





THE ZUID-AFRIKAN.

Cape Town, March 14, 1853.

After considerable delay, and various conjectures relative to the cause, the anxiety of the inhabitants of Cape Town was on Thursday evening last allayed by the arrival of the Royal Mail Steamer Hydaspes, which has performed the voyage from England in 42 days, having left Portsmouth on the 27th January last.

The Queen of the South having to undergo certain repairs, which had not been completed on the day fixed for the despatch of the mail, it appears to have been determined to send the Hydaspes off as soon as possible, in lieu of her, and to postpone her departure to the following trip, fixed for the 15th February.

The Australian Mail Steamer Adelaide, which left England on the 3rd January, had sailed from St. Vincent six days before the Hydaspes, having been delayed there 18 days, on account of the want of fuel.

The Hellespont was to leave England on the 20th of February, for the purpose of taking over the return mail of the Bosphorus from India, the latter vessel having to remain here to be employed on the coast trade; which arrangement will indeed prove an important acquisition.

The Harbinger, the first of a line of steamers which the company intends to establish to Australia, was to start on the 11th February, touching at the Cape, and to be followed by three new boats called the Jason, the Golden Fleece and the Oriz.

The English papers received by the Hydaspes are up to 20th of January, one day previous to her departure. Of that date also is the Letter of our London Correspondent, giving a regular review of all the principal events up to that time, which we commend to the notice of our readers:—

London, January 20, 1853.

The only political intelligence of any interest during the last few weeks has been that relating to the ministerial elections, and even that has not been of a very exciting character. At London, Southwark, Carlisle, Wolsingham, and Tiverton the various candidates were returned without an attempt to oppose them, in spite of all the boasting of the Opposition. At Southwark, the Derbyite candidate, a silly member of the C. de. de. party, who made himself exceedingly tiresome when in the house, by his opinions and speeches on foreign policy, was equally unsuccessful in his attempt to oust Sir Alexander Cockburn.

The main interest of the recent elections was concentrated at Oxford where the Derbyite Tractarians and Low Churchmen had formed a coalition against Mr. Gladstone for having accepted office in a cabinet of which Lord John Russell, Sir James Graham, and Sir William Molesworth were members. The man whom they selected as "a fit and proper person" to represent the head quarters of learning was a Mr. Percival, a man of whom little more was known than the fact that his father was assassinated by Bellingham. The Marquis of Blandford, the Marquis of Chandos, and several other parties had been tried previously, but no man of any note would lend his countenance to the factious opposition. The polling lasted five days, during which the most untiring efforts were made by both parties to bring up voters from all parts of the country, some of them travelling no less than 200 miles. On Thursday last the long protracted struggle was brought to a close by the return of Mr. Gladstone for whom 10,000 votes were given, and his opponent had only 8000.

The only victory gained by the Derbyites was at Carlisle, where Mr. Sadler has been elected, owing to the remarkable interference of Mr. Lucas, M.P., and the Ultra-tantrist party. As the new Ministry has not yet been many weeks in office it would be premature to expect any authentic statement regarding what their measures are likely to be, although there is no lack of rumors. From all I can gather, there is good reason to hope that they will introduce a comprehensive measure of colonial reform early in the session. Should they do so they will earn the gratitude and support of all true patriots, for there is no question of more pressing importance. As an earnest of their goodwill in that direction, it is said that despatches were forwarded by the Adelaide steamer, which sailed from Plymouth on the 3d last, to the Governor-General of New South Wales, and the Lieut. Governor of Victoria, authorizing the Legislative Council in both these colonies to form themselves each into a parliament, consisting of an upper and a lower house, it being at the same time intimated that as soon as this arrangement shall have been brought into operation, the Crown will concede to them the management of their own affairs, including the entire receipts of the public lands, so as to assimilate their position to that of Canada. The despatches are said likewise to have contained an assurance that transportation will positively cease within a short period, which will be named as soon as the necessary plans for a different disposal of the convicts can be completed. One of the latest rumors on this head is that, with a view to get rid of one of the most vexatious colonial questions, Government contemplates the conversion of the Falkland Islands into a convict settlement. This would be one of the most sensible measures ever adopted with reference to the disposal of that troublesome part of our population. You are, no doubt, aware that an establishment was formed on those remote islands, some nine or ten years ago, at an expense of nearly £5000 a year, with a view to their ultimate colonization, but as our emigrants do not show much willingness to go to that distant part of the globe, the entire population of the islands, including the government establishment, being only about a hundred inhabitants, the place seems admirably fitted for a convict settlement.

