

# MONTREAL WITNESS,

## COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XXIII.

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No. 1.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### MEASURING CORDWOOD.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—As the question of firewood has been so often before the public, as to want of measure; and to have a law for the measurement of which, is much needed, our worthy Chief of Police has been searching, and found a by-law passed in 1856, which by-law was then put in force, and found not to work satisfactorily (perhaps not under so good management as Mr. Penton's); but as there is still, as always, two sides to every question, it cannot work at all at present. The only obstacle which he presents at present is, having a measure stamped by the Corporation and kept in your yard, and, if the people choose, to cord their own wood when they come to buy. Well, if you have to keep a man to cord it, any policeman can stop your cart or sleigh on the street, and have it taken to the police-station, and have you fined for short measure, if it may happen to be so. Now, the only way to keep clear of that is, for each party to cord their own wood, and if they do not take enough, the fault will be with such parties themselves, if it is bought in less quantity than two cords at a time; or keep a man to cord in your yard at \$1 per day. The consumer will have to pay which would be very high. As to farmers bringing wood to market, they must have their wood corded, and a ticket given them of the measurement of their load, which will be a great loss of time, and prevent a large quantity of wood coming to market; and, with the short supply in the yards at present, will have a very bad effect on the poor of our city, who are to be pitted.

I am, sir, A WOOD-DEALER.  
Montreal, Dec. 24, 1867.

#### REMARKS.

We insert the above letter, though we do not agree with it. The cording of wood in a stamped frame is the only security the purchaser of small quantities can have for fair measure; unless, indeed,—which would be still better,—the wood were weighed like coal. The objection to cording the contents of farmers' loads, and giving them tickets,—that it costs something, and wastes time,—would equally apply to weighing hay and straw. The fact is, the habitants generally take all the time necessary for cording their load in re-arranging it in the way that it will look largest before offering it for sale. No fair dealer can object to have his weights and measures verified authoritatively.

Since writing the above, we have received a second letter from the same party, which seems to us to contain a very valuable suggestion, as follows:—

"Having shown the impossibility of successfully accomplishing any thing by wood inspection, without increasing the expense on wood too much, I would suggest a plan, if it were adopted, which would work to advantage to all, and be a source of revenue to the city, which has not been thought of as yet. Now, Sir, wood merchants have to pay to corders 8½ cents per cord for cording, which might be done away with, and be changed to weight, without increasing the expense. There comes to the city about one hundred and twenty thousand cords of wood per annum; and the average of hard wood would be two tons to the cord; having proved this, before writing; this would make two hundred and forty thousand tons, in the year, at 5 cents per ton, would give a revenue of \$12,000; coal, say one hundred thousand tons, at 5 cents per ton, would make \$5,000; say, three hundred thousand tons of iron, which,—if included, from the present mode of weighing, would be to the advantage of merchants,—at 5 cents per ton, would make \$15,000, which would, when added together, make the round sum of \$32,000; and, by allowing no party to have private scales, would throw all this revenue into the hands of the Corporation. For the successful working of this scheme, for salaries of weighmasters, say \$5,000, which, being paid, would leave in the hands of the Corporation, a large item of revenue. These weighmasters should be men competent to do their business, whether friends of our city fathers or not.

### PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

#### QUEBEC LEGISLATURE.

QUEBEC, Dec. 27.—The opening of the first Quebec Parliament took place at three o'clock to-day. Notwithstanding the bad weather, an immense concourse of people lined the approaches to the House of Parliament.

Precisely at three o'clock, the heavy guns of the Grand Battery announced the arrival of His Excellency, attended by a brilliant staff of officers belonging to the Quebec volunteer forces. His Excellency, having taken his seat on the throne, the Speaker of the Legislative Council rose, and, by command of the Lieutenant-Governor, directed the Usher of the Black Rod to summon the Legislative Assembly. The members of the Lower House having arrived, preceded by the Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker informed them that when they should have elected a Speaker, His Excellency would inform them of the motives for which he had convened the Legislature, and that His Excellency would meet them to-morrow for that purpose. The members of the Assembly then retired, and the Lieut.-Governor, accompanied by his staff, returned to the Government House.

In the Assembly, on the return of the members from the Council Chamber, Mr. CHAUVEAU, Premier (Quebec Co.), rose in his place, and, addressing the clerk, referring to the necessity of electing to the Speaker's Chair a member fully conversant with both languages, proposed that the member for Levis, J. G. Blanchet, Esq., be elected Speaker of the Assembly.

The motion was seconded by M. DENKIN

(Brome), and after a few complimentary words from Mr. Joly (Lotbiniere), who referred to the military service, as well as the excellent civil qualities, of Col. Blanchet, the motion was declared carried.

The Speaker was led to the Chair by Messrs. Chauveau and Dunkin, and the Sergeant-at-Arms having laid the mace upon the table, the Speaker briefly returned thanks for the honor conferred upon him, and threw himself upon the indulgence of the House for the support necessary to the delicate and difficult task he was assuming.

On motion of Mr. CHAUVEAU, seconded by the Attorney-General, the House then adjourned.

#### ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

TORONTO, December 27th.—The first Parliament of the Province of Ontario was opened to-day, in the presence of a large number of spectators. Nearly all the members were present. Between one and two o'clock this afternoon, the ceremony of swearing in the members took place. The oath was administered by Messrs. W. H. Boulton, and C. T. Gilmore, Clerk of the House, who were appointed Commissioners for that purpose. The members were sworn at the Clerk's table, one at a time, after which they signed their names to the oaths of allegiance.

At three o'clock precisely, the Governor took his seat on the throne, and the Sergeant-at-Arms having placed the mace on the table, Mr. M. C. Cameron, Provincial Secretary and Registrar, rose and stated that he had been commanded to announce that His Excellency did not see fit to declare his reasons for summoning a Parliament, until a Speaker had been elected, but that at two o'clock to-morrow his Excellency would declare his reasons.

Shortly after His Excellency had withdrawn, the Clerk took the Chair.

Mr. J. S. MACDONALD (Cornwall), in a few remarks, moved that Mr. John Stevenson, member for Lennox, be chosen Speaker of the House.

Mr. CARLING (London) seconded the nomination.

Mr. McKELLAR (Bothwell) said the party he belonged to were satisfied with the nomination, and would not oppose it. Mr. Stevenson was a Reformer, and they would be glad to see him in the chair.

Sir HENRY SMITH (Frontenac) was sorry to hear the party spoken of already in the House. He, as a Conservative, was willing to vote for the present candidate, because he was a good man, and not because of his party. He strongly condemned the member for Bothwell for his remarks.

Mr. T. R. FERGUSON (S. Simcoe) took the same view as the last speaker.

Mr. BOYD (Prescott) said, he was a Reformer, but it was not for that reason that he supported the Government nomination, but because he was willing to give the Government a fair and impartial trial. He was elected on these grounds. Though on the Opposition side, he did not wish to be considered an opponent of the Government.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The mover and seconder then led the Speaker to the Chair, the mace was laid on the table, and the Speaker, on taking his seat, thanked the House for the honor conferred on him in electing him Speaker of the first Parliament of Ontario. He was not unaware of the responsibility that rested on him, and he would endeavor to rule the House irrespective of party feeling, and to forward the interests of individual members, and trusted, that the acts passed would tend to the further advancement and happiness of the people.

Sir HENRY SMITH spoke with reference to an adjournment, next Tuesday, till after the holidays. He would like an expression of opinion from the premier on the subject.

Mr. JOHN S. MACDONALD said that, of course, nothing definite could be said till to-morrow, but that, as many of the members doubtless did desire an adjournment till after the municipal elections, no doubt the Government would listen to any such expression of opinion.

The House then adjourned, on motion, till to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—The telegraph reports that the cannibals at the Feejee islands have murdered and eaten Rev. J. S. Baker and six Christian natives.

—France has a navy of 343 steam and 116 sailing vessels. During the present year twenty-six vessels have been added, two of which were built in this country.

—It is reported that the Paris Rothschild reduced the salaries of his clerks fifty centimes per day each—to make up the expense of entertaining the Austrian Archduke.

—The Prince of Wales, to the great indignation of the bulk of English Protestants, is now a constant worshiper at All Saints Church, Margaret street, one of the most extreme of the ritualistic churches in London.

—Of twenty-nine young men approved at the recent Andover Conference as candidates for the ministry, seven are stated to be sons of ministers, five of deacons, twenty-four sons of parents both of whom are Christian professors.

FEARFUL INUNDATIONS IN MANILLA.—The Overland China Mail gives the following news from Manilla:—"The British ship 'Stuart Wortley' was totally lost off Manilla on September 20. All hands saved. Fearful inundations have occurred at Manilla. Over 10,000 Indians have been drowned. The Spanish mail steamer 'Malespina,' from Hong Kong to Manilla, has been missing for 21 days. It is feared she is totally lost. Two earthquakes took place at Manilla on October 4. No loss of life or damage to buildings."

THE MARCHIONESS OF QUEENSBERRY.—The following letter appears in the Standard:—"To the Marchioness of Queensberry,—Madam,—Your 'dear friends'—the murderers—who made my wife a widow and my children fatherless, having now expiated, on the earth, their crime, it

would console my troubled spirit—by them 'sent unassolized,' 'unanceled' to its last dread account,—were your ladyship to extend to the innocent victims of the crime that consolation and support which you have promised to extend to the families of my murderers,—a course which cannot fail to be comforting to your own conscience, and will appease the spirit of heaven once was

BRETT.

RUSSIA PREPARING FOR WAR.—It is stated that the Russian Government is now in a position to send 200,000 men to either the Turkish or Austrian frontier at a few days' notice, and one of the Russian journals says that, although the Government may continue to circulate peaceful phrases at London, Paris, and Vienna, it is known as a matter of fact there that war is imminent. It was recently stated that Prince Gortschakoff was about to resign his seat in the Russian Cabinet; and Gen. Ignatieff, named as his successor, is strongly in favor of a hostile policy toward Turkey. The Turkish Government has recently adopted measures indicating an anticipated attack from Russia; but if Russia takes hold of the matter in earnest, and the Sultan is left, without any foreign assistance, to fight with the Czar, the contest cannot be a very long one, and its result will certainly be disastrous to Turkey.

A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.—The Prince Minbotaun of Japan, brother of the Tycoon, landed at Dover on Monday, and afterwards went on to London. Of course he had first to receive an address from the Dover corporation, to which he returned a "gracious answer." His highness visited the house of Parliament on Tuesday. In the Lords he occupied a seat in the side gallery, and in the Commons a place of honor in the Diplomatic Gallery. He appears quite a youth, is of low stature and spare frame, has a long oval face, the forehead made as high as possible by the curling of his hair nearly up to the crown of his head, and about the temples. He wore what may be presumed to be the national costume, which was rather sombre than gay. He was attended by eight Japanese, armed in the manner of their country, and three European gentlemen, one of whom acted as interpreter in an interview between his highness and Lord Stanley in the Commons gallery, in the course of which elaborate courtesies appeared to be exchanged.

THE HURRICANE AT CALCUTTA.—The arrival of the India mail brings us advices from Calcutta to the 8th of November. These accounts increase the seriousness of the disaster. In Calcutta city 109 deaths have been recorded, 101 brick-built houses destroyed, and 2,338 tiled and thatched huts leveled with the ground. In the suburbs, the loss of life is estimated at 285; and 62 brick-built houses, 1,745 tiled huts, and 25,148 thatched huts have been destroyed. On the river, 622 lives have been lost. In addition, there have also been lost two ferry steamers, 67 cargo boats, 15 Madras sloops, 84 dinghies, 82 native boats, and 335 up-country boats. The greater portion of these boats, together with those lost in the canals, were laden with jute and grain. The grand total of lives ascertained to have been lost is, therefore, 1,016; of brick-built houses destroyed, 163; and of tiled and thatched huts, 20,231. Of the larger shipping in the river, only some 26 ships have escaped uninjured, and three have sustained serious damage, one of them being a complete wreck.

