

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR.

SUMMARY.

A secret clause in the convention with the Boers forbids the British to occupy Laingsnek.

The widow of John Brown, the famous abolitionist, is reported living in poverty near San Jose.

The total loss sustained by the garrison of Pretoria during the siege was 29 killed and wounded.

Cour reports in California show nearly everywhere in the State prospects favorable for a good average yield of wheat.

The Oxford Election Commissioners report that corruption has extensively prevailed the past three elections in that constituency.

The Lord Mayor of London has opened a subscription list for the relief of the sufferers by the Chile earthquake. Nearly £19,000 have already been raised.

The Indiana Legislature has passed a joint resolution, by 62 to 24, amending the Constitution, and giving women a right to vote at the State elections.

The deepest coal-pit in England is the Ashton Moss, 3,160 feet. Six weeks ago, just six years after the ground was first broken, the workers of the mine touched a seam of coal 2,655 feet from the surface.

Germany has decided to take steps to have all Governments amend their international treaties, so as to make possible an extradition offence, and allow the injured governments to pursue the criminal anywhere.

It is announced that Count Hamilton, Chancellor of the University, Upsala, Sweden, has been arrested on a charge of forgery to the amount of over £40,000. The names of the counterfeiters include those of the King and Queen.

A missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel writes from Bantoland that the Basuto war has entirely broken up the missionary work at Thibets Heights, and scattered both European and native congregations to the winds.

The total strength of the volunteer force in Great Britain is 243,546, made up of 189,603 rifles, 600 light horse, 43,414 artillery, 9,869 engineers, and 40 mounted rifles. Of the whole 296,938 are efficient, and 17,284 have earned the special grant of 50s.

An election took place on Wednesday in Sanbury County, N.B., to fill a seat in the Local Legislature rendered vacant by the death of Mr. J. S. Covert. Mr. White, who was Sheriff and resigned, has been elected over Mr. Taylor, who gave up the County Census Commission to be a candidate.

An unknown disease has broken out among the cattle of East Waterville, New York. The stock attacked are blooded animals in the best condition. They are taken first by intense coughing followed by loss of appetite, shrinkage of milk, and, when left out, they appear almost crazy and bite themselves, tearing out chunks of flesh, and appear in the greatest agony. The attention of the State authorities has been called to the matter.

According to the Russian papers, a new sect has been formed at Anzhyrov, in the Government of Moscow. Its chief characteristic is that all religious ceremonies are performed by a woman, who is young and unmarried. They have struck out of their religious service all the prayers for the Czar, and have introduced prayers for the Greek Metropolitan in Galicia, and for the Emperor of Austria, on the ground that "all religions are tolerated in Austria, and enjoy entire freedom there, while in Russia, every one is persecuted who does not profess the orthodox faith."

CANADIAN.

A family residing near Quebec has lost seven children from diphtheria, the eldest of whom had reached the age of seventeen years.

Captain Bottott, who recently gained such notoriety in Russia, has arrived in Ottawa and is the guest of Senator Brown. It is said that he intends to purchase lands in the North-West.

Sir Charles Tupper is at present the guest of Major Cameron, R.A., at Newbridge, County Kildare, Ireland. A cablegram received last week states that his health continues to improve.

A despatch from Bale St. Paul, County Charleville, says that about midnight on Wednesday night a shock of earthquake was felt at that place, sufficiently strong to awake people from sleep.

The P.E.I. Legislature was prorogued on Tuesday week, a resolution being previously passed affirming the right of the Island to receive a proportionate share of the Halifax Fisheries Commission award.

The Hon. W. H. Owen, a barrister residing at Bridgewater, Lunenburg, N.S., was sworn in a Legislative Councillor on Friday, in place of the Hon. Mr. Cutler, the nonagenarian legislator, who has resigned.

The body of Mrs. Callahan, the wife of the keeper of No. 2 Fort, Point Levi, who left her home last Christmas and so mysteriously disappeared, has been found on St. George street, on the heights of Notre Dame de Levi.

The Nova Scotia Legislative Council, by a vote of 10 to 7, rejected the Government bill, which passed almost unanimously in the Lower House, authorizing the Government to borrow \$300,000 to loan to the counties for bridge service.

A fatal accident occurred on the Intercolonial Railway on Thursday. The van of a freight train left the track at Folly Bridge, near Londonderry, N.S., and went half over. Conductor Berry was thrown to the bottom of the gulch, one hundred feet, receiving fatal injuries.

At Lincoln Springs, Assizes, St. Catharines, Ontario, in the case of the Queen vs. John McGuffin, for murder at Wellandport on the 28th of February last, having stabbed to death a man named John Smith, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. He was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

George Wm. Merritt, aged 16 years, of Toronto, was killed on Wednesday night while attempting to repair an old revolver, three chambers of which were loaded. The bullet entered his heart, and he expired almost immediately. The boy resided with his father in the Phoebe street school, of which building the latter had charge.

A short time ago a young man residing in Gloucester township had the breech pin of a gun imbedded in his skull while discharging the firearm. The pin was 2 1/2 inches in length. It fractured the skull and touched the brain, but when removed by a doctor the young man recovered from his comatose condition and is now about all right again.

The Department of Justice, to whom was referred the letter received by the relatives of Marmaduke Grabau, murdered in the North-

West, have been unable to get any further information from the person at Ridgetown, who professed to have intelligence that would lead to the arrest of the murderer. It is believed that the writer of the letter is either a fraud or else "a little out."

The Bridge Building Firm of Clarke, Reeves & Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., who were recently compelled to pay a large amount of additional duty on Chaudiere railway bridge material, have been adjudged to pay the sum of \$11,319.50 on amended orders of bridge material at Clifton.

Last week Mr. D. Shaw and son, of Embury, O., met with a serious accident on their farm on the 11th line of East Zorra. They were passing through the barnyard, when the wind, which was very strong, suddenly took off the roof of the barn, crushing them both. (Mr. Shaw had his head fractured, his spine hurt and several bones broken, but the son escaped with but a few slight bruises.)

Mr. John Elmyr Chrysler, of Morrisburg, O., Registrar for the County of Dundas, died on Thursday in his 81st year. Mr. Chrysler was one of our oldest and most respected residents. He represented the County for a number of years in the old Parliament of Canada, and was appointed to his late position some thirteen years ago. In politics he was a strong Conservative.

Three years ago a paragraph appeared in the Halifax paper stating that Mr. Daniel J. Coakly, of that city, had been killed by the Indians in Texas. Nothing having been heard from him by his relatives, the report was supposed to have been correct. On Thursday his brother received a letter from him stating that he was alive and well and residing in Colorado. He left this city in April, 1865.

The Supreme Court gave judgments in the following cases Monday:—Roy v. Lockart, appeal from the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, judgment confirmed (Fournier and Henry dissenting); Congrave v. Boyle, appeal from the Court of Appeal, Ontario, appeal allowed; Summers v. Commercial Union Assurance Company, appeal from Ontario, judgment confirmed; Stewart v. Ontario Bank, appeal dismissed with costs.

J. H. Nicholson, of Oshawa, a stock-typewriter who conducts business in that city, was arrested in Prescott, Ontario, last week on the charge of being an accessory to smuggling. It appears that the stereotype plates made by Nicholson were smuggled into that place by other parties, and then forwarded by Nicholson to various parts of Canada. The case is not yet settled, Nicholson still being in custody.

At the London, Ontario, Assizes on Saturday, in the case of the London Mutual Fire Insurance Company vs. Richard J. Doyle, an action brought by the managers of the Insurance Company against the secretary and manager of the Grange Mutual Insurance Company, for the publication of an alleged libellous article or letter appearing in the Owen Sound Advertiser, the jury thought no damages had been sustained, and found a verdict for the defendant.

In the Nova Scotia Legislative Council on Friday, the Government's College Bill was defeated on its second reading by eleven against ten. The Hon. Dr. Parker was absent through sickness, but the bill would not have had a majority had he been present, as the President of the Council, the Hon. Robert Boak, would have thrown his casting vote against it. The result is that all denominational colleges are cut off from state aid, but the University of Halifax remains in existence. The Council also, by a vote of twelve to ten, rejected the bill repealing the notorious "Farrell rider," which prevents clergymen being appointed on the Halifax School Board.

