

MONTREAL WITNESS,

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

VOL. XXII.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1867.

No. 39.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, April 24, 1867.

The first of the series of competitions and trials of agricultural machines, in connection with the Great Exhibition—that of ploughs—took place yesterday at the island of Billancourt. This is an island in the Seine, some two or three miles below the Champ de Mars, and has been selected by the Imperial Commission for the purpose of showing various agricultural operations which could not very well be carried on within the limits of the latter place. It is divided into two parts by the road between the two bridges which connect it with the mainland.

On the upper half are erected sheds for the accommodation of live-stock, and for such of the various machines and implements to be exhibited as are kept on the island; the lower half is the ground to be operated on. The soil is a stiff-clay loam, and at present is covered with grass several inches in length. When I arrived at this place, there were about fifteen pairs of horses, in charge of their respective teamsters, ranged along one headland, awaiting the arrival of the jury; and beside them, a great number of ploughs of a great variety of forms and sizes. Being a trial of ploughs rather than ploughing, each exhibitor had a considerable number on the ground and one team of horses, to be yoked to each implement as occasion might require. A number of *sergents-de-ville* were stationed at intervals around the place, charged with the duty—as I soon found—of seeing that no mere spectator should see anything that would be of any use to him. No one, not an exhibitor or a jury-man, was permitted to set foot on the headland on which the ploughs were arranged, or on the road alongside of it; and as this was flanked by the river, there was no way of getting in the line of the furrow. We were generously allowed the use of the road along the opposite side, but durst not touch the grass; and as most of the teams turned before they came near this, but little could be seen. Previous to this, many of the visitors, myself among the number, had been subjected to a vast amount of annoyance and loss of time, owing to some difficulty about tickets of admission, our season tickets of admission to the *Exposition Universelle* being found to be of no use at Billancourt.

I know one man, for instance, who, when on the point of giving up in despair, was told that if he would go to a certain gate near by and pay a franc to the gentleman in charge of it, he would get a "pass" that would enable him to go wherever he chose. He did so, congratulating himself on getting out of the difficulty so easily; and, after perambulating the grounds for some time, found himself—where he started. Under these circumstances, it was anything but consoling to find that, after all our trouble, we could see nothing. In spite of our vexation, it was quite amusing to observe the care with which one fellow, in particular, endeavored to keep all spectators who happened to be on the side-road back a few feet from the turf, lest they might in any way interfere with the progress of *charrues*. There were not more than a hundred visitors present altogether, and it was difficult to see what harm would have been done by allowing them to move freely over the ground as they pleased.

The trial was advertised to commence at mid-day; and, with wonderful punctuality, the jury came on the ground shortly before one o'clock p.m. Two of the exhibitors at the far side of the field represented England; all the others, as far as I can learn, were French. At length, all the preliminaries being attended to, the horses were yoked to their respective ploughs, and the work began. I wish every farmer in Canada could have witnessed the scene that followed.

It was one that would have been appreciated by them, particularly by any who might be pining for a good, hearty, side-splitting laugh. I don't know that I can better describe it than in the words of an English gentleman, who was asked what he thought of the performance. He said it reminded him of a fleet of ships in a gale of wind at sea. I do not know what are regarded as the essential requisites of good ploughing in France, but of this there can be no doubt,—that if those essentials were present in the work I saw performed yesterday, then good ploughing in France is wretchedly bad ploughing in Canada. In most cases, there seemed to be no attempt whatever to have the furrows straight; or the furrow-ridges cleanly cut, and evenly and regularly laid up. The only object appeared to be to tear the soil up in some sort of way, and to get over the ground as quickly as possible. The ploughs were of a great variety of forms, some of them being quite complicated in their construction. One rather peculiar style, and—judging from the great number exhibited—a favorite one, is an implement constructed after a fashion entirely new to me, and one which, at first sight, might not be recognized as a plough of any kind. It is intended to be used as a "one-way," or hill-side plough, and, with this object in view, has two bodies placed opposite each other on a beam that can be turned round in the gearing at the head, in such a way that when one is at work the other is perched perpendicularly above it, bottom upwards. The ploughman, on coming to the end of his furrow, loosens some bolts which kept everything tight when at work, turns his plough upside down,—the beam turning half round in the head-gear,—and returns in the same furrow. This contrivance of course effects a very useful object, but in an exceedingly clumsy way. There are no handles, except a very short one, which seems to be used only in the inverting operation.

I hope no part of this description will be thought to apply to the two English teams at the opposite side of the field. From the position which I was at first compelled to take up, they could scarcely be seen; but, shortly after the work began, a heavy shower of rain came on, causing a general rush, which considerably interfered with the perfect order hitherto main-

tained; and, after this, those who seemed likely to conduct themselves properly were not prevented from going where the work might be seen. This lucky occurrence gave the visitors an opportunity of seeing the English work. The two exhibitors were Messrs. Ransoms & Simms, of Ipswich,—a firm which has been engaged in the improvement and manufacture of ploughs for upwards of eighty years,—and Messrs. J. & F. Howard, of Bedford, who also manufacture Howard's celebrated steam-ploughs. Each had a magnificent span of horses, brought from England for the purpose; and, being well trained, they moved along quietly and steadily. Howard's were Clydesdale horses, and the others of the Suffolk breed. Each plough was attended by two men, also from England. The work done by both was, of course, such as might well challenge the competition of the world; and, as far as I can judge, it will be a difficult matter to decide between them. If my wish, with regard to the farmers of Canada, could have been realized, they could not have failed to be much interested in the ploughs and ploughing exhibited by these two celebrated English firms; particularly as they may be fairly supposed to represent the latest stage arrived at in the manufacture of this important implement on this side of the Atlantic. To give an accurate description of them, it would be necessary to enter into all those numerous details, which, together, to make up a good plough, or good ploughing,—a thing impossible here. I will, therefore, content myself with stating that these gentlemen manufacture ploughs adapted to every variety of soil, climate, and peculiarity of cultivation; and those intended for general use in England are, as to their general features, very much like the iron plough generally used in Canada. The chief point of difference seems to be in the form of the mould-board,—that of the English plough being longer and narrower. The ploughs used at Billancourt were also furnished with a pair of wheels, a skim coulter, and stubble-weight and chain. These are in very general use in England, but of course ploughs are made both with and without them.

Between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, the jury left the field; and, shortly after, Howard's Ploughing Engine came puffing along the gravel road. Most of the people went to see it, and so the great world's ploughing match was at an end. The engine did not come to plough, but simply to show itself, and to show, too, how easily it could draw heavy loads along an ordinary road, or take up its position at the corner of some field, and by means of suitable wire-rope, anchors, and rope-porters, communicate its strength to huge machines for the cultivation of the soil of that field. I have not heard of its being decided whether we are to have an opportunity of seeing these steam-ploughs at work.

There are a few American ploughs on exhibition at the Champ de Mars, but none were entered for trial at Billancourt,—a circumstance which, I doubt not, your readers will very much regret.

I was informed by an American gentleman that this was owing to the fact that none of the exhibitors were in Paris to take charge of their ploughs, and the American Commission, for some reason or other, could not be induced to take the necessary steps towards having their country properly represented at this contest.

It was intended that there should be a trial of all kinds of subsoil ploughs to-day, but it has turned out very wet and cold, and it will probably be postponed. It is expected that, now that these trials have begun in earnest, they will be regularly continued. McO.

CHEESE FACTORIES.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

SIR,—I give me great pleasure to see so many cheese factories getting up in Canada. I believe they will be a great benefit to the farmers, not only in increasing their revenue, but what is probably of more ultimate advantage, in resting land by pasture, which has been by far too long tortured by the plough, and the endless sowing of timothy. The best agriculturists in Britain find that such a system takes all essentials out of lands for good wheat culture, and this we also now find in Lower Canada, to our sad cost. Cheese-making may be something new to many of our farmers and many of them may not be aware that, to make cheese profitably, it will be necessary that their cows should be fed differently from the old system. They will find it to their advantage to feed their cows on horsebean meal for at least six weeks before they calve, say half a gallon per day with their other mashes, and hence it will be necessary for them to sow a few acres in beans, and also, they will find it much to their advantage to have a few acres of tares, sown in succession, to feed the cows when the grass fails, in order to keep up the quantity of milk. By proper attention to the cows, they may expect a good cow will make her own weight in cheese. Our chemists are well aware why giving oil cake to cows increases the butter, also how bean meal increases the cheese. Having taken the *Witness* since the commencement, I require no proof of the great interest you take in your agricultural readers; and if you should think the above remarks may be of any interest to our cheese makers, you may probably give them a place. As a great many of our farmers are far better qualified than I am to give advice on the above, if they would only do so, they would greatly oblige an old man verging on fourscore years. J. S.

Snowside, Cote St. Luke, Montreal, May, 1867.

[We are very much obliged to Mr. S. for his valuable article.—Ed. Wit.]

—Hon. John W. Lowe, who lately died at Gloucester, bequeathed the proceeds of his dwelling house and the annual income of \$15,000 for the support of a seminary for girls to be established in that town.—*Am. Paper.*

—The *Cork Examiner* says it has seen a letter from Paris which mentions that Head-Centre Stephens had left that city for Berlin.

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

Thursday, May 9th

At the meeting of Presbytery this forenoon in Erskine Church,

Dr. TAYLOR moved, seconded by Mr. JOHN REDPATH,—The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Presbytery to have a friendly conference with the Kirk Session of Knox church, with a view to have the organ removed which has been employed by them in conducting the public praise, reported that they had summoned said Session to meet with them in the evening of —, but found the doors locked, and no one waiting to receive them; after lengthened consideration, the following deliverance was agreed to:—

(For the resolutions, see the report or preceding page.)

Mr. ANDERSON proposed as an amendment:—That the conduct of the Session of Knox church, in refusing to meet the committee appointed to confer regarding the matter of instrumental music in said church, meets the disapprobation of this court, and that the clerk be instructed to convey the decision to said session.

Dr. IRVINE then proposed as an amendment on the amendment:—That the Kirk Session of Knox Church were justified in declining to meet the Committee, even in friendly conference, on the ground that by meeting the committee at all they would have admitted the validity of the citation, which, not embodying the extract minute of the Presbytery, defining the committee's powers, was not in harmony with the prescribed form of our church law.

Dr. TAYLOR's motion was eventually carried. A memorial and petition was received from the session and congregation of Knox Church, praying that the Synod be overruled to allow of instrumental music in churches.

Messrs. Alex. McGibbon, D. McLaren, and Mr. James Brown, commissioners from Knox Church, supported the petition, looking to the merits of the question as to the advisability of introducing instrumental music into churches. Mr. John Redpath also said a few words to the same effect.

A petition from the station of New Glasgow was taken up, praying for a continuance of the aid hitherto rendered to it. The reason of the congregation there not being so flourishing was that many of its young people left it for other places. It was agreed that aid should be continued, and that a deputation visit the place.

The motion which was made on Wednesday, to the effect that the report of the Committee to meet with the session of Knox Church be received, and the committee discharged, was withdrawn by Dr. Taylor, who wished to present another motion.

Dr. IRVINE observed, if he had uttered anything yesterday in reference to this matter which was looked upon as offensive, he wished to withdraw it, as he meant nothing offensive. He had, since the adjournment last night, consulted authorities, and he held that, according to these authorities, the citation was invalid.

Dr. TAYLOR said they all felt this to be a disagreeable matter, and the way in which it had been conducted was not calculated to maintain the character of the court. They had to consider the conduct of the Committee, and the course taken by the Kirk Session in not receiving them. They had likewise to consider what the Presbytery should now do in the premises. He thought it was a pity that the Committee had proceeded by citation. There ought to have been, what was at first contemplated; namely, a friendly conference. A citation was a form of procedure connected with the highest kind of offence that could come before the Presbytery. He would propose, then, that the Presbytery express regret that the Committee should have proceeded by citation. He would propose, too, that the Presbytery express their disapprobation of the conduct of the Kirk Session of Knox church, in its shutting of the doors on the Committee. He would also propose that action in the matter in its present form should be prosecuted no further, as between the Committee and the Session. He would, therefore, move that:—

First. The Presbytery regrets that the Committee adopted the course of proceeding by citation, instead of asking a friendly conference.

Second. The Presbytery disapproves of the course pursued by the Kirk Session of Knox Church, in refusing to meet with the Committee.

Third. The Presbytery regrets to find that the purpose for which the above Committee was appointed has been defeated; but, considering all the circumstances, declines to prosecute the matter further; declaring herein that the action of the Presbytery in this case shall not be regarded as a precedent, as between the Committee and the Kirk Session of Knox Church.

Mr. John REDPATH, elder, seconded the motion.

Rev. Mr. ANDERSON proposed the following amendment:—"That the conduct of the Session of Knox Church, in refusing to meet the Committee appointed to confer regarding the matter of instrumental music in the said Church, meets the disapprobation of this Court, and that the clerk be instructed to convey this decision to said Session." He considered that the question now at issue was not so much one as to the propriety of instrumental music in the Church, as that its introduction in this unauthorized manner was an innovation in divine worship.

Dr. IRVINE objected to the competency of Mr. Anderson to propose a resolution, since he was a party interested.

Rev. Mr. GORDON commented on some of the leading features of the conduct of the Session of Knox Church towards the committee. He considered that if such conduct was to be allowed, it would be injurious, if not fatal, to Presbyterian Church government. He also combated Dr. Irvine's technical objections to the citation, and the word "summon" contained therein. He likewise considered that there was guilt implied in this question, since in its present phase there was an innovation in divine worship. It was a breach of the law of the Presbyterian Church, and if they were dissatisfied with the law, let them get it abrogated constitutionally. The reasons set forth in the shape of resolutions by the session of Knox

Church for the introduction of an organ did not justify them, and ought never to have been received by this Presbytery. If Dr. Taylor's resolution was passed, it would stultify the Presbytery by quashing all the proceedings in the premises, and this, too, in the face of the Presbytery's own deliverance.

Rev. Mr. GIBSON said there were two sore points; first, the conduct of the Session, and then the remarks of Dr. Irvine, which last, however, had been withdrawn.

Rev. Mr. CAMERON—Yes: after they have been publicly circulated in several papers of Montreal.

Mr. GIBSON—The withdrawal will, by the same means, be made just as public as the original remarks themselves. He supported Dr. Taylor's motion.

Dr. IRVINE proposed the following amendment to the amendment:—

"That the Kirk Session of Knox church were justified in declining to meet the Committee, even in a friendly conference, on the ground that by meeting the Committee at all they would have admitted the validity of the citation, which, not embodying the extract minute of the Presbytery defining the Committee's powers, was not in harmony with the prescribed form of our church law."

Rev. Mr. COULTHART seconded the amendment, and, in so doing, held that the proper form and delivery of the citation had not been complied with.

Rev. Mr. YOUNG said a statement had appeared in the press which led some to imagine that the confusion had arisen from his neglect in not, as Clerk, sending the extract in sufficient time. He had looked into the record he kept of all letters sent off on Presbytery business, and found that on the 30th April he had put his letter in the box on the corner of St. Joseph and Canning streets, along with one to Mr. McKerracher, living 40 miles north-west of Toronto, and from having received a telegraph from him in answer to the business to which the letter referred, he presumed he had got it. He could not understand how a letter posted on the 30th April was not received till 7th May.

Dr. IRVINE said the letter bore the post mark of the 4th. There may have been some irregularity in the removal of the letter from the box to the post-office.

After some further discussion, Dr. Irvine's amendment was put and lost; the votes in favor of it being three.

Mr. Anderson's amendment was then put and lost; the number in its favor being seven.

Dr. Taylor's motion was then put and carried. Yeas, 13; nays, 7.

Mr. CAMERON, in his own name and in the name of those who adhered to him, entered his dissent and complaint against the finding, and appealed the whole case to the Synod.

After continued discussion,

Mr. REDPATH rose and said, he had been waiting a long time, but as yet had heard nothing about the real question to be brought up. There had simply been a long discussion between two parties. Certain members of Presbytery were continually rising, and it would be better not to reply to them, and then they would stop. These proceedings only excited a great deal of party feeling. They had been debating during a whole day, and in all that time the real merits of the case had not been touched. A meeting of merchants would have got through such a small matter in a very little time. It was all very well when, centuries ago, they were just breaking away from Rome, to denounce organs, but, by so doing at the present day, they actually unchristianized other Churches. He must say that he had seldom sat so long in a Presbytery with so little pleasure.

A memorial and petition from the session and congregation of Knox Church, praying that the Synod be overruled to allow of instrumental music in churches, was received, after some opposition.

On motion, the petition was received, and the commissioners from Knox Church were received. They were Messrs. Alex. McGibbon, W. D. McLaren, and James Brown, and came to speak in behalf of the congregation of that church.

Mr. McLAREN addressed himself to enforcing the expediency of admitting instrumental music into the church at the present day. He said at the Reformation the church and clergy wished to remove what, in the shape of music, had been the pleasantest part of the worship of the Catholic Church, lest it might become a snare to the people. But there was now no fear of it leading them back to popery. Music was now widely cultivated in families, and they were continually hearing of one or another amongst them, who had ceased to attend divine worship on account of the slovenly way in which they considered the service was conducted. In one of the Catholic churches of this city, a superior musical service took place in the evening after the hours of Protestant worship, and many adjourned from their own churches to this place, where, although they went only to hear the music, they also heard much more. As to the action of the congregation of Knox church in this matter, they could not give an intelligent answer as to the beneficial effect of an organ, until they had tried it; and, having done so, they were unanimous in their persuasion as to the desirability of introducing instrumental music into divine worship.

Mr. McGIBSON said the reason for the Knox Church having brought this memorial before the Presbytery was that they might eventually have the subject brought before the highest Court in their Church. He did not think they had violated any law in the short time they had used the organ. He would also wish to ask whether there was any difference between divine worship held on week-days, and the same worship held on the Sabbath? There were other Presbyterian churches in the city who used instrumental music in divine worship on week-days, and upon what principle did they single out Knox Church to bring a charge against it? Let them bring up all the offending churches, and take the question before the highest Court of their Church. He was sure the thing would eventually carry, for opinion was turning very much in their favor.

Mr. JOHN REDPATH, not being able to stay longer, rose and stated as a word of warning, that one of the most influential ministers of Toronto had recommended to him that organs should be brought into the churches or the latter would lose half of their congregations.

Mr. JAMES BROWN said, in the matter of the use of the organ, they took their stand upon that grand old book, the Bible, wherein its use was justified. The use of this instrument in Knox Church had conducted very much to improve the service of praise amongst that congregation. They meant to keep it in proper subordination in the service; and he could say, they had not praised God the less heartily since it had been introduced. In regard to going in opposition to the church courts, why, if the church courts were in opposition to the Word of God, then they had gone in opposition to them.

Rev. Mr. JONES, of Brockville, said this was an age of progress, and the churches in Montreal evidently believed in this subject of organs. They did so in Brockville, and if the subject should come before the Synod, they would support the Montreal brethren.

Rev. Mr. CAMERON had expressed no opinion as to the propriety of music in churches, but what he complained of was that Knox church had taken the matter into its own hands. They had certain laws and ordinances which were of a solemn nature, and the congregation of Knox church had broken one of these, instead of going about the matter in a constitutional way. The question should be submitted to the highest court of the church, and if that court should decide that the use of the organ in churches tended to edification, he, as an obedient brother, would obey.

Mr. ALLEN moved that the memorial be transmitted to the Synod in the usual way.

Rev. Mr. ANDERSON moved, in amendment,—That, inasmuch as an organ has been introduced into Knox church, the Presbytery declines to transmit the memorial, but will refer the matter of innovation to the next meeting of Synod.

Rev. Mr. McVICAR thought the Presbytery had not yet exhausted its means of action, and, therefore, it was too early to appeal to the Synod.

The motion was at length carried.

AFTERNOON SCHEDULE.

On the re-assembling of the Presbytery, a motion was passed, to the effect that the Presbytery thanked the Committee which had invited it to accompany them on a visit to the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools that day, and regretted that the press of business hindered it from accepting the invitation.

The call from English River was taken up; the call being in favor of the Rev. Mr. McKerracher, and strongly supported.