TERRIFIC CYCLONE IN BENGAL.—On the night of the 1st inst., a cyclone raged in Bengal, from the bay northward to Serajguni, westward to Midnapore, Burdwar, eastward to Burnaul and Dacca. The rice crops throughout the track visited by the cyclone are greatly injured. In many places it is estimated that not one-fourth will be saved. Many buildings have been destroyed; also, boats on the inland rivers laden with jute and grain. Large quantities of growing jute destroyed. Great damage done at Port Banning. A storm wave carried away a portion of the river bank. The jetties and railway were much injured. The station was destroyed. At Calcutta, the cyclone lasted eight hours. Much more damage was done to the city than by the great cyclone of 1864. In the city and suburbs, 1,000 lives were lost. 30,000 native huts were destroyed, and vessels wrecked at Sanger. Several vessels were missing. The ships are returning disabled. 600 native boats were destroyed. At Burdwar there was much distress among the native population. The telegraph line along the Ganges is down. From Bengal, great distress is reported. The Bengal Government are actively engaged in taking measures for the relief of the sufferers.

AUSTRIA'S INTERNAL POLICY.—It is gratifying to observe that enlightened ideas are steadily making progress in Austria. The liberal measures proposed by Baron Beust, the Prime Minister, are cordially sustained by the Emperor, and bid fair to place Austria among the most progressive nations of Europe. In order to carry the bills pending in the Lower Chamber of the Reichsrath, ordaining civil marriages and establishing secular education, the Emperor has elevated twenty-one persons favorable to that policy to the Upper Chamber, where there was a decided majority against these measures, and they will now undoubtedly be passed, in spite of the opposition of the priesthood and the reactionists. This was a bold step, and has given great encouragement to the liberal party, while the conservatives are greatly exasperated. Attempts have been made, even by members of the imperial family, to oust the minister who is inaugurating such great reforms, but without success. The new spirit which animates Austrian policy has also been shown by recalling Baron Hubner, the envoy to Rome, and substituting Count Grivelli. The Baron is a personal friend of the Pope, and heartily devoted to the interests of the church. The Count, although a Catholic, is in full accord with the reforms of the Prime Minister. The new minister is instructed to obtain the Pope's consent for the abrogation of the Concordat, and his recognition of civil marriages and the secularization of education. These reforms will be carried out, however, whether the Pope consents or not, and he will be so informed.

#### AMERICAN NEWS.

—A Chicago Court has just decided that young women of 17 are too old to be chastised corporally.

—It is said that, in preparing the series of text-books for the Virginia University, care was taken to "omit any version of facts that may mortify those that peruse them."

—In Henry county, Ky., a man named Floyd became so angry because his brother-in-law would not endorse his note, that he followed him home and shot both barrels of his shot-gun at him as he sat at dinner. He did not hit him, yet he fell dead; and on examination it was found that the dead man's heart was diseased, and that the great excitement had killed him.

—When Richard Pierce, printer, of Boston, worked off upon his hand-press, on the 25th of September, 1860, the first newspaper ever published in America, the General Court took the sheet into custody, held solemn debate over the daring disturber of the public quiet, and voted that it "contained reflections of a very high nature," and its publication was contrary to law. It was not allowed to appear again.

THE CHILD BURNING CASE.—Mr. and Mrs. Brown, who have been arrested on suspicion of having murdered a child at Canaan, N. Y., for the purpose of obtaining the insurance upon her life, have been lodged in jail at Hartford for trial. The Times says Brown was not inclined to say much; he stood upon his dignity, and said if there was anything against him "prove it." He was in one cell and Mrs. Brown in another, and when the officer approached her cell he cried out to her to keep her tongue to herself. He is a hard-looking fellow; looks like an English thief. He is apparently about thirty-four years of age. Mrs. Brown claims to be her husband's second wife, the child being his by his first wife. She is twenty-five years of age and a fair looking woman.

NIAGARA SUBSIDED.—A letter in the N. Y. Tribune describes certain strange phenomena which occurred at Niagara River and Falls last week. The strong easterly gale sent the waters of Lake Erie westward, leaving the Niagara River and tributaries lower than were ever known before. Buffalo Creek was so low that all vessels in it were grounded, and Niagara Falls was a rivulet compared with its native grandeur. The American branch was so denuded that one could travel in its rocky bed without wetting his feet, and mysteries that were never before revealed came to light on that day. Rocks that heretofore were invisible appeared in their full-grown deformity upon the surface, and great was the consternation among the funny tribes. The Three Sisters were accessible to foot-passengers, and many traversed where human foot had never trod, with perfect impunity and dry feet. Below the Falls was the wonder of wonders. The water was full twenty feet lower than usual, and the oldest inhabitants gazed in wonder at the grand transformation. Near Suspension Bridge, the celebrated rock at Whitner's mill, upon which a drowning man caught and was rescued several years ago, which barely projects its head above the water, was laid bare twenty feet above the surface.

BUYING NEW TERRITORIES.—The mania for buying territory seems to be growing stronger. The last report on the subject is, that the Spanish Government proposes to sell Cuba and Porto Rico to the United States for one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and we are told by telegraph from Havana that "the public heart is beating with anxiety at the announcement," as the extinction of slavery would be one of the consequences of the sale. This extinction of slavery is the only thing that makes it seem in the smallest degree desirable that the news should be true. Even with this prospect, we cannot help thinking that the money would be vastly better spent in educating the freedmen we have than in acquiring more. It is of vastly more importance, however, to the black race that those who are now free should be elevated and enlightened and turned out well than that any more should be liberated, either this year or next. Moreover, fine as Mr. Seward's performances in the way of acquiring territory and making treaties of commerce look, we do not see what they do for the country except to enable it to grow rich faster. But poverty, or the difficulty of making money, is not our great trouble. Our great trouble is the abundance and variety of our rascals; and we do not see that we shall either "confound their politics or frustrate their knavish tricks" by giving them more territory to operate over. We do not hesitate to say that every inch of ground added to our domain over which we cannot enforce law and order is not a blessing but a curse,—nor a help to civilization, but to barbarism.—New York Nation.

#### CANADIAN NEWS.

##### ONTARIO.

—Men are now employed sawing ice on the Rideau river. The blocks they take out are 16½ inches thick.

—At the Fergus Cattle Fair last week, prices averaged, per hundred pounds, \$4.50 live weight.

—The Durham Chronicle says that a movement is on foot for the incorporation of that village.

—St. Andrew's Church, of Fergus, had a narrow escape from destruction by fire on Sunday evening, last week.

—The Sun reports the affairs of the Orangeville and Brampton Tramway Company in a most flourishing condition.

—The Welland Tribune says the mills in that town, dependent on the canal for water for motive power are again stopped.

—A Young Men's Christian Association was formed at Ottawa on the 19th, consisting of about sixty members.

—The Bear-Creek church, township of Moore, was destroyed by fire on the 6th inst., supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

—After the first of January next Wynford post office (Salem Village) will be known as Salem post-office, and the old Salem office will be known as Mount Salem.

—The American Consular Agency at Chatham has been indefinitely withdrawn, the U. S. Government refusing to reconsider their order of last November.

—A man named Andrew Gallagher committed suicide in the village of Warkworth on Thursday last, by discharging the contents of a loaded Enfield rifle into his bowels.

—At Kingston, three boys have been fined five dollars, and to remain in jail until paid, for disturbing public worship during a prayer-meeting.

—The man who hanged Ethan Allen was recognized by the cabmen at Kingston Station on Wednesday evening, and came near being hammered.

—A young man, named Freeman B. Smith, was arrested in Hamilton on the 16th, for extradition by the authorities at Toledo. He is charged with forgery.

—The Burlington Literary Society, of Hamilton, after due deliberation, have decided that "the rights of women are duly respected in the present state of civilized society."

—Horse-thieves are said to be practising their nefarious business in the township of Normanby. Mr. F. Cassidy had a span of horses stolen on Thursday last.

—Mr. Patterson, a prominent farmer of the township of Grimsby, was killed on Wednesday last by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of his son.

—The colored convict Johnson, who was sentenced to be hanged for murder at the late Assizes at Chatham, has been reprieved, and his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life.

—The Elora Times is informed that a branch of the Royal Canadian Bank will shortly be established in Fergus, and that John Beattie, Esq., Reeve of Nichol, is to be the Agent.

—Mr. John Black, an old and much respected farmer of Nassawigweya, was choked last week by a piece of beef sticking in his throat, at Colclough's hotel, Kilbride.

—An agency of the Royal Canadian Bank, will be opened in Fergus, at New Year's. John Beattie, Esq., of Nichol, has been appointed agent.

—The Picton New Nation says that professed temperance men in Prince Edward refuse to sign a petition against the liquor traffic, because they fear, were the movement to prove successful, the price of their rye would be reduced!

—Port Hope is one of the heaviest taxed towns in the Province, being at the rate of 39c. on the dollar. All the property owned in the town is put down \$1,069,290, and the debt of the town is nearly double.

—The people of Mount Forest have passed the by-law giving a bonus of \$10,000 to the Wellington, Grey, and Bruce Railway. The vote was almost unanimous, being fifty-one to five.

—The editor of the Carleton Place Herald publishes, editorially, a challenge to Weston for a tramp to the Georgian Bay, each to carry his knapsack with provisions and camping utensils.

—The editor of the St. Catharines Journal alleges that he has the highest authority for saying that the notorious "Bill Townsend," the murderer of Mr. Nelles and Constable Richards, has again turned up and has been arrested.

—A fire broke out in a house occupied by a family, named Coulson, living near Lowville, Nelson township, Halton county, on Saturday night, 14th, by which the wife and babe were burned to death, while the husband barely escaped, and was very much burned.

—A few days ago, the Brockville Recorder published an inquiry for a Mr. Nimmo, couched in such terms as to throw suspicion on Mr. Nimmo. This the Kingston Whig pronounces a libel, Mr. Nimmo having been in Kingston all the time, and the Recorder aware of it.

—At Gal's, a colored man named Turner was at work with a man named Lowell, when Turner was ordered by the other to assist in unloading some hay; and, upon his refusing, Lowell threw an iron boot-jack at him, inflicting injuries from which he died in a few days. Lowell escaped.

—A correspondent of the Truro Mirror, writing from Wallace on the 5th inst., says:—"A house and barn, occupied by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, Kirk minister, was totally destroyed by fire this morning at 2 o'clock; all the furniture, books, clothing, and everything in the house, was consumed, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson barely escaping with their lives.

—The Anglo-American Peat Company have issued their prospectus. They propose buying the whole of the peat bog in the County of Welland, Ont., containing 3,000 acres. With ten machines, they estimate making in a season of 120 days, 3,000 tons of peat, the sale of which, at \$3 per ton, after deducting expenses, will pay a dividend of 12½ per cent. the first year.

CONVENTION OF SHERIFFS.—A convention of Sheriffs was held in Toronto, on Wednesday, about half the Sheriffs in the Province being present. The proceedings were strictly private. The object of the convention is to effect a change in the insolvency act, and other enactments, which have reduced the income of Sheriffs considerably. Parliament will probably be petitioned to that effect.