The Assize Court opened in Ottawa on Monday, Mr. Justice Burton presiding. The dockets both criminal and civil are light. Among the civil cases is that of General Hewson, of Toronto, against Sir John A. Macdonald. The plaintiff claims some \$20,000 or \$30,000 for services rendered in connection with the general election of 1878. Some rich revelations are expected. Gen. Hewson, it seems, wrote special articles for the Conservative press and claims large pay therefor, as he holds that it was largely through his efforts the elections were carried by the Conservative candidates. Dr. McMichael, and Messrs. Martin O'Garra, Mosgrove and Pearson are counsel for Gen. Hewson, and Messrs. Hugh McDonald and Dalton McCarthy for the Premier.

The Dominion SS. "Texas" arrived in Halifax on Monday, and has the largest consignment of thoroughbred cattle ever imported into Canada. It consists of sixty pure bred polled Angus, Hereford and short horn bulls, and two Clydesdale stallions for the Cochrane Ranch Company, who are about starting a stock farm of ten thousand head at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. There are also three Guernsey cows imported by the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, eight Clydesdale stallions for Messrs. Beatty and Holderness, of Toronto, fifty Oxford Down sheep for various parties in Ontario, and over one hundred head thoroughbred polled Angus, Hereford and short horn animals, male and female, including a Dyke bull and Barrington and Leavittion heifer, and seventy-five Oxford Down sheep for Senator Cochrane's stock farm at Compton.

They will be shipped through on a special train in bond to Point Levi, where they will be quarantined. Professor McEachern takes charge of the shipment.

APPOINTMENT.—The Globe announces that Mr. Hunter, of the Institute for the Blind, Brantford, whose conduct has recently been under investigation, is to be appointed Inspector of Insurance Companies in place of Mr. O'Reilly, resigned, and Mr. Dymond has been appointed Principal of the Brantford Institute, in his place.

LOCATING THE LINE.—Gen. Prosser, Chief Engineer of the Canada Pacific Railway, has returned to Winnipeg from locating the second hundred mile west, and has instructed the District Engineer to effect the main line some distance east of the terminus 100 miles as to run south-westerly towards the Assiniboine and cross near the rapids of that river.

VICEREGAL.—The Princess Louise, on her return to Canada the first week in June, will be accompanied by Lady Sophia McNamara and a party of English friends, who will enjoy some fishing on the St. Lawrence along with the Governor General. After spending several weeks on the St. Lawrence and a brief stay at Rideau Hall, the viceregal party will make their trip to Manitoba and the North-West.

RESTITUTION.—AN INTERESTING CASE.

BALTIMORE, April 11.—In 1873 Malcolm and Walter were hanged for murdering and robbing an old lady. When left a large share of the plunder obtained by his brother. The latter, influenced by Mr. Moody's preaching, has just made restitution of the original amount with interest to date.

tract out of the Act is given here the rent final authority over land cases. It is to consist of three persons, one of whom must be a judge or an ex-judge of the Supreme Court. Its proper seat will be at Dublin, but extra commissioners, and, if necessary, sub-commissioners, may be appointed under the control of the Central Commission. Civil bill courts will be courts of first instance. It is proposed to assist tenants to purchase their holdings, and invest the country with advances beyond making the landlords desiring to sell and resell them retaining the title as a guarantee for repayment and against sub-division. Advances will be made to owners, and also be made to assist in other agricultural improvements, on condition that the advances do not exceed the amount the borrower has laid out on his own behalf. Advances will also be made to assist in the improvement of land, subject to the consent of the Land Commission, and be made either to Colonial Governments or companies. It is not proposed to place any limit on the advances beyond making the security. Mr. Gladstone concluded by saying justice is to be the principle to guide Ireland in regard to Ireland. (Loud cheers.)

The Irish members met after Mr. Gladstone's speech, and the general opinion was that if the Bill passed there would be little cause for complaint on the part of the Irish. Fears were expressed that the House of Lords might alter the Bill. Exception was taken in a number of instances to the fact that no provision was made for the laboring class. At a meeting of the Ulster members, it was decided to recommend the Bill to the Ulster constituency. It is stated that the House of Commons are determined to oppose the emigration of the Irish peasantry.

The Times says the Land Bill, since first discussed by the Cabinet, has passed through 22 variations of form.

In the House of Lords on Friday night, His Grace the Duke of Argyll, in answer to an unusual number of their Lordships, explained his reasons for his resigning the position of Lord Privy Seal in the Cabinet. He said he had made every effort to reconcile himself to the position of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Land Bill, but found it impossible to do so. From his point of view he considered that the Bill, if made law, would paralyze the ownership of land in Ireland, by placing it under fetters and limitations under which it is not placed in any civilized country in the world. Under the Bill neither landlord nor tenant would be the owner of his land; the ownership would be vested in a commission, or put in abeyance, and the result would be most fatal to the agricultural interests throughout the United Kingdom and more especially so in Ireland. The effect of the Duke's speech upon Irish members of Parliament is very bad; they say it forebodes the defeat of Mr. Gladstone's Bill in the House of Lords, and they will have to return to their constituents at the close of the session and tell them that while the English Parliament was endeavoring to pass a bill so monstrous and oppressive and cruel, it would not give to her the slightest relief from the unjust and cruel land laws, which have made it impossible for Ireland to prosper, although England's Prime Minister and the majority of her elected representatives declared such relief absolutely necessary, and was only the merest justice. The excitement among Irish members runs high, and their exasperation is great.

Lord Cairlingford, known as Mr. Fortescue, formerly Secretary for Ireland under Mr. Gladstone's previous Administration, has been appointed to succeed the Duke of Argyll as Lord Privy Seal in the Cabinet.

Lord Elcho, Conservative, gave notice in the House of Commons that he would oppose the Land Bill by an amendment declaring the Bill economically unsound, unjust and impolitic.

Sir Stafford Northcote stated that the leaders of the Opposition were not responsible for Lord Elcho's motion in opposition to the Land Bill, which he said, involved such important financial and political questions, that they did not yet know how they will stack it.

The House of Commons has adjourned until the 25th instant, and the House of Lords until the 26th of May.

THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

speeches, laid his budget before the House, showing the country how it might meet all its outstanding and overdue obligations for the year and still have a surplus of £1,345,000. The speech was received with cheers from Government benches. The Conservatives have given notice of their intention to strongly oppose certain features in the budget and the debate upon it will be lively. Mr. Gladstone, concluding his speech explaining the budget, said he found it would be necessary to increase property, income, post-office and land taxes. This statement was received with loud murmurs of dissatisfaction from the Conservatives, but he added that as some compensation the customs would be decreased. He had always found that the greater the reduction of duties on imported articles the greater was the consumption of them, and the larger the revenue consequently derived from them. In 1880 the revenue from land and house tax property was £2,670,000, income, £3,230,000, post-office, £350,000 and Crown lands, £300,000; all these were to be now increased, but custom duties, which last year were £19,320,000, were to be decreased. He said that the total revenue would be £1,385,000. The budget is a penny income tax; the duty on silver plate is reduced to 3 pence per oz. until the whole duty of eight pence disappears; one percent legacy duty is abolished, and one-half percent is added to property tax. Mr. Gladstone in concluding announced that this was probably the last budget that he would lay before the Commons.

Later despatches from Constantinople report the effect of the earthquake at Chio as more terrible than was imagined at first advice. It is now stated that twenty-two thousand people were killed, and that the number of the injured is not less than 300,000 persons have been killed and wounded. The population of Chio is about 36,000, and when the first shock of earthquake was felt, people terrified beyond description ran to the shore, and many were buried beneath the debris of buildings, and were buried beneath the debris. The water in the harbor for a little time sank so low that the boats were left high and dry, and then returned with great violence, overwhelming the town in the vicinity of the shore. The entire island felt the earthquake more or less, and much damage is believed to have been done in the work of villages. Chio, before the Samian revolt, was very prosperous, as it is one of the richest and most beautiful places in the Levant, but now less populous.

CHIOS, April 9.—A medical commission is considering the expediency of covering the rubbish in the fortress with earth, as there is no hope of saving any lives, and the disinfectment of the dead might produce an epidemic. It is now believed that throughout the whole island, which contained 70,000 inhabitants, 6,000 or 7,000 were killed, and twenty-five percent of the survivors wounded. The French, British, United States and Austrian gun vessels in the harbor are doing all in their power to assist the sufferers in the work of relief. Only two inhabitants of Chios were killed, but many houses are in ruins, and 30,000 people without shelter.

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THE IRISH LAND BILL.