The call was declared to be sustained, and thereupon presented to the Rev. Mr. McLAREN, who formally accepted it. Mr. Young, Mr. Coulthart, and Mr. Watson were appointed to induct, on Tuesday, the 21st of May, at half-past three p.m.

Two appointments of the Home Mission, which were left over on Wednesday night, were made.

Rev. Mr. CAMERON claimed the protection of the Court from the way in which he had been attacked the day before by Dr. Irvine. He read from the *Herald* to the meeting that gentleman's speech with regard to himself. A discussion ensued, in which some seemed to think that Mr. Cameron's character and usefulness would be injured, whilst others scouted the idea. *Apologies* of the publicity which the press had given to the affair, it was hinted that it might hereafter be well to exclude reporters, should such scenes again occur.

Mr. BROWN thought they were greatly indebted to the reporters. They had been sitting too long with closed doors.

Mr. BACKETT bore testimony to the general ability and faithfulness to truth shown by the reporters in their reports of public meetings.

Dr. IRVINE said, in all public meetings there was a wide scope allowed to discussion, and full freedom of report. The rule was, if anything untrue was said, it should be at once challenged. If anything offensive to Mr. Cameron had been uttered, it should have been, either by himself or others, instantly corrected, and its utterer required to take it back. Almost as soon as he entered the meeting this morning he made the explanation that he meant nothing offensive, and he now considered that he had made such apology as a Christian minister, a gentleman, and a discerning public would accept.

Rev. Mr. CAMERON then declared that, on the understanding that the apology was made as public as the strictures had been, he would accept of it.

Rev. Mr. GORDON brought up the organ innovation question.

Mr. COULTHART moved, seconded by Mr. EADIE,—That, inasmuch as the Moderator of the Kirk Session of Knox church, Montreal, is fully aware of the desire of the Presbytery that the use of the musical instrument now employed in the public worship of God in said congregation be discontinued.—Resolved, That the Moderator be respectfully directed to hold a meeting of Session, and take order that such use of said instrument be discontinued until a deliverance by Synod be given on the overtone transmitted from said Session anent instrumental music, and to report to the clerk of Presbytery on or before the 17th instant a certified extract minute of Session as to the action taken.

After a protracted discussion, the motion was carried by 10 to 5.

Dr. IRVINE said he would protest in appeal. This notice of appeal debars the taking of any proceedings against the organ before the decision of the Synod is given.

A number of remits from Synod were disposed of, after which the Presbytery fixed that the special meeting should take place on Tuesday, the 28th inst. The present proceedings of the Presbytery were then closed.

—The cost in the change of war material and preparation of new material to all the powers of Europe will be twenty millions sterling.

Contemporary Press.

THE PROTESTANT CHAPEL AT PARIS. INTERESTING CEREMONY.

(Paris correspondence, of April 16, to the London Herald.)

Among the outbuildings of the Exhibition, there is a Protestant chapel, in which services are to take place and lectures to be delivered on religious subjects. It was "inaugurated" yesterday in presence of a cosmopolitan assemblage. Lord Shaftesbury occupied the chair, supported by Count Chabaud-Latour. The proceedings commenced by the reading of prayers, in French, by M. le Pasteur Valette, and in English by Bishop Spence. Lord Shaftesbury then delivered an address, in which he expressed the acknowledgments of the religious community to the authorities for permitting them to assemble in the Palace of Industry. His Lordship stated that the building had been constructed by England, but the idea originated with the French authorities. His Lordship also referred to the Exhibition, and dwelt upon the fact that these successive shows were chiefly conspicuous by the improvements yearly introduced in the means of destroying human life. The meeting was then addressed in French by Count Chabaud-Latour, who followed pretty closely in the wake of the previous speaker, but perhaps surpassed him in the compliments which he paid to M. le Play and the other members of the Imperial Commission. While he was speaking, M. Guizot, who appeared very much worn and tired, entered the building, and room was immediately made for him next to Lord Shaftesbury. After M. Chabaud-Latour had resumed his seat, M. Guizot rose and delivered (in French) a little speech, which produced much impression on those who heard it. He said:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I came here without intending to address you, but you will perhaps bear with me whilst I express the feeling of deep emotion which I experienced on entering this building. For upwards of an hour I had lost my way in a wilderness of wonders, searching the spot whether your invitation had summoned me. What most struck me, gentlemen, in the midst of so many marvels of art, industry, and engineering, is the fact that we should be assembled here to bear witness to the greatest, to the noblest conquest of mankind,—to religious liberty. No doubt we owe thanks to the authorities, but that to which we are chiefly indebted is that work accomplished by the human mind which for the last three or four centuries has been marching on to the conquest of that inestimable boon,—a treasure far more precious than all those that surround us,—that conquest we first owe to the Almighty, and then to our forefathers. But, gentlemen, take note of this,—what would religious liberty be without religion? I need not say that when I speak of religion I refer to the Christian religion,—that alone which is true, divine, and directly revealed to man; that for which our fathers suffered. Religious liberty is now won; but it does not hinder the liberty of unbelief or the liberty of denial. For this reason my emotion was deep on beholding this humble structure standing where it stands, wherein you have invited me to join you all who believe in Christ. I thank you for it, and hope that many will join us.

The meeting was also addressed by an American clergyman, Rev. Dr. Eldridge, and the Apostolic blessing was delivered at the close of the proceedings by the Bishop of Pennsylvania.

MR. GEORGE MULLER'S "SCRIPTURAL KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTION."

Under this title, a work has been doing at Bristol, since 1834, which, we believe, is without a parallel in the history of Christian enterprise. Besides providing for 1,150 orphans, the institution aids or supports entirely a large number of missionaries, in every part of the world, and all without any reliance on regular subscriptions, the income being the gift of thousands of people at home and abroad, in answer to faith and prayer. In the report last issued, Mr. Muller says on this point: "We have very few regular donors, though there are some that give, at certain times; but not one-fiftieth part of our current expenses are thus met. But even if these few regular donors, were now asked for money—nay, more, suppose that any donations, being obtained or not, were to depend upon my reminding the donor, though by doing so, even thousands of pounds were thus to be had, it would never be done, because it is not the money I seek, but the money sent from you, through the willing, cheerful givers, unasked for, on which I depend. And have I been a loser in this way? Verily not. The work has been wide and more enlarged; and the Lord has laid it at the hearts of His stewards to send me more and more."

And most wonderful have been the amounts received this way. "From the commencement of the work in 1834," says Mr. Muller, "up to 1856, I have received altogether Three Hundred and Twenty Six Thousand Pounds. By this amount nearly sixteen thousand children or grown persons have been taught in the various schools entirely supported by the institution. More than thirty-eight thousand Bibles, above twenty-nine thousand Testaments, and above four thousand Psalms, and other smaller portions of the holy Scriptures in several languages, have been circulated; and nearly twenty-seven millions of tracts and books, likewise in several languages, have been circulated. There have been also from the commencement missionaries assisted out of the funds of the institution, about one hundred and twenty in number. On this object alone more than sixty-five thousand seven hundred pounds have been spent. Two thousand orphans have been under our care; three large houses at an expense of £60,000 have been erected, fitted up, and furnished, with a considerable sum in hand towards the building of two more houses for eight hundred and fifty orphans. As to the spiritual good that has resulted, God alone can say how much has been accomplished, but so far as results have come to our own knowledge, we have most abundant cause of thanksgiving."—*Christian Times*.

THE CONDEMNED FENIANS IN IRELAND.—Col. Burke and Capt. Dornan, who have been condemned to death for participating in the Fenian rising in Ireland, were both officers in Volunteer regiments from New York which served during the late war of the rebellion, and have borne excellent record as soldiers in many severe engagements.—*Boston Journal*.

THE RIVER AND LAKE NEEPIGNON.

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR WILSON.

Dr. Daniel Wilson recently delivered a very interesting lecture at Toronto, before the Canadian Institute, upon the topography of the north shore of Lake Superior and the river Neepigon. The learned professor, accompanied by his daughter, another lady, and two gentlemen, spent six weeks last year in visiting the places described by him, during which time the tourists travelled in canoes by day and encamped in tents at night on shore. By proceeding leisurely on their journey of pleasure and research, they had ample opportunity of taking sketches of the beautiful scenery through which they passed, as well as of enjoying the sport of fishing and shooting. The scenery along the Neepigon river—a large and rapid stream, some thirty miles in length—is strikingly beautiful, as represented by the colored sketches taken on the spot by Dr. Wilson and his daughter. There are several magnificent rapids in the river, one of which especially reminds one of the Lachine rapids. The portage at this rapid was about three miles, over which the canoes, provisions, &c., had to be carried by five Indians employed by the excursionists. The lecturer's description of the events of the voyage was very interesting, and some portions of it produced much merriment. The Indians he remarked were a marvel of stolidity at the commencement of the journey, and for some time after appeared like little children who felt inclined to do just as they pleased. Frequently the tourists had to compel them to do many things they at first showed a dislike to perform. There was one of them, a young fellow, evidently a dandy, who could not bear the idea of doing anything for the ladies. He thought that the squaws which the white men had with them should wait upon the whole party, Indians included; but after a while the red men found that the gentlemen waited upon the ladies,—a fact which surprised them very much. As the party, however, became better acquainted, the Indians threw off all their reserve, and proved themselves the merriest companions one could wish to travel with. They would gather about the camp fires in the evenings, and sing and tell stories almost without limit, and in their own language crack jokes in abundance. They seemed to take a great interest in the sketches that the artists took along the journey, appearing to think it very strange that the white men and ladies could paint the pictures of rocks and foliage with such ease; but in case they saw the artists put on a little coloring for the sake of effect, they would protest in the most energetic manner,—contending that the picture was untruthful. In case one of their own pictures were taken with a red shirt when they had none of that color, they would shrug their shoulders, and declare that the white men were bringing an untruthful report home to their people of the appearance of the Indian. The learned lecturer stated that trout and other delicious fish were to be obtained on the route. Many of the former, beautiful speckled trout, weighed over five pounds. These are found in abundance in the Neepigon river. Some sections of the country in the neighborhood of the river, appeared entirely useless, in an agricultural point of view. Magnificent rocks and cliffs were found on the edge of the river rising from nine to fifteen hundred feet. He doubted not those districts abounded in mineral wealth, and for their natural beauties they would before many years have transpired, become a favorite route for pleasure parties. Lake Neepigon, he remarked, was a body of water larger than Lake Ontario, and it was a remarkable fact—and one not very creditable to Canadians—that it was not to be found represented in any of our maps, except indeed that there was a spot on the map denoting a small pond in the place occupied by this immense lake. In that far-off region the party arrived at a trading-post belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, occupied by a single white man, who had been in that isolated spot for many long years. He was naturally very much delighted to receive the party into his house, and did everything in his power to add to their comfort and pleasure; but he was particularly delighted to see two white ladies, after having been shut out from the active world for so long a time. He placed his canoes at our disposal, felt delighted to have an opportunity of accommodating his visitors, and even dressed himself in his best in order the better to do them honor. This good-natured man had lost all anxiety about the outer world. All he seemed to care about was the number of the furs the Indians brought to the post, and to learn that the fish and game were abundant in his locality. He lived there alone, a marvel of contentment. The lecture, as before stated, was very interesting.

[That a lake larger than Lake Ontario could be kept concealed by the Hudson's Bay Company shows how little we must know of that territory. Surely some regular explorations will be set on foot by our new government.—Ed. Wit.]

DUALITY OF REPRESENTATION.

(From Quebec Gazette.)

The subjection of questions in the Federal Parliament, on appeal from the Local Parliaments, to persons who in the latter had committed themselves to previous decisions and conclusions, would be a most questionable if not dangerous proceeding. In the administration of justice, a judge never sits in appeal upon a case concerning which he has given a decision in another court; and even in the compelling of juries, if a man called upon to serve says he has formed or expressed an opinion on the merits of the matter to be inquired into, he is ruled as disqualified. Then if the practice of electing the same member to both Parliaments should extensively prevail, the unavoidable result will be the importation into the Superior Legislature of the partisan squabbles which had disquieted the Local Houses. In this way many battles would be adjourned to the Superior arena, and perhaps fought over again for years before they could be settled. It is hoped that the Local Legislatures will be so careful in their proceedings as to render appeals to the Federal Power very rare; but if the reverse should follow, and the four subordinate Parliaments should become frequent appellants, the Federal Chambers will have a good chance of sitting *en permanence*, especially if they are composed in any large proportion of the members of the Provincial Parliaments. This is the aspect in

which we view the proposed system at present; and until we hear or discover very much stronger reasons in favor of duality of representation than we are as yet aware of, we must hold to our conviction that the experiment will be a hazardous, troublesome, and, in the working, an exceedingly expensive one. The extra cost will be entailed, as we think, by the prolonged sessions of the Federal Houses, and we need not tell our readers that the daily outlay will run up, not by hundreds, but by thousands, and not of dollars, but of pounds. We commend this subject to public consideration, and shall be glad to see it invoking the attention its importance demands.

POSTAL REFORM.

(From the Trade Review.)

The existing rates of letter postage are far too high, and there is little doubt that they could be materially reduced without sensibly impairing the revenue. On this head we have the experience of other countries to guide us. When postal reform was first inaugurated in England, a threepenny rate was tried, and so great was the advantage felt to be, that it only remained in force for about a year, when it was replaced by a uniform penny rate. This was not done without misgivings of the loss that might possibly accrue to the revenue, and in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's official estimates, provision was made for the anticipated deficiency; but it was never needed, and from that time to this the Post-Office Department has gone on increasing in usefulness and efficiency, as well as in the amount of revenue it yields to the government. Well, we contend that some such result is pretty certain to follow a reduction of postage here. We are perfectly aware of the objections that will be urged against it. It will be said that the long distances to be traversed, and the sparseness of the population, will prevent the result we anticipate, and that the man who objects or cannot afford to pay three pence for postage, is not likely to write at all, however low the rate may be. In the first of these objections there is some force, but it is one which improved means of communication and the increase of population will lessen every year, and nothing will help to bring about this result more than the very reform we are advocating. To the latter objection we demur altogether, as contrary to experience. Unless the inhabitants of British America are slow to comprehend and avail themselves of a great advantage and convenience (which we cannot believe), the reduction of letter postage to two cents the half ounce, would start into being a vast amount of correspondence which has now no existence whatever, besides securing much which is now carried on surreptitiously. Such has been the uniform result following the reduction of postage in other countries, and there is no reason to suppose that it would be different in this; and even if the revenue should suffer some loss, the great and manifest good to the whole community would compensate it many times over.

As the internal money order system of Canada will probably be extended to the Maritime Provinces under Confederation, there is not much to be said on that head, except that to secure its more general adoption the rates might be advantageously reduced; but with regard to orders on Great Britain there is great room for improvement. We find that in Nova Scotia a money order on Great Britain for £10 sterling costs fourpence, while in Canada and New Brunswick an order for the same amount costs one dollar. We should like to know what the experience of the Nova Scotia office is of the cheaper rate, because, if favorable, there can be no good reason why it should not be generally adopted.

There must also be a revision of the newspaper postage. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, newspapers pass through the post free. In Canada a postage is charged; now this, we think, is altogether wrong, and that considering the great services rendered to the state and community at large by the press, and the highly important part it performs in the political education of the people, newspapers should be carried free. It is certain that the press of the Maritime Provinces, which is by no means insignificant either in numbers or ability, will strenuously oppose the imposition of postage upon them, and will be ready to make common cause with their Canadian contemporaries on the subject.

THE ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.

We have already given the list of the degrees conferred, and now copy from the *Cobourg World* the report of the following address:—

THE BACCALAUREATE DISCOURSE.

On Sabbath evening, the address to the Graduating Class in Arts was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Neiles, the President, before a large audience, at the Wesleyan Church. The rev. gentleman took for his text, 1 Cor. xvi. 13.—"Quit you like men." Different countries produced different staples; but man was a universal production; and the land which produced the wisest, the bravest, the most devoted, and the best men, was the best land. A university might be said to be a manufactory, at which the elements furnished by the boy were worked up into manhood. Having received the prescribed cultivation, the class were called upon to act upon the principles of the manhood instilled,—to "quit themselves like men." First, there must be manliness of thought. This was opposed to shallowness. Thought must be free and bold, otherwise it would be null and void. Great courage was required. The world was not now beginning to think; and the great thoughts and doctrines of former times must not be allowed to overawe, but must be questioned. Reverence was due to what was ancient; but a higher reverence to what was true. It was not arrogance to question, any more than it was arrogance on the part of Galileo, Copernicus, Luther, Calvin, Melancthon, or Columbus, to propound thoughts which overthrew the erroneous systems of former ages. Secondly, there must be *Manliness of Sentiment*. It was a poor education which impoverished the imagination. Affection, sympathy, tenderness of soul, were all essential to true manliness. The Rev. gentleman eloquently referred to the examples of great men, and to that of our Saviour Himself, to establish this proposition. Thirdly, there must be *Manliness of Speech*. The educated man was a debtor to the past. He was a debtor, also, to the artisan, who by his daily toil secured him the leisure to pursue his studies. This

debt should be paid back by scattering the clouds of ignorance, and promoting the cause of science and education. Speech was the great medium by which this could be done. The power of a word could not be measured. Their speech must be honest, earnest, true, courageous; for though the day of persecution might be said to be over, there would be sufficient of trial in their support of the right; and when their tongues were silent, their words would still make heavenly music. Fourthly, there must be *Manliness of Action*. To do was greater than to speak. Though they might not be eloquent of tongue, yet their daily life might make a lasting impression for good. The examples of Cromwell and Wellington showed that men might be great men without being great speakers. They might lead the thoughts of the age if they could; but they must aspire to deeds of excellence, a spotless example, an unswerving integrity, and a fidelity to truth and honor:—they must be true to themselves and to God. Their manliness must have a moral and religious basis; and amid the confusion of theological thought, they must find a path by which they could maintain their faith in God, in virtue, and in immortality. In conclusion,—they must grow in manliness as they advanced in years. Hitherto they had consulted books; in future they would be called to deal with men and things. Inhabiting a new sphere, their judgments would receive a greater precision, and they would acquire a deeper power of thought. They must "put away childish things." By the influence of the discipline of life, they must grow in knowledge, in wisdom, and in virtue. Age would hereafter whiten their locks, and they would commence the down-hill course; but until then, it was their privilege to grow wiser and better every day. They must not lose their young enthusiasm of spirit. If their views and habits were rightly directed, they might retain the freshness of their better years; and when they had finished the great curriculum of life, death would come to them as another birth; and they would graduate into a brighter and nobler sphere.

The Rev. President's discourse was listened to with profound attention throughout. We regret we cannot remember it more in detail; but feel no hesitation in saying it was as good as the best of the kind to which we have listened. We think the classes should make arrangements to have these discourses printed in full.

THE ADDRESS TO THE ALUMNI.

The annual address before the Alumni Association was delivered by Prof. Burwash, M. A., at the Wesleyan church, on Tuesday afternoon. In the absence of the President, Dr. Cameron, the chair was occupied by Mr. A. R. Bain, B. A., of Cobourg, the 1st Vice-President.

The subject of the lecture was "Symbols." The extent of the subject, as touching upon every field of human thought, was pointed out; and especially its relations to mathematics, metaphysics, and language. The philosophy of symbols was next dwelt upon. A symbol was defined to be the "representation of the moral by the images or properties of the natural." This was based upon the order of nature. The relation of man to the material world showed that he was a progressive being. And, if progressive, he must, therefore, be immortal; and his immortal progress was evidently not natural, but spiritual. To this spiritual progress the material world was made to contribute. All natural things had been created symbols of spiritual things; the earthly of the heavenly. And, by converse with natural things, the faculties of man were developed, so that he could step upward from the natural to the spiritual, by the symbols of nature being prepared to grasp spiritual ideas and enjoy spiritual life.

This theory was next illustrated in the history of the past. The spiritual consisted of "The true, the beautiful, and the good;" and, of these, philosophy, poetry, and religion might be taken as the historical representatives. The basis of philosophy was the idea of power or cause; and this, through an intuition of the mind, was brought into distinct consciousness by the aid of symbols. Of the earliest philosophers, Job was a representative; and his reasoning was largely by the aid of symbols or analogy. So also Socrates, who formed his fine conceptions of the Deity by the aid of the analysis of nature. The Hindoo philosophers, on the other hand overlooking the symbolic teaching of nature, fell into materialism. In poetry, many of the best emotions were awakened by the aid of symbols. Of these we had examples in the most striking descriptions of Homer, in the sublime imagery of Ossian, and in the refined and philosophical transcendental poetry of our own age.