As regards the transportation question, I am glad to say that the Cape Colonists need not disturb themselves about any of the rumors which have lately prevailed regarding the alleged intention of government to colonize Kaffraria with the view of leaving that district to be managed by a measure, which are understood to have been written by Mr. Montagu, were thought by some to indicate a foregone conclusion. It was supposed by parties who are pretty well acquainted with the way in which matters are managed in Downing Street, that the object of Mr. Montagu was to prepare the public mind for the announcement that such a mode of settling, or rather unsettling the convict question, at least as regards the Cape, had been left by their successors. If such was the case the letters of Mr. Montagu displayed the scheme by their premature announcement of it, for it is now understood that whatever the intentions of Sir John Pakington may have been, the present Ministry are not disposed to inaugurate their colonial policy with so signal a blunder.

In reference to the evils arising from the want of proper legislative authority at the Cape, an interesting letter from a trustworthy correspondent, who resided a long time in that colony, appears in a weekly paper which devotes considerable attention to colonial matters. Among other instances of what might be done if the colony possessed a parliament, he points out that the principal cause of the want of a legislature is the want of a principal place and fruit growing district, and thence through the Orange River Sovereignty to Natal, and thence, not least, of a Colonial university. All these, and other important improvements, he remarks, would be undertaken at once, and prosecuted with vigor if you had once a Colonial Legislature to authorize them.

A good deal of excitement has prevailed lately regarding the religious persecutions in Tuscany, owing to a report that Francesco Medici, who with his wife was sent to the galleys last year, had died in prison. The report proves to be unfounded, but the public mind is still agitated on the subject, and meetings have been held in London and other parts of the country at which resolutions have been passed calling upon government to give up all correspondence with the court at Florence so long as it acts in so shameful a manner. In France affairs begin to wear a somewhat complicated aspect. It is now plain that notwithstanding all he has done for the cause of despotism, Louis Napoleon is no favourite of his countrymen. Old Napoleon is too much of an exclusive to allow his grandson to assume the customary manner as monarch. He only goes the length of addressing him as a man of arms, which was highly resented at first by the Emperor of France, but on second thoughts he pocketed the affront, with a firm resolution to pay him back as soon as a good opportunity occurs. Another proof of the want of good will among the Northern Powers is the constant failure of all Louis Napoleon's attempts to obtain a consort from any of the royal families in Germany or elsewhere. His disappointments in that line are said to have mortified him exceedingly, but he seems determined to submit to no more refusals of that sort, as he has announced his intention to marry a Spanish lady, the Countess Teba with whom he is said to be madly in love. His family were strongly opposed to the marriage, but that does not weigh much with him. The marriage will take place on the 30th instant.

Our home trade still continues brisk in all branches, notwithstanding the advance in the rate of discount from 2 to 3 per cent. During the last three weeks, The Bank of England has been induced to take this step chiefly in consequence of the speculative demand for money in Paris, which would greatly injure a check. Notwithstanding the large influx of gold and silver from Australia and the Bank of England was decreasing at the rate of two or three hundred thousand pounds a week. A large portion of the drain was required for France, but that will not cease as money gets dearer. The principal reports relating to the wool trade, all concur in stating that the improvement which took place at the London sales in summer—when an advance of 10 per cent was obtained, has been fully maintained, and as the stocks are quite inadequate to supply the large consumption now going on in the manufacturing districts, a considerable advance in prices may be expected, unless the manufacturers carry out their resolution to work short time, as some of them are already doing, and as many others threaten to do, in consequence of the unremunerative prices of goods as compared with those of yore. For my own part, however, I think there is little probability of the rate of consumption being greatly checked by that movement, as the general prosperity of the working classes is likely to maintain the present brisk demand for goods, at least so far as the home market is concerned, and in that case prices must soon become remunerative. As the wool trade is the mainstay of the season will take place in little more than a fortnight, they are looked forward to with anxious interest. It is said that the stock in the hands of London dealers is larger than usual, a considerable quantity having been left over from last public sales. At Leeds and Bradford the representative stock is making large purchases of wool last week, which has given rise to a good deal of speculation. The general belief is that his purchases will be seen on speculation, under the impression that prices will rise considerably next week.