Mr. Parnell at a banquet in Cork on Saturday evening traced the history of the Land League. He denounced the description of seventeen members from the Irish party as the cause of the Coercion Bill. The first portion of the Land Bill, he said, was full of doubtful points and pitfalls, and he denied anybody to tell accurately how it would work. It would be the duty of the Irish members to improve the Bill as far as possible in its passage through the House, and see that its workings would be as advantageous as possible to the tenants. The second portion of the Bill was by far the most important. He looked therefor very important results, but believed the compulsory expropriation of land would be a far easier and more effective method of protecting the tenant. He strongly denounced emigration, which he declared was a scheme for clearing out small tenants, whose courage and sacrifices had brought the question to a point no British Ministry could any longer overlook. Any bill that did not largely reduce rents would and ought to fail to satisfy tenants. Mr. Parnell, addressing the people afterward from a hotel, warned them against thinking the battle was won, and said it was only just commenced.

A correspondent says: It is said Mr. Chamberlain and other Radicals hope to strike a similar blow before long at the English land owners. If the present Bill is rejected by the Lords, the Radicals believe there will be a great uprising in the country and no Parliament will be elected, specially charged with making a clean sweep of all land privileges.

It is estimated that 90 of the 103 Irish members will vote for the second reading of the Land Bill. Public opinion regards this as the greatest scheme of Mr. Gladstone's creation.

The Morning Post says the Opposition are not by any means prepared to accept the Land Bill with childlike confidence in the good intentions of the Ministers. On the contrary, they will determinedly oppose many of its provisions on the ground that they are inconsistent with the right of property.

IMPERIAL BUDGET.

Mr. Gladstone, in his capacity as Chancellor of the Exchequer, before the House of Commons on Monday week delivered the financial budget for the coming fiscal year. Great interest and anxiety had been felt respecting this matter. It was well known that the expenditures of the Government had been unexpected and extraordinarily large, the cost of war in Afghanistan, Zululand and Bantoland having been great, and expenditures on account of the state of things in Ireland having caused large extraordinary expenditures, but it had been raised abroad during the last few days that Mr. Gladstone's remarkable skill as a financier had enabled him to devise methods by which the deficit in his statement would be reduced, and the result could all be met, and even a surplus left. These pleasing calculations were realized when Mr. Gladstone, in one of his best and most lucid

THE NIHILISTS.

A St. Petersburg despatch says: The trial of the assassins of the Emperor commenced on Sunday. Jellicoff conducted his own defense. Senator Fuchs, a member of the High Court of Cassation, presides over the Court assisted by four Senators and Touravieff, assistant prosecutor, of St. Petersburg, and Potocki, assistant prosecutor of the Imperial Tribunal. Sixty-four witnesses and eleven experts will be examined. Greek, Catholic, Lutheran and Mohammedan clergy are present to administer oaths. The reading of the indictment commenced on Monday. The prisoners were then interrogated. The late Czar's coachman was examined. The prisoners, when asked, declined to state their names, ages, professions or domiciles. A decision of the indictment is expected on Tuesday. When asked his first action, he said he served the cause of the people, and that was his sole occupation, to which for years he had sacrificed his whole being. Kibalitchitchky declared that his position in the present trial was identical with the position he held in the trial of the Emperor. He acknowledged he knew the destination of the bombs.

St. Petersburg, April 9.—In the trial of the nihilists implicated in the assassination of the Czar, the prisoners wished to say anything. Ruskoff spoke half an hour. He said he primarily desired to agitate peacefully, but entered the late conspiracy because he had no other means of attaining his ends. He said he belonged to the Terrorist faction of the party, but denied Ruskoff's statement that he participated in the arrangements for the murder of the Emperor. He admitted preparing five bombs. Sophie Plechinsky, one of the nihilists, was called to the witness stand, and she said she had been a conspirator, but denied actively participating in the Czar's assassination. Kibalitchitchky avowed his connection with the nihilist movement, but he said, in his statement, he was not a terrorist, and he was reluctantly obliged to adopt terrorist measures. He admitted preparing five bombs. Sophie Plechinsky, one of the nihilists, was called to the witness stand, and she said she had been a conspirator, but denied actively participating in the Czar's assassination. Kibalitchitchky avowed his connection with the nihilist movement, but he said, in his statement, he was not a terrorist, and he was reluctantly obliged to adopt terrorist measures. He admitted preparing five bombs. Sophie Plechinsky, one of the nihilists, was called to the witness stand, and she said she had been a conspirator, but denied actively participating in the Czar's assassination. Kibalitchitchky avowed his connection with the nihilist movement, but he said, in his statement, he was not a terrorist, and he was reluctantly obliged to adopt terrorist measures. He admitted preparing five bombs. Sophie Plechinsky, one of the nihilists, was called to the witness stand, and she said she had been a conspirator, but denied actively participating in the Czar's assassination. 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CASTLE DALY.

THE STORY OF AN IRISH HOME
THIRTY YEARS AGO.

BY ANNIE KEARY.

(Author of "A Doubting Heart.")

CHAPTER XXXIII.—Continued.

"It is a very dim little drop in my case," said John, that's all, and no more. "Or perhaps nothing more dignified than ill-humor and discontent."

"Will you own at once candidly that the discontent has a cause in the shape of a letter from Connemara about that bundle in your hand?"

"I have not had a line from anyone in that region of the world for months. I was going to say, but it is weeks. Anne O'Flaherty is much too ill to write, and there has been serious illness too at Eagle's Edge."

"Not Ellen?"

"No. The mother and Pelham—but both are recovering."

"How do you know all this, since you say you have had no letter?"

"If you choose to have particulars I will tell you. Yesterday I had to attend a committee of the House of Lords, where some evidence about the management of the funds being heard. Among the witnesses a very quaint-looking old man attracted my attention by his odd likeness to Peter Lynch, and hearing him called Dr. Lynch, and that he had come from the People's Hollow, I introduced myself and finally brought him home to dine here, and kept him for the evening while I was settling the matter."

"Ah, I noticed that you shirked all but the last half-hour, but we had not left the house when you came in yesterday: why did not you introduce Dr. Lynch to me? I should like to have seen him. Is he Peter's brother?"

"No, a cousin. He was very communicative over the whiskey and water that I ordered in after dinner, and confided to me his whole history: beginning with a romantic boyhood devoted to Anne O'Flaherty, that had sufficient strength to make him struggle up, step by step, from being the poor scholar and genius of a hedge school in Good People's Hollow, till he had succeeded in getting a doctor's degree in a Scotch University. The rest of the life does not correspond with the successful beginning. There was, I suppose, a great downfall of hopes, and a failure of purpose, when he had finally seen all the possibilities of such a career involved."

"I could go there alone."

"Yes, but I want you here to help me through the rest of the London season in looking after Lesbia. How solemnly you spoke at first about guarding her from fortune-hunters. Don't you remember?"

"Yes, and I think it was you then who put in a word for giving fair play to her affections, and not interfering with her choice when it came to the point of her making one for herself. You know best how it is with her; but for your own part, I wonder how you could have so wisely when we took her from a place where she had some rational pursuits, and might have turned her money to some useful account at this time, to plunge her into the aimless dissipation she is following now. Is the advantage of her coming here as a nurse, or as a doctor, or as a friend, or as a companion?"

"I think we were bound to show her something more of the world than that little corner of Connemara, before she was allowed to choose her future husband; remember she will have to keep them for that. The choice of her husband is a matter of great importance, and she should be able to choose wisely. I hope the choosing process won't go on indefinitely; she seems by some occult affinities to draw all the most insane young men in London together to choose her."

"John?"

"You were wondering just now what the effect of seeing yourself as you are now would have been on yourself as a girl. All the time Dr. Lynch was talking to me I had an uneasy feeling, as if it was the spectre of my own future self—myself of fifty years hence—that was talking to me, telling me that I was a failure, a disappointed life, with one strong feeling in it, to the end."

"I don't believe you will let disappointment spoil your life. What brought the old man to London?"

"Anne sent him to give evidence of what he had seen during the winter in Connemara, hoping that his honesty and energy would be useful in clearing up misrepresentation. For my part, I am glad I have spoken with him. Since I have taken to write on Irish politics I must seize every opportunity of getting at information such as a man like this, trusted on all sides, can give."

"Hum!—of course he gave you news of the Dalys?"

"Pelham Daly has had a touch of the fever, and Mrs. Daly been seriously ill; but both are recovering."

"And how is Connor going on?"