In religion, the symbol had ever been the great teacher of man. The sacrifices and ceremonies of the Mosaic economy, the imagery of the Hebrew poets, the visions of the prophet, the parables of Christ, and the sublime and mysterious symbols of the Apocalypse, were examples of the use which God himself made of the symbols of nature to prepare man for a higher and spiritual life. Thus, by this law of symbolism, we might learn even in this lower world something of the spiritual and eternal, of higher laws than those of mere matter, and of the glorious destiny of our race.

At the conclusion of the lecture, which was listened to throughout with deep attention, the thanks of the audience were unanimously accorded to Prof. Burwash. And it was well deserved. The lecture was a credit to the Association; and reflected the highest honor upon the reader, upon the Society, and upon the institution.

ACCIDENTS ON BOARD THE "CHINA."

(From Montreal Herald.)

We learn from Mr. Hutchins, passenger in the R. M. S. S. "China," Captain Hockley, from Liverpool to Boston, particulars of the two melancholy accidents, previously reported by telegraph, which occurred on board that steamer on Friday, the 3rd inst., which cast a gloom over the passengers for the remainder of the voyage.

The "China" sailed from Queenstown at 4 p. m. on Sunday, the 28th ult., and encountered a strong head wind, which increased daily until late on Friday night, when it moderated. On the morning of that day (Friday), a sailor, named William Groth, a native of Prussia, was washed overboard and lost. The engines were immediately reversed, and life preservers thrown overboard, but the unfortunate man was never seen to rise. The sea at the time was

very high, and it was useless to lower a boat in the vain hope of rescuing him.

At about 5 1/2 p. m. the same day, a heavy sea struck the ship on the starboard side, with great force, carrying away the casing to the "Fiddle" or after "Hatchway" (the smoking room), as if it were made of paper, bursting open the saloon doors, knocking several gentlemen from side to side, against the bulwarks with great violence, killing James C. Cogswell, Esq., of Halifax, almost instantly, and very seriously bruising Henry W. Lord, Esq., U. S. Consul at Manchester, England, the Hon. Peter Mitchell, of New Brunswick, and several others. Mr. Lord was so much disfigured as not to be recognized for some time, consciousness only returning the next day. Many narrow escapes from drowning, and breaking of limbs, were witnessed by the passengers who at the time were in the saloon and upper deck. The lower saloon and state-rooms were flooded, and the most intense excitement for some time prevailed, as the wounded were being brought in for surgical aid. Dr. Geikie, of Toronto, and another medical man, passengers, rendered the surgeon of the ship all the aid possible during this trying occasion.

Mr. Cogswell, who a few minutes previously parted from his wife and son in the saloon, to enjoy a quiet smoke, expired in about a quarter of an hour after the accident. His remains were placed in a coffin, covered with the British flag, and taken to Halifax, where at the instance of Capt. Griffiths of the 16th Regt. (who also had a narrow escape), and several other passengers, an inquest was held on the body, in the hope that an expression of opinion of a coroner's jury would result in greater precautions being taken by the Company against similar accidents in future; and if such a result is arrived at, the object of the inquest will be gained. Mr. Cogswell was a gentleman very much respected in Halifax, and the President of the Halifax Banking Company. Mr. Hutchins informs us that a boy engaged in the pantry of the steamer had his leg broken at the time of the accident, and that a subscription of ten pounds sterling was made for him by the passengers, in order that he might not be without some appropriate comforts during his stay in the hospital.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The mission work of the Baptist Church is rapidly increasing. Four years ago the receipts for this object were \$35,000, now \$169,500. Four years ago it had 96 missionaries, now 367, and 7,236 converts.

LAY EFFORT.—The subject of lay effort in connection with the work of the churches in this country, is attracting more than usual attention at the present time, and the expediency of employing it as an auxiliary to the thoroughly educated and ordained ministry is, we believe, growing in public favor. The success which has attended the labors of Mr. Durant, Judge Smith, and others, who for a few months past have devoted their time and talents to this effort, has removed objections which formerly existed in the minds of many to such a course, and has convinced them that such labor, by men with natural ability and good judgment, may be made a most powerful instrumentality in winning souls to Christ. We believe there is in the churches of our land a powerful latent force, which needs but to be developed and brought into action to produce most wonderful results, and we hail the awakening interest on this subject which now prevades the religious community as an omen for good. Our attention was called to this matter by one paragraph in "Barleigh's" letter from London. He shows there what one earnest, devoted Christian man, a butcher by trade, who fulfils the apostle's injunction to be "diligent in business," can at the same time do in this line of Christian effort. There are openings in all our cities and large towns for just such efforts, and the churches can in no way better fulfil their mission than to seek them out and occupy them.—*Boston Journal*.

CONGREGATIONALISTS AND BAPTISTS.—The Rev. G. W. Conder, in the last issue of the *English Independent*, has a long letter on the admission of Baptist ministers to the Congregational Union. He argues that the Independents must admit that baptism is simply a rite, for they administer it to those who cannot at the time believe, and who may never believe in all their lives, and that the Baptists must still more admit that such is the case, since they abjure and abhor it save when it has been preceded by the faith which alone can save. He then views the question in its bearing on the whole question of Church progress and life, and contends that the subject of "font or well" being the least of the barriers which have been erected in the Church, might well be the first to be removed. "It is," he says, "between the two bodies who have most in common. And why should not the first advance be made by the Congregational Union? We have the least to give up; we can do it the most easily; and we have the least to gain, and so could do it the most gracefully. And I cannot help thinking that it would be a glorious sight—to me it would be the rosy morn upon the mountain-top of a new day for the Church—if in our time should be seen the beginning of the end, in the destruction of one of those weakening divisions, and the formation of the first nucleus of the universal unity which must come if ever the Church is to fulfil the things which have been spoken of her in the Book."—*Methodist Recorder*.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, N. Y.—But two years occupying the present edifice, it is found already too small for the congregation. The regular communicants number about 400; three mission chapels have been established and put under the charge of ministers; a new school-house, capable of accommodating 700 children, has been erected and is rapidly filling up, the attendance of scholars and teachers having in three years increased from a dozen to 340, irrespective of the mission schools, which already number as many more. Besides rentals (\$15,000), and donations, &c., to pay off the debt of the church (some \$12,000), over \$37,000 have been contributed for mission and benevolent purposes, making an aggregate of nearly \$90,000 raised within the year. The Rector states that he is assisted greatly in the growing work of the church by the Pastoral Aid Society, an organization of members under his direction, to take charge, by means of Sub-Committees, of the parish sick, the unemployed, the mission chapels, the Sunday-school, and the visiting and introduction of strangers; the latter being a feature in carrying out what he takes pains to

impress as the distinguishing characteristic of this church, and to which he attributes, in a great degree, the hearty sympathy and earnestness displayed, viz:—That it is a family of families—a "household of faith"—in which every member shall have a home-feeling, and take a brother's or a sister's interest. In the afternoon, the children of the Home and Mission Sabbath-schools held their anniversary. About seven hundred were assembled under the several teachers, who, after singing and address by the Rector, made very practical and interesting, sent up their offerings with floral devices, in many cases very beautiful; when each child was presented with a book appropriate to its age. Rev. J. H. Tyng, junr., is the Rector.

A COSTERMONGERS' TEA-MEETING.—A member of Mr. Spurgeon's church in London, a clerk in the post-office, has recently devoted much labor to the reclamation of the costermongers, whose neighborhood was one of the most turbulent and disorderly in Eastern London. The result has been a very beneficial change, and a short time ago the costermongers and their families were regaled at a "tea-meeting," or collation, as we should call it, at which there was speaking adapted to the occasion. Men, women, and children were on hand in full force, and the place was crammed almost to suffocation. Great efforts had obviously been made to get up a clean and decent appearance; but the traces of hunger, drunkenness, and vice, were still horribly obvious in the faces of many even of the younger persons present. The deportment, however, of all, was decorous and attentive; and when the opening hymn was given out it was fervently joined in by every one in the chapel. Later in the evening the "costers" listened well to all the speakers, relished every joke that was given by way of illustration with immense gusto, and it was one that told heavily against themselves, the only effect was to increase their hilarity and intensify their applause. The impression the poor people gave on the whole was that they were far from being irreclaimable, but that they wanted reclaiming terribly. The evening's proceedings began with tea and bread and butter, of which there was a prodigious consumption. A few of the young ones wished to go when the tea had concluded, but the great majority of the meeting was most anxious to wait for the speaking, and even the juvenile would-be deserters were brought back by a hint that there were to be sandwiches and oranges at the close of the proceedings. Remarks were made by Rev. Mr. Spurgeon and others, urging a reformation of evil habits, which were received with much favor.

INTELLIGENCE FROM OUR MISSIONARIES.—*British Columbia.*—Intelligence has been received by the convener from Rev. D. Duff, of British Columbia, up to about the end of February. We deeply regret to state that, in consequence of impaired health, Mr. Duff feels himself under the necessity of leaving his field of labor and returning to Canada. In the present circumstances of Victoria, this is deeply to be regretted, especially as Mr. Duff may be compelled to leave before any other laborer can arrive to take his place. We trust that the Synod may be able to make some appointment to this important locality.

Saskatchewan.—The convener has received letters from Mr. Nisbet, dated Carleton House, 26th January. Extracts from his letters will appear in our next number. Mr. Nisbet is most anxious that a teacher should be sent to conduct a school to which the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company's servants could send their children. Such a school would be self-sustaining from the outset. Mr. Black is in hopes that a competent teacher may be got at Red River to undertake this work.

Red River.—Matters are progressing as usual at Red River. Mr. Black and Mr. Matheson are well. Mrs. Matheson is still poorly. Mr. Black purposes to be at the meeting of Synod. *Record of Canada Presbyterian Church, May.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—Germany, united as Bismarck proposes, will have 40,000,000 inhabitants.

—A short honeymoon is reported by an Irish paper. A young man, 16 years of age, named Sutton, who had been but one day married, was sentenced to a month's imprisonment for deserting his wife.

—It is announced that the factory of Saint Etienne has just delivered 60,000 needle guns to the French minister of war. The establishment is said to be in a position to be able to claim the premium of 50,000*fr.* offered by the government for the completion of 100,000 rifles by the end of April.

—The saying that there is nothing new under the sun appears to be as true of universal exhibitions as of anything else. According to accounts given by Seneca, the first experiment was made under Nero, more than eighteen centuries ago. "I was present the other day," says the Roman philosopher in one of his letters, "at a solemn exhibition of the wealth of Rome; there I saw statues which were marvels, perfect masterpieces; exquisite stuffs and draperies, and costumes brought from countries even beyond the Roman frontiers."

GIBRALTAR.—The *Star* explains the undying hatred of the Spaniards towards England. Gibraltar is a standing insult never to be forgotten or forgiven. In comparison with this great wrong, what value can we expect Spain to set on our past services of half a century ago? Let us for a moment suppose the case our own. Would we rest until we had expelled the foreigner? Let us suppose the case that of France or Germany. Would we not years ago have taken the opportunity to get rid of the risk and discredit of so unjust a tenure? We hold Gibraltar, it is well to understand, at the price of the undying hate of its proper owners. We hold it to a certain extent under sufferance; for it is notorious that under the conditions of modern warfare the landward fortifications are wholly untenable. Therefore, though for a moment we have escaped—very narrowly escaped—the miserable contingency of an inglorious war, we cannot count on peace as a certainty. We ask, then, is it not the true policy of England to retire in time from an acquisition so useless and so dangerous? That Gibraltar is necessary to our supremacy in the Mediterranean and to our free communication with India, is but a repetition of the fallacy so often put forward in defence of our retention of the Ionian Islands. It does not effectively command the entrance to the inland sea, and if it did the advantage would be dearly purchased by the disturbance of our peaceful relations with Spain. This, at least, seems the view of common sense and justice.

A SPECTACLE IN THE STREETS OF LONDON.—An extraordinary sight, says a correspondent, was witnessed in the principal London streets recently. Rather more than a thousand of the most miserable wretches that ever wore the garb of humanity formed a procession and marched in silence from the neighborhood of Wapping and Whitechapel to the aristocratic quarters of St. James' and Belgrave. There was no disturbance or excess of any kind. Every man was in rags, and every form and face bore the unmistakable marks of privation and distress. A banner or two contained inscriptions indicative of their character and their wants, and a few carried money-boxes to receive any donations that might be bestowed upon them. Why, I know not, but it was not deemed worth while to prevent this demonstration on the part of the authorities, but the sight was one that did not tend to add greatly to an Englishman's pride. These men, it is well known, were only the representatives of a body forty times their number; for it has been ascertained that there are no less than forty thousand in the Eastern suburbs of London, not only out of employment, but reduced to the extreme of destitution, and dependent on daily charity for their morsel of bread, or cup of soup, that keeps the flame of life alight within their emaciated bodies.

A CONFERENCE WITH CANNIBALS.—Mr. Charles Livingstone, British Consul in the Bight of Biafra, has published an account of a recent interview with the King of the Okrika country, with a view of stopping a war between that country and New Calabar. Many chiefs were present. The King's audience chamber had no light except through the doorway. The narrative says:—

"Masses of human skulls hang from the walls and numerous rows of skulls cover the roof of a sort of altar. In front of this altar sat the juju-men, having a footstool of human skulls. The Okrika had eaten the victims whose skulls decorate the juju house. The old man who accompanied us spoke with evident gusto of the different cannibal feasts he had partaken of, and mentioned the parts of the human body which he considered the sweetest. Mr. Livingstone discussed with them terms of peace, and it was finally agreed that Fabia should send down two of his chiefs to meet the chiefs of Bonny and Calabar, and settle the differences."

The Consul adds:—
"The session lasted four hours and a half. Never before in Africa have I seen such powerful-looking men as the Okrika. I could not but admire their physical strength. As they sat before me chewing bits of chop-sticks to clean their teeth, and gazing earnestly at me, the thought occasionally flashed across my mind: Are these cannibals wondering how a piece of roast Consul would taste, and which would be most savory, cold Consul or hot? On parting, Fabia made me a present of about a cart load of gigantic yams, two goats, and a fowl."

AMERICAN NEWS.

—Vermont has but two distilleries, in place of the forty, twenty-five years ago.

—One thousand two hundred men are employed in the New England lobster trade. Fourteen thousand traps are used, and \$150,000 invested in the business.

—Hudson river, at Glens Falls, is covered for the distance of nearly a mile and a half with logs six or eight tiers deep; lumber enough "to build several Western cities."

—The Mayor of Louisville, in his message to the Common Council, states that the population of the city has increased from 89,000 to 145,000 during the past two years.

—The Young Men's Mercantile Library Association of Cincinnati is much agitated on the question of allowing colored persons to join the association.

—There is in Pepperell, Mass., a child ten months old, whose mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother are all living. The latter is not eighty-one years of age.

—The registrars of New Orleans have felt compelled to refuse a venerable colored man his certificate, on the ground that he is a native of Guinea, and has never taken out naturalization papers.

—The New York *Herald* says: "As an illustration of the enormous profits which the national banks are still making, we may mention that the First National Bank of this city has declared its regular semi-annual dividend of ten per cent. to-day and increased its surplus fund to sixty-five per cent."

LOCOMOTIVE PRIZE.—Our American mechanics have carried off the first honors in the department of locomotives,—the gold medal having been awarded to the locomotive "America," contributed by the Grant Company of Patterson, N. J. There was a stiff competition for the honor, France, Austria, and Russia having each several machines, but the "America" outshone them all, and took the gold medal. *Paris Letter to Boston Journal.*

TELEGRAPHIC.—The Western Union Telegraph Company is about to erect a couple of new wires on the line between Cape Breton and New York, running through Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Maine, etc. The Newfoundland Company is also setting up a couple of additional wires overland; while there is to be a new cable laid between Placentia Bay, N. F., and Sydney, C. B. In Ireland, four new wires are being erected. All these additional wires are required in order to transmit the messages which can be obtained through the cable, and which would be obtained (but could not be transmitted at present by the land lines) were the rates reduced. So soon as the additional wires are ready to do the additional work the cable rates will be reduced, and the accommodation to the public will be doubled or trebled.

MONSTRIOUS OUTRAGE.—A few of the colored people of Paris, Tennessee, were quietly dancing a few evenings since, when ten white men rushed into the house, drove out the surprised, unarmed black men, and ravished the women; one of whom was so injured by their ruffianism that she must die. Eight of the white miscreants have been arrested and are now in custody. We shall watch very closely the legal proceedings with regard to them. A gross outrage may be committed anywhere, and by whites or blacks; but the law bears down on some people as it does not on others. Ten years ago, this hideous crime might have been perpetrated in any Southern State with perfect impunity. Now, we trust, it may not be, thanks to emancipation and the civil rights act. *N. Y. Tribune.*

NEW FEATURE IN THE EXPRESS BUSINESS.—We learn that the establishment of the Merchants' Union Express Company, and the advantages the merchants and manufacturers of the Middle and Western States have derived from it, not only in the reduction in the rate of charges, but in the superior facilities resulting from sharp competition, is inducing the merchants in other sections to organize similar companies to connect with the one now in operation. A new company to cover the Southern States, connecting at New York and Cincinnati with the Merchants' Union, will soon be in operation. A company is soon to be organized in New England, which will connect at New York with the Merchants' Union. Stock for a similar company is being rapidly taken in Canada. Each of the new companies will be organized on plans similar to that of the Merchants' Union, and will connect and act in co-operation with that Company, which will virtually extend their lines, by the system of interchange of business over the entire Union and Canada. *New York Express.*

LIQUOR AND THE SUPREME COURT.—The Massachusetts liquor cases which have passed from court to court have at last met their final settlement in the Supreme Court of the United States. It is sufficient to say the liquor men have been signally defeated, and the State law has been fully sustained. There is nothing more that the rum-interest of our State can do in this direction. Every possible legal technicality and quibble has been resorted to, but to no purpose. The point which the court decided was that a government license affords no protection to the dealer, and that it cannot authorize him to sell liquor in violation of a State or a municipal law. Hundreds of anxious and convicted rum-sellers have thus come to grief, but the community at large will not sit in sackcloth and ashes on their account. There is no relief for them now but either to change the existing law or prevent its enforcement. We do not think either course will prevail. This decision affects about 6,500 now on the docket in this State, about half of them in Suffolk county. *Boston paper.*

TRADE WITH CANADA.—The late Finance Minister of Canada, Mr. Galt, well-known in Washington in connection with the reciprocity negotiations last spring, has been making a speech at Montreal on the prospects of the newly-formed Confederation of the Provinces. Referring to this country, he expressed the hope that the irritation—"perhaps natural irritation"—which was one of the causes of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, will soon so far subside as to admit of renewed efforts for the establishment of a better commercial system as between the two countries. The hope is one which we may justly share. The defunct treaty was in many respects defective, and nearly all its defects operated prejudicially to the United States. But surely these did not afford a ground for suspending reciprocal arrangements altogether, nor does a remembrance of them reconcile us to the cost and inconveniences attendant upon the present state of things. As matters now stand, Canada suffers comparatively little, while many branches of American business suffer seriously, and the prices of lumber, and other articles, which formerly came in duty-free, have been unduly enhanced. In ordinary times the subject would challenge attention. If it is rarely noticed now, it is because our legislators are absorbed in party questions, and our people have not yet begun to exercise their proverbial shrewdness and intelligence on questions of finance and commerce. The matter would be hastened and simplified, probably, if our neighbors could assert the rights of a new-born nationality, and declare themselves ready to consider the interests of international commerce on the basis of a Continental Zollverein. *New York Times.*

A NOVEL ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON.—A Sing Sing correspondent describes the ingenious method adopted by a convict to escape from prison:—"One of the most ingenious men I ever met I found here, by the name of James Dunn, a medium-sized, middle-aged, dark-complexioned man. He was here for the third time, and was kept under stricter surveillance than some others in consequence of repeated attempts and contrivances to escape, the most ingenious of which was this:—About three months after his second commitment, having secured a quantity of gutta-percha from the contractor's agent, he made a water-tight coat, with a hood or head-dress attached to it. In the front part of the hood he securely fixed a small pane of thick glass. From each side of it gutta-percha horns were extended upwards to the length of ten or fifteen feet; at the further end of each tube was fixed a hollow "decoy duck." With this equipage he stole away to the edge of the river. Here he put a stone in each pocket for ballast, donned his gutta-percha rig, made it tight about his waist and wrists, and taking up his ducks, he waded in a crouching posture out some two hundred feet, when he let them go. On he travelled, with the water from two to four feet above his head, breathing meanwhile through his ducks, which were floating along about eight feet in his rear. The guards saw the ducks, and would have shot them had they not been on duty. With some inconvenience he reached the upper dock, where a friend met him, furnished him with citizen's clothes, a few dollars in money, and otherwise hastened his retreat, not, however, so but that he was soon overhauled and returned to his old quarters. He was here this last time on a ten years' commitment; but was transferred, with a company of fifty, not long ago, to Clinton prison."