I see from the reports relating to the wool trade in Germany, that the increase of consumption and the fear of diminished supplies is producing the natural result. Consignments are made to a very great advance in prices, and as the speculators rely confidently upon the importation of wool from the colonies being later than usual, which is almost sure to be the case, they calculate upon having the buyers very much in their power.

The last accounts from the Cape bring news of gold having been discovered at Natal, but the information seems of a rather doubtful nature. It would perhaps be quite as well for the colony should it prove to be a mistake. The late discovery of gold in the Fort Beaufort district will prove, I expect, a much more important boon to the colony. The Hydaspes screw steamer, by which this letter goes out, should have sailed on the 5th, but was not ready in time. The next screw steamer for Australia, calling at the Cape will be the Harbinger, which leaves Southampton on the 10th of February.

The Australian had reached Plymouth on the 11th January, and the Lady Jocelyn on the 23rd.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The following is the list of the New Ministry as now completed, and the other appointments consequent upon the change of Administration:—

- First Lord of the Treasury... The Earl of Aberdeen
Lord Chancellor... Lord Cranworth
Chancellor of the Exchequer... Mr. Gladstone
Secretaries of State (Home)... Lord Palmerston
Secretaries of State (Foreign)... Lord John Russell
President of the Council... Earl Granville
Lord Privy Seal... The Duke of Argyll
Secretary at War... Mr. Sidney Herbert
President of the Board of Control... Sir C. Wood
First Commissioner of Public Works... Sir W. Molesworth
The Marquis of Lansdowne
The above form the Cabinet.
President of the Board of Trade... Mr. Cardwell
President of the Poor Law Board... Rt. Hon. M. T. Baines
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster... Rt. Hon. E. Stuart
Vice President of the Board of Trade, and Paymaster General... Lord Stanley of Alderley
Postmaster General... Lord Canning
Attorney General... Sir A. Cockburn
Solicitor General... Mr. Bethell
Judge Advocate General... Mr. C. P. Villiers
Lord E. Hervey
Mr. Sadler
Mr. Bouverie
Hon. F. Chatteris
The Rt. Hon. G. Hayter
Mr. Wilton
Rear Admiral Berkeley
Captain the Hon. R. S. Dundas
Hon. W. F. Cowper
Mr. Bernal Osborne
Hon. Henry Fitzroy
Mr. F. Peel
Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs... Lord Wodehouse
Secretary of the Treasury... Right Hon. G. Hayter
One of the Joint Secretaries of the Board of Control... R. Lowe, Esq.
Clerk to the Ordnance... Mr. Monnell
Lord Lieutenant of Ireland... Lord St. Germain
Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland... Sir J. Young
Lord Chancellor of Ireland... The Rt. Hon. M. Brady
Attorney General for Ireland... Mr. Bouverie
Solicitor General for Ireland... Mr. Keogh
Lord Advocate of Scotland... Mr. Moncrieff
Vice Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household... Lord E. Bruce
Treasurer of Her Majesty's Household... The Earl of Mulgrave
Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household... Lord Drumlanrig
Clerk Marital to Her Majesty... Lord Alfred Paget
Captain of the Gentlemen at Arms... Lord Foley
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard... Viscount Sydney

Sir William Molesworth, the tried friend of Colonial reform, after his election thus expressed himself in his address to his constituents:— "He had little to say on our Foreign policy. He held that we should mind our internal affairs, and not meddle with those of other countries. Lastly, with regard to our colonial policy—"It was with your sanction and approval that of late years I have paid great attention to Colonial questions, and especially to those affecting the interests of the most important of our Colonial dependencies. You are aware that mighty states are now springing up in British North America; that immense empires are being generated in Australia; that we have vast possessions in South Africa; in short, that the foreign dominions of the British Crown are to be found in every zone and every climate of the earth.