"There was a little reserve in speaking of him. Dr. Lynch avoided public questions, so I suspect, old as he is, he is secretly in sympathy with Young Ireland, and I am a little afraid he is influencing Pelham Daly and Miss O'Flaherty to do the same. I don't think it is to Connor's politics that is advisable for their own safety. That cousin of the Dalys, the poet whose verses you admired, and who is now editing one of the most rabid and dangerous of the Young Ireland newspapers, has, I find, been staying at the castle a time or two, and then he has been speaking of them. I don't wonder at Pelham Daly's disgust and anger, but considering that he has been so long in the House of Commons, I should have thought he might have found some less Irish way of gratifying his feelings than by shooting young O'Roone's little finger off."

"Was O'Roone's cruelty to his tenants the cause of the quarrel?"

"Not the final cause. I imagine there had been a great deal of irritation occasioned by Pelham's remonstrances and by O'Donnell's newspaper tirades attempting to stir up indignation against them throughout the country, and at last the three young men met accidentally in the coffee-room of the little hotel at Bray, and, as you know, such a quarrel broke out. It is most unfortunate. It secures the Dalys a vigilant enemy in their own neighborhood, who is certain to seize the first opportunity Connor's imprudence gives him to gratify his revenge against the household at Eagle's Edge, while at the same time he will be furthering his own interest by making a display of zeal for Government in hunting out rebels. I wish I was there to keep an eye on events. I certainly should not have allowed the duel to have taken place if I had been at Castle Daly, and I think I could have prevented the ejectment."

"I think you over-rate your influence. My sincere belief is that we should do more harm than good this year at Castle Daly. Young O'Roone was always hanging about Lesbia—calling at the castle, and being furthering her on her ride. He has hinted to me once or twice that he gave himself airs as a favored suitor."

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—that there had been something to blame in Lesbia's manner. She is a born coquette, poor child, and never can help playing off a complacent love against a lady of one."

"By the way, I thought you were convinced that there was no sort of attraction between him and Lesbia."

"My good friend, it was you who were convinced. If you will be so kind as to remember, I warned you about both brothers from the first. Lesbia has, I am sorry to say, so many ways of flirting that one is long in finding out what are the genuine symptoms in her case; but I am afraid this story of the duel throws considerable light on her vagaries in her behavior that are puzzling me just now."

"But can she have heard of the duel?"

"I suspect she knows a good deal more of the rights of it than you do. Ever since we left Ireland she has kept up a sibilant correspondence with the youngest of those tall, good-looking fellows who live in the Irish houses just outside Ballyvogue, and who in spite of all my efforts managed to establish a good deal of intimacy with Lesbia while we lived at the castle. The fire of letters backward and forward has been very active lately, and on one occasion I noticed Lesbia come down stairs from the personal of a thick bundle with eyes positively swollen up with crying. Ever since there has been a change in her manner; she is snappy to her most obsequious admirers, and since Irish songs with a greater degree of enthusiasm than the pleasantest of those that Sir Charles Pelham quite accounts for; and then the shamrock this morning, how came she even to know that it was St. Patrick's Day?"

"If she reads the newspaper ever so carelessly, and interests herself at all in public events, she could not help knowing that the shamrock is only interest Lesbia when private people she cares for are likely to be affected by them. That bunch of shamrock does not represent a political party in her eyes, you may be very sure, but it may be—she occupies her thoughts at present. If by chance it was a boast concerning her favor on young O'Roone's part that provoked Pelham Daly's blow, then you may be sure he is the reigning hero. I am sure to say it, but I don't want to make myself afraid she belongs to the order of women who feel themselves glorified by being quarrelled over, and who, if placed there, were tangible things and could be strung together into ornaments like scalps, would like nothing better than to appear in chains and bracelets, and then be put on display."

"Are not you judging her harshly?"

"I think not. I am perhaps putting the case strongly to counteract a purpose that I see growing in your mind. You are longing to carry us all back to Castle Daly, and I am certain you will find all the possibilities of such a career involved."

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"I think we were bound to show her something more of the world than that little corner of Connemara, before she was allowed to choose her future husband; remember she will have to keep them for that. The choice of her husband is a matter of great importance, and she should be able to choose wisely. I hope the choosing process won't go on indefinitely; she seems by some occult affinities to draw all the most insane young men in London together to choose her."

"John?"

"You were wondering just now what the effect of seeing yourself as you are now would have been on yourself as a girl. All the time Dr. Lynch was talking to me I had an uneasy feeling, as if it was the spectre of my own future self—myself of fifty years hence—that was talking to me, telling me that I was a failure, a disappointed life, with one strong feeling in it, to the end."

"I don't believe you will let disappointment spoil your life. What brought the old man to London?"

"Anne sent him to give evidence of what he had seen during the winter in Connemara, hoping that his honesty and energy would be useful in clearing up misrepresentation. For my part, I am glad I have spoken with him. Since I have taken to write on Irish politics I must seize every opportunity of getting at information such as a man like this, trusted on all sides, can give."

"Hum!—of course he gave you news of the Dalys?"

"Pelham Daly has had a touch of the fever, and Mrs. Daly been seriously ill; but both are recovering."

"And how is Connor going on?"

"There was a little reserve in speaking of him. Dr. Lynch avoided public questions, so I suspect, old as he is, he is secretly in sympathy with Young Ireland, and I am a little afraid he is influencing Pelham Daly and Miss O'Flaherty to do the same. I don't think it is to Connor's politics that is advisable for their own safety. That cousin of the Dalys, the poet whose verses you admired, and who is now editing one of the most rabid and dangerous of the Young Ireland newspapers, has, I find, been staying at the castle a time or two, and then he has been speaking of them. I don't wonder at Pelham Daly's disgust and anger, but considering that he has been so long in the House of Commons, I should have thought he might have found some less Irish way of gratifying his feelings than by shooting young O'Roone's little finger off."

"Was O'Roone's cruelty to his tenants the cause of the quarrel?"

"Not the final cause. I imagine there had been a great deal of irritation occasioned by Pelham's remonstrances and by O'Donnell's newspaper tirades attempting to stir up indignation against them throughout the country, and at last the three young men met accidentally in the coffee-room of the little hotel at Bray, and, as you know, such a quarrel broke out. It is most unfortunate. It secures the Dalys a vigilant enemy in their own neighborhood, who is certain to seize the first opportunity Connor's imprudence gives him to gratify his revenge against the household at Eagle's Edge, while at the same time he will be furthering his own interest by making a display of zeal for Government in hunting out rebels. I wish I was there to keep an eye on events. I certainly should not have allowed the duel to have taken place if I had been at Castle Daly, and I think I could have prevented the ejectment."

"I think you over-rate your influence. My sincere belief is that we should do more harm than good this year at Castle Daly. Young O'Roone was always hanging about Lesbia—calling at the castle, and being furthering her on her ride. He has hinted to me once or twice that he gave himself airs as a favored suitor."

"Why did you not speak to me?"

"I hardly thought it worth your notice; and to confess the truth, I did not like to acknowledge to you—as I must in honesty have done

—that there had been something to blame in Lesbia's manner. She is a born coquette, poor child, and never can help playing off a complacent love against a lady of one."

"By the way, I thought you were convinced that there was no sort of attraction between him and Lesbia."

"My good friend, it was you who were convinced. If you will be so kind as to remember, I warned you about both brothers from the first. Lesbia has, I am sorry to say, so many ways of flirting that one is long in finding out what are the genuine symptoms in her case; but I am afraid this story of the duel throws considerable light on her vagaries in her behavior that are puzzling me just now."

"But can she have heard of the duel?"

"I suspect she knows a good deal more of the rights of it than you do. Ever since we left Ireland she has kept up a sibilant correspondence with the youngest of those tall, good-looking fellows who live in the Irish houses just outside Ballyvogue, and who in spite of all my efforts managed to establish a good deal of intimacy with Lesbia while we lived at the castle. The fire of letters backward and forward has been very active lately, and on one occasion I noticed Lesbia come down stairs from the personal of a thick bundle with eyes positively swollen up with crying. Ever since there has been a change in her manner; she is snappy to her most obsequious admirers, and since Irish songs with a greater degree of enthusiasm than the pleasantest of those that Sir Charles Pelham quite accounts for; and then the shamrock this morning, how came she even to know that it was St. Patrick's Day?"