LOBBYING.—It is said there has been a tremendous amount of lobbying going on at Ottawa with reference to the Intercolonial Railway, and that the lobbyists come chiefly from the Maritime Provinces. The knowledge that some five millions sterling are to be spent by the Government in the building of a railway, brought the speculators together at Ottawa, like a flock of buzzards hovering over the decaying carcass on a battle-field, when the dead are left unburied after the conflict.

Contemporary Press.

LETTER FROM THE REV. NEWMAN HALL (From the London Christian Times.)

New York, Nov. 5, 1867.

This is the day of election for city and state officers. There is a great struggle between the Democratic or Southern party, and the Republican or anti-slavery and loyal party. I went to a great Democratic meeting the other evening held in the Cooper Institute, and heard the only abuse of England I have listened to since I have been in America. Those English people who have sympathized with the South should have heard how their friends denounced England as treacherous and implacable, only watching her opportunity to destroy America! Along with this abuse of England was a denunciation of the negro race. They were represented as hopelessly ignorant,—as revengeful,—as unfit to exercise civil and political functions,—as interfering with the labor market and bringing down wages, and as likely to make war on the whites. To treat them as citizens having equal rights, was represented as allowing the negro to tyrannize over the white man. I was horrified at the yells of hatred which such allusions called forth. The majority of the vast assembly seemed composed of Irish.

I expected to see some uproar at the polling to-day. How different was the fact! All the public-houses are closely shut up during the whole day of an election! The polling-places are very numerous and are in all parts of the city. Every man must vote in his own district, so there are no crowds. Persons may not congregate round the polling-places. Every voter must go in alone, so as to be uninfluenced by others. The polling-papers are obtained only at places a considerable distance from the urns in which they are to be placed. I was allowed to enter one of the polling-booths and watch the process. Persons representing the different parties stood behind the urns. For many minutes no one appeared, and I chatted with the clerks. There were only four or five near the door. Presently a laborer entered alone. The register was consulted—his name was there—then he placed the papers containing the names of the candidates he voted for on the counter, folded up so that they could not be read. Then the clerks put them into the respective urns, and the voter quietly went away. I was taken to about half a dozen polling-places in the most crowded and the worst districts of the city, and everywhere there was perfect quiet. Indeed the city was far more tranquil than on ordinary days. No processions or bands of music are allowed on the polling-day. Whatever canvassing or speechifying there is, must be done before the day for taking the vote.

I went, this morning, to one of the public schools. About twelve hundred girls were present. I opened the department for elder girls, the "grammar school," with reading the Bible, a short address, and prayer. A hymn was sung most beautifully. Then they filed off to the class rooms, which I visited *seriatim*. In one, algebraic equations were being solved. In the next, a problem in the third book of Euclid. In the next, a question was being asked, as I entered, on the moon's libration in longitude. In another class, the girls were being examined in English literature.—Boyle and Chaucer were the authors about whom questions were being asked. In this school, there are daughters of judges, lawyers, clergymen, merchants, cabmen, and mechanics, side by side. No fee is paid. It is the best education given in the town. These schools are not considered as "charities." The money of the public is spent to support them, and they are regarded as belonging to the public at large. All contribute, and all are entitled to the benefit.

Yesterday morning I saw a strange scene. I was taken to Wall street and the Stock Exchange. I never heard such an uproar as was caused by the vociferation of the merchants and brokers buying and selling stock. Suddenly the president struck his hammer for silence, and introduced me, alluding to the part I had taken, with others, during the war. Immediately the crowd of busy traffickers uncovered, and gathered round to listen to the few words which I was thus unexpectedly called upon to address to them. I assured them that the great mass of our nation cherished the most friendly feeling to America, and expressed my hope that the two nations might ever be united by the closest alliance. At the end of my address, they cheered heartily, and sang "God save the Queen!" Then the clamor recommenced, and the intense excitement in bidding for "stock" which had preceded this episode. As this, I am told, is seldom accorded except to their own distinguished generals, I regarded it as an additional proof,—not of course, of any mere personal compliment,—but of the desire for friendship between the nations, and of the deep appreciation of British sympathy in their late struggle.

REV. W. M. PUNSHON.

(From N. Y. Christian Advocate.)

We find in the last number of the Christian Times, London, an interesting sketch of Rev. William Morley Punshon, M. A., fraternal delegate elect from the British Wesleyan Church to the next General Conference of the M. E. Church in the United States, and President elect of the Canadian Wesleyan Conference. Mr. Punshon is a native of Yorkshire, where he was born in 1824. His father was a draper, engaged in a large and prosperous business, and at the same time a prominent and active supporter of the Wesleyan cause. He received his second name after his uncle, Sir Isaac Morley, a gentleman well known for many years in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

He made his early attempts at preaching, and in May, 1845, he presented himself for examination in London as a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry. The writer of this sketch was present at that examination, to which one or two other young men also came up, who have since attained to eminence, and well remembers the impression then produced by the appearance and answers of the future orator. At the conference of 1843, he received his first appointment, which was to Whitehaven, where he spent two years, followed by two years in Carlisle, and three years in Newcastle. The residence of seven years won for him an extraordinary popularity in the far north, his faithful devotion to every department of his work being not less remarkable than his eloquence. Previous to his entrance into the ministry, he had published a small volume of poems; and when at Carlisle he made his first

literary effort of a religious kind, entitled, "Tabor, or the Class-meeting." This little publication was an indication of that ardent attachment to the peculiar views and discipline of Methodism which has all along been characteristic of Mr. Punshon, though in combination with such a breadth of view and catholicity of spirit that he has been claimed again and again by other Churches as almost their own.

Soon after coming to reside in Newcastle, Mr. Punshon married the daughter of Mr. Vickers, of Gateshead. This lady died in 1858, leaving several children. After leaving Newcastle, the next six years of the subject of our sketch were spent in Yorkshire,—three years in Sheffield, and three in Leeds. While in Leeds, his popularity was approaching its height. It was in January, 1854, that Mr. Punshon made his first appearance in Exeter Hall as a lecturer in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association. The subject was "The Prophet of Horeb," and the lecture, although inferior to several which he afterward prepared, was yet highly characteristic, and produced a marked impression. He did not appear again in this capacity till the beginning of 1857, when he delivered what was probably, for rhetorical effect, his masterpiece,—his lecture on John Bunyan. This oration was delivered with electrical effect in various places. In 1858, Mr. Punshon received an appointment to Bayswater, where the task was assigned him of endeavoring to raise a new Wesleyan church and congregation. This, by the blessing of God which rested upon his labors, he accomplished beyond expectation; and in 1861 he was removed to Islington. During this period, several other lectures were delivered by him, which excited remarkable interest; large sums of money being frequently offered and refused for tickets, after as many as could possibly be issued had been sold. One of these, "The Huguenots," was published at a shilling, and from the proceeds of its delivery Mr. Punshon gave a donation of a thousand pounds toward the Wesleyan chapel in Spitalfields. Large sums were also raised for various local charities by means of his lectures.

In the meantime he was growing in the esteem and love of the brethren of his own church, was honored with many tokens of their regard, and had it not been for the failure of his health, would probably have reached, by this time, the highest dignity at their disposal,—that of President of the Wesleyan Conference. It is impossible to speak too warmly of Mr. Punshon's unselfishness and generosity. In 1852, seeing the poor accommodation provided by Wesleyans in several popular watering places, he undertook to raise within five years, by lecturing and personal solicitation, the sum of ten thousand pounds, in aid of a fund for the erection of chapels in those places. Everything seemed against the project. The cotton-famine and the financial panic occurred; his own health failed; and, besides this, nearly £200,000 were raised in the period for the missionary jubilee. Yet the promise was fulfilled; and last August, the term of five years being completed, Mr. Punshon had the gratification to announce that the pledge had been accomplished! Such manifold labors, however, nearly broke down his health, and, for the last three years, he has, to a considerable extent, retired from public life beyond the sphere of his own circuit labors. Mr. Punshon will not leave England on his official visit to this country until about the first of April.

PEAT FOR RAILWAYS.

(From the American Railway Times)

STEAM FUEL.—Wherever the main source of artificial motion may lie hidden away, awaiting ultimate development, whether in air, or in water, or in the heart of the earth itself, matters less to the practical man than the philosopher. Coal has long been the main source from which that power has been obtained. How much longer it may continue so to be uncertain, not so much from any immediate probability of failure in the supply as that, of late, other substances have been utilized which hitherto were comparatively unknown, or considered inapplicable to the purpose of generating steam.

It becomes us to consider, not only how to economize that supply, which we can at present call our own, but how to produce a fuel which shall satisfactorily occupy its position as well now as when our coal-field ceases to exist.

The two main sources from which the present generation may expect to derive practical benefit, and to which we may look for aid in the economizing of our coal, are peat and petroleum.

The value of peat, when properly dried, is well known and admitted, both for domestic fuel and for generating steam; and charcoal properly made from such peat is, in all respects, equal, if not superior, to wood charcoal. When dug from the bog, peat generally contains from 50 to 75 per cent. of water.

The inference drawn from practical experience is, that, to secure commercial success in utilizing peat, the operation must be inexpensive and expeditious,—costly machinery being avoided. From four to five tons of peat, as taken from the bog, are required to make one ton of dry condensed peat. The cost varies in different localities, but it may be safely assumed that the average cost will not exceed that of coal at the pit's mouth. Peat thus prepared burns very freely, will stand a powerful blast, emits great heat, is smokeless, and produces less ash than the average of coal or coke. It is impervious to water, improves by keeping, and is incapable of self-ignition.

The general heating power of the condensed peat has been proved to be very superior to that of coal; and, in fact, this article appears to be well adapted as a fuel for steam engines, whether marine, stationary, or locomotive. Its use has been found to effect a saving of fifty per cent. in time in generating steam, and it will do double duty as compared with coal. The absence of smoke and cinders, and the preservation of furnace-bars and boilers from the destructive effects of sulphur from coal, are additional and important advantages.

LAKE SUPERIOR.

(From the Globe.)