With a wise and prudent Colonial policy, I believe that those possessions may be long attached to this country by the strongest ties of affection and mutual interest; and therefore I may say, that one of the reasons which mainly induced me to become a member of Her Majesty's present government was the hope that I might, at least in some slight degree, aid the cause of colonial reform, and assist the development and application of the great principles of local self government to our colonies." (Cheers.)—Spectator, Jan. 8.

The new Attorney-General, Sir A. Cockburn, expressed himself on the above subject in the following terms:— "There remains to be noticed the subject of our colonies, which have been from the earliest time more or less subject to misrule. A great reformer has been amongst us—I allude to Sir William Molesworth. He has devoted his sound intellect and reasoning powers to the investigation of this subject, to probe the evil to the core, and to find the remedy. It is no trifling thing, let me tell you, to find that man a member of the Cabinet [cheers]. True it is, the colonies are not at this moment entrusted to his care; but this I know, that all his opinions were laid before the Government, and that the Administration, and depend upon it that his presence in the Cabinet is a guarantee to the people for colonial reform and for the introduction of self government among the colonies of this country [loud cheers]. Morning Chronicle, Jan. 6.

We have been favored with the perusal of a series of further documents relative to the establishment of a representative body at the Cape of Good Hope, submitted to Parliament on the 23rd December last, by command of Her Majesty. From a hasty perusal thereof, it appears that Mr. MONTAGU, who, as will be seen from our Correspondent's letter, was suspected in England of having urged the plan to settle Kaffraria with Convicts, was, until a short time previous to his departure from the colony, engaged in damaging the cause of the colonists by the most shameful misrepresentations. We shall hereafter take occasion to submit some extracts from this valuable communication to our readers, in order that they may see that, in uniting to petition Her Majesty for the removal of this obnoxious functionary, they have consulted their honor, their character, and even their very existence. As a satisfactory contrast to this libellous instrument, we find in the same volume a very able and liberal communication from our Lieut. Governor, Mr. DARLING, conveying his views on the actual state of the question of the Constitution. So far from detracting from the merits of the petitions which have been presented, pro and con, by misrepresentation or chicanery, Mr. DARLING simply and impartially states the nature and contents of each. In an elaborate review of the matter—he declares it to be his firm opinion that the £25 franchise—so greedily resorted to as an expedient for further delay—was clearly not among the blanks to be filled up; nor a point upon which minute local information was any longer required; and that, finally, it would appear from the opinions he had expressed, that he looked upon this franchise as having been virtually promised by the local legislation to the inhabitants of the colony; as having been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Ministers as one of the details of that system of representative government which had been accorded by Her Majesty's free grace, and that no adequate ground had been assigned for breaking a pledge thus solemnly given.

Under the head of Frontier Affairs, will be found the Proclamation publicly announcing that peace has been concluded with SANDILLI and the Gaika tribe. It is a well known fact, and should be borne in mind, that as the colonists have not induced or been the cause of the war thus terminated, so they cannot be considered as parties to, or as responsible for a peace, respecting the conditions of which they have not been consulted, and which therefore rests entirely upon the shoulders of those by whom they have been framed. The colonists have stood at a distance, as it were, or rather they have been denied the opportunity to make themselves heard.