"If she reads the newspaper ever so carelessly, and interests herself at all in public events, she could not help knowing that the shamrock is only interest Lesbia when private people she cares for are likely to be affected by them. That bunch of shamrock does not represent a political party in her eyes, you may be very sure, but it may be—she occupies her thoughts at present. If by chance it was a boast concerning her favor on young O'Roone's part that provoked Pelham Daly's blow, then you may be sure he is the reigning hero. I am sure to say it, but I don't want to make myself afraid she belongs to the order of women who feel themselves glorified by being quarrelled over, and who, if placed there, were tangible things and could be strung together into ornaments like scalps, would like nothing better than to appear in chains and bracelets, and then be put on display."

"Are not you judging her harshly?"

"I think not. I am perhaps putting the case strongly to counteract a purpose that I see growing in your mind. You are longing to carry us all back to Castle Daly, and I am certain you will find all the possibilities of such a career involved."

"I could go there alone."

"Yes, but I want you here to help me through the rest of the London season in looking after Lesbia. How solemnly you spoke at first about guarding her from fortune-hunters. Don't you remember?"

"Yes, and I think it was you then who put in a word for giving fair play to her affections, and not interfering with her choice when it came to the point of her making one for herself. You know best how it is with her; but for your own part, I wonder how you could have so wisely when we took her from a place where she had some rational pursuits, and might have turned her money to some useful account at this time, to plunge her into the aimless dissipation she is following now. Is the advantage of her coming here as a nurse, or as a doctor, or as a friend, or as a companion?"

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In answer to the question, "Can a young man get land from the Seminary to work if he asks for it?" one named Ignace replied, "I asked the Seminary for land when I was a young man. They said, 'Get married, get a wife and we will give you land.' I went and got a wife and asked them again and they refused."

profitable or not. Well might the old pag
exult, if they could see Christians on each s
me, of the river St. Lawrence refusing to buy of e

each 116,811 to 129,072, or 12,261. From Oct.

The litigation has aroused much interest in this section of the province owing to the issues at stake and the extensive land transactions of the plaintiff, who, on account of the rapidity with which he enters into and carries through operations, is known as "Lightning John." *Toronto Globe.*

invited to eat with Mr. Huxley's servants, the first asked them where they got the fire to cook with; and, on learning, he refused to touch the food, saying it was not *mbara*. All were charmed, for protection from evil spirits. The idea of heaven is that it is a place where the good are gathered, and whence the bad are shut out.

even one day without a mail; and with surprising regularity all trains have maintained the published time-cards. From the third to the tenth of March we were without any mail east of Chicago, but the blockade occurred five hundred miles to the south-east of us. Our N. P. train ran as usual.

The marriage of Lord Brooke, M.P., heir to the Earl of Warwick, and Miss Maynard, the beautiful heiress whom the gossips betrothed long ago to Prince Leopold, is fixed to take place on Saturday, the 30th instant, at Westminster Abbey.

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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the International Post Office orders at their Post Office, can get instead a Post Office order, payable at House's Point, N.Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and subscribers.

ISSUED LAST WEEK.

Number copies of WEEKLY WITNESS	28,650
" " DAILY WITNESS	75,839
" " MESSENGER	56,000
" " AUREOLE	1,100
Total	161,669

We invite communications from farmers giving their experience on matters interesting to them as a class, also enquiries which, if we cannot answer ourselves, some of our readers may.

The Witness.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1881.

THE REVISED TRANSLATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

The Revised Translation of the New Testament is announced to be ready about the fifteenth of May. By reference to the last page it will be seen that we have adopted it as one of our prizes on very favorable terms.

CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM.

We have sent off all the copies of this picture that long have been overdue, but still have some seven hundred copies, orders for which have come more recently, to send away. We hope to have the pictures to fill all orders in a few days, when we shall be able to send to each subscriber his picture immediately on receipt of the order.

BI-METALLISM.

The United States is a great producer of silver, and so is anxious, in spite of every principle of political economy, to have silver erected into a standard of exchange side by side with gold. This would be all very well if it were possible to keep the relative values of the two metals always the same. The difficulty is that after the gold dollar and the silver dollar have been made of weights denoting exactly similar value, their relative value changes and puts the standards all wrong, and people at once make their bargains payable exclusively in the more valuable metal. If one country were to make such bargains null, and hold both metals equally legal tender, the result would be that in their dealings with foreign nations they would always have to pay out in the dearer metal and take their payments in the cheaper one. Hence the anxiety of the United States to have silver recognized by all the great nations. Germany has had a glut of silver owing to her having tried this very experiment, and now she is quite ready to encourage the conference proposed by France, so as to get some market for her silver, but having had experience she joins it with the distinct proviso that she shall not be bound by its decisions. England would not for a moment think of adopting so absurd a system as a bi-metallic currency, but she has India on her hands, and India having an enormous population of poor people among whom silver is the most valuable metal available, and who have consequently in their hands a very large proportion of the silver in the world, becomes a terrible loser by any depreciation of silver, and her taxes being payable in silver her Government suffers likewise. England, therefore, is reserved in her contempt for the movement. The present movement originates with France, which in a less degree suffers from the same causes which affect India. It is plain that the whole movement is an attempt to get the nations to set a value by law on a commodity which, owing to its large production in proportion to gold, is fast depreciating in real value as measured by that metal. After all it is only a matter of relative value. If the production of gold were to increase in like proportion, and both metals were depreciated together, no one would be aware of any change except that things in general would have grown dearer and salaries would not go as far as they once did. What we have said does not, of course, apply to making silver legal tender to a small amount, say ten dollars, as in this country. In such a case the difference in value in relation to gold becomes a matter of comparative indifference and is far outweighed by the convenience of having silver in common use for small transactions. But even in such a case it is necessary not to allow the difference in value to become serious, lest we should see, as is now commonly seen posted in the United States, "Trade dollars neither given nor received."

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION AND THE JUDGES OF THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH EX-COMMUNICATED.

We should like to call the attention of the public generally to the position now occupied by the civil and ecclesiastical authorities in relation to the case of *"Delisle et les Compagnons de l'Ecole de St. Jean,"* reported in No. 11, vol. vi., of the Quebec law reports. It almost seems as if it were a sign of the times that, all the world over, church and State should be at variance. To say nothing of France, Germany and Italy, in Ireland the authority of the Pope himself seems almost unequal to the task of whipping into line a portion of what Carlyle termed the "semi-felonious" Irish priests. In England we have just been treated to the highly ridiculous and partially successful efforts of the pseudo-popish parsons, ye old ritualists, to get themselves into gaol, for the purpose of securing the notoriety and glory of cheap martyrdom. In Lower Canada we are now treated to an archiepiscopal pastoral, proclaiming excommunication against any one having anything to do directly or indirectly, with the carrying out of a judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench. The facts of the case are few in number and simple. In 1830 the parishioners of the Parish of St. Jean, in the Island of Orleans, assessed themselves in order to purchase a schoolhouse. The title to the schoolhouse and land appertaining thereto had to be vested in some one, and as, in those days, there were no school commissioners as there are now, it was deemed advisable to vest the property in the priest and two churchwardens, or, in other words, in the Fabrique. A piece of land was duly bought from one Alexis Coie, and the deed declares that the purchase was made "for the purpose of founding an elementary school to subsist forever" (*ly fonder et entretenir toujours*), without, however, specifying for whom the purchase is made, and it declares that the purchase price shall be paid by assessments levied on the parishioners. Various educational laws were subsequently passed, Fabrique schools disappeared with time, and new schools sprang up, such as we now have, vested in school commissioners. The control of the St. Jean school passed into the hands of the commissioners, without opposition on the part of the curé, and all the necessary repairs have since been made by them and at their expense. In 1877 the schoolhouse became so old that it threatened to tumble about the ears of teacher and pupils, so the commissioners decided upon pulling it down. This was done, and then an attack of ground-greed, a by no means unusual complaint, seizing the church, the Fabrique claimed the ground as belonging to the church, notwithstanding the fact that it had never paid a single farthing toward buying, repairing, or maintaining it. The majority of the school commissioners, influenced no doubt by the parish priest, decided upon purchasing another house below the hill, the old house having been situated on the top of the hill. From this decision an appeal was made to the Superintendent of Education, in whom very extended powers are vested under the law, and he ordered the school to be rebuilt on the spot where it had stood previously. The school commissioners having declined to act upon this order, a writ of *mandamus* was applied for to compel them to do so. The writ was refused in the Court below, and that decision was reversed in appeal. The *mandamus*, therefore, must now issue. In the meantime Archbishop Taschereau, indignant beyond measure at seeing one of his priests foiled in a gross act of spoliation, issues a pastoral which was read from the pulpit in the parish of St. Jean, declaring everyone who has anything to do with, or contributes directly or indirectly to, the building of the school, as ordered by the courts, *ipso facto* excommunicated. This excommunication, it is declared, is not a special one issuing from his gracious self personally, but is incurred under the rules and regulations of the Church. The consequence now is, we presume, that Mr. Besse, the counsel for the plaintiff, the Hon. Judges Dordon, Monk and Baby, the Superintendent of Education, Mr. Oulmet, the plaintiff, and a large proportion of the parish of St. Jean who support him, the prothonotary and most of his clerks, as well as the curé, bailiffs, &c., of both courts, are all excommunicated *ipso facto*, and liable should any accident befall them, not to receive Christian sepulture. This certainly looks serious, but we can hardly help ending in the well-known words of the Ingolby Legend:

"Never was heard such a terrible curse
But what save this
To no little surprise
Nobody seemed one penny the worse!"