Last evening Professor Daniel Wilson delivered a very interesting lecture on "Lake Superior, its Scenery and Antiquities." The lecture was delivered in aid of the Boys' Home of this city, and drew a large and fashionable audience. At the outset, the Professor stated that he had been advised by his friends to deal with an amazing number of subjects in the course of his

address, and he would endeavor to make a selection from the various suggestions received. Having alluded to the immense area of Lake Superior—some 32,000 square miles—a space larger than that of Scotland, and about equal to Ireland, he went on to show that in respect to its scenery it was altogether different from the other great lakes—the shores of which were for the most part flat and uninteresting in point of scenery. Along the north coast of Superior extended ranges of cliffs, from 1,000 to 1,400 feet in height, whose grandeur could only be conceived by those having an opportunity of visiting them. The lake itself constituted a basin, hemmed in by elevated brims, with all its precipices lying towards the south. It was, accordingly, on the north shore, and within the area of Canada, that the most magnificent scenery was presented. The lecturer sketched Thunder Cape, with its elevation of 1,500 feet; the figure of the sleeping giant, lying on the ground between Black Bay and Neepigon Bay; and some of the other picturesque points embosomed in the only great national song of the continent, Longfellow's beautiful "Hiawatha." The name Superior had been given the lake by the old French navigators, as the first and largest of the great chain of lakes; but altogether beyond it lay a magnificent system of water communication, lakes and rivers, destined apparently to form part of the future great highway of the continent. Having noticed the Michipicton river, which passed through a rich country in the possession of many hundreds of Indians, the lecturer proceeded to speak of the totally different scenery on the south shore of Superior. From one end of the coast to the other the scenery was almost all of a uniform character. There was already a city in embryo. He had visited the place in 1855, at the very time which might be said to be the birth of the future city of Superior. Superior city, undoubtedly, was founded on the spot which seemed destined to contain the great city of the future,—a city which should perform for Lake Superior the same functions which Chicago performed for Michigan; and which, at no distant time, would probably play the same part for that region that St. Petersburg did for the Neva and the Baltic. The lecturer next alluded to the projected railway to connect the waters of the Mississippi with the great lakes, and said that, in seeking to open this route, modern speculators only aimed at adopting a route which had been in use long before the discovery of the new world by Columbus. In proof of this statement, the lecturer alluded to the large shells belonging to tropical waters, which had repeatedly been found buried in the grave-mounds of Indian Chiefs along Lakes Superior and Huron. These were interesting memorials of a traffic carried on there by the aborigines. This led the lecturer to treat of the antiquities of Superior. It had, he said, long suggested itself to the minds of inquirers that the transition from the Stone Period to the Bronze Period had been a very abrupt one—that there must have been an intervening age—and at length it had been affirmed, as a piece of inductive reasoning, that there ought to intervene a Copper Age between the Stone and Bronze Periods. Abundant memorials of this Copper Age had been found in Lake Superior. Within comparatively recent years, one discovery after another disclosed the remains of extensive ancient mining operations along the Southern and North-Eastern shores of the continent. Ancient mining trenches, altogether different from any modern works of Indians had been found. In some places they were at a depth of thirty feet, and they extended over an area of one hundred miles. Within these were found the stone walls and beautiful-wrought copper implements for working the mines. In one particular case, in the Minnesota mine, a mass of copper weighing five tons had been found in one of these mines, buried beneath the accumulated vegetable matter of countless centuries. This huge mass of copper was separated from its matrix, and alongside it lay the copper tools employed in its excavation, over which had accumulated thirty feet of soil. It was not for him to conjecture the age of that mine; but an enormous interval of time must have been necessary for the trees to grow,—to shed their annual leaves,—for the vegetable matter to fill a trench of such vast depth,—and for the forest to cover all as completely as though an excavation had never been made there. Now, who were these ancient miners? Not Indians such as now inhabit the shores of the lake. There are unmistakable traces that these miners must have been a race totally different from the red Indian. The mounds in the Mississippi valley included the remains of an ancient race, having a form of head totally different from any of the Indian races found on the continent. Their sculptured pipe-heads were of a different character from any in use among the Indians. This valley, then, had been occupied by a race differing altogether from the Indian, and whose civilization was altogether superior. In the intermediate region, Wisconsin, there were, too, many curious indications suggestive of the idea that here, to the north of the country inhabited by these Mound Builders, was a kind of sacred land specially dedicated to the remains of that great nation, and where they met the rude children of the forest as on common soil. But whatever the character of that ancient population, there was every reason to believe it had terminated abruptly; that these ancient mines, after being worked for centuries, had suddenly stopped, and the miners had never resumed their work. Whether the work had been abruptly terminated through pestilence, or through the encroachment of hostile tribes from the north,—or to whatever unknown cause it was owing,—the mines had been suddenly abandoned; it was obvious that the tools were left there by the miners when the shadows of evening told him his day of toil was done, and that he left them never to return. Professor Wilson, in conclusion, briefly alluded to the mineral riches of the Lake Superior region. The great west, he said, lay beyond them rich in attractive promises for the future. Not only was the great lake rich in natural beauty, but its shores also abounded with the sources of national wealth. It was impossible to overlook the evidence of its great mineral wealth. Not only were the inhabitants of the New Dominion invited to go up and possess that land, but the richer territory and possessions beyond it. North and west of it were the rich valleys of the Red River and Saskatchewan—and westward to the Rocky Mountains and beyond, stretched a magnificent country as fitted to be the home of an intelligent, industrious, enterprising, and happy

people as the most fertile and genial section of the New Dominion.

THE CALIFORNIA WHEAT CROP.

(From the New York Shipping List.)

Through the uniform high prices that have prevailed for wheat and flour at San Francisco during the current harvest year, the bulk of the California wheat crop of 1867 seems to have been drawn out thus early. From advance slips of the San Francisco Bulletin, dated November 27, received overland, we gather some interesting facts and figures on the wheat movement. The California harvest year commences July 1st. The receipts at San Francisco, from July 1st to November 27th, both inclusive, comprise 3,716,403 sacks, against 2,749,936 sacks for the same time in 1866, showing an increase this year of 966,467 sacks. The receipts of wheat and flour (reduced to wheat) same period, aggregated 4,108,813 sacks, or 205,440 tons. This amount is equal to 71 per cent. of the total receipts for the entire harvest year ending June 30, 1867. Were the receipts for the remainder of the current harvest year to continue in the same ratio as for the first part, instead of having 286,000 tons, as in 1866-67, there would be, for the year ending June 30, 1868, 616,000 tons,—though this is altogether beyond the expectations of the trade. Indeed, there is quite a general impression that the amount will fall behind that for 1866-7. Admitting that the receipts for the present harvest year will be full as large as for last year, there is yet to come forward, of flour and wheat, equal to 81,000 tons or 1,620,000 centals of Wheat. With eight months in which to bring this amount to the seaboard, the monthly aggregate for the remainder of the year must necessarily be small—say 200,000 sacks or 10,000 tons. In view of the good and sufficient reasons which farmers had for putting in large crops one year ago, it may be that the surplus, yet remaining in the interior is much larger than the above figures would seem to indicate. A considerable quantity of land has already been seeded, and the work of preparing the soil is being carried forward on a scale hitherto unequalled in the State. England has been an excellent market for California for the last two seasons. With the exception of the limited quantities likely to come to New York, England must take the remainder of her surplus. At present prices in San Francisco (\$2.60 to \$2.65, gold, per cental), there are no markets in the world, except the Atlantic States and Europe, to which California wheat could be shipped with profit.

The shipments of wheat from July 1st to November 27, aggregate 2,318,271 sacks, valued at \$4,652,211, against 1,321,878 sacks for the same time in 1866, showing an increase this year of 996,393 sacks, or 70 per cent. The shipments of flour and wheat (reduced to wheat) same period, amount to 2,849,245 sacks, or 142,462 tons. Thus in four months, California has shipped 56 per cent of her total exports for the year ending June, 20, 1867.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Nor'-Wester has an account of the burning to death of eight persons by a prairie fire in Oct. last. Four of them consisted of a family named Thifault.

From files of the British Columbian, up to Nov. 6th, we extract the following:—

We understand that the Surveyor-General will at once set about the work of reducing, locating, and surveying the Indian reserves in this district, in pursuance of a resolution thereunto, passed at the last session of the Legislature. Let us hope that this necessary but too long delayed work will be done thoroughly and well.

In Saturday's Gazette, was published a statement of the imports into the colony of British Columbia, for the quarter ending 25th September last. The total value is \$391,936 25. There are several features of the statement to which we may take occasion to allude in our next.

A party of miners arrived from Kootenay yesterday, having about \$20,000 in treasure. They do not bring much news. The five Indians who murdered two white men, and wounded a third, at the Tobacco Plain diggings, had all been executed by the American authorities. Herring, the wounded man, was recovering. The Tobacco Plain diggings had proved a failure. The weather continued quite open, and mining was still carried on. No new strikes reported.

On Monday last, a native fisherman, while out fishing on his own hook, hooked an enormous sturgeon, and forthwith "hooked it" for town. The fish was 11 feet long, and weighed 325 pounds.

CANADA ECCLESIASTICAL NEWS.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.—Rev. Joseph Wild, Belleville, was recently presented, by the members of his congregation and other friends, with the sum of \$73 and some articles of value.—A new brick parsonage has been erected in Mallorytown.—The congregation at Aultsville is making preparations to build a new church next summer.—Twenty members have recently been added to the Church in Welland.—A revival has been in progress in the village of Hagarville, resulting in 25 conversions.—Rev. Mr. Miller writes from Walsingham: "Our special efforts have resulted in the addition to the Church of 70 souls; a new church will be ready for dedication in a few weeks; financial matters are favorable,—all claims are being met."—The friends in the Embro Circuit have raised \$30 towards buying a new printing-press for the C. C. Advocate. On the 25th inst., it closed its 23rd volume.—The Kennebec mission is prospering under the labors of Rev. P. Wright. There are 10 appointments, and 160 members.—A revival meeting commenced in Brooklin about three weeks ago. Fourteen persons have been to the altar for prayers, and some have joined the Church.

METHODIST NEW CONNECTION.—Rev. Mr. McKelvey, pastor of the church in Galt, preaches temperance as well as gospel. He has induced nearly all the members of the church to sign a temperance pledge.—At a revival in connection with the church in Augusta, over 40 have been converted.—Rev. John Kay writes from Milton that all the church debt has been removed, and that there have been between 20 and 30 conversions.—Several members of different Orange Lodges have presented Rev. J. H.

Foster, of Frankville, with an address and \$45, in acknowledgment of a sermon preached by him on the 12th of July last.—A new church was dedicated in Adelaide last summer, and on the 20th Oct. revival services were commenced, which have resulted in nearly 50 conversions.—Rev. George Jackson reports that at a recent meeting of the Society in Montreal, the treasurer read the reports of the collectors for the past year, showing a total collection of \$647.

ROMAN CATHOLIC.—The Catholics of Pembroke have enlarged their church so as afford additional accommodation for 200 persons.—On the 15th, at Quebec, Monseigneur Baillargeon, the Archbishop of Quebec, consecrated the newly built church of St. Sauveur.—Rev. Pius McPhee, the former energetic and popular parish priest of St. Andrew's, P. E. I., has been appointed to the mission of Grand River, Lot 14; and the Catholics of that place have presented the Very Rev. James McDonald, of Indian River, for the last quarter of a century their indefatigable parish priest, with an address, accompanied by something more substantial,—a purse.—On the 5th inst., His Lordship the Right Rev. J. Farrell, D. D., Bishop of Hamilton, administered the sacrament of confirmation to sixty-seven children and four adults, in St. Mary's Church, Niagara Falls.—His Lordship the Bishop of Toronto arrived at Oshawa on the 28th ult., for the purpose of giving confirmation. Sixty-six children received confirmation, whose intelligent appearance and correct answering in the catechism, bore witness to the zeal of their pastor and the efficiency of the schools under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—John Cartwright, the distinguished Methodist preacher in Illinois, is eighty-three years old.

A NOBLE GIFT.—Nine tons of tracts have been sent by Henry Bewley, Esq., of Dublin, to the Young Men's Christian Association of Chicago. It is said that this gift is the result of a vow made by Mr. Bewley when the success of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable—of which he is a large stockholder—seemed doubtful, that he would devote all his dividends from it to religious uses. Mr. Bewley is a man of great wealth and great Christian benevolence, and holds not only this, but the rest of his income, to be used as the Master shall direct. These tracts are in process of distribution, and a great demand for them has already arisen. Last June, when in Dublin attending the meeting of the Irish Assembly, we spent nearly a week under his roof. It was there we met Mr. Moody, of Chicago; through whom, we presume, this large donation of tracts was forwarded to that city, rather than to any other in the United States. Seldom have we known a man who won more upon our respect and our love than this Irish gentleman, whose cordial welcome gave us the best possible idea of Irish hospitality. Simple in manners, kind and generous, he seemed to live only to do good. It was chiefly, if not solely, by his liberality that the Kiosque was erected in the grounds of the Great Exhibition at Paris for the distribution of tracts and Bibles.—New York Evangelist.