CANADIAN NEWS.

—On Monday, 29th ult., a little boy, five years old, son of Mr. Papin, of Smith's Falls, was accidentally drowned, by falling into the river.

—Large numbers of raftsmen are going up the Ottawa river every day to make into rafts and float down the timber cut during the winter. *Ottawa Citizen.*

—An official report from the Inspector of the Quinte Gold Mining District, dated the 6th inst., states that 100 shafts have been sunk in Madoc and the adjoining townships, but that works are suspended for the present, the excavations being filled with water. Thirty mining licenses have been issued. Messrs Gilbert and Fairley are importing a steam quartz-crushing machine, which they expect to have in operation in a fortnight. *Trade Review.*

—The season this year is unusually backward; winter lingers long in the lap of spring,

and all over the country the wet, cold, and variable weather we have had lately is lamented. In most places vegetation of all kinds is very backward; and in some there is a constant struggle to maintain life. The accounts of the winter crops, however, are not unfavorable, and should spring soon become, as is its wont, balmy and genial, no great harm will be done. As it is now, the growth of everything is tardy and uncertain. *Toronto Leader, 8th.*

—As the down express train, on Tuesday evening, was running at full speed, about two miles below Edwardsburg station, the engine-driver, Mr. Mayo, saw a man on the track, but too late to stop the train. The cow-catcher struck him, throwing him over the bank. Mr. Williams, conductor, went back with some of his hands, and found an old man, of the name of English, lying helpless in the ditch. He was suffering a good deal, but was not, strange to say, seriously injured. He had evidently been drinking. Every attention was shown him by the conductor. Had he not been noticed by the driver, he must have lain out all night and perished in the cold and rain. *Com.*

—About 3 o'clock on Sabbath morning last, the new stove factory at Morrisburgh was discovered to be on fire. It was burned to the ground, with its contents, notwithstanding great efforts on the part of the villagers, who labored nobly to save the property. The factory had been in operation but a few months, and was doing remarkably well. The owner, a Mr. Toole, from Peterborough, C. W., sustains a heavy loss of valuable machinery, and also staves. Two dwellings, the property of Capt. A. Farlinger, were also burned; but the occupants succeeded in saving all their effects. A meeting of business men was held on Monday evening to show sympathy with Mr. Toole in his loss, when a handsome sum was subscribed to aid in the immediate re-erection of the factory. *Com.*

LAUNCH.—Mr. Baldwin launched, yesterday, from his ship-yard in the St. Charles, a splendid new vessel of 800 tons. She was built under the supervision of Lloyd's surveyor, and will be classed A 1 for seven years. *Quebec Chronicle.*

"LA CANADIENNE."—The Government armed schooner, "La Canadienne," has come out of winter quarters, and is now fitting out for her annual cruise in the Gulf for the protection of the fisheries. Commander Fortin will doubtless leave towards the end of the week. *Quebec Chronicle.*

SICKNESS PREVAILING.—There has been, and still continues, a great deal of sickness in the County of Bruce this winter, principally of an inflammatory nature, and hooping-cough and accompanying diseases among children. Few have escaped obstinate coughs and colds, and many deaths have occurred both among children and adults. *Paisley Advocate.*

EMIGRATION RETURNS.—We are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. A. C. Buchanan for the emigration returns of the Port of Quebec, for the week ending 5th May. 61 cabin and 542 steerage passengers arrived,—making a total of 603, of all ages, equal to 536 adults. Of these 244 remained in Canada; 157 went to the Eastern States; and 135 to the Western States. *Quebec Chronicle.*

FIRE.—On the night of the 3rd inst., the jewellery store of Mr. Northgraves, Almonte, was destroyed by fire, with its contents. The owner had left a lamp burning, and it is supposed the lamp exploded and set the place on fire. There was no insurance. The citizens of Almonte generously subscribed \$500 to repair the damage.

GULF PORTS STEAMSHIP COMPANY.—We are glad to learn that, by arrangements made by the Directors of the Quebec and Gulf Port Steamship Company, a weekly departure from this port, with the aid of S. S. "Lady Head," will be secured until the Company's new line will come into operation. The proposed arrangement is to be carried out by the Company's new steamer, "Secret," Capt. Davidson, in conjunction with the "Lady Head." The "Secret" will leave Halifax for Quebec on her first upward trip to-day, and she will leave Quebec on the 14th inst., on her first downward trip. We trust that every encouragement will be given to the new enterprise. *Quebec Chronicle.*

LAKE ST. PETER.—The attention of pilots is directed to the fact that, owing to an accident, floating light No. 3 will not be placed in its position in Lake St. Peter for a few days. *Quebec paper.*

NEW SAVINGS' BANK.—The Commercial Bank here has established a savings-bank branch, where parties can make deposits which will bear interest from date of investment. Particulars can be obtained at the Bank on Richmond street, adjoining the Post-Office. *London Free Press.*

SCHOONER "MINNEHAHA" DISABLED.—The schooner "Minnehaha," bound upwards, was turned into Kingston last evening, 6th. She was disabled in the storm of Sunday morning, her masts and jib-boom being carried away; the foremast only partially, while her mainmast was broken into four pieces. Her jib and foresail were also carried away, the remainder of her sails receiving very trifling damage. Fortunately no accidents occurred to any of the crew, notwithstanding that the vessel was so very much disabled. She will lie over here for repairs and refit. *Kingston News.*

THE PORPOISE FISHERY ENTERPRISE.—The schooner "Canopus" cleared at the Custom House, yesterday (6th), for Baie des Chaleurs. She is chartered by the company lately organized, in this city, to prosecute the catching of porpoises, a species of whale which abound in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and which are valuable for their oil and skins, ranging from \$40 to \$100 each in price. If the experiment prove at all successful, other vessels will be despatched, and an important branch of our local marine trade spring up. The promoters are most hopeful as to the result of the experiment. *Quebec News.*

REAPPEARANCE OF CHOLERA.—This scourge threatens to visit us during the coming summer. Three or four of the principal cities of the United States have had one or more recent cases each, and our despatches of Friday state that it is doing frightful work in Nicaragua, no less than one hundred deaths having occurred in the city of Leon in a single day. It may, therefore, be set down as strongly probable, if not certain, that all the cities of this continent, where the conditions are favorable to its propagation, will

suffer to a greater or less extent before the close of the incoming hot season. Hence it is time that the necessary steps should be taken to prevent so dire a calamity, or at least to restrict it within the narrowest possible limits. *Toronto Leader.*

STEAM ON UPPER CANADA TURNPIKES.—Capt. Joseph Gould is in treaty for the purchase of a traction engine in England, which he contemplates placing on the road between Uxbridge and this town. He only awaits the necessary permission from the City Council, or by special Act of Parliament, we understand, to put the undertaking at once into operation. With such engines drawing loads of from 20 to 30 tons, in all seasons of the year, farmers could send their produce to market at a cheap rate and without interfering with their customary work in the field; wheat, barley, lumber, &c., could be forwarded at a cheap rate, and firewood brought into Whitchy and sold at one half the price now paid for it. *Whitchy Chronicle.*
[Such engines need very good roads.—Ed. Wit.]

THE MINISTERIAL PRESS ON HON. G. E. CARTIER.—Yesterday he was held out to be the star of the Imperial Courts of Europe. The day before he was in great favor with the Pope, who found in him an ardent defender of the Catholic religion. Another day, like a modern Cincinnatus, he refused to be crowned at the Capitol, but returns, after saving his compatriots, to be taken himself again to the plough. At one time he refuses crosses, ribbons, and garters; at another he pitilessly declines to yield to the wishes of the Queen, who desires to appoint him her Lieutenant in America. In one place he is held up as a legislator, whose opinion is law everywhere. In another he is a patriot of 36 curats,—the indexible prop of his race and all that is dear to it. *Le Pays.*

We find the *résumé* too faithful to withhold it from our readers. *Minerve.*

IMMIGRATION.—Undoubtedly as soon as our new legislative machinery is in action, the promotion of immigration and settlement will become a question of paramount importance. The general government and the provincial government may each deal with the question of immigration, and the means to be taken to encourage it. The Legislature of Ontario, having the control of the public lands of Upper Canada confided to it, must necessarily deal with the main question in fixing its land policy. The action of Parliament and local legislation might be rendered more effective by municipalities undertaking the promotion of settlement in their own counties and townships. County organizations of such nature are held to have done much for the rapid prosperity of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and other Western States, to which emigrants from Europe are attracted in numbers out of all proportion to the settlers who select the backwoods of Canada for their home. In Missouri, a State which has still room for a vast population, the county system of immigration societies is being adopted after the pattern of those which have flourished in Wisconsin. In all the half-occupied counties of Upper Canada, a local society might do much good by collecting and diffusing the information required by immigrants. It is to be hoped that such an auxiliary means will not be lost sight of when the time comes for Upper Canada to offer definite terms to the settler from abroad. *Kingston News.*

MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.—From a recently published sheet of Miscellaneous Statistics compiled at the Audit Office, it appears that the assessed value of real estate in Mississquoi is higher than any other county in Lower Canada, standing at \$3,375,000. Bagot stands at \$3,329,000; Beauce at \$3,000,000; Compton at \$3,301,000; Hochelaga at \$3,048,000; and Levis at \$3,158,000. The lowest in this list is Chicoutimi (2nd division) \$115,000, the same, (1st division) being assessed at \$136,000. Temiscouata at \$412,000, and Saguenay at \$500,000. The municipal debt of Montreal is returned at \$1,597,000; that of all the rest of the Province is \$3,300,000. Stanstead is the county most heavily in debt, its liabilities being \$73,705. Twelve counties are returned as entirely free from debt. The municipal revenue (including that from water works) for Montreal was nearly \$950,000; for the rest of the Province so far as returned, \$500,000. Eleven counties return no revenue. The total number of acres assessed in Lower Canada was 13,148,000; in Upper Canada, 18,500,000. The total assessed value of real estate was \$232,782,000; Toronto for over \$20,000,000. The total liabilities were between \$17,000,000 and \$18,000,000, Toronto's share being a little over \$2,500,000. The total revenues returned were a little over \$4,000,000, Toronto collecting nearly \$1,500,000. The expenditures were nearly \$4,500,000. The municipality standing highest in the assessed value of its real estate was York and Peel, rated at \$18,782,000; the next Huron and Bruce, at \$10,809,000. The lowest on the list of County Municipalities was Prescott and Russell, standing at \$1,813,000.

CHEAP RAILWAYS.—We are glad to see our Montreal contemporary discussing such an important matter as cheap railways. The benefit which would accrue to the Province from the construction of a number of cheap railways which would form a link between the interior parts of the country and the great central routes of communication—the Grand Trunk and the St. Lawrence—is incalculable. Lands now lying waste for want of good channels of communication with the principal markets in the Province would soon be taken up, and lands now occupied, but badly situated with respect to markets, would greatly improve in value. We look upon cheap railways as involving a question of hardly inferior importance to the Intercolonial Railway. The latter is intended to improve the facilities of intercourse between the Maritime and St. Lawrence Provinces, and to serve in a great measure as an outlet for the products of the Western States and as a channel of communication with the European markets. Cheap railways, on the other hand, could be made to act as feeders of the great lines of communication, they would greatly facilitate access to and from our local markets, cheapen very materially the cost of transportation of produce, create in some instances new markets and improve old ones. They would better the country, improve the value of real estate, and promote the interests of agriculture, commerce, manufactures. In fact it is almost impossible and to over-estimate the advantages which would result from the introduction of a system of cheap railways. *Ottawa Times.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.—No notices inserted unless paid in advance. Births and deaths, 25c.; marriages, 50c.

THE WITNESS.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1867.

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

Amongst distinguished arrivals must be mentioned H.M.S. "Wolverine," which came up here on Saturday, and moored where the "Pylades" lay last year. The "Wolverine" will remain at this port during the summer.—The infant son of a late distinguished Canadian, Sir L. H. LaFontaine, died a few days ago, and was buried on Monday, the 13th. With the deceased, who was only four years old, the title expires.—An extraordinary activity in building prevails at present. This is owing to several large individual buildings that are being erected; also two blocks having been taken down to widen streets, and which must be rebuilt during the ensuing season.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

—"Martha," the author of a very pleasant little piece, entitled "Sarah and I," which will be found in our Poet's Corner, is invited to continue her contributions to the *Witness*.

—"Norwood," or, *Village Life in New England*, is the title of the first tale by the talented and celebrated brother of Mr. Harriet Beecher Stow. It is written for the *New York Ledger*, in which it is to appear serially, as "Uncle Tom" did in the *National Era* before it was published separately. We mean, as it goes along, to give such copious extracts from it as will give not only the narrative but the best portions of the descriptive and dialogue accompaniments. The first portion, being chiefly introductory, will appear on Saturday.

—The *Gazette* is informed that the names of the Senators for the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario have been transmitted to England by Atlantic cable, for the approval of the Queen.

—A meeting was held in Toronto, on Friday evening last, to consider the question of establishing an Industrial Home in that city, where beggars and other indigents may be usefully employed. A committee was appointed to take the subject into consideration and report.

—The New Brunswick Legislature was opened on Saturday. The Lieut.-Governor, in his speech, announced that the revenue largely exceeded the expenditure, notwithstanding the funds required for the defence of the frontier against the Fenians.

—London, C.W., seems to be infested by a gang of burglars just now. On Sunday night last, no less than three houses were entered and robbed; and, on the following night, two more were served in the same way. None of the guilty parties have been arrested.

—Great difficulty is experienced in finding accommodation for the troops at Toronto. For nearly a month the authorities—military and civic—have been trying to obtain suitable buildings to serve as a barracks, but so far unsuccessfully.

—There was a fashionable wedding (Dr. Leman to Miss Beaudry) on the 7th inst., at the French parish church of this city. The Rev. Mr. Papineau, uncle of the bridegroom, officiated, and his great-uncle, the Hon. Louis Joseph Papineau, led him to the altar. The bride was led by her father (J. B. Baudry, Esq.) and mother. There were six maids of honor and an equal number of groomsmen.

—The Upper Canada journals are discussing politics, in view of the coming elections, with great vivacity; the chief point at issue being apparently whether the Hon. George Brown is to re-occupy his old position of leader of the Upper Canada majority. Personal questions (doubtless involving more or less questions of principle) are almost the only ones that we can see in the numerous and lengthy articles which fill the editorial columns of our western contemporaries.

—The *Summerside* (P.E.I.) *Journal* says that large bodies of ice are still floating in the gulf. Some of them are as thick as twenty feet or more.

—There are 46,000 exhibitors at the Paris Exhibition.

—The principal chiefs of brigands in the Roman States have offered, with their followers, to submit on condition of complete amnesty.

—Cholera has broken out on the island of Sicily.

—An English antiquarian confidently asserts that he has discovered in the parish church of Hyde, in Cheshire, the remains of King Alfred, which have now been buried 956 years.

—The authorities have, it is said, decided on calling out the Irish militia regiments for training this summer.

—The death sentence of the convicted Fenian Doran will be commuted to a long term of imprisonment.

—The Russian telegraph line connecting the mouth of the Amoor River with the capital has been completed.

—The Emperor Louis Napoleon is now in his 60th year.

—It is said that no fewer than 50,000 Swedes have announced their intention of emigrating to America this year.

—Earl Derby says that the Government will not make public the real history of the recent Fenian uprising, on account of the apprehended troubles with certain foreign governments which are involved in the plot.

—The action of the peace congress in London has been speedy and effectual. The treaty has been signed by all the powers represented. It is understood that it provides for the evacuation of Luxembourg by the Prussian troops, and for the total destruction of the fortress.

—The *Invalide Russe*, of St. Petersburg, referring to the proceedings of the Turks in Crete, states that the Sultan would not have ordered such a course if not assured of the sympathy of one or two of the European Governments.

—The Paris exhibition building has already been sold to a Russian company, to take possession on the first of November. It is intended to transport the structure to Russia, and afterwards erect it in St. Petersburg.

—A few of the captured Austrian guns have been melted down for the purpose of making medals for the Prussian soldiers, and they are said to have turned out to be made of copper and lead, instead of the usual gun-metal, which is a compound of copper and tin.

—It is proposed to erect in some public place a statue of Mr. Peabody, the American benefactor to the poor of London. A first list of subscriptions is published, headed by the Prince of Wales for 25 guineas. Considerably over 41,000 has been subscribed, chiefly in ten-guinea subscriptions.

—The Russian government has just abolished all Polish money, and also introduced changes in the University of Warsaw tending to make it a purely Muscovite establishment. The Czar himself will visit Warsaw in May, the first time for many years that he has been in the Polish capital.

—The "Great Eastern" is not to return to New York, the speculation not paying.

—Seventy thousand Germans are coming to the United States this season. Many of them leave their country to escape the Prussian conscription law.

—Next month quite a number of Roman Catholic dignitaries leave the United States on a pilgrimage to Europe,—the archbishop of Cincinnati, and the bishops of Pittsburgh, Alton, Columbus, and Mobile.

—Speaker Colfax, who lectured in Cincinnati on Thursday night, was escorted to the hall by a company of Fenians, fully armed and uniformed, and introduced to the audience by Geo. H. Pendleton.

—Mr. Jefferson Davis has at last arrived in Richmond, after his long confinement. According to the telegram, "there was no demonstration,—neither cheering nor hissing," although there were crowds of spectators.

—There is no longer a doubt that the report of a massacre by the Indians at Fort Buford was false. Persons have reached Sioux City who left Fort Buford several weeks subsequent to the date of the alleged massacre, and say that nothing of the kind has occurred.

—Speaking of the fact that Blackburn, who sought to supply Northern cities with yellow fever during the civil war, is begging permission to return to Kentucky, a contemporary says:—"Considering the sort of men who have received pardons, we should think Dr. Blackburn might safely venture into the United States,—and in Kentucky he might run for Congress with every reason to expect an election."

A NEW SAINT FOR CANADA.—The *Journal de Quebec* states that all Canadian Catholics will learn with delight, that active measures are now being taken at Rome to canonize the venerable mother of the Incarnation.

VERY CREDITABLE.—A Dover paper states that, on the occasion of the great review in that town on Easter Monday, when nearly 30,000 volunteers were assembled, no case against a volunteer for any disturbance, indiscretion, or misbehavior, came before the local police court; and not a single accident worthy of mention occurred during the review.

TYPOGRAPHICAL.—The *Chicago Tribune* mentions it to their credit, that, of the 400 journey-men printers employed in that city, not one took any part in the riotous proceedings there in connection with the eight-hour movement; but that they and the employers made mutually satisfactory arrangements, thus increasing the harmony, good-feeling, and respect subsisting between employers and employees.

ANOTHER CANADIAN BISHOPRIC.—The *Journal de Quebec* has reliable information that at the last meeting of the Catholic Bishops of Canada, a proposition has been discussed to form a new diocese from parishes to be sundered from the dioceses of Quebec, Three Rivers, and St. Hyacinthe. The new apostolic see would rule over a population of 70,000 souls, and the project is favorably entertained, although not yet finally decided upon.