TUNIS.

France has long been jealous of the influence of both England and Italy in Tunis, the Barbary State lying upon the frontier of her Province of Algiers. Quarrels which threatened to become international have taken place at intervals between French and Italian residents, and between French and English residents. A French and Italian Company have been fighting over the possession of a railway, and a French company and an English resident have been struggling for the possession of an estate. The law authorities of the State are somewhat timid about settling this question, and moreover the law is of such a character that none of the parties can recognize its equity. England decided, however, that in the case of her own citizen the law of the State should be left untrammelled to decide, and insisted upon France acting likewise. In the case of the Italian company there has never been any permanent settlement, and the Bey being inclined to favor his least dangerous neighbors, has been inclined to aid the Italians. On the line of the railway running between Tunis and Algiers, and owned by the French company, a struggle is now taking place between a frontier tribe of Tunis, who have never been governed by either the Bey of Tunis, or the Governor of Algiers, and in the present condition of things there is some danger that the war will become one between Tunis and France. Tunis is nominally a dependent of Turkey, but it has long been practically independent. It is said, however, that the Sultan, who recently made the French Government a tempting offer with regard to Egypt, has also

been inclined to part with the nominal protectorship of Tunis to France in return for French aid on the Greek and other questions.

A UNITED MOVEMENT.

A petition is being put in circulation throughout this Province aiming at the re-modelling of our license laws, the most interesting feature of which is that it goes out with the approval alike of the Roman Catholic Archbishop and bishops, and of the Quebec branch of the Dominion Alliance. We hail this co-operation as indicating the dawn of a better day, when Canadians will be able to move forward to gain moral ends irrespective of ecclesiastical and theological differences. One important and most reasonable demand of this petition is that, as in Ontario, license fees and fines collected for breach of the license laws be a fund, a first charge upon which shall be the payment of proper officers to enforce the laws. It is also desired that the penalties for breaches of the law be made sufficient, as they do not now seem to be, to deter law-breakers. The request made last year, to require applicants to obtain on their certificates, the names of twenty-five electors, whose names do not appear on any similar certificate is repeated. The petition also asks that all applicants, new and old, be placed on the same level, and be made liable to successful legal opposition from a majority of the electors in the locality in which the house is situated for which a license is desired; also that the discretionary power of the licensing authorities be so far abridged as to absolutely require the refusal of licenses under certain circumstances. It is also asked that grocery and saloon licenses be prohibited, and that local municipalities that refuse licenses be protected from the wholesale traffic, under cover of which a great deal of common selling is too often carried on. Our present law evidently bears on the face of it the appearance of a money-raising scheme, and its provisions are better calculated to accomplish that result than to protect and benefit the people generally. The legislation on this subject in other Provinces is in advance of that of our own, and now that French and English Catholics and Protestants are awake to this whole question, there appears to be a good prospect of securing laws more in harmony with the moral convictions of those who have the best interests of the country at heart. No time should be lost. Clergymen can render important aid by placing the petitions in the hands of active persons, and the canvass should be commenced and completed as soon as possible. Ladies will be found active and willing workers, and their co-operation should be sought. Let no one hold back on the ground that the petition does not ask for entire prohibition. The Local Legislature cannot prohibit, and petitions to that body asking for what all know they cannot enact would be useless.

DRIFTING.

Mr. Goldwin Smith has up his great mind, and what is noteworthy, has held to the conviction through a considerable series of years, that the manifest destiny of Canada is annexation to the United States. The sentimental attachment to the British name he acknowledges to be strong, but he holds that once that attachment is broken by accident or by the natural growth of new world ideas there will be no longer any sufficient force to resist the natural cohesion between two kindred peoples, and the great material advantages which will tell in favor of amalgamation. Sir Alexander Gait many years ago thought an independent national existence for Canada a possible and probable solution of the national problem. Since then he has thrown all his energies in favor of Imperial Confederation. Mr. Blake has more than once dared to face this question. Without referring to Mr. Goldwin Smith's theory, he concurs to a certain extent in it. He says the "policy of drift" can produce no other result than that which it has produced already, namely, the severing one by one of the ties which bind us to the empire the moment we begin to feel them as limitations to our freedom. England interposes almost no objections to these changes, and in point of fact there remains unshaken nothing now but the common defence. He urges that we save what remains by putting it upon a permanent basis by paying our share, we presume a very small share in the imperial armament, and having our voice in controlling the acts of the allied army. We are not using Mr. Blake's words, but we think we are not deducing more than his words will warrant. Mr. Blake's opponents, although imperialist by party professions, deride this plan, because it is espoused by him. They say Mr. Blake wants a place in an Imperial Parliament, but the nation is not prepared to enter on untold imperial expense for the sake of placing him there. This clever distortion of Mr. Blake pleases them. They do not tell us what policy they would substitute for his imperial confederation and the national manliness of offering to meet our evident obligations under it. To propose nothing is to support the policy of drift.

A CANADIAN IN DAKOTA.

We have received from Mr. Wyard, a gentleman well-known in this city, a letter descriptive and eulogistic of Dakota as a place of settlement. The letter promises to be the first of a series giving the observations and experiences of a thoroughly intelligent settler. We have had great questionings what to do with such a letter. We find it a little difficult to understand a Canadian who would without very strong reason deliberately renounce his own flag and go and live under another. Our own North-West is adjacent to the best territories of the United States and is generally conceded to be as good as the best. As all know, the *Witness* has concerned itself exceedingly about the opening up of this noble country to Canadians, and has felt in the keenest way the paralyzing stroke with which for political reasons it has been smitten by self-seeking statesmen. The disappointment we have experienced in seeing this land of promise, for which we had done what we could, brought under the blight of the dead hand of a corporate monopoly, words have failed us to express

and now we see advantage taken of this to tempt our people to other lands. It is certain that all Canadians do not share with us this strong Canadian feeling. The most noticeable fact reported by returned travelers from the Western States and territories is always the large number of Canadians one meets everywhere. These are being lost to Canada as a nationality. It is to be hoped, however, that they are sowing good Canadian ideas wherever they go. It is certainly of the highest importance to Canada that the great nation on whose borders she lies should look upon her with respect, and should be as much as possible assimilated to her in ideas. It may look absurd to talk of a small people like ourselves influencing so large a one, but there is much in our favor in the task. The American nation is made up almost exclusively of people who have left the various countries of the old world, imbued with hatred of monarchy and a romantic admiration of republicanism. This sentiment carried the founders of that nation to extremes in throwing off old world notions, and has sustained its people since in their contempt for all peoples but themselves. Canadians know they have better forms of government, both theoretically and in practice, than those of their neighbors, and there is the beginning of a reaction on the part of Americans themselves, who must be astonished to see on their borders a people who actually prefer monarchy and responsible government to republicanism without it. But however much we may hope from our separated brethren—the dispersed among the Gentiles—our duty to hold together as far as possible as a people and work out our own governmental and national problem manfully. This intermingling of peoples cannot, of course, be altogether stayed, and it cannot be worked toward assimilation, but if there is anything in our institutions we value it, our part to stand by them and see that the assimilation there is no use attempting to hide the facts. Many like Mr. Wyard have gone to the States in spite of the exclusive attention we have paid to the Canadian North-West, and unless we can show that ours is the best land, or at least as good as another, many more will go. We hope Mr. Wyard's letter will call forth free discussion and the experience of Canadian settlers. Meantime we would call attention to the fact that Mr. Wyard's experience covers only the winter months. He describes a winter bright enough overhead, but without snow enough to make roads of or to keep the extreme frosts out of the ground. Of course where the ground is very dry, as it seems to be in his region, the frost would not go so far down, but then there is another side to this dryness. We are not told how a land remote from rivers where there are five months without rain or thaw is supplied with water all the winter through.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