AGRICULTURE COLLEGE FOR YOUNG WOMEN.—The Seminary will be opened for the reception of pupils next September. Every one knows Mr. Wells as an express man, but all do not know him as a man of large Christian beneficence. This building will cost him \$100,000. Everything connected with it is done in the most thorough manner. The rooms will all be commodious, lighted with gas, ventilated and warmed, on the most approved plan. The edifice presents a front to the Cayuga Lake, of attractive and imposing architecture, with high Gothic roof, fourteen gables, and graceful towers. Nearly every portion of the building commands a magnificent prospect of lake, field, and forest scenery, of exceeding beauty and variety; and the groves, which are the background of the edifice, present it to the eye of the summer traveller on the lake, as a cabinet picture whose tasteful frame is abundantly festooned with nature's graceful and verdant forms. The Seminary is to be supplied with every appliance for the best education, in the way of apparatus, library, gymnasium, and botanical garden. Good is it for the country that there are such business men as Henry Wells, and such Christian scholars as W. W. Howard, —N. Y. Evangelist.

DISCOVERIES AT JERUSALEM.—Biblical students will be greatly interested in the discoveries which have been made, and are now in progress, at Jerusalem, by Lieut. Charles Warren of the Royal Engineers of England. The colossal foundations of the Temple wall, which are "stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits," laid by Solomon or his successors on the throne, are now being laid bare at the enormous depth of ninety feet and more beneath the present surface. If bared to its foundation, the wall would present an unbroken face of solid masonry nearly 1,000 feet long and 150 feet in height! The wall, as it stands, has excited the wonder of the world. A letter in the London Times says:—

"The pinnacle of the temple, on which the tempter placed the Saviour, has just been uncovered to the base, and is found still to have an elevation of 136 feet. The statement of Josephus is therefore no exaggeration. 'If any one looked from the battlements into the valley he would be giddy, while his sight could not reach to such an immense depth.' Sections of the ancient wall of Ophel have been exhumed, showing that, as Josephus says, it was joined to the southeast angle of the Temple. Aqueducts, cisterns, rock-hewn channels and passages have also been discovered within and around the harem, throwing new light on the buildings, the arrangements, and the services of the Temple."

The sites of Calvary, the Holy Sepulchre, and the Pool of Bethesda are hoped to be discovered; and, if the exploring party is provided with funds, Lieut. Warren does not despair of surveying and designating the boundaries and chief localities of the ancient Jerusalem which the Saviour saw and which Josephus described. The recent visit of the Sultan to England has been favorable to the work of exploration, and the wisdom and tact of Lieut. Warren and his staff have smoothed down Moslem prejudice, removed local opposition, and brought about opportunities for excavation such as never occurred before; and, besides, large numbers of Arab laborers have been trained to the work and are eager to be employed, and the exact points for successful exploration are now known.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

The world has produced \$3,341,500,000 of gold the past eighteen years. Machine-belt is now being successfully manufactured from paper. Faber's establishment sends out \$220,000,000 lead pencils yearly. The new British knapsack weighs only four pounds and three ounces. Forty elephants help the English in the Abyssinian expedition. The Dowager Marchioness of Queensberry has sent £300 for Larkin's family, one of the executed Fenians. A noble lord, who sits in the British Parliament, has been sued in an English county court for a butcher's bill amounting to £40. One day last week a single firm in London sold no less than 10,732 Newfoundland seal skins. Doubtless, as many more were sold by other merchants. The portion of the soi-disant Emperor Maximilian's skull, which was removed in the process of embalming, was stolen and replaced with a wooden plug. At a sale by auction in Douglass, Isle of Man, a gold-mounted tooth-brush, said to have belonged to the great Napoleon, realized the sum of £8 10s. The young Chinese Emperor, twelve years old, rejoices in the title of "His High Prosperity." His Imperial father was "Perfect Bliss." Steam power is successfully used in London in pulling down old houses, where the contractor cares little about preserving the materials. A butcher-boy in Newgate Market says he has often heard of the fore-quarters of the globe, but has never heard any person say anything about the hind-quarters. A lady has recently died in Bristol, England, at the advanced age of 84. Never in the course of her life did she eat a morsel of butchers' meat, though she enjoyed all that time very good health. In Russia, a woman professing to be the Virgin Mary ordered the people not to pay their taxes. They obeyed her until the government officers sent the virgin to Siberia, shut up her temple, and compelled her followers to come down with the dust. M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, in a lecture on the Suez Canal, recently given at Nice, stated that the contractors were bound to terminate the work by the 1st of September, 1869, under a penalty of 500,000 francs for any delay. An agitation in favor of the Saturday half-holiday has begun in Dublin. The Lord Mayor presided at a meeting to promote the movement, which was addressed by various clergymen, Protestant and Romanist. Within sixteen years, the two colonies of Victoria and New South Wales have produced a supply of gold amounting in value to one hundred and fifty million pounds sterling, two-thirds of which have been the produce of Victoria alone. Count Bismarck's yearly income, since he received the gift from the Prussian Parliament, is between forty and fifty thousand dollars. He lives very economically, and, according to a correspondent, said, some weeks ago to Rothschild, that he had no doubt that he would, by and by, become a millionaire. Until 1865 he was heavily in debt. The hotel and restaurant keepers in Paris are now having a turn of penance. Their charges were enormous during the Exhibition; now they are without customers. We learn that the two great hotels, the fame of which has gone through Europe and America, the Louvre and the Grand Hotel, are in the market. The price is £800,000 for the two establishments, and it is said that an English company is in treaty for them. CURIOUS EXCISE ENTRY.—Alexander Gunn, an Excise officer in Scotland, being disgraced from his employment for misconduct, an entry was made in a book kept for the purpose as follows:—"A. Gunn discharged for making a false report." THE SUEZ CANAL NO MYTH.—An English paper says, the Government tug "Prompt," recently despatched from England to assist in the embarkation of the Indian troops at Canal, was overboarded through the new Suez Canal to the Red Sea. After having been lightened as much as possible, even to the removal of the paddle-wheels, a number of empty casks was placed under her, and in this manner she reached Suez. THE DEADLY CHASSEPOT.—A captain of the Garibaldians says:—"At a distance of over 1,000 metres (1,100 yards) a platoon fire of fifty men killed or wounded thirty Garibaldians. During the quick fire at all distances the bullets fell like hail. I was engaged at Custozza and Solferino, and even then I never heard such a quantity of balls whistle about my ears. The result was, that, after a very short resistance, disorder commenced, and every one ran away without looking behind him."

A number of spiritualists are boring for oil in Pleasantville, Pa., under the direction of a "medium," and shares of one-sixteenth have been sold for \$5,000 each. A hunter in Crawford county, Wis., recently shot a cougar, or American panther, measuring three feet six inches in height, and five feet in length; the largest ever seen in that region. He got \$12 bounty, and deserv'd it. Hon. Enos Stutsman, formerly of Montreal, has lately been elected Speaker of the Dacotah Legislature. The Hon. John L. Jolley, son of Mr. Jolley, saddler, of Hamilton, was the other candidate for the office, and came near being elected. On Tuesday, the wife of Aaron Rowe, living three miles south of Mount Vernon, presented her husband with five children at one birth,—three boys and two girls. The mother and children are doing as well as if nothing extraordinary had occurred. Some time ago a cow ran in front of a train in Indiana, threw it from the track, and caused the injury of several persons. The railroad company sued the owner of the cow and recovered \$4,000 damages. The Supreme Court of that State has affirmed the verdict on an appeal. Miss Maria Hall died in Lawrence on the 12th inst., after nearly eight years' suffering from the effects of the fall of the Pemberton Mill—January, 1860. She was rescued from beneath a fallen beam only a few minutes before the ruins took fire, and was wholly confined to her bed for two years after the disaster. It appears from the report of Secretary Welles that the U. S. naval force now consists of 238 vessels, mounting 1,869 guns,—a reduction of 40 vessels and 482 guns since last year. Only 103 vessels are in use, including 56 on squadron service, and of the remainder there are 49 iron-clads laid up, and 29 of all kinds not completed. The number of men employed during the year in the naval and coast survey services is 11,900. General Grant's report shows that on the 30th September, 1867, the aggregate strength of the army (officers and men) was 56,815; the number of recruits, 34,191; and desertions 13,608. The reports of the five military commanders are also embodied in Gen. Grant's report. He highly commends the judicious and soldierly manner in which their duties have been performed, and says: "The commanders of the five military districts have executed their difficult trust faithfully, and without bias from any judgment of their own as to the merit or demerit of the law they were executing." The postmaster-general's report shows that the total receipts of the department during the last fiscal year, ending June 30th, 1867, were \$19,978,693.54; the expenditures, \$19,235,483.46; excess of receipts over expenditure, \$743,210.08. The receipts from postage have increased 6 per cent. Postage stamps to the value of \$11,578,607 were issued, and stamped envelopes to the value of \$1,290,588. The increase in postage stamps was 64 per cent, and in stamped envelopes 61 per cent. The postal routes have an extent of 203,245, and an aggregate annual transportation of 78,982,789 miles. The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows that the debt of the United States on the 1st of November, 1867, was \$2,625,502,843. Of this there was bearing coin interest, \$2,204,879,631; bearing no interest, \$402,385,848; besides over eighteen millions of Texas bonds, and other items of old indebtedness. There was in the Treasury, however, \$111,540,317 in coin, and \$22,458,080 in currency; leaving the debt, less money on hand, \$2,491,504,450. The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, were \$190,634,910. The expenditures for the civil service, including pensions, Indians, war department, navy department, and interest on the public debt, were \$346,729,129. Of this, the interest on the debt was \$143,781,591. The loans paid, as they are called, were \$746,350,525; and the receipts from loans were \$640,426,910. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 23.—The Central Committee of the Republican party of this State, nominated Chief Justice Chase for the Presidency this evening. AUGUSTA, GA., Dec. 23.—General T. W. Sweeney, who was tried by court-martial, and suspended from rank and pay for six months, has had his sentence remitted by order of the President, and has been ordered to report to Gen. Pope at 23. CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—A cold-blooded murder was committed last night, on Fifth street. An inoffensive man, named Elmore Smith, was shot by a ruffian for merely jostling against him. The wounded man expired in one hour afterward. The assassin made his escape. FOSSIL FOOT-PRINTS.—Excavations are in progress at Turner's Falls, Mass., for a flour and grist mill, and on the rocks twenty feet below the surface have been found the prints of a foot resembling those of a wolf, though larger than those made by a horse. Prints of small fishes are also found, with the eyes, fins, scales, etc., all perfectly visible. A CAUTION TO MILKMAIDS.—A man in Kentucky killed a sick cow a few days since, in whose stomach was found a large brass pin, a hairpin, and a quantity of hooks and eyes. A jury of the neighbors formally summoned for the occasion, returned an oral verdict that the unfortunate deceased (cow) had probably swallowed a milkmaid or a waterfall at some period of its adult life.—American Paper. COLORADO AT WASHINGTON.—The clerk of one of the Washington theatres sold two dress circle tickets to a colored man, one evening this week, supposing that they were for white persons to use. In the evening two colored men took their seats in the dress boxes. The audience became indignant, and deputations of the officers of the house waited on the occupants of the seats and told them they were in the wrong part of the house. They thought not, as they had paid for the seats they occupied, but the excitement among the whites of the audience continued until the negroes were paid back their money and left the house. BOSTON, Dec. 23.—There is great excitement in the neighboring town of Haverhill this morning, over an attempt to rob the Merrimac National Bank, and the shooting of officer Burnham. The fair occurred just before daylight, when a riot-shop in the neighborhood was