THE PEACE CONGRESS.—Some important decisions have been arrived at by the Peace Congress. The territory of Luxembourg is to remain in the possession of the King of Holland as Grand Duke of Luxembourg. The neutral-

ization of the Grand Duchy is to be guaranteed by all the European Powers in the Conference. The fortress of Luxembourg is to be razed, Earl Derby stated in Parliament on Friday night that he considered the preservation of the peace of Europe no longer a question of doubt.

THE SILVER CURRENCY.—The scarcity of bank bills in the country is very great, and people who wish to make a small remittance—say the subscription for a paper—are, in consequence, very much put about. Could our banks not issue a class of bills payable in silver; say small square ones, so as to distinguish them at a glance from the present long-shaped ones, which are payable in gold? It appears to us that all parties would be gainers by such an arrangement, and, in fact, something of the kind is necessary, unless the present silver currency can be replaced by Canadian currency, based on the gold value.

EXPERIMENT WITH SORGHUM.—Mr. Jno. Ross, of Dunwich Township, Elgin Co., C.W., cultivated a crop of sorghum last spring to the extent of three-fourths of an acre, merely by way of experiment, the result of which, by your permission, I herewith give to the readers of the *Witness*:—"The yield was an average of half a gallon to the square rod, though competent judges considered it not more than half of what might have been produced from the same ground had it been properly manured. It was also somewhat injured by the frost. The soil was sandy, and the whole cost of apparatus for manufacturing was fully included in the small sum of \$10. Mr. Ross is sanguine of much greater success this year, when he intends giving it a fair trial."

W. G. S.

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society took place in Toronto on Wednesday evening last; Hon. G. W. Allan in the chair. From the report we gather that there was a total issue of Bibles, or parts, of 46,899 copies, being a decrease of 2,692 copies on last year. Since the organization of the Society it has circulated 616,730 copies of the scriptures. The receipts for the year ending March 31, 1867, amounted to \$23,052.39. The expenditure for the same period reached \$22,902.88. The auxiliaries generally were reported as in a healthy condition, and doing a steady work. Hon. Geo. W. Allan was elected President; Hon. Wm. McMaster, Treasurer; J. G. Hodgins and G. Hague, Secretaries.

THE GRAND TRUNK AND THE BRITISH RAILROAD JOURNALS.—For a long time we tried ineffectually, to open the eyes of the stockholders and the great mass of bond-holders of the Grand Trunk Company in Britain to the fact that matters were conducted here, not for their interest, nor for that of the public, but for the interest of the few capitalists who controlled the management. These representations, however, though based upon patent facts, were not heeded. The railway journals of Britain, inspired evidently by the parties interested in continuing this state of things, abused us, for our pains, as an enemy to the road, and did all they could to mislead public opinion. All this, however, is changed now, when it is, perhaps, too late; and the debates at the last semi-annual meeting, and the articles thereupon of the railroad journals, go far farther than ever we did in condemning the policy which has been pursued. Indeed, we think they go in several respects too far in the way of condemnation, scarcely making enough of allowance for the difficulties of the position.

HAY.—We recently copied a paragraph from a Vermont paper, stating that the farmers there had come to the conclusion that they lost very much of the value of their hay by cutting too late; and we recommended this paragraph to the attention of French papers that they might bring it to the notice of the *habitants* who supply this market with hay, as what they bring is usually far too ripe. We never inserted a paragraph in better faith or out of a more kindly motive; but a correspondent of the *Minerve* replies to it as an attack on the French-Canadian *habitants*. He is happy to see that American farmers are learning how to make hay; but, as for Canadian farmers, they know how to make that already, if they know anything, and it is only the wet weather that sometimes hinders them from making it while in flower. All we can say is, we have examined the hay on the market for years, and it is generally all too ripe, the seeds being falling, or fallen, out of it; and, in this respect, so far as we have observed, the hay brought by French-Canadian farmers is worse than that of the old-country or American farmers.

WAR IN EUROPE.—The English journals are discussing eagerly the chances of war in Europe. The fear is growing stronger that perhaps the great conference may not, after all, accomplish its mission of peace. All accounts testify that the war preparations of France and Prussia have not really been discontinued; and while they speak gentle words, they, at the same time, are making ready to carry on the bitterest strife—not now, and probably not ever—for the sake of little Luxembourg, but simply a struggle for superiority of position and of influence in continental Europe. And while France and Prussia devour each other, Luxembourg, preyed upon by both friends and foes, will not

be the only innocent sufferer. In such a contest the rights and interests of the few remaining small independent States will not be allowed to impede the progress of the conqueror, whoever he may be; and it will be well with Belgium and Holland if they are not "reconstructed" upon the same general principle of absorption that so lately swept off the host of petty German States from the map of Europe.

FENIAN FOLLY.—"General Massey" (or "Colonel Condon," for the hero appears to have an equal right to both names) in his evidence for the crown in the Dublin trials, stated that just before the outbreak he was furnished with accurate returns of the available insurrectionary force in Dublin and in Cork county. In Dublin, the men mustered from 14,000 to 18,000, who possessed about 3,000 arms of all descriptions, while of this number only some 500 were rifles, the rest being pikes. In Cork the proportion was still more preposterous,—1,500 weapons (the large majority pikes again) amongst 20,000 traitors. It appears from the *N.Y. Tribune's* correspondence that the chief agent in the discovery and defeat of the Fenian treason was a young ex-lieutenant in the Federal army, named John Joseph Corydon, who since September last has systematically revealed to the British Government the secrets of the brotherhood, so far as his position as an officer of "the Republic" enabled him to obtain them. It was Corydon's information, it seems, that led to the frustration of the Chester movement and also to the arrest of Massey. The latter rascal was attacked with a severe illness during the trials, and his life was in danger for some time, but afterwards improved.

BIBLES AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—The special correspondent of the *Minerve*, writing from Paris says:—

"Hitherto there is one thing in which England is without a rival; namely, its proselyting zeal in selling Bibles. A Protestant Society has built a Kiosk in the Champ-de-Mars, which is attended by a numerous staff of employees, whose duty it is to solicit the people to accept Bibles. Lord Shaftesbury, who undertook to defend the Protestants of Lower Canada in the House of Lords, is at the head of this movement. Quite near the Exhibition building is a Protestant church, which is at the disposal of the English, and which is the focus of the Protestant Mission. The English wish to convert the French, but the French do not like this mode of conversion. They are too polite to hoot the Bible-sellers, but they shrug their shoulders."

HOEING, MULCHING, WATERING.

If you wish to retain moisture in the soil, break the surface by hoeing or raking. Hence in drought it is said a hoeing is equal to a watering, because it prevents the moisture which is continually rising below from passing off into the air. It follows, that if you wish the soil to dry fast in spring you should not touch it at all till it is dry enough for working.

Mulching, likewise, prevents the earth moisture from passing off into the air, by means of straw or manure laid loosely over the surface of the earth. Boards on the ground would be even more effectual, but would not admit heat and air so well. The shade of trees, or of a growing crop, has a somewhat similar effect in keeping the ground damp; as it is a clear sky with no obstruction between it and the earth, which causes the latter to give off its moisture and heat most rapidly. Frequent stirring of the earth's surface is the best as well as easiest kind of mulching; for it admits heat and air better than any other plan, and retains moisture nearly as well. The shade cast by the crops on the ground is also undoubtedly a most valuable kind of mulching,—if we may so speak,—but this shade cannot be doubled without injury. For instance, a crop growing below a tree will not do well.

When a young tree, just planted out, has neither a mulching nor a constant stirring of the earth about it, and has scarcely any foliage to shade the ground, it is exposed to a most rapid and trying evaporation of the moisture which should nourish its roots; and, if it lives at all, it will be exceedingly feeble. Nor will any amount of watering counterbalance the want of mulching or stirring the earth. Indeed, watering with cold water is injurious to feeble tree and plant life. The water should be sun-warmed that is used for this purpose.

CAN SUCH THINGS BE, NOR CAUSE OUR SPECIAL WONDER?

Oh, that men were wise and would refrain from forming the appetite of the drunkard; for, when once formed, it drives its victim to destruction. Sometimes he lingers on the road to ruin, reforming for a while and appearing to do well, but, in a few weeks or months, he breaks out again, perhaps worse than ever; and the fall is, in almost every case we have had to do with, traced to a glass of beer with a friend. We have had a knowledge of some of the saddest cases lately that could well be imagined. Young men of good families and good education trying to reform, but continually tempted back again,—encouraged to try once more, and once more falling,—and this even to a third or fourth time.

One of the parties to whom we allude was an object of great interest to a minister of this city, who sought long and carefully for a boarding-house for him where he would not be tempted with drink, and thought he had succeeded; but

in less than a week it was found that there was liquor in almost every room of the house, and, of course, the effort to reform in such company was unavailing; a fact, by the way, which opens up a sad glimpse of the social state of Montreal.

But, though these efforts to reform were unsuccessful, we hope the parties may yet, not only resolve wholly to abstain from alcoholic drink, but what is far more important, give themselves up as poor helpless penitents to the Good Shepherd. For we are convinced that total abstinence, joined to a living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is the only safety for one who has acquired the inebriate's appetite. But how few seek this safety! What a fearful thing to see a living educated man deploring as earnestly and talking as sensibly about his vice and ruin as any one could do, and yet entirely unable, with all his own resolutions and the sympathy and aid of friends, to escape from the destruction which is yawning before and around him! And what a terrible thing it is to be going on insensibly towards this state! and, even worse, to be helping others to form this fatal appetite, which never yet grew out of anything except what is claimed to be moderate drinking, but which has a constant tendency to grow out of that!

OBSELETE BIBLE WORDS.

(Condensed from *Christian Treasury*.)

Eph. iv., 3, "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." "Endeavor," it has been well said, "once denoted all possible tension, the highest energy that could be directed to an object. With us it means the last feeble, hopeless attempt of a person who knows that he cannot accomplish his aim, but makes a conscience of going through some formalities for the purpose of showing that the failure is not his fault." If we attach to "endeavor" its present meaning, we may too easily persuade ourselves that the apostle does no more than bid us to attempt to preserve this unity, and that he quite recognizes the possibility of our being defeated in the attempt. He does no such thing; he assumes success. The word he uses means "giving all diligence," and "endeavor" meant no less two centuries and a half ago.

Luke xix., 13, "He called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, occupy till I come." This use of the verb has long been obsolete. The famous inventory of the merchandise of Tyre, in Ezek. xxviii., has another place (and the only one) in which our translators have employed *occupy* as equivalent to *trade, negotiate, make use of in business*; and there it occurs again and again.

When one apostle writes, "Ye are a holy nation, a peculiar people" (1 Peter ii. 9); and another represents our Lord as purifying to himself "a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus ii. 14),—it is difficult to see how they could have expressed their thought more perspicuously. The faithful are God's *exclusive property*. He has chosen them to be His *peculiarium*. It is a very natural and easy transition from the idea of "peculiar possession" to that of "singularity;" and this modern, loose, and, indeed, hardly legitimate sense, is by some readers on both sides of the Atlantic taken to be the sense intended in the texts above cited. So grave a misapprehension would seem to show that it may serve a useful purpose to explain that when the saints are described as "a peculiar people," it is not because of any peculiarities of character or manner, but because of their being attached by God to himself as his special possession.

Quick in the sense of *alive*, requires a brief notice. It is very common in the oldest English writers. Thus Chaucer:—

"Not fully quick, nor fully dead they were;" but so entirely obsolete is it in this sense that in such texts as Numbers xvi., 30, and Psalm cxxiv., 2, 3, most people attach to it the notion of *suddenness or rapidity*, rather than *life*.

Matt. vi. 25, "Take no thought for your life," and ver. 34, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow." When our translation was made, *take no thought* was a perfectly correct rendering of the word employed by our Lord. *Thought* was then constantly used as an equivalent for anxiety or solicitude; as, let witness this passage from Bacon:—"Harris, an alderman in London, was put in trouble, and died with thought and anxiety before his business came to an end."

1 Sam. xxii. 10, "Achish said, Whither have ye made a road to-day?" and David said, Against the south of Judah." How has it come about that the Scotch *raid* has, in this sense, so completely supplanted the English form of the word. Can it have been because

The good old rule, the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can.

survived longer among the countrymen of Rob Roy than among their neighbors of the south? The word *cunning* is of frequent occurrence in the Old Testament, and in no case does it include that idea of deceit and guile which is so prominent in it now. It denotes simply *wise and knowing*.

THE VOLCANO OF KILAUEA.

In Hawaii, the largest of the Sandwich Islands, the natives have a superstitious reverence for Pélé, the goddess of fire, whom they believe to reside in an enormous volcano which is situated in the southern part of the island. This volcano is well suited for the abode of such a deity. The crater consists of a vast plain nine miles in circuit, surrounded by steep walls of rock from three to seven hundred feet high. In this crater, as a traveller remarks, the city of Boston might be easily accommodated; while it would not be much more than filled by the whole of Mount Vesuvius. Here and there in the rocky ridge are holes from which issue, gently, clouds of steam; ferns grow luxuriantly around the openings, and the condensing vapor forms pools of sweet water, the only source of drinking water

Family Reading.

UP AND DOING.

Up and doing, little Christian;
Up and doing while 'tis day;
Do the work the Master gives you;
Do not loiter by the way.
For we all have work before us;
You, dear child, as well as I;
Let us seek to learn our duty,
And perform it manfully.

Up and doing, little Christian;
Gentle be and ever kind;
Helpful to thy loving mother;
Even her slightest wishes mind.
Let the little children love you
For your care and harmless play;
And the feeble and more wilful,
Help them by your kindly way.

Patience, patience, little Christian!
No cross look or angry word;
Follow Him who died to save you—
Follow Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Help the suffering and the needy,
Help the poor whom Jesus loves;
Tell the sinner of the Saviour,
Who still lives to bless above.

Pray then, pray then, little Christian;
Never, never cease to pray;
Pray for pardon, pray for blessing,
Pray for mercy day by day;
Render thanks for all the mercies
Which our Father sends to thee,
Most of all for the dear Saviour
Who once died on Calvary.

Up and doing, little Christian;
Trust not to thyself alone,
But work out your own salvation
Through the grace of God's dear Son.
Jesus loves you, little Christian;
Turn not from His love away,
But go forth and do His bidding,
Up and doing while 'tis day.

NORWOOD; OR, VILLAGE LIFE IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.

INTRODUCTION.

Since the introduction of railways, thousands of curious travellers, every summer, have thronged New England, have seen its manufacturing villages, and admired its general thrift. But those who know its scenery only by the river valleys, know little of it; and those who have seen its people only in cities, are little acquainted with New-England character.

The maritime population of New England is very unlike all the rest. The foreign element has greatly modified society. Commerce and manufacturing have worn away many of the primitive New England traits; and the wealth and refinement of the cities have to some extent overlaid the peculiar New England element by a cosmopolitan gilding. The remote neighborhoods and hill towns yet retain the manners, morals, institutions, customs, and religion of the fathers. The interior villages of New England are her brood-combs.

Our simple story of domestic life will take us to a point intermediate between the rugged simplicity of mountain towns and the easier life of the cities.

A traveller going north from Springfield in Massachusetts soon perceives before him an abrupt barrier, running east and west, which, if compared with the country on either side, might be called mountainous. The two westernmost summits are Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke. By a narrow passage between them comes through the Connecticut river. Passing between these hill mountains, we enter a great valley or basin, some twelve miles wide and thirty long, which one might easily imagine to have been once a lake; the Pelham hills on the east, Sugar-loaf on the north, and the Holyoke range on the south, forming barriers on three sides, while its waters on the west were stayed by the slopes of those hills, which, in the middle of western Massachusetts, are all that remain of the famous Green Mountains.

Look with my eyes, good reader, upon the town of Norwood, that, refusing to go down upon the fat bottom-lands of the Connecticut, daintily perches itself upon the irregular slopes west, and looks over upon that transcendent valley from under its beautiful shale trees, and you will say that no fairer village glistens in the sunlight, or nestles under arching elms! It is a wonder that Norwood was ever allowed to venture so near to the low ground of the Connecticut; for it was early settled, not far from thirty years after the Pilgrims' landing. How the temptation to build upon the top of the highest hill was resisted, we know not!

Did the New England settler alight upon hill tops, like a sentinel, or a hawk upon the topmost bough, to spy danger at its first appearing? Or had he some unconscious sense of the poetic beauty of the scriptural city set upon a hill—some Jerusalem, lifted up, and seen from afar, in all its beauty? Or was he willing to face the sturdy winds of New-England hill tops, rather than to take the risk of malaria in the softer air of her valleys? Whatever the reason, the chosen spot in early days seems to have been a high and broad-backed hill, where the summer came last, and departed earliest; where, while it lingered, it was purest and sweetest; where winter was most austere, and its winds roared among the trees, and shook the framed houses, with such awful grandeur that children needed nothing more to awaken in their imagination the great Coming Judgment, and the final consuming storms, when the earth should be shaken and pass away!

Norwood, a town of five thousand inhabitants, like hundreds of other New England towns, had in a general and indistinct way an upper, middle, and lower class. A wholesome jealousy of their rights, and a suspicion among the poor that wealth and strength always breed danger to the weak, made the upper class—who were ranked so by their wealth, by their superior culture, and by the antiquity of their families in town—politically weaker than any other.

The middle class comprised the great body of the people, all dependent upon their skill and activity for a living, and all striving to amass property enough to leave their families at their death in independent circumstances.

The lower class of a New England village is chiefly composed of the hangers-on—those who are ignorant and imbecile, and especially those who, for want of moral health, have sunk, like sediment, to the bottom. Perhaps nowhere in the world can be found more unlovely wickedness—a malignant, bitter, tenacious hatred of good—than in New England. The good are very good, and the bad are very bad. The high moral tone of public sentiment in many New-England towns, and its penetrating and almost inquisitorial character, either powerfully determines men to good, or chafes and embitters them. This is especially true when, in certain cases, good men are so thoroughly intent upon public morality that the private individual has scarcely any choice left. Under such a pressure, some men act in open wickedness out of spite, and some secretly; and the bottom of society wages clandestine war with the top.

But fortunately for Norwood, the public sentiment, though strong and high in moral tone, had been, by peculiar influences, so tempered with kindness, that, far less than in surrounding places, was there a class of fierce castaways at the bottom.

The main street of Norwood was irregular, steadily seeking higher ground to its extreme western limit. It would have had no claim to beauty had it not been rich in the peculiar glory of New England—its elm-trees! No town can fail of beauty, though its walks were gutters, and its houses hovels, if venerable trees make magnificent colonnades along its streets. Of all trees, no other unites, in the same degree, majesty and beauty, grace and grandeur, as the American elm! Known from north to south, through a range of twelve hundred miles, and from the Atlantic to the head waters of the rivers which flow into the western side of the Mississippi, yet, in New England, we find the elm in its greatest size and beauty, fully justifying Michaux's commendation of it to European cultivators, as "the most magnificent vegetable of the Temperate Zone." Though a lover of moisture and richness, the elm does not flourish so well upon pure vegetable soils as on intervals lands, stronger in mineral ingredients than river meadows.

No man has seen America, who has not become familiar with the villages of New England and the farms of the North-western States. Yet every one will confess that a large part of this scenic beauty of New England is contributed by trees, and particularly by the elm. The elms of New England! They are as much a part of her beauty as the columns of the Parthenon were the glory of her architecture!

And so, reader, as one loves to approach a mansion through an avenue of elms, we have led you through a short discourse of trees, to our homely story.

NANCY LE BARON.

BY L. M. SARGENT.

(Continued.)

As I sat silently in the midst of these meditations, my attention was arrested by the voices of children: I listened attentively. There were more than one, and they were evidently endeavoring to sing in concert. As the sound appeared to come from the rear of the cottage, I stepped out, and walking round the corner of the tenement, I came unobserved upon the little group. It consisted of three barefooted children, a boy who appeared about eight years of age, and two girls who were considerably younger, of whom the smallest was a cripple. They were very meekly clad in coarse clothes with numberless patches. Enoch informed me that poor Nancy had three children, thought I. "Come," cried the boy, "come and sit upon the log."—The girls accordingly took their seats upon a fallen pine, in which position their faces were presented to my view. I had no doubt they were Nancy's children. The elder resembled her in a remarkable manner. I drew back that I might not disturb the operations of these young chorists. "Come," said the boy, "clearing his little pipes; and, raising his hand like the leader of a choir, he set the tune, and the girls promptly joined in. They sung the morning hymn:—

Awake thy soul and with the sun
Thy daily course of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth, and early rise
To pay thy morning sacrifice.