The news received by Saturday's post is not important. There seems to be a considerable discrepancy in the opinion of the frontier press on the peace just terminated. Whilst the Graham's Town Journal views the terms of the Proclamation as far less objectionable than it had been induced by report to believe, and indeed attaches its approval to the course adopted by His Excellency, the Frontier Times designates the peace as "worthless; as hollow; as treacherous; as a foul blot upon the honour of the British Government, and an insult to the colonists." Time will show which of them is right. The following items are taken from the last Frontier Times. From King William's Town intelligence has been received, up to the 6th inst. The terms of the peace have had a deepening influence upon the public there, as well as in all parts of the country in which they have been made known. It seems from letters just received, that the Gaika chiefs mistrust the Governor's kind intentions towards them, having been given to understand, so the report was at King William's Town, that His Excellency by demanding the surrender of their arms only intended to entrap them and seize their persons. And the report further goes on to say that some of the chiefs were coming in with their arms when they turned back, with real or pretended fear for their personal liberty. Mr. Brownlee, (who it seems has had several conferences with the chiefs before they would agree to a peace on the terms offered,) it is said, has been despatched to find the chiefs and to assure them that no treachery was intended towards them—and to assure them that His Excellency's word is sacred and so forth.

In the extensive and important district of Clanwilliam, a very lively spirit is displayed in nearly every Ward, in the election of their delegates. According to the last accounts public meetings had been held in almost every quarter. The report of that of the Hantam, at a distance of 50 hours, has already reached us, and will appear in our next. We are induced to ascribe the excitement of this quiet and peaceful district to the great and urgent want of improvement felt in their oppressed and abandoned condition; and from several private letters it appears that their complaints of daily retrogression are general.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Lieutenant-General the Honourable GEORGE CATHOART, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Cape of Good Hope, &c., &c.

Whereas the Rebellious Gaika People have now been driven out of the Amatolas and all other Gaika Lands, and are dispersed—some having fled beyond the Kei and others wandering about without homes: And whereas the said people have ceased, for several months past, to resist the Queen's troops, or to commit

thefts of cattle or other offences against Her Majesty's Royal subjects:— And whereas the hereditary chief Sandilli—to whose fortunes and welfare the said other Chiefs associated with and attached—and other minor Chiefs associated with him, who have caused all these evils, have at length, in obedience to the Governor's word, crossed the Kei, and have acknowledged that they have been subdued, and humbly crave pardon and an allotment of some other Land where they may be allowed to rest in Peace:—

It is therefore ordered, that the time has arrived when an opportunity offers to be taken of restoring the said people to a situation to return to their Duty and Allegiance to Her Majesty, under the efficient restraint and control of some acknowledged and responsible Chief:—

Now, therefore, I do hereby Proclaim, Declare, and make known, that considering that Her Majesty's authority has been vindicated, and sufficient punishment has been inflicted and a view to the re-establishment of Peace and Good Order, I hereby extend the Royal Mercy and Pardon to the said Chief Sandilli and the Gaika People:—

And I further Proclaim, declare, and make known, that the said Chief Sandilli and the Gaika People, cannot be allowed to return to the Amatolas, and their former lands, which have all been forfeited to the Crown, nor to any other possession of His Majesty, nor reserved as Crown Lands to be disposed of His Majesty's pleasure; they will, nevertheless, be permitted, and the responsibility of their Hereditary Chief Sandilli to live in peace in another portion of British Kaffraria further removed from the Kei and the Great North Road leading to the Witwaters, and situated on the North by the Thomas River, and South by the Country of the Chief Umbala, on the following conditions:—

1st.—That the Chief Sandilli, in token of submission, shall deliver up One Hundred (100) Guns, in addition to the Arms stolen by the Kafir Tribes, and become responsible for the good conduct of the Gaika Tribes.

2nd.—That the Chief Sandilli, and all the people under him, shall in all things be bound to be faithful to their Allegiance to the Queen, and obedient to Her Majesty's commands, conveyed through the Governor and the Chief Commissioner, Colonel MADDEAN, or his Deputies, as heretofore.

3rd.—That each Minor Chief lately in Rebellion, before he be permitted to reside in British Kaffraria, shall deliver up, in token of his submission, his Arms, and bind himself to obey Her Majesty's commands, conveyed as aforesaid, under the responsibility and control of the said Chief Sandilli;—failing which, he will continue to be held to be an Outlaw, and dealt with accordingly.