found on fire, and a couple of officers started to give an alarm. In passing the bank they heard an explosion inside, and apprehending a robbery, made an examination. One of the officers stationed himself at the front door, and officer Burnham went round to the rear, and as he was passing one of the side windows of the bank, a man jumped out, and, as he attempted to grapple with him, the burglar drew a pistol and shot the officer through the head, killing him instantly. No robbery, however, was effected, as the proceedings of the thief were interrupted as above described, but the thief made good his escape. MORAL EFFECT OF AN EARTHQUAKE.—The Ogdensburg Journal says:—"The more we hear of the impressions produced upon the minds of the people by the visitation of Wednesday morning, the more we appreciate its awful grandeur. Very many fervently pious people supposed that the 'Judgment Day' had actually arrived, and remained in a state of almost suspended animation for several seconds, expecting to hear the 'last trumpet sound.' In the Third ward, a dancing party suddenly broke up and departed for home and places to pray. A knot of gamblers in the lower part of the village dropped their cards, looked each other in the face and skedaddled for a refuge. Very few, in looking over the record of their deeds and misdeeds, which always pass so rapidly in moments of such fearful suspense, were satisfied with the balance sheet. THE DEATH OF HON. CORNELIUS HAMILTON, M. C.—The death of this gentleman at the hands of his insane son, at Marysville, Ohio, on the 22nd inst., is thus described:—"While feeding the stock yesterday (Sunday) morning on his farm, near Marysville, the boy stepped up behind him, and with a piece of heavy board struck him on the back of the head, killing him instantly. He then covered up the dead body with fodder, and started to kill his mother. Seizing an axe he made toward her, when a younger brother, seeing the axe in the maniac's hand, shouted to his mother to run or Thomas would kill her. She did so and escaped. The maniac then started for the brother who gave the alarm, and struck him a dangerous blow on the shoulder. A neighbor, alarmed by the outcry, ran to the rescue of the boy, caught the axe, and succeeded, with the assistance of others who had by that time reached the scene, in preventing further mischief. The insane son is now in prison, seemingly unconcerned." WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The Committee on Appropriations has had under investigation a private claim against the Russian Government for \$500,000, on account of ordnance stores furnished during the Crimean war. While that war was in progress, the Russian Government sent officers to this country to purchase arms and munitions of war.—Among the proposals sent in was one from Mr. Perkins of Massachusetts. Baron Steocki, the Russian Minister at Washington, agreed to take 150 tons of cannon powder from Mr. Perkins, and a subsequent contract was made with the same gentleman, through an ordnance officer, for 35,000 rifles. The powder was put on shipboard, and the rifles were manufactured, when the war closed, and the Russian authorities refused to take the powder or the guns. Mr. Seward refused to interfere in the matter, except to ask Mr. Clay to represent the case to the authorities at St. Petersburg, and insist on the justice of the claim. But the Russians, inasmuch as the contract was not in writing, objected to a settlement. In view of the proposed appropriation for the purchase of Alaska, the Boston firm see some chance to get their money, and are busy pressing their suit. The Committee on Appropriations is of the opinion that the claim is a legitimate one, and that it should be allowed, but they do not exactly see how to settle it. The whole matter is now in the hands of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. CANADIAN NEWS. ONTARIO. The North Wellington Times is to be published for the future in Elora. Sir J. A. Macdonald has donated £10 to the Botanical Society of Canada, of which Professor Lawson is Honorary Secretary. Mr. Otton Klotz, of Preston, is the author of a new German Grammar, which is said to be superior to the old system. Judge Kingsmill, of Bruce, received a pair of white kids from Sheriff Sutton on the 10th inst., there being no criminal business on the calendar.—Huron Signal, 26th. In London, last Saturday night, a stranger, named Gordon, was attacked in the street by two ruffians, who knocked him senseless with a slung-shot, and then robbed him of \$2,—\$71 of which was of American currency. The Almonte Gazette learns that Mr. John Belton, of Clayton, has lost his dwelling-house and contents, by a fire which occurred on last Saturday, 14th inst., originating by the very stupid practice of running a stove-pipe through the roof of his house. The St. Croix Courier thinks "the town of St. Andrews ought to erect a statue of Adam Smith, Esq., editor of the Standard, in view of his being the father of the Charlotte County Press, and for his long continued and efficient advocacy of the interests of the shire town." The Fergus News says that, during the night of Thursday last week, some dastardly wretch, having gained an entrance to Stewart's photograph rooms, scratched his two lenses with almost irretrievably injured as valued at from \$50 to \$75 in each case. The Hamilton Times says, Colonel John Thorner, whose death was announced on Friday, at the advanced age of 81 years, was one of the oldest residents of the city, and has been intimately connected with its history. He took an active part in the war of 1812, and performed distinguished service at the battle of Queenston heights and other engagements on the Niagara frontier. James Douglas, the 17th ult., the mile of Mr. James Douglas, residing about one mile south of New Durham, in the Township of Burford, was entered while the occupants were at church, and the sum of \$170, mostly in silver, stolen

therefrom. As yet no trace of the robber or robbers have been found and Mr. James Douglas has offered a reward of \$100 for such information as will lead to the detection of the thief. The Hamilton Spectator of the 23rd says:—"The funeral of the late Zachariah Hubbard, one of the unfortunate victims of the terrible railway disaster at Angola, N. Y., took place in this city on Sunday. The unfortunate man's feet and legs were burned literally to a crisp, and he appeared to have struggled fearfully for life; but, being held by the feet, his tortures must have been horrible. Excepting this, and his hands, he was not otherwise burned or injured. He leaves a sorrowing widow and three children. The Milton Champion says, on Thursday evening last a poor woman was found dead near Mr. William Perkins'. She had called at Mr. Perkins' a few minutes before, and was very civil in her behavior, although she had purchased some whiskey at Munn's Corners a short time before. She had apparently fallen over the fence into the road and perished from the intense cold. A letter on her was addressed to Mary Ann Speck, and a pin-cushion marked A. S. The Perth Champion learns that a young man named Cullen, son of Mr. Henry Cullen, of North Elmley, met with his death on Tuesday, 17th inst. It appears he had been assisting in hoisting up a newly killed cow by means of a windlass across the beams of the barn, when, by some means, his companion missed his hold of one of the arms employed in turning the machine, which instantly commenced revolving with frightful rapidity, and, sad to relate, Mr. Cullen was struck on the head with such fearful violence as to occasion his death in about an hour, one of the levers breaking his skull. He was only 26 years of age. ATTEMPTED SEICIDE.—We learn that on Wednesday last a Frenchman, who went to the neighborhood of Glencoe village on Tuesday evening, attempted to kill himself by cutting his throat with a razor. He was staying at the house of Mr. McNeil, in Mossa, and on rising early in the morning he went out to shave with his, which being given him, he razed out of doors and tried to end his life. The gash made by him in his throat was a frightful one, the wind-pipe being totally severed. When noticed, he was conscious, but could not speak intelligently. Medical aid was soon got, but it is thought impossible that he can recover. His name is not known.—London Free Press. A FIGHT WITH WOLVES.—As Mr. Adam Lawr, a teamster in the employ of some timber dealers, now shantying in the township of Essa, was passing through a cedar swamp, about five o'clock in the morning one day last week, he was attacked by a number of wolves. He at once jumped from the bob-sleigh upon the tongue, between the horses, from which place he endeavored to strike one of the wolves with his whip-stick. After hitting one of them a pretty severe blow, they fell back and left him for a short time. Pretty soon they again renewed their attack, however, with their numbers increased to nine, and seemed determined to make him their prey. Stopping his horses, Mr. Lawr got off his sleigh with the view to scare them; but the wolves, made savage by the recent cold and hunger, at once showed fight. The only weapon of defence Mr. L. had was an axe, and, with this in his hands, the battle commenced. In the tussle that ensued, the horses became frightened and started off at full speed, leaving Lawr to make the best of his circumstances. As he had started some twenty minutes or half an hour ahead of the other teamsters, the only prospect of his life was in keeping off the monsters till the other teamsters drove up. The jumping, snapping, howling, and tearing of the wolves taxed his whole energies; but, being a strong, muscular man, he was able to stand it till his comrades drove up. So intent were the animals upon making Mr. Lawr their prey, that the other teamsters came up within four or five rods before being noticed; the wolves then made off with howls. For some distance, Lawr's comrades saw the fight, and they say he was using his feet and axe, as if he was at a day's work. He was very nearly exhausted, however, when the other teamsters came up. He says he has fought in crowds previously, but he never tried his hand with wolves before. Lawr thinks the wolves were too lazy to run after anything that was smart, and hence thought they would try a lump of a Dutchman for a bellfry; but they were slipped up on it that time.—Newmarket Era, 26th. YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO.—The fourth annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association of Toronto was held at the Bond-street Baptist church, on Friday evening. The chair was occupied by Dr. Daniel Wilson, President of the Association. The Chairman addressed the meeting, referring to the value of such Associations, particularly in large cities, by assisting and encouraging the rural youth who flock to them in search of employment, as well as reclaiming those who, in the midst of strangers, and away from home influences, too often seek to relieve the tedium of their spare evenings in miscellaneous if not actually depraved company. The Secretary read the annual report of the Association, of which the following is an abstract:—"An increase of 183 has taken place in the membership since the last annual meeting, the total number now being 338,—divided into 296 active, 40 honorary, and 2 life members. Three public meetings were held during the year,—one in Bond-street church, one to receive the reports of the delegates to the Montreal Convention and the Union prayer-meeting held in Zion church, when the Revs. Newman Hall and R. B. Bagnall were present. Thirty-six meetings were held, at which essays were read. Prayer-meetings have been held regularly, every Saturday evening, from eight to nine o'clock, and the Bible-class has met regularly every Sabbath afternoon. The different committees have worked assiduously. The Bible and Tract Distribution Committee report that they have distributed, chiefly among sailors and lumbermen, 2,823 English, and 332 French, tracts 2 Testaments, and 53 portions of Scripture; 443 vessels and 26 shanties were visited, and the Scriptures read on board vessels 46 times, at which 239 persons were present. The Bethel service on board the 'City of Toronto' has been held regularly from April to November, and had been attended by over 1,200 adults, and of this number about 290 have been adults."