Their voices were inexpressibly sweet, and the accuracy of their performance was remarkable. Nancy Le Baron had been the sweetest chorister of our village; and I have often been struck with the extraordinary contrast, when I have seen her slight and delicate figure in the gallery by the side of old Major Goggle, the butcher, who was our head singer and the fattest man in the country.

I have heard music in my time. I have listened to fair damsels pouring forth those hour-long strains of Beethoven, amid crowded saloons, while drowsy dowers nodded off of time. I have never listened to the notes of Paganini's violin, but I have heard the incomparable Pucci call forth the varying notes of King David's harp, till I could almost believe myself before the great harper of Israel. I have opened my ears to imported organists and hireling choirs while they have performed "to the glory of God, for so much lucre per diem." But I would not exchange the vocal concert of these three little children upon the pine-log for them all.

"Well," said the boy, "it's almost time for granny to come." "Yes," replied the elder girl, "and maybe dear mother is so much better that she will let us come home, if we don't make any noise."—"There comes granny now," cried the little cripple, as she jumped from the log, and seizing her crutch, scampered off towards the road.

Turning my face in that direction, I immediately recognized Chloe Dalton; her general appearance was unchanged. She still held in her hand her old oaken staff of unusual length,

and walked with long and hasty strides. I observed, however, as she drew near, that she had lost somewhat of that erect carriage for which she had been remarkable. Time had compelled her to bow the neck, and look downward upon that kindred dust to which she must ere long return. The children greeted her with strong evidence of attachment; and slackening her speed to accommodate the little cripple, whom she led by the hand, she soon arrived with her charge at the cottage door. I had resumed my seat within. She gazed upon my features intently for a moment;—but it was evident that she did not recollect me.

"I was enjoying a walk from the village," said I, "this fine June morning, and I have taken the liberty to rest myself for a short time in your cottage."

"You're welcome, sir," said she. She then placed three bowls upon the table, with a pitcher of milk and a loaf of brown bread. "Here, children," said she, "You've waited long for your breakfast." They sat round the board and began their meal, but I observed that the elder girl was deeply affected; her eyes were filled with tears.—"Don't cry, Nancy," said the old woman, "maybe you'll see mother to-morrow. Dr. Lanken is with her now, and I hope she'll be better." A deep sigh escaped her as she uttered these words.

"Whose children are these?" I inquired, after they had finished their breakfast and gone forth to play.

"They are the children," she replied, of a young widow lady who lives in the next cottage, and is ill of a brain fever; and I have taken them home for a while, that she may not be disturbed by their noise."

"Are not these the children of Nancy Le Baron?" said I.

"Yes, sir," said she; "did you ever know her, or the old folks?"

"You do not remember me, Chloe," I replied; "I am Isaac Lawder."

The old creature sprang from her seat, and seized my hand with great earnestness.—"It's the Lord," she cried, "that has sent you here; for my old head is full of care and trouble. Ah, Mr. Lawder, if you had only had your heart's own way, poor Nancy would not have come to such misery."

"You remember," said I, "that you set up for a true prophetess, Chloe. You told me that I should one day or another be the husband of Nancy Le Baron; and, when I told you that she had rejected my offer, you bade me wait and be patient, for the time would surely come. And what do you say now, Chloe?"

"Ah, Mr. Lawder," she replied, "those were foolish times, and wicked times, too, they were, when a short-sighted mortal, like me, pretended to look into futurity. Nancy might yet be your wife, if you were saint enough to match her in a better world, and there were such things as marriages there. But in this, I am afraid her course is nearly finished. It is wonderful how the poor thing has borne up so long against so many troubles."

"Pray, tell me, Chloe, how she came to marry such a brutal, drunken creature?"

"Oh, Mr. Lawder," she replied, "it's a long story, and I'm afraid it would prove a wearisome one; but I know you loved Nancy, in her better days, and, if you've the time to spare, I'll give you some account of the matter."

I assured her that I desired not only to hear the account of Nancy's sufferings, but, as far as possible, to relieve them."

"You never used to despise the poor, Mr. Lawder, when you was a stripling," said old Chloe; "and now, if the Lord has made you steward over many things, as maybe he has, I dare say you'll make ready to render a true account."

"I desire to know, Chloe," said I, "before you proceed, how you gathered all these good and just impressions. I well remember the time when you had very little regard for serious things; and here I see a Bible in your cottage, and, as I find your glasses between the sacred pages, I suppose your eyes and your thoughts have been there."

"Even so, Mr. Lawder," she replied; "the Lord has been good to me and sent me an angel of mercy to lead me to the clear light,—none other than the mother of these poor children, who, I'm afraid, will be left alone, before long, in a cold world."

(To be Continued.)

FINDING A ROAD.

A young man had been preaching in the presence of a venerable divine; and, after he had done, he went to the old minister, and said,—

"What do you think of my sermon?"

"A very poor sermon indeed," said he.

"A poor sermon!" said the young man.

"It took me a long time to study it."

"Aye, no doubt of it."

"Why, did you not think my explanation of the text a very good one?"

"Oh, yes!" said the old preacher; "very good indeed."

"Well, then, why do you say it is a poor sermon? Didn't you think the metaphors were appropriate, and the arguments conclusive?"

"Yes, they were very good, as far as that goes; but still it was a very poor sermon."

"Why tell me why you think it was a poor sermon?"

"Because," said he, "there was no Christ in it."

"Well," said the young man, "Christ was not in the text. We are not to be preaching Christ always: we must preach what is in the text."

So the old man said,—

"Don't you know, young man, that from every town, and every village, and every little hamlet, in England, wherever it may be, there is a road to London?"

"Yes," said the young man.

"Ah!" said the old divine; "and so from every text in Scripture, there is a road to the metropolis of the Scripture; that is, Christ. And, my dear brother, your business is, when

you get a text, to say, 'Now, what is the road to Christ?' and then preach a sermon running along the road to the great metropolis, Christ. And," said he, "I have not yet found a text that has not a road to Christ in it: if I should, I would make one. I would go over hedge and ditch but I would get at my Master; for the sermon can not do any good unless there is a savor of Christ in it."

THE PLYMOUTH BAROMETER.

The west wind always brings us rain,
The east wind blows it back again,
In south winds we always have wet weather,
With north winds cold and wet together;
If the sun in red does set,
The next day surely will be wet;
But if the sun goes down in gray,
The next will be a pouring day.

The above doggerel is called the "Plymouth Barometer." It seems appropriate to the weather we have been enjoying.—E. M. D.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

(UNDER THE CHARGE OF A SPECIAL EDITOR.)

(For the WITNESS.)

THE TWO CHRISTMAS-TREES.

Nellie Bryce was an only child, the pride of her doting father and mother, the pet and plying of her uncles, Edward and Henry, the younger brothers of Mr. Bryce. Surrounded by every luxury that wealth could purchase, and with every desire, no matter how extravagant, satisfied by one or other of her over-indulgent relatives, what wonder that Nellie's naturally fine disposition should have become so changed that at the age of nine, when we present her to our readers, she had become haughty and selfish in no common degree?

Nellie's appearance, and even manner (when in a good humor), were very pleasing, so that wherever she went she was sure to be greatly admired at first. It was only when the natural shyness, consequent upon intercourse with strangers had subsided, that her defects began to be apparent and Nellie Bryce showed herself in her true colors. "Mamma," said she, one day early in December, "I want you to let me have a Christmas-tree, Ella Baynes is going to have one, but not on Christmas Eve; it will not be till the 25th; so there will be plenty time for her to come to mine first; and I guess," said Nellie, growing warm with her subject, "she will be mighty mad when she sees the nice things I shall have; for her best thing—what she will put at the top of the tree you know—is an old doll that was given her by her aunt last year."

"Very well, dear," said the indulgent mother, "I suppose if you wish for a Christmas-tree, you must have it. Make out a list of those whom you wish to be invited, but do not let it exceed thirty, and another day I will go with you to make the necessary purchases."

In high glee, Nellie departed quite determined that her Christmas-tree should be the most beautiful one ever seen, throwing Ella Baynes quite into the shade.

We will pass over the next three weeks,—during which Nellie has been very busy,—and request our young friends to enter with us the splendidly furnished drawing-room of Mr. Bryce, on the evening before Christmas. A merry party were assembled there, and the polished surface of the large mirror reflected many a lovely face and elegant toilet; for Nellie, who, like most selfish people, had a great dislike to anything that offended the eye, always chose her friends among the wealthy and beautiful.

"Now, my young friends," said Mr. Bryce, "I must have you left in darkness for a few moments, so that you may better enjoy the sight of Nellie's tree." As he spoke, the gas was turned off, and, in an instant, all were in total darkness. Suddenly the folding-doors leading to the next room were thrown open, and the Christmas-tree blazing with light, and loaded with costly presents met their astonished gaze. "How beautiful!" "How lovely!" "I never saw one so large," and many other like expressions fell on Nellie's delighted ear. "Wait a while," she thought, "till they get their presents, how pleased they will be then! and Ella, see how she is looking. I am sure she must be sorry about her own old tree, and her second-hand doll; perhaps she won't have hers, after all: she will be so ashamed of it."

So thought Nellie when she heard the delighted exclamations of her young friends; but, as the distribution of the presents went on, she was pained to find that with all the trouble she had taken, only in one or two cases did she give real pleasure. Wealthy as the parents of most of the children were, it was a hard matter to get what would please them, as Nellie found out before long.

"I won't have that: I hate dolls dressed in blue," rudely exclaimed little Minny Burton when her name was called, and a most beautiful doll, with long curls and handsome blue silk dress, was handed to her.

"O Minny see," said Nellie; "you don't know how nice it is; why it can open and shut its eyes, and cry just like a real baby."

"I don't care; it's an ugly thing, and I won't have it," said the spoilt child; and Nellie with a flushed cheek and flashing eye turned away, determined never to ask so rude a child to her parties again.

But poor Nellie was doomed to hear more than Minny's rude speech, more than one was dissatisfied with their gifts, till at last Nellie lost what little patience she possessed, and, leaving them to amuse themselves as best they could, she gained her own chamber and burst into a passion of tears.

Missing her from the room, and knowing how painful to the feelings such remarks as Nellie had overheard would be, Mrs. Baynes softly left the room, and passing up the wide staircase she entered the room where Nellie was. Sitting down beside her, she remained quiet until Nellie's sobs became fainter, and then, but not before, did she endeavor to

comfort the child for her bitter disappointment. It was some time before she succeeded; but the kind, gentle firmness of Mrs. Baynes at last prevailed, and Nellie once more descended to her guests, who, by this time, were tired of play, and only waiting to be sent for.

"Good-bye, Nellie dear," said Mrs. Baynes on leaving; "don't forget to come to us on the 25th. I have already obtained your mamma's permission. I wish to see if I cannot interest you in another class than that from which your friends are chosen."

The Tuesday following was the day on which Ella was to have her Christmas-tree; and punctually at six, the hour for which she was invited, Nellie made her appearance. Ella ran to meet her friend, and conducted her to her own cosy little chamber, where the two children had a few moments' lively chat before descending the stairs.

"Why," said Nellie, "did you tell me to be sure and come in one of my plain dresses? and you, too, I see, have not put on the pretty one you wore at my tree?"

"No," answered Ella; "mamma would not allow me to wear it, because you know the little girls you will see to-night are all poor children, and have no nice dresses; so it would be unkind in us to dress too much."

"Poor children!" exclaimed Nellie, with a toss of the head; "I can't see what you want of a Christmas-tree for a lot of poor children: they won't enjoy it."

"Wait a while," laughed Ella, as they reached the dining-room door, which she opened softly so as to allow Nellie to have a look at the happy faces collected there.

About twenty young girls, varying in age from about seven to ten years, were seated at the long dining table, which was spread with a good supply of bread, honey, plain cakes, &c., and to which all seemed to be doing ample justice; whilst the constant stream of conversation, and the occasional merry laugh, showed they did not stand in much awe of the kind-hearted lady who was dispensing tea and coffee at the head of the table.

"We won't go in just now," said Ella; "it would only disturb them."

Accordingly the two children made their way to where the tree, the great attraction of the evening, was placed. Very small and insignificant did it appear to Nellie when compared to her own beauty of a few days before, but to the young visitors who soon after made their appearance, it was all that could be desired; and the happy faces, and low whispered thanks of each, as they received their useful and really valuable present of a warm cloak, or new dress, or whatever it might be, caused Nellie to feel that if there was less display at her friend's Christmas-tree than her own, there were certainly more content and happiness.

At length all the presents were distributed, even to the despised doll (which, by the bye, gladdened for many a week the heart of a poor little lame girl); the young guests had departed, and Nellie, cloaked and hooded, was waiting the arrival of the carriage to take her home.

"Well, dear," said Mrs. Baynes, "what did you think of Ella's tree? Not near so handsome as yours, but I think those poor little girls were pleased."

"Oh," cried Nellie, tears starting to her eyes, "when I saw how pleased that little lame girl was with her doll, how I wished she had that beauty that Minnie Burton would not look at! Do you know she would not take it away, and every time I see it I think how disappointed I was that night."

"Don't think of it any more, dear," said Mrs. Baynes; "you could not expect to know just what would suit the tastes of all your guests."

"All here were pleased."

"True, all here were pleased; and the reason is, that the poor children have so many wants, that, only keep to useful articles, and you cannot make a mistake. Now, Nellie dear, with your young friends it was very different; they already had all they required, and, indeed, a great deal more. I do not wish to keep you away from your young friends; but I should be very glad if our little gathering to-night leads you to take an interest in the poorer classes. Believe me, the true pleasure of giving consists in knowing that the gift will be of service to the ones to whom it is given."

Nellie soon after took her leave; not, however, before making an engagement to visit the lame girl next day with Ella, if Mrs. Bryce would allow her.

This was the beginning of better things to Nellie, and, through her, to the other members of her family. Constant intercourse with Ella, under the ever-watchful eye of Mrs. Baynes, helped to correct those faults which had been fostered by over-indulgence.

And in after years, when Nellie became an earnest, humble-minded Christian, she was often heard to refer with thankfulness to the "Two Christmas-Trees."

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

No. 264.

What brother was glad in his heart at meeting with his brother?

No. 265.

What made the heart of the psalmist glad?

No. 266.

What does Isaiah say shall be glad?

No. 267.

What does Solomon say of the hope of the righteous?

No. 268.

Toward what city was the leader of an army directed to stretch out his spear?

No. 269.

What were the consequences of this action?

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS.

No. 258.—Gen. 41:42.

No. 259.—Gen. 22:3.

No. 260.—Ezek. 26:17.

No. 261.—1 Kings 21:8.

No. 262.—Gen. 42:6.

No. 263.—Deut. 22:10.

The Miscellany.

For the WITNESS.

SARAH AND I.

When the spring swollen streamlets flow over the plain,
And speak of the coming of spring-time again;
When the soft April breezes blow cheerfully by,
Oh, who can enjoy it like Sarah and I?

When the long-standing snow-drifts have melted away,
And all things come forth to the light of the day,
While brightly the sun shines above in the sky,
Oh, who are so happy as Sarah and I?

The first robin-redbreast sits there on the tree,
And we hear an occasional chickadee;
They give us a greeting as round us they fly:
We welcome them heartily, Sarah and I.

It gives us new life the return of the spring,
And the sunny days—Oh, what pleasure they bring!

We love their returning, and as they go by,
We must be improving them, Sarah and I.

Our happiness always together we'll share;
When troubled, together the burden we'll bear;
When good resolutions we make, we will try,
To remember them, both of us, Sarah and I.

And thus on life's way, as we journey along,
May our lives be made pleasant by sunshine and song;

If ever dark days be our lot, we will try,
To look for the brighter ones, Sarah and I.

MARSHA.

South Dummer, April 17th, 1867.

[For the WITNESS.

EPIGRAM.

Though to act in concert's very
Proper for the military,
I regret that General—
Should the players have assisted;
A man-of-war, of such repute,
Should not, I think, be "armed en flute."
Montreal, May, 1867. GRINCHUCKLE.

AFTER DARK IN NEW YORK.

(By W. W. S. in Watchman and Reflector.)

With my companion of numerous other excursions, I walked up from Fulton Ferry, and passing through Pearl Street, we presently came to Roosevelt, and, turning the corner, stood before one of the most abominable specimens of the grog-shop that exists. It was a distillery, with a door like that of a barn, with a high ceiling, unplastered, and bare brick walls, along which were ranged huge hogsheds labelled "Jamaica," "Bourbon," "Old Rye," "Brandy," etc. Two monster vats, capable each of swallowing a sizable haystack, stood at the rear of the apartment. Along the middle of the room, upon the floor, lay a row of rusty black hogsheds and barrels, each with a tin pump projecting from its bung-hole. A steady stream of customers was coming and going—mostly ragged, brutish-looking women—here and there a man or a boy. They came with pitchers, with bottles, with tin pails; they whispered their wants in hushed accents in the ear of a brutal-looking Irishman, who bent down his head to hear; they received the pint or quart of gin or rum for which they came, paid for it, and hurried away into the night like ragged phantoms. In all the time I stood there looking on, I did not hear a syllable uttered; every sale seemed to be a private act of confidence between buyer and seller. Generally, where a bottle was the receptacle of the fluid, it was produced shamefacedly from under shawls or from inside coat pockets, and thither returned as the customer moved away. That these debased and degraded creatures should feel shame seems improbable; but I give facts just as I saw them. In the broad light of day they do not come for their supplies; they either wait till after dark, or they come very early in the morning. If you were to pass through this quarter at five or six o'clock in the morning, you would see bloated, brute-faced women in great numbers coming and going here,—some with "black eyes," tokens of last night's brawl, and all in rags. The point is a central one for the worst classes of low life—the Five Points and the purlieus of Cherry Street and its fellows are equidistant; Biker's Hole is within stone's throw of the wide-open door; Murderer's Alley and Dirty Spoon are not far away.

A ragged little *gamin*, about as high as my knee, hatless, coatless, with his scabbled red feet thrust into a man's old shoes, stockinged, leaned against one of the hogsheds, complacently sucking at the cork of a black bottle almost as big as himself, and waiting for his turn. The salesman leaned over him and received his mumbled order; the bottle was filled and he scampered away. I hurried after him, and arrested his progress in the street, with a bit of money.

"Where do you live?" I asked, kindly.
"Number sixty-nine James Street," said he.

"What is in your bottle?"
"A pint of gin for my dad."
"And for your mother, too?"
"Aint got no mother—she's gone dead. Let me go! I'll git hopped onto."

This last expression probably needs translation for my readers. It was only the boy's way of saying that he would be beaten by his father if detained. So I released him, and he scudded away down the street as fast as his big shoes would let him.

From here we proceeded to Baxter Street, the vilest of all the vile streets which run through the Five Points. Great changes had taken place here since my last visit—some four months previous. The new excise law had closed some of the worst dens of the neighborhood,

formerly the scene of nameless atrocities. In this groggery on the corner of Baxter and Mulberry Streets a man was murdered, a short time since. From the door of yonder steps,—a famous haunt of thieves, known as "Monkey Hall,"—I saw a woman thrown out headlong, her head striking on the stones below, cutting a fearful gash, from which the blood streamed. To-night they were closed and barred. Enough others remained, however. Entering one which seemed deserted, we stood looking at a place where the ceiling was evidently on the point of caving in, and had been rudely propped with beams. A blue-eyed, shock-headed man emerged from behind a rickety screen at the back of the room, with his hands in his pockets. At the same moment, sounds of weeping attracted my attention, and, passing behind the screen, I found a woman lying prone upon the floor, sobbing as if her heart would break. She refused to yield any response to my inquiries as to what was the matter, and the man suggested that I should go about my business.

(To be Continued.)

AN EXTRAORDINARY AERIAL VOYAGE.