4th.—That the said Chief Sandilli shall make an allotment of land to each of the said minor Chiefs, his dependents, who may wish to reside in British Kaffraria, and that any hereby allotted to him, where they shall dwell, under his responsibility for their true and loyal conduct in future.

5th.—That the said Chief Sandilli shall also be held responsible for the security of the Great High Road, and the Property of Travellers frequenting it, in the same manner as Pato and Sivani are bound to protect the High Roads which pass through their country.

Be it, however, hereby made known, that this General Pardon will not extend beyond British Kaffraria, and that any Kafir Chief, or others, who may enter, and be apprehended with in, the Colony, will, notwithstanding this Pardon, be amenable to Justice, according to Colonial Law, for any crimes they may have committed within the said Colony; and if found trespassing within the Amatolas, they will be dealt with by summary Justice, according to Colonial Law.

And lastly, I do hereby declare, proclaim, and make known, that no Hottentot will be allowed to settle within the country hereby allotted to the Gaika Tribes, without special sanction being first obtained from me.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN! Given under my Hand and Seal, at King William's Town, this 21 day of January, 1853.

GEORGE CATHOART, Governor and High Commissioner. By Command of His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner, WM. F. LIDDLE, Secretary to H. E. the Governor and High Commissioner.

WM. F. LIDDLE, Esq., Private Secretary, &c., &c. &c. Fort Murray, 4th March, 1853.

Sir,—I have the honour to report for the information of His Excellency the High Commissioner, that Kreli's Chief Counselor "Umbala," returned this day, bringing with him two oxen, sent by the Chief of Kreli, in acknowledgment of having received and entered into the conditions of peace dictated by His Excellency, as detailed in the Proclamation of the 14th ult.

I have, &c. (Signed) JOHN MACLEAN, Chief Commissioner. True Copy. WILLIAM F. LIDDLE, Private Secretary.

(From the Colonist, March 5.)

We have still a faint hope that the change of Ministry may exercise a salutary effect upon the Governor's policy in reference to the meditated peace. It is quite clear from the tone of a portion of the colonial press, that provided a peace be made they are not over anxious as to its duration and stability. It is the colonists only who live before the Sunday River and Kaffraria who are the real sufferers. Of the whole, it appears from the published statistics of the Port Elizabeth papers that the Eastern Province has progressed—the exports have increased. We rather think that the Sovereignty has been a great cause of this increase. The condition and prospects of that portion of the inhabitants who are resident upon the extreme frontier are, indeed, truly discouraging. The two Kafir wars succeeding each other at such rapid intervals, have contributed to strip them of their stock and involve them in debt. If they return to their ruined homesteads and commence again to reconstruct their houses, what security have they that the fruits of their labours will not for the third and fourth time be swept off by their faithless enemies? If they remain in town distrusting the peace they will be weighed down with debt. The resolution of the Governor to permit the Gaika tribe to return to their homes with the T'Slamies, was in our opinion a most injudicious piece of policy. The Kafir must have understood it as a symptom of our desire to go over things and make peace almost on any terms. Though they can muster very few followers, still do they refuse to make peace except upon their own terms. The location of Fort Ingoes in the Blinkwater, is also a sacrifice made to temporary expediency. The Kaffer farmers will not be likely to relinquish this scheme, and there can be little doubt but that the looting of the natives near the Frontier, and in such strong positions, is anything but satisfactory. It enables the communities so located to become a species of free corps, and if they are not met in all their expectations it gives them an opportunity of carrying the highest penny in some shape or other for their services.