QUEBEC. A lodge of Good Templars has been organized at Tremblenville. The Quebec News says that Judge Aylwin presided last week in the Court of Appeals in that city with his brother judges, and took part in rendering judgments. The Quebec News records the death of Edward Quinn, Esq., of that city, which took place on the 24th instant. Mr. Quinn occupied a prominent position among the lumber-producers of the country. In 1852, he penetrated into the then almost unknown lumber-limits of the St. Maurice territory; and, by his energy and enterprise, led the way to the present state of things, so lucrative to the town and district of Three Rivers. The Quebec News learns that the Montmorenci river, between Beauport and the St. Michel and other concessions, has not yet frozen over,—an unprecedented occurrence at this date (24th instant.) The water in this river is now lower than at any time within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant"; and as the stream, when frozen, usually forms the winter road to the firewood preserves of Beauport, the inconvenience felt by the habitants of that parish is very great. Some interesting facts have been communicated to us respecting the late Mary McDonald, wife of the late Ewan McDonald, of Lancaster, U. Canada. This lady attained the advanced age of 100 years, 1 month, and 20 days, having been born in the parish of Crongard, Inverness-shire, Scotland, on the 5th of January, 1761, and having died on the 27th of February, 1861. She was married at the early age of 16. Shortly after, with her husband, she emigrated to Nova Scotia, but subsequently removed to Glengarry, Upper Canada. This venerable lady, truly a mother in Israel, had 11 children, 73 grandchildren, and 448 great-grandchildren, 17 of the next generation, and 8 of the next,—all of whom might have attended at her funeral. Of her sons, three served their king and country in the war of 1812, and thirteen of her grandsons did the same in the rebellion of 1837-38.—True Witness. COUNTY OF JACQUES CARTIER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting for the election of officers of this Society for the year 1868, was held at Pointe Claire, on the 23rd inst. The financial portion of the report was most satisfactory. The total amount of the receipts was \$989.85; \$968.09 of which had been expended for the purposes of the Society, leaving a balance in the funds of \$21.76. The report was unanimously adopted. The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers: President, Alex. Somerville, Esq., Lachine; Vice-President, Antoine Lerre, Esq., St. Laurent; Secretary, M. M. LeCavalier, St. Laurent, (re-elected). Directors—C. M. James Hodge, St. Laurent; Jean Bte. O. Martin, Lachine; James Smith, Urgele Valois, Pointe Claire; Jean Bte. DeCelles, Ste. Anne; Joseph Meloche and Isidore Daniel, Ste. Genevieve. Members for the Board of Agriculture—the Honbles J. Beaubien, M. Archambeault, Dr. J. C. Taché, and John Yule, Esqs. LOWER PROVINCES. Mr. W. I. Lorrain has been appointed Collector of Inland Revenue for Pictou County. Several grain-laden vessels have been frozen up in the harbor of Charlottetown. The Anti-Confederate papers are very indignant at the new tariff, and cry out for repeal more strongly than ever. An old colored lady, named Minnie Boyd, died a day or two since at Preston, aged 115 years. An aged woman, named McLaughlin, died at St. John, in consequence of injuries received by falling on the ice. The products of Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are admitted into Nova Scotia ports on the same terms as heretofore,—free. Launched, from the shipyard of Mr. N. Gardner, Tusket, N. S., on the 13th ult., the fine ship "Clara Killam," 566 tons carpenters' measurement, and about 800 tons register. Halifax papers state that F. W. Fishwick Esq., of Colonial Express notoriety, has purchased the gunboat "Delight" from the British Government, and proposes placing her on the western shore next season. On the 13th, a woman and a young lad fell through the ice in Pictou harbor, while attempting to cross to Fisher's grant. They were rescued by Mr. Alex. Frisler, mate of the Steamer "East Biding," who gallantly perilled his own life to save theirs. The Berwick Star says, a child of the late Mr. Kerr Fisher, of Somerset, Cornwallis, aged about two years, was so seriously burned on Tuesday, by its clothes taking fire during the absence of its mother, as to cause death in a few hours. A HEART-RENDING OCCURRENCE.—A schooner called the "Lilla Rooka" commanded by Capt. Davison, formerly of New London, and loaded with ship plank by Mr. Guay, of Lot 49, left Egmont Bay on Saturday evening last. There were on board besides Capt. Davison and Mr. Gay, a son of the captain's, a fine lad of about 17 or 18 years of age, and a sailor whose name we have not heard. After rounding Cape Egmont, a squall struck the schooner and threw her on her beam ends. The crew cut away the masts and she righted. The stove was washed overboard and the cabin was full of water, so the four poor fellows were exposed, without shelter, during the whole of that bitterly cold night, to the pitiless fury of the gale. The sea, it seems, made a complete breach over the drifting wreck, and the water froze on the men's clothes, making exertion next thing to impossible. The captain—and to this, no doubt, under Providence, he owes his own preservation—made every exertion to keep the others from perishing. But his efforts were in vain. One by one his companions, numbed by the cold and exhausted by their exertions, lay down to die, and the poor man with unutterable anguish, no doubt, saw his own peril by his side. The vessel was discovered on Sunday morning near Strang's brickyard, by some Frenchmen. Three of her crew, Gay, young Davison, and the sailor, were quite dead and incased in ice; but Capt. Davison was alive, though insensible and frozen.—Summerside Journal, 3th.

AMERICAN NEWS. A man entered a house in Savannah one night, and stole the dead body of a child. Being pursued, he dropped it in the street. The Newburyport Herald says the best of ship carpenters in that city are working for \$1.25 a day. The meeting-house in Salem, Mass., where Roger Williams preached two hundred and thirty-five years ago, is still standing. At Chicago, on the 10th, Wm. Andrews attacked Wm. Hamilton, bit a great chunk out of his lip and swallowed it, moustache and all. The Osage Chronicle, printed in Kansas, hoists the name of Horace Greeley for President, on the basis of "universal amnesty and universal suffrage." Oh, sage paper! By a law of the late legislature of Maine, phonographic reporters are employed by the State to take evidence. Business is very much facilitated by the improvement. Deer-hunting on Long Island was prohibited for five years and the term expired on the 4th instant. The animals are said to be very numerous on the east of the island.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The Committee on Appropriations has had under investigation a private claim against the Russian Government for \$500,000, on account of ordnance stores furnished during the Crimean war. While that war was in progress, the Russian Government sent officers to this country to purchase arms and munitions of war.—Among the proposals sent in was one from Mr. Perkins of Massachusetts. Baron Steocki, the Russian Minister at Washington, agreed to take 150 tons of cannon powder from Mr. Perkins, and a subsequent contract was made with the same gentleman, through an ordnance officer, for 35,000 rifles. The powder was put on shipboard, and the rifles were manufactured, when the war closed, and the Russian authorities refused to take the powder or the guns. Mr. Seward refused to interfere in the matter, except to ask Mr. Clay to represent the case to the authorities at St. Petersburg, and insist on the justice of the claim. But the Russians, inasmuch as the contract was not in writing, objected to a settlement. In view of the proposed appropriation for the purchase of Alaska, the Boston firm see some chance to get their money, and are busy pressing their suit. The Committee on Appropriations is of the opinion that the claim is a legitimate one, and that it should be allowed, but they do not exactly see how to settle it. The whole matter is now in the hands of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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

THE WITNESS.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1868.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

The rebus in the January number of the Dominion Monthly was first answered by C. S. Hamilton, to whom a copy for the year has been given. There is, therefore, no need of any further answers.

The anniversary meetings will be held in the Wesleyan church, Great St. James street, beginning on the evening of January, the 21st; and the Grand Trunk Railway Company will issue half-fare tickets to parties wishing to attend, on production of a certificate from the Rev. A. Macdonald, Secretary of the Committee of Arrangements.

Application will be made to the Parliament, at its next session, for an Act to incorporate an Agricultural Bank, to be established in the city of Hamilton.

A serious fire occurred at Halifax, in a densely crowded part of the city, on Friday morning, by which three lives were lost and several persons injured.

The opening of the Local Legislatures of Ontario and Quebec, made Friday an historical day for Canada. Confederation is a grand experiment which is now being wrought out, and we trust the result will be eminently satisfactory. This, however, will depend on the integrity and ability of the men who undertake the direction of public affairs.

Rumors were prevalent in the city on Friday that the steamship "Nova Scotian" was overdue. There was also a vague and stupid report of some accident having occurred to it. As this ship did not sail for Portland until the 18th inst., she cannot reasonably be expected on this side before some time next week.

The Gazette notices that there are fourteen dual members in the Quebec Legislature, and sixteen of the sixty-five members have served in the last united Parliament. There are no fewer than eleven doctors and a large infusion of lawyers.

We have received from Mr. J. G. Parks, photographer, several very excellent large views of localities in Montreal. Victoria Square and the fountain in Viger Square make charming pictures. The work is of a character to give it a high place even among the productions of Montreal photographers.

The Franco-Canadian, of St. Johns, states that the railroad bridge at Rouse's Point is a serious impediment in the way of commerce. Rafts have to be divided into cribs before they can be passed through the opening of the swing-bridge. Owing to this defect, it says, insurance on flour is increased one cent a barrel. The editor hopes the Government will try and have the matter remedied. It is of as much interest to the governments of the States of Vermont and New York as to us, and therefore, doubtless, a proper representation on the subject would receive their consideration.

The congregation of Rev. James Farrelly, P. P., Lindsay, Ont., have published an address to him, very numerously and respectfully signed, in which they characterize the letter of a former parishioner (Mr. John McHugh, now of Duquesne, Ill.), which was published in one of the Lindsay newspapers, as "a base and unjustifiable attack" upon the said Father Farrelly. They do not, however, deny the statement of that letter, which was the only thing we copied, namely, that the writer had been slandered from the pulpit by his priest. If Father Farrelly did not abuse Mr. McHugh from the pulpit, we shall be very happy to publish an emphatic denial of the alleged fact.

No fewer than 30,000 special constables have been sworn in and are now serving in London.

The newly appointed Minister to Washington, Mr. Edward Thornton, will sail in a few days for New York.

The Fenians of Dublin are charged with perpetrating a most brutal outrage. A number of packages have been recently sent through the post-office to prominent citizens and officials. Each one of these packages contained a quantity of explosive material, intended to maim or kill the person to whom it might be addressed.

Russia has protested against the shifting policy of France on the Eastern question.

The Pope has forbidden the Paris Rothschilds to pay the coupons on the Italian bonds.

The Sultan, it is said, has offered to the Cretons an autonomous government, with Prince Christian at its head.

The Prussian troops are being withdrawn from all parts of Saxony, with the exception of the fortress of Konigsstein.

The vague rumors circulating in Paris, respecting the Roman question, for some days past, have assumed a definite form. Twenty thousand men have been ordered to Civita Vecchia by the French Government. M. Rouher's declaration, that Italy shall never be allowed to take possession of Rome, has so reani-

mated the Garibaldian party that another expedition is being organized against Rome, and with the full knowledge, too, that it must encounter a French army. The whole kingdom of Italy has been roused to indignation against France, and it is even said that the Italian Government will shut its eyes to the fact of its soldiers, in large numbers, joining the expedition, which will be led by Garibaldi.

HORTICULTURAL.—It is the intention of the Montreal Agricultural and Horticultural Association, when the public park on the mountain shall have been decided on, to endeavor to have a portion set apart for a botanic garden.

DRINK AND MURDER.—These two have long been associated, and the shooting of a soldier, by his comrade, last week, in the Victoria barracks, is only another instance of how close is the union. A few angry or scornful words, which, but for the drink, would, perhaps, never have been spoken, causes the brain which is on fire with liquor to resolve to expiate them in the blood of their utterer, and, in a few minutes, a deed is done that hurries one into eternity, and leaves the other exposed to a speedy death on the gallows. If history is philosophy teaching by example, then the history of drink is fraught with fearful lessons, and few more fearful than is this last chapter.

BORROWING.—The most noticeable feature in the meeting of the City Council last week, was the fatal facility which a majority of the members present showed for adopting the recommendation of a loan of \$250,000 for a new City Hall. It was in vain that the minority protested against it, in the present state of the city finances. To make sure of a new City Hall on the site of the Government Garden was evidently a foregone conclusion; and, if the Local Legislature sanction it, there is no doubt that it will soon be sought to negotiate the loan therefor. Yet if there is one thing more than another that can wait, it is this new City Hall. The Water-Works question is of infinitely more importance, and so are the necessities of the Streets. The Park and Public Squares are equally urgent wants; and much more is a House of Correction, which the city may yet have to build partly at its own cost. This disposition to rush into borrowing,—at the very time, too, when a new and saving scheme of financing has to be adopted,—is to be deprecated. Till this scheme has been tried, it is impossible to say to what amount the city will need new loans; and though we do not condemn all borrowing, it is to be trusted that other requirements for our good government will be attended to before the City Hall pet shall become a charge on the community, which has children more deserving of attention than this anticipated glory in stone and lime.

Mr. McGEE.—In reply to an invitation to be present at a soiree of the Victoria Division, Sons of Temperance, at Lachute, on the 26th inst., Mr. McGee has addressed to the Secretary the following letter:—

OTTAWA, Dec. 18, 1867.