Mr. Hodman, the aeronaut, whose aerial voyage has proved one of the most daring and successful on record, has sent to the Dublin papers the following highly interesting account of his journey:—

"I beg to give you the particulars of my perilous aerial voyage from Dublin to Westmoreland. The balloon ascended at 4.40, and took a northerly direction to Clontarf, where it was my intention to descend; but, from the velocity the balloon was travelling at, I perceived it was foolish to try. For half a minute I was over the muddy strand between Clontarf and Howth, where another attempt was made to land; but before the balloon descended 100 feet it was driven between Howth and Ireland's Eye. It now became evident to me that landing in Ireland was out of the question, and that all arrangements must be made to be driven either to Wales or Lancashire. The first thing that struck me was to drop the grapnel to the full extent, 120 feet. This acted as a guide to the distance the balloon might be kept above the surface of the water, it being now dark; and, by placing one hand on the rope, the effect of the grapnel striking the water was distinctly felt. With an open bag of ballast on my knee, every time the grapnel struck the water a couple of handfuls of sand was thrown out, and to this plan alone I owe my own preservation and success. The ballast taken was about 25 stone. For three hours that plan was carried out, and then came on the most drenching and merciless rain I ever have felt. I could not see fifteen feet before me, and the noise of the rain on the balloon and the water was such as to entirely unnerve me. My hands became numb, and I was drenched to the skin. I now began to perceive my position more acutely, though I determined I would not give up until all the ballast and movable were gone. The rain was making the balloon heavier every moment, and the ballast was thrown out more freely till about ten o'clock, when the fatigue overcame me. I fell into a stupor for a few moments. By this time the balloon had descended to within six feet of the water, and instantly out went 2 lbs. of ballast. The effect of this was that the balloon rose to an altitude of a mile, entirely through the rain clouds, and then the moon shone brilliantly, and in this position it remained about a quarter of an hour. The effect of the moon shining on the cloud beneath was such as any artist might be proud of. The shadow of the balloon was distinctly to be seen travelling over the rough and uneven clouds, giving the idea of a balloon race. Everything now became calm. No longer the hum of the ocean or the rain. All was still, but whether the sea still raged beneath was unknown. As the balloon descended it was evident a change had come over the scene. The rain had ceased, and the appearance of everything was of the darkest hue; whether it was an understratum of dark clouds could not be known. Suddenly a glimmer of light was seen for a moment. Then, with anxious eyes cast downward to perceive any object, at last small squares, with darker margins, were clearly visible. These proved to be fields and hedges, and they appeared to vanish as quickly as objects passed when in a mail train. A town, afterwards proved to be Appleby, was at last seen, and I heard the sound of musical instruments. I then called out to know where I was, but the reply was unintelligible. They, however, saw it was a balloon. About two miles further on, the grapnel caught in a large oak tree and held fast. This afterwards proved to be Dagla Wood, Dufton, near Appleby, Westmoreland. I then called out lustily, and sounds of persons singing and playing music were heard. These proved to be four young men whom I heard at Appleby, where they had been to a ball. They were natives of Dufton; and, as they advanced nearer their native village, my voice was heard. One of them, more bold than the rest, was sent forward to see if it were really a bogie, as they had heard of such things before. However, their fears were soon dispelled, when the replies to their questions were answered satisfactorily. They at once set to work to pull the balloon out of the wood, and convey it to a field where it could be folded up. It was then three o'clock in the morning. Those young musicians afterward played a tune to the village, and many were the heads out of the windows to inquire the reason for such an unusual proceeding. When it became known that a balloon had come from Dublin, hundreds came as early as five o'clock to see this curious balloon, and many were the inquiries to know how a man could come from Dublin in *sic a thing as that!* I, however, shall never forget their kindness. Many were the breakfasts prepared for me, and I was positively pressed to eat two; all wished me long life and prosperity at parting, and hoped if ever I came that way again to give them a call. If I have

pressed upon your space too much in describing this remarkable aerial voyage, I trust you will forgive me, and remain, Mr. Editor, your obedient servant,
J. HODSMAN."

SCIENTIFIC.

A VALLEY OF DEATH IN JAVA.

The destructive agency of carbonic acid gas on animal life is well exemplified in certain places where large quantities are evolved from the earth. The most striking instance, however, is the celebrated valley of Java, which if any animal enters, he never leaves. The following interesting account is given by an eye-witness:—

"We took with us two dogs and some fowls to try experiments in this poisonous hollow. On arriving at the foot of the mountain, we dismounted and scrambled up the side, about a quarter of a mile, holding on by the branches of the trees. When within a few yards of the valley, we experienced a strong, nauseous, suffocating smell, but on coming close to its edge this disagreeable odor left us. The valley appeared to be about half a mile in circumference, oval, and the depth from thirty to thirty-five feet; the bottom quite flat, no vegetation; strewn with some very large (apparently) river stones, and the whole covered with skeletons of human beings, tigers, pigs, peacocks, and all sorts of birds. We could not perceive any vapor or any opening in the ground, which last appeared to be of a hard, sandy substance. It was now proposed by one of the party to enter the valley, but at the spot where we were this was difficult, at least for me, as one false step would have brought us to eternity, seeing no assistance could be given. With the assistance of a bamboo we went down within eighteen feet of the bottom. Here we did not experience any difficulty in breathing, but an offensive, nauseous smell annoyed us. We now fastened a dog to the end of a bamboo, eighteen feet long and sent him in. We had our watches in our hands, and in fourteen seconds he fell on his back. He did not move his limbs or look around, but continued to breathe eighteen minutes. We then sent in another, or rather he got loose and walked in to where the other dog was lying. He then stood quite still, and in ten minutes fell on his mate, and never after moved his limbs; he continued to breathe seven minutes. We now tried a fowl, which died in a minute and a half. We threw in another which died before touching the ground. During these experiments we experienced a heavy shower of rain; but were so interested in the awful sight before us that we did not care for getting wet. On the opposite side, near a large stone, was the skeleton of a human being, who must have perished on his back, with his right hand under his head. From being exposed to weather, the bones were bleached as white as ivory. I was anxious to procure this skeleton, but an attempt to get it would have been madness."—N. Y. Observer.

THE FISH OF THE AMAZON.

In his lecture in New-York, on February 18th, Professor Agassiz stated that he found that the Amazon had not one fish in common with any other fresh-water basin; that different parts of the Amazon have fishes peculiar to themselves; and, as an instance of the teeming variety that exist in the Amazon basin, he gave the result of his examination of a small contiguous lake, or pool, of only a few hundred square yards, which showed two hundred different kinds of fishes, which is three times as many as the Mississippi River can boast. In the Amazon itself he found two thousand different kinds, and when he began his investigation of the river only one hundred and fifty were known to exist, and he said that in proportion as he found the larger number the difference between them seemed to grow. He proceeded to a general classification of the fishes of the Amazon, and instanced one that might appropriately be called a very peculiar fish, inasmuch as it had the power of walking or creeping on dry land, one having been found five miles from the water, and the Professor himself kept one of them out of water half a day, and on putting it back into its natural element it showed as much of life as if it had never been removed. Moreover, it is an agile fish, worming its way up the inclined plane of the trunk of some old tree that had fallen, and twisting about among the branches until finally a single shot has brought down a bird and a fish together. Professor Agassiz declared that the Amazon, for a river of turbid water and of so high a temperature, the average being eighty degrees, nourishes an extraordinary number of delicious fishes for table use.

THE TELESCOPE AND PENDULUM.—It seems scarcely credible that that wonderful far-seeing instrument which brings the most distant worlds under our curious ken, should have had its origin in children's play; yet so it is. The children of a spectacle-maker in Middleburg were allowed at times, probably on wet days, to play in their father's workshop. On one of these occasions they were amusing themselves with some spectacle glasses, when one of them placed two together, one before the other, and looked through them at the weathercock on a neighboring steeple. To the child's astonishment the vane appeared larger and nearer to him than when seen through one glass only. The father was called to see the sight, and, struck with the singular fact, resolved to turn it to advantage. His first plan was to arrange two glasses on a board, by means of glass rings, which might be brought nearer to each other, or farther off at pleasure. He was enabled to see distant objects better and more distinctly than before. The next improvement was to place the glasses in a tube, which may be termed the first telescope. Galileo soon heard of it, and applied it to astronomical purposes. The mention of this great man recalls to mind his accidental discovery of the pendulum.

A correct time measure had long been a desideratum in the world. Water clocks had been tried and found wanting. Alfred's candles would not do for the world at large. An-

other lucky accident must supply the want, and it came as follows: The future great astronomer, though then only a young man, was in the cathedral of Pisa. One of the vergers had been supplying a lamp with oil, which hung from the roof, and left it swinging; this caught Galileo's attention, and carefully noting it, he observed that it vibrated in equal time, and first conceived the idea of applying it to the measurement of time. It cost him fifty years to complete his pendulum.

GLYCERINE AND ITS USES.—This article is among the comparatively recent discoveries of science. Glycerine, in a pure state, is a clear, colorless, syrupy liquid, of a very sweet taste, being the sweet principle contained in oil and fatty bodies. Its first introduction into medical use was in the year 1844, in the London Hospital, for diseases of the skin; it keeps the same moist and soft, and excludes the air without evaporation. The Russians apply it to the face and ears as a protection against intense cold, as it does not congeal at any temperature. In ophthalmic surgery, frequent and extensive use is made of glycerine, also in certain conditions of deafness. It may be used as an adjuvant to the bath, softening the skin pleasantly, and has a high reputation as a lotion for the complexion; but for all these purposes it should be perfectly pure. There are two manufacturers who make the best and purest article,—one in London, and the other, of equal celebrity, in Philadelphia. In the arts, the uses of glycerine are manifold in keeping the colors of organic bodies; in photography, to keep pictures in an unfinished state. At the museum of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris, glycerine has been recently adopted as a preservative fluid for flowers and fresh plants. Mr. Tichborne has thus kept flowers for two years, and then made from them a water, with a perfume equal to that of the flowers of the season. Mustard may be kept for any length of time by its admixture. Manufacturers of chewing tobacco find it valuable in maintaining the softness of their products, while imparting sweetness to the taste. Frequent efforts have been made to use glycerine in the manufacture of toilet soaps, but without success, until quite a recent period, when a very beautiful article has been produced.—Ledger.

—The *British Journal of Photography* says pictures of cannon balls have been taken at the instant of their discharge from the gun. The plate is exposed by the action of electricity.

AGRICULTURAL.

TURNIP CULTURE.

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

Having selected loamy land of moderate fertility (if the land selected should be very rich, it is apt to be far too weedy for turnip culture), attach four good horses to a double Michigan sod and sub-soil plough, and break up your land thoroughly well. The plough just named will make a furrow about 15 inches wide, and 14 in. deep on the land side, and 20 inches deep on the ploughed side. On most land it will reach and turn up the sub-soil; but if that sub-soil should be poor, do not be afraid of it—turn it up; for this plough will pulverize it better than you have ever seen it done before, and you will have the surface soil at the bottom and the sub-soil at the top. This plough will turn the ground completely and perfectly upside down. If you had weeds before, you will have none now, except as manure, as you will have placed them 20 inches down, and smothered them completely. With a good team you will plough from two to three acres per day.

WHAT KIND OF MANURE.

No crop makes a better return for good fertilizing, and nothing is more unprofitable than to raise them without a sufficiency of manure of a good kind. Plenty of superphosphate of lime will produce sure results. I am fully satisfied that, however poor the land may be, a full manuring with superphosphate of lime will produce a heavy crop of turnips with reasonable culture.

Turnips should always be planted in drills, and not broadcast, as the latter mode compels the planter to work them out by hand, a laborious, costly, and slow process, when compared with their culture with good tools when planted in drills.

FURROWS.

After your land has been thoroughly ploughed as before described, take your double mould-board plough, and lay off your furrows—(by all means get yourself one of Betts' branch beam double mould-board ploughs, made by the American Agricultural Works, corner of 24th street and 10th avenue, New York; price \$8.) This plough will lay off a perfect furrow each time you cross the field, and will save its value in one season on your potatoes and turnips, because with this implement you can make the furrows in one half the time you can with a single right or left hand plough; beside, the furrows are decidedly better made.

MANURING.

Do not fail to provide yourself with a sufficient quantity of superphosphate of lime; no other manure is half so good for a turnip crop as this. I used last year a phosphate made in Pittsburg, Pa., and my crop of table turnips weighed from two to four pounds each. "Baugh's" is excellent, and Bradley's is also a first-class article. There may be others, but I have not tried them. The above named kinds are certainly good. Be cautious in buying; remember there is a difference between ordinary ground bones and superphosphate of lime. The former takes several years to act; the latter if good, acts immediately. Five hundred pounds to the acre, in drills, is about right, if you wish to be sure of a good crop. Some persons use about two or three hundred pounds, which is not enough, and then they complain that the article is not good, &c., when the fact is, they put in so little that

they did not really give it a trial at all. I always err on the side of certainty, and put enough.

Having opened your furrows, take your sifters and fill them with phosphate. Provide yourself with one sifter to every two acres. The sifters should be two feet long, eight inches wide, and six inches deep. Start your boys to sifting the phosphate along in the furrows, and keep your eyes on them to see that they do not put too much in one place and none in another. Let it be sifted along smoothly and evenly. Now start your double mould-board plough, and plough the ridges into and on the furrows containing the phosphate. This will leave a ridge over the phosphate, which you can pare off with a roller or with hoes, so as to leave the earth about two inches thick above the manure. The *Register of Rural Affairs* lays it down as necessary to have about 52 loads of barn-yard manure for one acre. This, in many places, is worth \$50. I am sure that \$15 in superphosphate, will be more efficient. So keep your barn-yard manure for other crops; put it on your corn, wheat, or meadows.

SOWING.

Procure one of Harrington's or a Weathersfield seed-sower. Harrington's is said to be the best of any now in market. Run the seed-sower on the ridges over the phosphate, but do not put the seed so deep as to let them come in contact with the phosphate, as it is a very powerful manure, and is apt to kill the germ of the seed if placed in immediate contact with it. Let your seed be near the phosphate, but not mixed with it.

CULTIVATION AND THINNING.

It is absolutely necessary to have the ground loosened from time to time, to a depth of from ten to fifteen inches. I had often noticed the working of the old-fashioned sub-soil plough, as it followed in the furrow of the turn plough, and the idea occurred to me that it would be a most excellent implement to loosen the ground between turnip rows; so I tried it, and found it to work like a charm. The shank penetrated fifteen inches deep, while the foot at the bottom cracked the earth to pieces, very much after the fashion of a mole burrowing through the ground. I passed in twice between each row, and the ground was most completely loosened fifteen inches deep, without being turned over.

You can thin them out by hand, or with a narrow hoe. Table turnips should be thinned to five or six inches apart, and ruta-bagas eight to ten inches. When your crop has been thinned out according to this direction, you will think, when you look at them, that they are ruined; but have courage and continue to work them well, and you will get a heavy crop when they mature. The large size of the turnips which are left will fully make up for those thinned out.

BEST KIND OF SEED.

There are many good kinds. The Red Top, Red Top Strap Leaf, White Top Strap Leaf, Globe and Sweet German, are all good edible turnips, while the Ruta-Baga is probably best for stock. But the name of turnip seeds amounts to nothing, if you do not buy from reliable seedsmen, who sell a pure good article. I had White Top Strap Leaf turnips, weighing five and six pounds without the tops.

HARVESTING.

The Red Top Strap Leaf and the White Top Strap Leaf are excellent turnips, and keep well when placed in kilns in the usual way. I shall plant them again next fall, but I intend to plant by far the greater part of my crop of the White Sweet German, because with me they do not need to be harvested until you are ready to sell them. Some of mine that I left in the ground have remained there all winter. The effects of snow, frost, freezing, and thawing, have tended to make them sweeter. At the time of writing this (March 18), there are a few still in the ground, and they are as sound now as they were last fall. The leaf of this turnip is somewhat like the ruta-baga, and makes excellent salad, similar to the smooth-leaved seed rape. Owing to its excellent keeping qualities, I look upon it as the best turnip we have. I live in latitude 37 deg. 39 min. north.

The practice I have laid down, if fully and fairly carried out (and allowing one-half of the cost of the manure to the next crop, as customary), will produce from 700 to 900 bushels of turnips to the acre, at about three or four cents per bushel.

Keep the following rules in view, viz.:

1. Get good seed from reliable seedsmen.
2. Manure heavily with superphosphate of lime: it is cheaper than any other kind in the end.
3. Plant the kind which need not be dug to prevent spoiling by frost, freezing, or thawing,—the "labor-saving" kind.
4. Loosen the earth deeply around them.
5. Plough your ground deeply: no danger of ploughing too deep.—*Charlie in Country Gentleman.*

STEAM PLOUGHING IN GREAT BRITAIN.—According to a report made to the Royal Agricultural Society, 290,000 acres of arable land are now prepared for crops by 400 steam-ploughs and cultivators, which have displaced 2,500 horses. As the steam engine only eats while it works, a great saving is effected. Nearly all these ploughs are driven by small stationary engines which are transported from field to field; the ploughs are fastened to an iron or steel wire rope, which is drawn from one side of the field to the other by means of a clipped drum connected with the engine.

—For milch cows there is no root that equals the carrot. It gives a beautiful yellow hue to the butter, and increases the milk more than any other crop that a farmer can grow.

—There is no flowering shrub or plant which requires manuring so much as the rose. It produces such a large quantity of flowers that the soil within reach of the roots, soon becomes exhausted of those ingredients necessary for sustaining the health and vigor of the plant. Well rotted cow manure is best for the rose.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

LONDON, May 9.—Sugar, 24s. for No. 12 Dutch Standard. Iron, Scotch Pigs, 53s. per ton. Oils unchanged.

The demands of the Prussian Cabinet in regard to Luxembourg are assuming a menacing tone.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 9.—The Emperor Alexander will visit Paris in June next.

BERLIN, May 9.—The Prussian Diet yesterday accepted the new constitution for the North-German Confederation.

PARIS, May 10.—The new Franco-American Telegraph Company, which proposes to lay an electric cable between Brest and Halifax, has been promised the support and assistance of the Imperial Government.

ATHENS, May 10.—Kangaria, the envoy of Greece to the United States, has sailed for America.

LONDON, May 9, evening.—The Peace Conference held its second session to-day. The following basis for the deliberations of the Conference were agreed upon:—1st. The territory of Luxembourg is to remain in the possession of the King of Holland as Grand Duke of Luxembourg. 2nd. The neutralization of the Grand Duchy is to be guaranteed by all the European Powers, participating in the Conference. 3rd. The fortress of Luxembourg is to be razed.

Earl Derby stated in Parliament last night that he considered the preservation of the peace of Europe no longer a question of doubt.

In the House of Commons last night a division took place on an amendment made by the Government to the Reform Bill, and the amendment was adopted.

The Hon. H. Walpole, Home Secretary, has resigned his position in the Cabinet.

The bullion in the Bank of England has decreased £119,000.

LONDON, May 10.—The Hon. Garthorne Hardy has been appointed Home Secretary in the place of Mr. Walpole, and the Earl of Devonshire replaces Mr. Hardy as Chairman of the Poor Law Board.

LONDON, May 10, evening.—The success of the Derby Government on the vote on the Reform Bill will be its preservation.

The death sentence of the convicted Fenian Doran will be commuted to a long term of imprisonment.

Earl Derby says, the government will not make public the real history of the recent Fenian uprising, on account of apprehended troubles with certain foreign governments which are involved in the plot.

The treaty of the Great Powers on the Luxembourg question will be formally signed by the participants to-morrow.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 11, p.m.—The telegraph line connecting the mouth of the Amoor River in Siberia has been successfully completed.

LONDON, May 11.—The *Globe* says that the treaty has been signed by all the powers.

It is said that Greece buys seven monitors from the United States.

The Prince of Wales is at Paris.

LONDON, May 12.—The treaty which was signed yesterday by the members of the Peace Congress has been ratified by their respective Governments. By the terms of the settlement, the fortress of Luxembourg is to be evacuated by the Prussians within a month from date of treaty.

BERLIN, May 12.—The French Cabinet has made satisfactory explanations to Prussia in regard to recent warlike preparations in France.