The conduct of the Kafir Tribes Hotentots after the war of 1846, and their subsequent rebellion, ought to be a sufficient warning to us on this point. It is laid down by all practical military men, that in order to retain the present boundary the Amatolas must be held by us and the Kafirs expelled. The machinery put in motion for this purpose by His Excellency appears very lame and insufficient, and the uncertainty with which he speaks concerning the views of the Home Government is enough to deter all persons from accepting the locations he proposes to give. Except care be taken in the selection of the other who commands, and who is to exercise the functions of a civil magistrate, the locations never can be maintained.—married men with families ought to be selected as settlers. The Governor has kept his plans so very secret that it is only when the project is executed that we hear of it; it could not, however, be expected that a man who before his arrival had known but little of Kaffraria could be exempt from mistakes and errors. His published promises were all most satisfactory. We have now to see his performance, and taking affairs by present appearances, we have little hesitation in expressing our fears that the basis upon which the peace is about to be constructed is not a firm one, and that a most, if executed, will upon those who may have to maintain it, difficulties which they can scarcely be expected to master, that it appears to be only a measure suggested by temporary expediency, and if it be the intention of the mother country to permit this colony to govern itself, it is a most unjust proceeding upon her part to make any final arrangement until the colonists themselves are in a position to take part in the arrangement antecedent to its confirmation by the Executive Government. These principles have been a hundred times over insisted upon by Mr. Gladstone, Lord John Russell, and the parties who form the component parts of the new Ministry. We shall now see whether His Excellency will act upon them,

and whether his peace will be made in his civil or military capacity. The interests involved in this peace are of such importance that, in our opinion, it involves the very existence of the Eastern Province. It certainly is a most humiliating position for our country to be placed in when she cannot conclude a satisfactory peace with a few thousand savages. General Pretorius has good reason to hold his head higher than General Cathcart. He dictates the terms of his treaties.

THE INFLUENZA.

(From the Graham's Town Journal, March 5.)

From various parts of the colony we have reports of the spread of what is called influenza, a distressing derangement of system, attended, by great irritation of the chest and throat, extreme debility, fever, &c. in Graham's Town, as in other places, this epidemic, for so it may be called, has been extensively prevalent, and it may be doubted whether a single habitation has escaped its visitation. In ordinary cases the patient, by timely care, and the use of a little diaphoretic and cooling medicine, in consequence of the course of three or four days, but in some instances where the sufferer has been confined to the house for a much longer period. One case has been brought to our notice, which terminated fatally under very distressing circumstances. The subject of our reference was a respectable man named Miller, who had resided in this town as a school-master, and had succeeded in getting together from fifty to sixty scholars, with every prospect before him of realizing a respectable livelihood by his useful exertions. Unfortunately he was seized with influenza on Friday night, and on Sunday during a paroxysm of coughing burst a blood vessel in the brain, and died in the course of about six hours, leaving a wife and family in a straightened circumstance to mourn their sudden and distressing bereavement.

FRANCE.

THE MESSAGE OF THE EMPEROR.

At twelve o'clock to-day, according to announcement, the members of the Chamber of the Senate and Legislative Body, and the members of the Council of State, waited on the Emperor at the Tuilleries, to receive the communication relative to his marriage, when His Majesty pronounced the following discourse:—

"Gentlemen,—I yield to the wish so often manifested by the country, in coming to succumb to you my marriage. The union which I contract is not in accord with the traditions of old policy; that is its advantage.

"France, by her successive revolutions, has always proudly separated herself from the rest of Europe. Every sovereign Government ought to seek to make her re-enter into the rank of the old monarchies, but this result will be more surely attained by a straightforward and candid policy, and by good faith in all transactions, than by Royal alliances, which create false security, and frequently substitute family for national interests. Besides, examples of the past, which have not been forgotten that for 70 years past foreign princesses have only ascended the steps of the throne to see their race dispersed and proscribed by war or by revolution. One female alone appeared to bring happiness and to live more than others in the remembrance of the people, and that woman, the good and modest wife of General Bonaparte, was not the issue of Royal blood.

"It must, nevertheless, be admitted that in 1810 the marriage of Napoleon I with Maria Louise was a great event; it was a pledge for the future, and a real satisfaction for national pride; since the old and illustrious House of Austria, who had so long made war against us, formed an alliance with the elected chief of a new empire. Under the last reign, on the contrary, had made the crown of France for several years an alliance with a sovereign prince, but only length obtained a princess, doubtless accomplished, but vain in a secondary rank and of another religion? When, in face of old Europe, one is led by a force of new principle to the height of old dynasties, it is not by seeking to introduce oneself at any price into the family of Kings that one makes oneself accepted. It is rather by remembering one's origin, in preserving one's own character, and in being frank before Europe the position of parent—a glorious title when it comes from the free suffrage of a great people.

