, Burke, made the most trips, being 35.

The schooner Pioneer was the first, and the Vermont was the last vessel that entered this port in 1854.

Fall Styles of Jewelry.

THIS day received, one of the most extensive and beautiful assortments of Jewelry ever offered to the people of the Grand River Valley: It consists in part of

Breast Pins, Ear Rings, Finger Rings and Lockets.

Prices range from the very lowest to the most expensive articles, and we are sure to please the most fastidious. Wm. P. & Co. Monroe street, Grand Rapids, Oct. 4, 1854.