LONDON, May 13, noon.—Consols opened at 92; Erie, 42½; Illinois Central, 76½; 5-20's, 73. No. 12 Dutch Standard Sugar, 24s. 3d.

Scotch Pig Iron, 53s. per ton. Calcutta Linseed, 65s.; Linseed Oils, 49 15s. Linseed Oil, 43s; Spermaceti, 41s; Whale Oil, 43s.

LONDON, May 13, 2 p.m.—Consols, 92; Ill. Cen., 76½; Erie, 42½; 5-20's, 73.

LIVERPOOL, May 13, 2 p.m.—Breadstuffs and provisions unchanged.

NEW YORK, May 9.—The *Herald's* special dated London 8th, says, the first session of the peace congress, after its organization in this city yesterday, was not merely a formal meeting of the Great Powers' representatives, as some persons here assume, but one at which the Luxembourg question was discussed with a desire to bring the difficulty between France and Prussia to a speedy close.

The names of the plenipotentiaries are as follows:—England, Lord Stanley, President; France, Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne; Prussia, Count Bismarck; Austria, Count Apponyi; Russia, Baron Brunnow; Italy, Marquis d'Azilio; Luxembourg, Baron de Tornaco; Belgium, M. Van de Weyer; Netherlands, Baron Bentinck.

The proceedings are to be kept secret till the close of the Congress. It is known, however, that France is willing to keep the neutralization of Luxembourg, and dismantling and raising of the fortress, so that it may not be retained as a menace.

Prussia is not disposed to consent to this, unless all the Great Powers now represented in the Congress give a guarantee of the settlement.

The giving of this guarantee would bind them to engage in war against the future designs of either France or Prussia seeking aggrandizement in this direction.

England hesitates to give such a guarantee, and is rather in favor of the idea of the people of Luxembourg applying for annexation to Belgium.

The guarantee question being discussed, and the points at issue and basis of action being defined, the Session was adjourned till Thursday, to enable the representatives to have telegraphic communication with, and receive instructions from, their respective Governments.

Meantime, pending the issue of the deliberations of the Peace Congress, great war preparations are going on on both sides, notwithstanding official denials to the contrary.

France is buying arms both in England and Spain; and Prussian troops of the regular army are being held in readiness to support the garrison in Luxembourg.

The *Herald's* special, dated Berlin, 8th, says that Count Bismarck, in conversation on the aspect of affairs on Tuesday, declared that the situation is now more serious than ever. In addition to the Count's opinion, I may state that Russia is looking out for her chances of aggrandizement in the East and Poland by the opportunity of a general war. Muskets are being converted into breech-loaders for all the Russian army.

The general opinion of the continent is that the maintenance of peace depends on the action of the London Conference. Fears are entertained that the failure of the representatives there assembled may bring on a general European war, in which each country, caring little for the Luxembourg question or the future position of the people of the Grand Duchy, will endeavor to forward its own particular designs by force of arms.

NEW YORK, May 11.—The *Herald's* London special says, the fortress of Luxembourg will be evacuated by the Prussian troops, and razed to the ground. No troops will be retained within the territory of Luxembourg except a force which may be necessary to maintain order and preserve the peace.

The pressure which was exerted on the plenipotentiaries in the Congress by the defiant attitude which the opposing powers maintained towards each other, combined with the knowledge which the members had of the great war preparations which were being carried on on the continent, led to a very speedy action on the part of the conference representatives.

In the House of Commons on the evening of the 9th, Lord Stanley congratulated the House and country at large on the fact that the good sense and moderation of the powers primarily interested as parties in the Luxembourg difficulty had had the effect of arresting the unspeakable calamities which would ensue to the people from a European war. With respect to the part taken by Her Majesty's Government in the matter, the Cabinet acted in accordance with constitutional usage in their ministerial responsibility as the official advisers of the Crown and Sovereign, which responsibility, as well as the reasons which induced them to undertake it, they were ready to vindicate to Parliament and before the country. The matter had become very critical.

Ministers were informed every hour by telegraph and otherwise of the increasing gravity of the case, so he (Lord Stanley) could not take upon himself to postpone or delay an arrangement desired by all the parties interested and proposed in the Conference, when, by so doing, he would most likely prevent altogether the maturing of, and giving expansion to, the sentiment with reference to the guarantee of the neutrality of Luxembourg.

He (Lord Stanley) regretted to observe that the House of Commons should show a susceptibility with regard to the action of the Cabinet, for he also regretted the guarantee; the members of the House were aware that England, and what was an uncommon occurrence, the remainder of the Great Powers who were parties to the Luxembourg and Belgio-Holland Treaty of the year 1839, had absolutely guaranteed the territory of Luxembourg to the King of Holland at that time.

What the Government had now done was to add that guarantee to the circumstances of the case, render it efficacious in view of the changes which had taken place in the Germanic Confederation. Ministers had not extended, but, on the contrary, had rather limited the guarantee incurred in 1835; and, by that action, contracted the responsibility which the country sustained under it. The present negotiations would be brought to a conclusion within the space of a few days, and then the whole of the papers connected with the proceedings of the London Peace Congress of 1867 would be laid before Parliament.

Loud cheering followed the close of Lord Stanley's speech.

During the closing of the debate in the House of Commons on the Disraeli compromise reform amendment, Mr. Gladstone said the Government bill was a shallow, transparent, and dissimulating pretence of a measure for the extension of the franchise, and he despaired of its ever being made a good or beneficial one by amendment in the House.

Mr. John Bright delivered a speech in which he declared that the Derby bill was the most unjust and offensive measure ever submitted to the Commons of England.

Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Disraeli defended the Government bill and plan.

The debate closed after the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Strangers were then excluded from the House, and the division taken.

When the doors were opened it was declared the vote was for the Government bill, thus:—For Government, 322; against, 256. Majority for Government, 66.

The announcement of the result was received with loud and protracted cheering from the ministerial benches.

NEW YORK, May 12.—A cable despatch to the *Herald*, dated 11th, says:—Notwithstanding the very satisfactory solution of the Luxembourg question by the treaty arrangement, fears are entertained, and generally expressed, that war has been merely postponed by the work of the diplomats. Warlike preparations are still actively carried on in France, Germany, Russia, and Greece.

It is said that before the close of the peace congress, a proposal is likely to be addressed by England to all powers inclined to belligerent action, in which Queen Victoria will recommend and urge a general disarmament. Should this proposal be entertained, another congress will probably assemble in London to secure its formal adoption and uniform execution by all the great powers; but it is thought that even this proposition will not be successful in securing the maintenance of peace.

The fourth military conscription during this year has been put in force in Greece, by which the Greek army has been increased 30,000 men. The condition of the navy is also engaging the serious consideration of the Greek Government. Large enrolments of seamen are now in process of completion.

A telegram from Berlin announces the death of Governor Wright, on the 11th instant, of dropsy.

NEW YORK, May 12.—The "Palmyra" from Liverpool, via Queenstown; and the "Harmonia" and "New York," from Southampton on the 1st, have arrived.

The Irish Land Tenure bill has been discussed at length in the British House of Commons. Mr. Gregory moved an amendment declaring that no bill of the kind could be acceptable which did not provide for the adoption of a system of leases in Ireland.

Warm gratitude is expressed in French society to Queen Victoria, whose personal intervention would prevent the great calamity of war. It would tend to draw closer the bonds of unity between the two countries.

The Queen of Spain has sold almost all her jewels in London. A single diamond watch and chain brought £24,000 stg.

It is stated that France continued to prepare for war, and troops are arranged so as to be concentrated almost immediately; but opinions generally favored peace.

The King of Prussia and Count Bismarck are expected to visit Paris after the close of the Prussian Chambers. The King's speech at the opening thereof said they met to ratify national unity.

Omar Pacha was moving to surround the insurgents in Candia.

It is reported that Rosa Bonheur has become insane.

The Duke Grammont, the French Minister at Vienna, stated to Baron Brest that France gives up all ideas of territorial aggrandizement.

Lord Stanley has expressed to the Spanish Government the satisfaction of England at the solution of the case of the "Queen Victoria."

The Galway line steamers "Adriatic," "Hibernia," "Columbia," and "Anglia," are advertised for sale.

Twelve Fenian prisoners were brought from Thurles, Tipperary, to Nenagh, on April 29th, and lodged in jail for trial.

The *Invalide Russe* has an editorial on the Eastern question, hinting plainly that France, with at least one other of the Great Powers, secretly encourage the Sultan to despise the demands of the Candian insurgents, and disregard the counsels given on behalf of the Christians.

RICHMOND, VA., May 9.—A serious riot occurred this evening. A fight took place, and a negro was arrested. The mob of negroes rescued him, but he was again captured. Three policemen were injured with paving-stones. The mob swelled to nearly 1,000 blacks. A company of soldiers charged bayonets, and drove them away. The riot is not likely to be renewed.

NEW YORK, May 11.—Advices from Bogota give the correspondence between Mosquera and the British Minister relative to arrangements entered into by the President of Bolivia with the commander of the English man-of-war "Doris." Mosquera's Government had withdrawn the exequatur of the British Consul at Cartagena, and disapproved of the course of the President of Bolivia in the dispute concerning the English mails. The English Minister had expressed regret at the withdrawal of the Consul's exequatur, and declared that for his part the matter must be left for the consideration of the British Government.

Lima dates state that the resignation of the Cabinet was accepted. Congress remains in open hostility to the Government. The revolution in the South was subdued after two engagements, in which the Government troops lost five killed and seven wounded. The rebels had neither money, arms, nor leader.

NEW YORK, May 11.—The *Post* says that Sir Frederick Bruce has called our Government's attention to the Fenian outrage on the British schooner "Elk" at Cleveland. The United States District-Attorney will prosecute the offenders for whatever crime they may be deemed guilty.

Senator Doolittle was given authority to treat with Denmark for the purchase of the island of St. Thomas while in Europe.

TORONTO, May 9.—Last evening the annual meeting of the Upper Canada Bible Society was held in the Wesleyan Church; Hon. Mr. Allan in the chair. From the report it appeared the receipts for the year amounted to \$23,052, and the expenditure to \$22,952.

No accommodation for the troops yet, a difficulty having arisen with the Trustees of Knox College, who opposed the removal of the partitions in the building.

Arrangements are being made for a grand field-day on next Monday.

An abduction case terminated here yesterday. A man, named Gaskill, ran away with a girl, 15 years of age, from Brantford. The police arrested the pair, and banded the girl over to her father, who is a man of position.

John Cook was arrested yesterday in the General Hospital on a charge of having attempted to commit burglary at Port Hope on the 30th ult. The proprietor of the store fired and wounded the burglar, but he escaped. When arrested he was being treated for a bullet wound in the arm.

An inquest was held yesterday on the body of the infant of Jane Hall, supposed to have been strangled at birth by its mother. The jury returned a verdict that it was still-born. The mother was arrested at Bowmanville.

TORONTO, May 9.—Mr. Shears of Clifton House, Niagara Falls, has just completed arrangements for opening Rossin House; he has obtained a lease for seven years, paying \$6,000 first year, \$6,500 second year, and \$10,000 each succeeding year. The company owning the hotel advance \$25,000 to furnish it. Jacques & Hay have already begun to manufacture furniture. The hotel will be open in July.

John MacDonald, M.P.P., has resigned the Directorship in the Bank of Commerce.

The following stocks of grain were in store here yesterday:—Flour, 7,760 barrels; fall wheat, 17,990 bushels; Spring, 20,765 bushels; Barley, 10,982 bushels; Pease, 99,799 bushels; Oats, 15,200 bushels. Market quiet and firm; round lots Spring sold to-day at \$2, at which prices firmly held; Fall Wheat held from \$2.15 to \$2.25, and \$2.40 asked for round lot choice; at Port Hope Oats selling at 50c. and 52c; 1,000 barrels superior Flour at Bowmanville sold at \$10; No. 1 super held firmly at \$9.

TORONTO, May 10.—A despatch from Welland says that Capt. King, who was wounded in the foot, and lost a leg in the skirmish at Fort Erie, in June last, is at the point of death, and likely to prove another victim to the Fenian invasion.

A despatch from London says that the Royal Artillery stationed there are under orders to leave for Toronto. They will be replaced by the battery now stationed at St. John. One of the regiments at that city will also be removed shortly.

Thos. White, formerly a soldier of the 63rd Regiment, has been committed for trial at London, for stealing a horse and buggy.

A sad accident occurred at Hamilton yesterday. Several little boys were engaged in exploding fire-crackers on the street, some of whom let off crackers in their hands, others holding them between their teeth. A lad, named Street, determined to outvie his companions, and adjusted two crackers in his nose, and applied a match. Both exploded, completely

prostrating the boy. The entire skin of his face is seriously injured by powder; his nose is fearfully burnt, and his eyes are completely closed. At present it is difficult to say what the worst may be, but it is thought he will lose his eyesight.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.—No notices inserted unless paid in advance. Births and deaths, 25c.; marriages, 50c.

BIRTHS.—In this city, on the 6th inst., the wife of Mr. Andrew Holiday, of a son.

REAY.—At 43 Berthelot street, on the 6th inst., Mrs. Charles Reay, of a son.

SIEVEWRIGHT.—On the 8th inst., Mrs. Archibald M. Sievewright, of a daughter.

MCLEOD.—At 17 Berri street, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., the wife of the Rev. J. A. McLeod, of a daughter.

CURRIE.—At Cleveland Place, Juror street, on Thursday, May 2nd, the wife of Edward Cuskiely, of a daughter.

BOYD.—On the 11th May, at 507 Bonaventure street, Mrs. John Boyd, of a daughter.

WOOLSEY.—At West Farnham, C. E., on the 8th inst., the wife of Rev. T. Woolsey, of a daughter.

LEWIS.—At 120 St. Antoine street, on the 10th inst., Mrs. D. Lewis, of a daughter.

MARRIED.—CLEMENS, PATTERSON.—In this city, on the 9th inst., by the Rev. Mr. McVicar, Mr. Joseph Clemens, to Jessie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Archibald Patterson.

LANGFORD, STONE.—At St. Johns, on the 11th inst., by the Rev. H. F. Darnell, Mr. G. E. Langford, of Montreal, to Mary Brand, eldest daughter of J. Stone, Esq., late of Devonshire, England.

WIGNEY, NIMO.—In Montreal, on the 10th inst., by the Rev. George Douglas, Mr. Wm. Wigney, late of Buffalo, N.Y., to Maggie, eldest daughter of the late Eadie Nimo, of Glasgow, Scotland.

DIED.—BECKET.—On the 10th instant, after a long and painful illness, Robert Chalmers, eldest son of R. A. Becket, aged six years and five months.

JOHNSON.—On the morning of the 11th inst., of disease of the heart, George William Johnson, aged 38 years.

MORGAN.—In this city, on the 10th instant, Jane Ann, daughter of Edward Morgan, aged two years and five months.

DUFFIN.—In this city, on the 10th inst., Margaret Elgin, beloved wife of John Dunn, aged 80 years.

BECK.—In this city, on the 8th instant, George Christian Beck, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, aged 62 years and 4 months, after a lingering illness, which he bore with Christian resignation; and was a resident of Montreal for upwards of 38 years, much and deservedly regretted by his family and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

THOMPSON.—At Carillon, on the 30th ult., of inflammation of the lungs, John Thompson, superintendent of the Carillon and Grenville Cations, aged 53 years. Deceased was a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and nephew of John Thompson, of Milfield, Scotland. He was much beloved and respected, and leaves five children to mourn his loss.

THOMPSON.—At Carillon, on the 8th instant, Jane Harkin, beloved wife of the late John Thompson, Esq., superintendent of the Carillon and Grenville Cations, aged 33 years.

SHAW.—At Roxton Falls, C. E., on the 2nd inst., Elizabeth Clark, wife of William Shaw, aged 34 years.

CAMERON.—In this city, on the 4th inst., Mary Buchanan Davidson Hannah, relief of the late Donald Cameron, of this city, aged 62 years.

VOSBURGH.—In this city, on the morning of the 8th inst., Nelson Vosburgh, aged 53 years and 2 months.

DUNN.—In this city, on the 6th inst., Mr. Isaac S. Dunn, printer, aged 30 years.

BATECHELOR.—In this city, on the 5th inst., Frederick T. Batechelor, Chemist, formerly of Newington Bath, Surrey, England, aged 29 years.

GETTSS.—On the 30th ult., William Gettess Esq., aged 75 years.

GIBSON.—In this city, on the 8th inst., Archibald, son of Alexander Gibson, of Crieff, Scotland, aged 15 years.

SHADELL.—In this city, on the 10th instant, Ellen Louisa Shadell, of scarlet fever, aged two years.

HANLON.—In this city, on the 12th instant, Catharine MacCarroll, wife of Bryan Hanlon, of this city, aged 65 years, a native of the County Monahan, Ireland.

HOERNER.—In this city, on the 11th inst., Andrew David, only son of F. Hoerner, aged ten months.

Advertisements.

LECTURING TOUR

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

MR. THOS. HUTCHINGS will visit the following places with a view to holding meetings to promote the Temperance cause, revive old societies, and form new ones on the old open basis. Whenever it is desired he will hold a meeting for the young in the afternoon, with a view to the formation of a Band of Hope; and for these purposes he will have a supply of blank books, with constitution, ready to commence Temperance Societies or Bands of Hope on the spot:—

Coteau Landing—Thursday, May 16th.

Lancaster—Friday, May 17th.

Williamstown—Saturday and Sunday, May 18th and 19th.

Cornwall—Monday and Tuesday, 20th and 21st.

Dickinson's Landing—Wednesday, May 22nd.

Antville, Thursday, May 23rd.

Morrisburg—Friday 24th.

North Williamsburg—Saturday and Sunday, May 25th and 26th.

Iroquois—Monday, May 27th.

Edwardsburg—Tuesday, May 28th.

Johnstown—Wednesday, May 29th.

Prescott—Thursday & Friday, May 30th and 31st.

Spencerville—Saturday and Sunday, June 1st and 2nd.

Maitland—Monday, June 3rd.

Brookville—Tuesday and Wednesday, June 4th and 5th.

Malborough—Thursday, June 6th.

Lansdowne Station—Friday, June 7th.

Gananoque—Saturday and Sunday, June 8th and 9th.

The friends of the Temperance cause in each locality are respectfully requested to make the necessary arrangements for effective meetings; and it is especially hoped that Ministers of the Gospel will take an interest in these meetings and address them.

A collection will be taken up at each meeting to aid the Montreal Temperance Society in this effort; and it is hoped the friends of the cause will respond liberally in this way, as well as in diminishing by their hospitality, the travelling expenses of the Agent.

W. TAYLOR, D.D., President.

JOHN DOUGALL, Vice-President.

J. C. BECKET, Treasurer.

S. B. GUNDY, Secretary.

WINDSOR NURSERIES.—"LETTERS TO AN INTENDING FRUIT GROWER"—The undersigned will be prepared as soon as the spring opens to fill orders for the best varieties of APPLES, PEARS, and other FRUIT TREES. His stock of DWARF PEARS is one of the most extensive on this continent, and many of the trees are just coming in to bearing.

Orders, accompanied by the money, will be filled in the order they are received.

JAMES DOUGALL.

Windsor, C.W., February, 1867.

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We furnish a nice Double-thread Family Machine, all complete, mounted on a Black Walnut table, for \$25; with cover and drawer, beautifully finished, \$30. These Machines we will guarantee to give as good satisfaction as any machine sold in this market for \$50, taking the same steel.

We build the Singer Machine BETTER in every respect than it ever has been built, and have added several improvements, which are valuable. We also build several sizes of the Howe Machine; and for stitching nice leather work, they excel all machines ever made.

We send full particulars, with samples of sewing, &c., free. Agents wanted in every town and village. Agents who are already engaged in selling imported machines will take notice that we will sell them BETTER machines for the same money, or as good for less.

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NEW DAMASKS AND TRIMMINGS,

PIANOS AND TABLE COVERS,

CORNICES, FOLDS, &c., &c., &c.,

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G. CHENEY, Supt.

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Importers and Dealers in

W. I. A. & O. V. S. S.

PAINTS, COLORS, VARNISHES, &c.,

20, 212, and 214 MCGILL STREET,

After 1st of May next, at 18 LEMOINE STREET, (opposite ST. HELEN STREET).