"Thus, obliged to set aside precedents hitherto followed, my marriage was no longer anything but a private affair; she who had been the object of my preference is of high birth. French by heart, by education, and by the remembrance of the blood which her father shed for the cause of France, she has, as a Spaniard, the advantage of not having in France any family to whom she would wish to give honours and dignities. Gifted with every quality of mind, she will be the ornament of the throne; as in the day of danger she will become one of its most courageous supports. A Catholic and pious, she will address to the same prayers as myself for the happiness of France; her presence at the side of the throne will, I firmly hope, cause to revive, in the same position, the virtues of the Empress Josephine.

"I come, then, gentlemen, to say to France:—I have preferred a woman whom I love and respect to one unknown, and whose alliance would have advantages mingled with sacrifices. Without testifying disdain for any one I yield to my penchant, but not without having first examined my reason and my convictions. In short, in placing independence, qualities of heart, and family happiness above dynastic prejudices and calculations of ambition, I shall not be the less strong, since I shall be more free.

"Soon, in proceeding to Notre-Dame, I shall present the Emperor to the people and to the army. The confidence which they have in me assures me of their sympathy in her choice; and you, gentlemen, by leaving me to my choice, will, I firmly hope, cause to revive, in the same position, the virtues of the Empress Josephine.

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The Constitutionnel has the following remarks on the subject of the Imperial marriage:—

"To-morrow the Emperor will announce to the great bodies of the state, convoked for that purpose at the Tuilleries, daughter of the Count de Montijo, Duke de Penaranda, his marriage with Mlle. de Montijo, Duchess of Teba, whose name is found connected with the most glorious souvenirs of the great wars of the empire. In the struggle which Napoleon carried on in Spain, the Count de Montijo, who had been educated under the standard of France, as a colonel of artillery. He had bravely with his personal arm, at the battle of Salamanca, where he lost an eye and had a leg fractured. At the period when, in spite of all the bravery of the soldiers and the skill of the chiefs, the French army experienced in the Peninsula those reverses which led to its retreat, and when Ferdinand VII. was re-established on the Throne of his ancestors, the Count de Montijo left Spain to continue to serve France. He went through the campaign of 1814 with much distinction, and was decorated by the Emperor himself for the courage which he displayed in the course of it. It was he whom, at the time of the defence of Paris, Napoleon confided the tracing out the fortifications of the capital, and whom he placed at the head of the pupils of the Polytechnic School with the mission to defend the Bataes de St. Chaumont. He had then the honour of firing the last shot for the independence of France. A grandee of Spain, of the first class, and of an illustrious family, which for several centuries past has contracted numerous alliances with the oldest and most glorious houses of Europe; the Duchess of Teba is particularly worthy the high rank she is about to occupy, by the eminent qualities of heart and mind which distinguish her. Gifted with rare beauty, which makes her at first remarkable, she afterwards knows how to make herself beloved by all which is noble, generous, and elevated in her character and in her intelligence. Formed to comprehend all fine and great things, feeling sympathy for all who suffer, the Duchess of Teba, in becoming the companion of the Emperor, will at the same time become the protectress of all talents and of all misfortunes."—Morning Herald, January 21.

SIR HARRY SMITH.

(From the Plymouth Mail)

The understood appointment of Major General Sir H. W. Smith, G.C.B. to the western district, in the room of Major General Sir John K. C. B., resigning through ill-health, calls for an expression of emphatic approbation on the part of all interested in the fate of Plymouth, Devonport, and the neighbouring country. It is not too much to say that Lord Hardinge could not make a better selection, whether the interests of the public generally, or of the military especially, are to be considered. Sir Henry (who somewhat or other, in spite of his god-fathers and godmothers, is better known as Sir Harry) is a good and energetic soldier, fresh from active employment with the small of burnt gunpowder fresh about him. A little rough at times, it is said, but still generous in spirit and hearty in disposition, frank and affable in his manner, easily