Mr. Gladstone's satisfaction at exchanging the dreary work of repression for legislation of a reforming character does equal honor to his heart and his head, and it is to be hoped that as he was assisted in the most disagreeable, but most immediately necessary, part of his work by a large majority of the legislators of the kingdom, he will not now be thwarted in his efforts to remove all excuse for a similar state of things in the future. The meagre telegraphic outline does not put us in a position to criticise the measure. It is obvious that, as was to be expected, it has essential elements which must form insuperable objections to it on the part of some of the landlord class. There are many very heavy landowners or heirs of landowners in the Cabinet, and all of these, with one exception, have recognized the necessities of the case as overruling their immediate interests. The Duke of Argyll makes the very reasonable criticism that the bill will leave the ownership of the land dangling between three conflicting parties—the landlord, the tenant, and the Government commission. Little future peace is to be looked for as long as these three parties are in conflict, and Government becomes a sharer in the difficulty in a way in which it was not before. The fact is the Irish people have multiplied on the land to an extent that it is not able to bear the peasantry upon it, to say nothing of the landlords, and what is really wanted is a measure that will either bring about the equitable removal of the surplus tenantry, or the equitable extinction of the landlords' claim. Those parts of the bill which have an eye to these objects are the really hopeful features of it, while those which attempt to constitute principles of arbitration between landlord and tenant cannot be considered as anything but makeshifts to meet an extremity. Some time ago an able article appeared in one of the leading English periodicals upon "the failure of free contract in Ireland." The underlying principle of this new bill appears to be that under no laws that can be framed can there be anything else in Ireland, with regard to land, but a failure of free contract, at least among all classes who contract for less amounts than £200 annually. Of course the class who are thus made minors in this matter includes the great majority of those who have taken part in the agitation, the great body of the small farmers. And in order to protect this class, the power of fixing the rents to be paid is taken from the owner of the land. The principle of absolute ownership will therefore be annulled. In the place of free contract, there is to be instituted a land court which will decide the amount of rent to be paid by the farmer and accepted by the landlord. All whose rents amount to two hundred pounds a year can make a contract, which can be legally enforced, but every rent below that figure must be fixed by the Court. It will be seen from this that only a part of the second F (fair rents, meaning rents by arbitration) has been granted. Free sale by the tenant of his unexhausted improvements, the first F, is also granted under about similar restrictions by the Court. The third F, fixed tenure, is granted, in so far as that a tenant may, by appeal to the Court, have his rent fixed, for a term of fifteen years, during which it is not alterable, and during which he cannot be evicted unless for breach of certain fixed covenants, such as regular payment of rent, non-subdivision, &c. The Land Commission will also have power to

lend Government money for the purposes of emigration, or of reclamation of waste land in Ireland, and of assisting tenants to purchase their holdings when they come in the market, and of purchasing land offered for sale by landlords. The principle adopted is at first sight an extreme one, but it has been recommended by every member of the Board for Land Commission, and by every member but one of the Richmond Commission, which included representatives from among the Home Rule party up to great land-owning peers.

PARTY RULE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The success of the Democratic party at the elections held two years ago in the United States gave them a majority in both Houses of Congress, and, in accordance with (a vicious) custom, Republican officials—without regard to their length of public service, or the efficiency and faithfulness displayed in the performance of their duties—were unceremoniously dismissed, and their places filled with Democrats. The elections last fall, supplemented by subsequent intrigues with one of the so-called Independent Senators, have again placed the Republicans in a position to control both Houses. The Senate has for some time been engaged in a filibustering warfare over the Iowa and Idaho bills. The Republicans are seemingly determined on replacing the Democratic officials by members of their own party, and the Democratic Senators are equally bent on keeping their friends in office as long as possible. Although party government, with its complement, the caucus, and its parasite, the lobby, are not recognized in the Constitution of the United States, yet they have obtained almost complete control of the legislation, the public welfare being made to yield to party exigencies through caucus and lobby intrigues. Independent members of Congress have become either utterly helpless, or else all potent in the conduct of affairs. If the parties are so evenly divided that the votes of a few unprincipled individuals claiming to be independent can turn the scale, representative legislation almost becomes a farce. The question is simply which party will pay and promise these men most; while should either party become strong enough to carry their measures without aid from the Independents, the latter, although they may be the purest patriots, are treated with as little respect as if they were traitors, and become the objects of hatred and contempt from both parties. It seems at first sight strange that a people so boastful of liberty should yet become the slaves of despotic party organizations, carrying on their deliberations in private, and only making known in the House of Representatives the foregone decrees of the caucus. Faithful service to the party has supplanted faithful service to the country, as a path to eminence and the leaders of one party make laws for the whole country and use the public funds and patronage without any consideration being paid to the wishes of the other party, that is say, of as nearly as possible half the nation, sometimes even more than half both in numbers and taxation. Through the natural growth of party government a party defeated at the polls—no matter how small the majority—is now treated with less consideration in the United States than was shown by some of the ancient despots to the nations which they had conquered with the sword. Partyism, aided by slavery, brought on the costly civil war in 1861 and if not shorn of its strength, would not scruple should the exigency occur to sacrifice the constitution or dismember the nation. Since the enfranchisement of the colored population in the Southern States there has been no living issue or material difference between the two great parties in their views regarding the great questions which have been before the people. Although Generals Hancock and Weaver together received over three hundred thousand more votes at the elections last fall than were polled for President Garfield, yet the former, with all their followers, have very little more influence in the government of the country than if they belonged to another nation. Repudiators, readjusters, greenbackers, protectionists, free traders, polygamists, anti-Chinese, hard and soft money men, &c., are found in both parties, and their peculiar views receive almost, if not quite, as much allowance from Republicans as from Democrats. Another serious danger consists in the facility which party discipline compels the honest, well-disposed members to follow unscrupulous managers and lend their countenance and support to measures which they believe to be wrong. The people of Canada have had some sad experiences of the evils resulting from this cause. Not only have her material interests suffered from this cause, but the moral sentiment of many of her public men has been seriously injured, if not entirely destroyed by it, and the evil is rapidly growing worse.

THE OKAS.

The Oka difficulty, according to some authorities, has been settled. The Gentlemen of the Seminary are to give the Ontario Government five thousand dollars for ten thousand acres of land in the Parry Sound District yet to be chosen, and pay for the transportation of the Indians to this picturesque but inhospitable country of rock and mountain, where all the land that is valuable has already been taken up by settlers, and a great deal that is worthless as well. The telegram in Saturday's issue says that the transaction is to be carried out by the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Dominion; and also that the Indians agree with what is now being done on their behalf, which bears out the statements made in a previous issue, that the Government was being made a tool in the hands of the Gentlemen of the Seminary to carry out their schemes, and that the Indian agent had played false with those under his charge and had not transmitted their message to the Government, but something very different. At the last general council meeting at which he was present, the great majority of the Indians refused to value the improvements on their property and voted that they would not leave their homes for any place they knew nothing of. Their resolution to this effect the agent refused to write in their presence.

We cannot but think that any scheme such as this of the Gentlemen of the Seminary, whose agents seem willing to base their hopes of success on trickery, will prove as great a failure as those which have preceded them, having the same end in view. There is another aspect of the question which may not seem unimportant. By their action on this and on previous occasions the Government have refused to pay any heed to the representations of the Methodist Church, which for some thirteen years back has been conducting the mission at Oka, with which most of the Indians are connected. Surely the Secretary of Methodist Missions should have been consulted in this matter, and some representative of that large body of men of all religious denominations who have for so many years contributed to the Indian defence fund and to their bodily necessities. But instead of the friends of the Indians being notified of the arrangements, they have been refused any knowledge of them from official sources, and information is obtained exclusively from the Indian agent, who falsely represents the feelings of those whose guardian he is, and the Gentlemen of the Seminary, who have broken every arrangement with them, and who for years have not ceased to do them harm. So great was the fear of the influence of the Methodist Church in this matter that the Government agent two weeks ago refused to attend a council because the Methodist missionary was present, although a special invitation was sent to him from the council meeting. Under these circumstances, and when the great questions at issue are concerned, it is but natural to suppose that the Methodist body will resent such unwarrantable interference with one of their most important mission stations as is here proposed without their knowledge or concurrence. The Methodist Church has almost as vigorous a solidarity as the Church of Rome itself, and is likely to form a factor in this discussion which it may prove unwise to have ignored.

A LAST EFFORT is being made by the Powers to effect a peaceable settlement of the Greek question. The chances of success are not very great. It appears that Austria is taking the initiative in the last move. The last proposal of Turkey is the basis of the Austrian proposition to the countries, with two or three additional advantages to Greece. Neither the Epirus nor Crete is, however, included. It is believed that the Powers have agreed to support this proposition, and offer to guarantee that if Greece accepts it the new territory will be in her possession within ten days. If Greece accepts, Turkey is left no choice but to comply or to fight the Powers. Greece has hitherto refused to listen to any proposal other than that of the Berlin Conference, and besides Epirus and Thessaly, which were awarded her, she has always insisted upon the island of Crete being included. Turkey has all along refused to carry out the award of the Powers, and has defied Greece to take possession, and both nations have now considerable armies facing one another on the frontier between the two countries. Greece, from the king down to the meanest peasant, is committed to war in case the whole award is not carried out, and it is hard to see how she can withdraw. Mr. Tricoupi, the leader of the present Opposition, would accept nothing less, but he had to resign because he was not willing to precipitate the struggle. M. Comondourou, the present Premier, succeeded him, and his ministry is committed to immediate war. It is extremely doubtful whether any statesman can be found who is willing to accept the responsibility of advising the King to accept the Greek proposition. It is certain that he would lose any popularity he ever possessed, and it is not improbable that a revolution would occur which would have as a result the overthrow of King George. Since the accession of the new King, there has been some expectation that he, under the influence of his wife, the sister of the King of Greece, who is passionately devoted to the cause of her brother and of Greece, would throw his influence in with Greece and settle the question in her favor. Whether this is likely or not, it is apt to appear very probable to the Greeks, and it is not calculated to lead them to abate one jot of their demands.

A "GREAT SAVANT," who has had his capacious mind occupied for some time past experimenting with alcohol upon pigs, has now given the result of his deep research to the world. The pigs were affected in two ways by the liquor, the difference being, we suppose, due to temperament. One class was rendered irritable, while another became jolly, then somnolent and finally apathetic. Notwithstanding these "mental" manifestations of the influence of their potatoes, post mortem examinations—the butcher got the alcoholized piggy as well as his more temperate brother—showed that the alcohol had no perceptible physiological effect whatever upon the inner pig, and now the "savant" rejoices because alcohol does not hurt pigs, the only animal, we think, it does not hurt. The geese will not certainly agree in this matter with the pigs, if we are to believe the dolorous tale given a short time ago of a German farmer's wife, who threw brandied cherries into the yard, which were eaten by her geese, they becoming so beastly drunk as to lead the good housewife to believe they had given up the ghost. Consultation with the neighbors convinced her they had been poisoned, but though the carcasses might not be eaten, the feathers could be used, and so when the poor geese recovered from their debauch they found themselves "plucked," like many a biped who claims a higher position in the scale of animal life. Imagine, however, the consternation of the good housewife not long after, while meditating a decent funeral for her pets, in seeing the flock, led by the old gander, walk up to the door in their sorry plight. The geese fared better, however, than some of their brethren of a higher grade, as they were furnished with warm flannel coats to cover their nakedness until beneficent nature had restored their natural coats. Pigs being then the only animals that rum does not hurt, it had better be left to them, but we dare affirm this much on behalf of the pigs, that they, left to themselves will never voluntarily go after it.

A PARAGRAPH in the *Minerve* to the effect that the Seminary of St. Sulpice have offered a magnificent property at the Lake of Two Mountains to a body of Trappists from France may give some clue to the mysterious efforts now being made to seduce the Indians away from Oka. Such such efforts will be as futile as the constant and persistent persecutions that have been going on for years past those conversant with the Indian character may well believe. Lately at Oka every effort has been made to educate the Indians therein habits of industry and self-denial, and they have been so successful that this winter until very recently nothing was required to be given any one of them in charity. This is a very great improvement on previous years and gives us the hope that one long the village of Oka will be a happy and prosperous Indian settlement. That the inducement of living for three years on the fat of the land without care or work would carry away the minds of some is but to be expected, but the majority of the Indians through hard experience have ceased to place faith in offers coming to them from the Government in which the Seminary's hand is visible. That the Government should for so long have been playing fast and loose with the Indians is simply discreditable, and it is to be hoped that the Indian agent at Oka be instructed to make a plain statement of the whole case. Perhaps the best solution of the difficulty would be for the Government to compel the Seminary to hand over to the Indians for agricultural purposes say sixty thousand acres of the land at the Lake of Two Mountains, and supply them with the necessities of seedling and farming. This would be an experiment, which, in view of the progress of the past ten years, could hardly be anything else but successful. Certainly the Indians will make vastly better citizens than the monks who are being expelled from France.

FOR THE SAKE of their fame, and in order that the great work they have done be not obscured by utterances unworthy of themselves, it would have been well perhaps that many of the great ones of the earth had been removed to another and happier sphere sooner than they were. In this category, in the opinion of some of his best friends, comes Wendell Phillips, whose utterances of late years have caused grief and alarm among those who remember him for his noble fight in behalf of the slave. Of course his intense sympathy for the oppressed could alone have made him say: "I look at Russia four thousand miles away and see what an incubus is resting on her people. I only hope that 'somebody will lift it off their shoulders.' If nothing will do but the dagger, then 'welcome the dagger! Is there an 'American hero who thinks that bad?' On sober second thought Mr. Phillips must regret having made this remark. Nobody should know better than he that assassination never has and never will advance the cause of freedom one jot. Besides, has not the dagger been used for the purpose of retarding the progress of both civil and religious liberty as often as it has been to promote it? Did the assassination of Abraham Lincoln have the desired effect? Go to history, Mr. Phillips, and you will find that you have been betraying the cause you have ever, no matter what your enemies may say, had at heart—the relief of your oppressed and down-trodden fellow-men. It is more than likely that these foolish words will be taken as a warrant by some sneaking assassin to take the life of some one whom he regards as an oppressor. The fact is, the assassination of the Czar, judging from the comments of a large portion of both the European and American press, shows an altogether unhealthy condition of mind in regard to this foul crime.

THE NUMBERING of the people, according to a telegraphic despatch, is causing much apprehension in the suburban sections of the City of Quebec, the poor people imagining that it will prove provocative of disasters of some kind or another. The same story was told regarding the Indians of the United States during the taking of the census, they having used every possible artifice to defeat the census man in his proverbially unpleasant task, giving all manner of evasive answers; but apart from the fair sex who are said to have a special antipathy to a census—a statement, however, we cannot vouch for from personal knowledge—it was to be supposed that the people of Canada, especially in the cities, had no such superstitions. It would be curious to hear some of the remarks made by these "innocents," as it is not unlikely that the very word "census" may convey the idea of something totally different to the reality. When the Prince of Wales arrived in Quebec many of the rural population were quite disappointed when they saw only a boy, having expected to see him seated on a throne with a crown on his head, and perhaps wings and other peculiarities, showing that he was not human like themselves. It is not to be forgotten also that there are many people who have very vague notions regarding the ruler of the British Empire, some even in the rural districts thinking that Napoleon III. is emperor of Canada. Surely, when we hear all these strange stories it is unnecessary to say that the "schoolmaster is not abroad" in this province. We suppose the number is small of persons who really expect the census to eat them or to put a blight on their households, but we imagine there are not a few who look upon it as a taxing monster, and consequently consider it the part of wisdom to let it know as little as possible.

VICTOR HUGO, the apostle of freedom and the saviour of the downtrodden of humanity as he has been termed by the Irish Irreconcilables, has been called upon by Mr. Parnell and the other patriots to cure the British Government and to bless their cause, and if he act in accordance with his chosen adviser he will bless the Government and curse the patriots. Victor Hugo, who undertook to route Europe to the wrongs of Ireland, knew little or nothing of the wrongs, and he applied to a friend for some ready made views, upon which his imagination could work in his appeal to the peoples of the world. This friend, Admiral Maxse, complied, and while stating fairly enough the unjust land-laws also declares them to be an evil inheritance which

CHATHAM MARKETS.
(Special Telegram to the Witness by Messrs
Richards & Co., Proprietors Flouring Mills
CHATHAM, ONT., April 11.—Fall Wheat,
\$1.08 to \$1.10; Red, \$1.10 to \$1.12; Spring
\$1.05; Oats, 40c to 45c; Corn 50c to 55c;
\$1 to \$1.70; Barley, \$1 to \$1.20.