DEAR SIR,—I have been wholly unable the past three weeks to attend to my correspondence, or you should have had a prompt answer to your kind invitation of the 28th ultimo. However, that answer could not have been: acceptance, for several reasons. The chief and insuperable one is, that I do not see my way, at present, to address a meeting of temperance men, having resolved, with the aid which all men need, to give total abstinence, as we say of the ministry here, a "full and fair trial." I feel the propriety (and I assure you will agree with me in this on reflection) of giving myself sufficient time—a year or two at least—before consenting to speak publicly on the subject. In the meantime, I can assure your friends, generally, that I shall not fail to study this great question in all its social and sanitary aspects (at least); and when I can see my way to active co-operation with any temperance organization of a public character, I shall not withhold any aid in my power to give.

Believe me, dear Sir, Yours very truly,

(Signed,) T. D'ARCY MCGEE.

ALEX. MORTON, Esq., Lachute, P. Q.

OUR FIRE BRIGADE.—We formerly thought our Fire Brigade was a crack corps, and we know there are yet in it men who would earn for it that name, were all like themselves. But its prestige has passed away: and no wonder; for, if certain statements of Mr. Alfred Perry in a letter to the Gazette be correct,—and we believe they are,—the Fire Department has become really, and without a figure of speech, a refuge for the incapable and the distressed. He states, in an interrogative form, that Ald. Poupard's brother (who was discharged from the police force as incompetent) has been placed in the Fire Department, Chaboillez square, within the past thirty days; that Coun. Bastien's brother-in-law, also in the force, is unhealthy, deformed, and incapable of performing his fair share of work; and he completes the list of inefficiently by declaring that one of the men at the Court House Station has only one finger on one of his hands. Truly, if this is to be the class of recruits to the Fire Brigade, their chief will soon have as good reason to be ashamed of the whole body, as had Falstaff of his ragged squad, with whom he declared he would never march through Coventry. Two firemen were discharged for drunkenness a few weeks ago, and, Mr. P. says, since the Committee has had the appointing of the men, one-third of the total number of the force have been discharged from a

like cause. This last fact is a withering comment upon the improper influences brought to bear in the selection of these men.

IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

A suit which has recently been decided against the Fabrique of the parish of Montreal deserves special notice, both on account of its own importance and because it is one of the very rare instances in which our courts of law have decided against an ecclesiastical corporation of the Church of Rome.

The case was as follows:—The Fabrique leased a store to Mr. Samuel Edward Curry, to be used for storing goods and as a bonded warehouse, and Curry received goods on storage from Mr. Easty, which were seized for arrears of rent. The Fabrique contended that, though the law exempts subtenants' goods from seizure, it does not exempt goods or furniture belonging to third parties in the possession or charge of the tenant; but, on the contrary, as in several cases cited, renders them liable for the rent of the premises in which they are found. One of these cases was that of Jones vs. Lemesurier, in which the Court of Appeals held that goods belonging to a third party on a wharf could be seized for the rent of the wharf. It was admitted that the Code Napoléon exempted goods of a third party when it was notorious that they did not belong to the tenant; but that article of the Code Napoléon had not been adopted in Canada. The judgment of the Circuit Court—Berthelot J.—was in favor of the Fabrique's claim, and the case was brought before the Court of Appeals, which reversed that judgment upon the following grounds:—The provision of the Coutume de Paris, under which the Fabrique claimed, was founded on the presumption that the furniture, &c., found on the premises, belonged to the tenant; but it could not affect goods received in storage, which notoriously did not belong to the tenant; and to let a store for a public or bonded warehouse, as in this case, was fatal to any claim to seize the goods placed in it for storage, because the landlord had thus admitted that he did not expect the tenant to garnish the premises exclusively with his own goods. The judgment to the above effect was pronounced by Judge Drummond, but Judge Badgley went even further. He said:—"It was known to the proprietors that their tenant would put into their store goods which did not belong to him. They therefore accepted his simple responsibility, since they knew the nature of the business he intended to carry on. How, then, could they now claim privilege over merchandise placed in good faith, by a third party, in this store, when they themselves have consented to its being used as a public warehouse?"

The Nouveau Monde thinks this judgment will make quite a sensation among proprietors who let stores to warehousemen, commission-merchants, brokers and auctioneers,—all the goods of third parties in whose possession are thus freed from seizure for rent.

The judgment in this case appears to us, notwithstanding the unfavorable criticisms of the Nouveau Monde, to be in strict accordance with justice and the public interest, for the following reasons:—

1st. It is necessary and advantageous that the above named businesses should be carried on with as little impediment and uncertainty as possible, and the liability of seizure, for rent, of goods sent on storage or consignment to a warehouseman or commission merchant, would be a very great impediment to his business. The hardship to a person who sent his goods into a public warehouse or auction-store in good faith, and found them seized for rent due, probably before they went into store, would be very great.

2nd. There is no corresponding hardship to the landlord in depriving him of the privilege in such cases of seizing goods of third parties, because in letting his store for any of these businesses, he can require security if he does not see fit to accept the responsibility of the tenant.

HEAT, LIGHTING, VENTILATION.

At a time when so many public buildings are being erected, and others repaired, it may be of some service to those concerned, to call attention to these three most important considerations in every place of public concourse. They are subjects ill understood, although simple enough, if principles receive due consideration, yet difficult of judicious application in so variable a climate as that of Canada.

Let us take the Mechanics' Hall. It has lately undergone repairs, and received fresh decorations, and has also been lighted up anew with five patent "sun-burners." The heating apparatus to be supplied by hot-air furnaces; the registers from which open up at several points in the flooring. By these appliances to give light and heat, the great desideratum of good ventilation is supposed to be attained. A very little examination may show that two, at least, of these grand objects are far from being secured. In some public buildings (we refer now specially to one in Dorchester street), the stagnation of the atmosphere is extreme, aggravated by the position of the lights, which, from the poor supply of oxygen, are seen to burn dimly; while many of the audience, overcome by the narcotic poison generated around, are found fast asleep. In the Mechanics' Hall, however, the sunlight is placed high in the ceiling, and opening out, as its funnel must do, through a flue, it burns bril-

liantly, drawing towards it the surrounding air,—rapidly, however, consuming its oxygen, and passing it, by being superheated, out of the building. It is easy to see that, unless fresh air be plentifully admitted, such a means of lighting the Hall makes sad havoc with the oxygen- food of an audience. Now, the only means of admitting new supplies appears to us to be by the heated air of the furnaces. Air that has passed over a heated surface has much of its life-giving property destroyed; but, apart from that, this air is admitted towards the centre of the Hall only, consequently it ascends at once ceilingwards, leaving the heavy foul air around the sides of the room without any circulation. The sun-burner, too, is not in our estimation, a pleasant light. Its shadows are heavy, giving a ghastly look to the audience, an unnatural look to objects generally, and destroying the effect of the fresco decorations, which become heavy and colorless.

The most difficult of all places where crowded audiences may assemble are church basements, especially when used as Sunday-schools; and, as there are several churches in the city now in possession of such adjuncts, and more building, we would here point out some excellent arrangements which have been adopted in that of Zion Church. These have been well tested, and found sufficient for crowded audiences. One side of this Hall is provided with two air-shafts, which, communicating outwards, and terminating about one foot from the ground, and covered with folds of fine wire-gauze, bring down to the region of carbonic gas a constant and gentle current of fresh and wholesome air. Besides these, there are also two other flues, which may be opened at pleasure, also communicating outwards, but terminating at a greater height. On the opposite side of the room, two fire-grates are so placed as to have their vents on a level with the breathing of those present. Now, at all times, but especially when the fires are lighted, a healthy current is continually kept up. But besides these means of ventilation, there are placed, so as to open up into the church-aisles, registers, which, being also over the gas-pendants, the heated and used-up air, along with any unconsumed gases, arise directly upwards, and are carried off through the ventilating flues of the church itself.—Com.

THE MURDER AT THE VICTORIA BARRACKS.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

On Friday last, at the Military Hospital, an inquest was held on the body of James Campbell, lance-corporal of the 100th Regt., who was shot on the 27th, in the Victoria Barracks, by private G. Wilson, of the same regiment.

Patrick Nolan, private in the 100th Regt., sworn—Knew the deceased James Campbell about eight years, and also knew the prisoner, George Wilson, about a year. The deceased, the witness went on to say, prisoner, and myself slept in the same room in the Victoria Barracks. About half-past seven o'clock last night, the deceased was talking to private Sweet, and said he could lick him. Prisoner said, "You had better not; I can't stand that." Prisoner came towards the deceased in a pugilistic manner. Deceased pushed the prisoner away, so that he fell. I picked the prisoner up, and induced them to go to their beds. About ten minutes afterwards, I saw the prisoner show the rifle to O'Brien, saying to him, "You see the dent in the wood." I was lying upon my bed, nearly opposite Campbell's bed. The first thing I saw afterwards was the flash of a gun, and heard the report, and I immediately ran towards Campbell. Private Graham was there before me, and took the rifle from Wilson's hands. There was a vacant bed between the prisoner's and the deceased's. I heard the deceased say in a very faint tone, "Oh, my God, I am shot!" I saw the rifle, at the present, in the prisoner's hands.

Patrick Graham, private in the 100th Regt., testified—I belong to the same company, and board in the same room as prisoner and deceased, in Victoria barracks. I had been sleeping, but on waking I had occasion to go down stairs. On leaving the room, I heard a dispute between deceased and the prisoner, the latter saying, "I don't care a— for you or any other man in the company." Prisoner said to the deceased, "What did you push me down for?" I then left the room. About twenty minutes afterward, I returned to the room, and lay down on my bed. Soon after I heard the report of a gun, and saw the flash. The rifle was held by the prisoner, who was sitting on the side of his bed, and the rifle was pointed towards deceased. I took it from prisoner's hands. I observed that he was drunk, and that Campbell was the worse for liquor. The deceased, when he was shot, was lying on the bed with his great-coat and fur cap on. The rifles are never allowed to be loaded in the barracks. Apparently, they had previously been upon good terms.

John Meyer, of the same regiment, and boarding in the same barrack-room, confirmed the previous evidence as to both prisoner and deceased being under the influence of liquor, and, likewise, as to the particulars of the quarrel between them.

Sergeant Brown, sworn—After the deceased had been shot, he (witness) inspected prisoner's pouch, and found ten rounds of ammunition gone. He found seven of these concealed in the prisoner's bed, leaving three unaccounted for. Sergeant Clarke found two of these missing cartridges under a bed, leaving only one missing. A ball cartridge was produced, which was found in one end of the room. It had burst, and there was a fragment of cloth attached to it, and it also bore stains of blood.

Drs. Thompson and Rottot examined the body, and reported that the ball had entered the back and come out nearly in the middle of the breast. Through this opening protruded a portion of the left lung.

The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner, Wilson, and he was committed for trial at the next term of the Court of Queen's Bench.

At the recent meeting of the Montreal Agricultural and Horticultural Association, held in the Mechanics' Hall, a vote of thanks was passed to the officers and directors for the past year, after which the election of office-bearers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, W. Lunn, Esq.; Vice-President, W. Evans, Esq.; Secretary-Treasurer, J. E. Pell, Esq. (elected by acclamation); Directors—Messrs. R. Spriggins, R. Brodie, J. Nairn, T. Wall, J. Middleton, T. McNab, J. Archbold; Members of the Board of Agriculture—Hon. W. Archambault, J. Yule, J. Drummond, B. Pomroy. It was now moved by Mr. McNab, seconded by Mr. Nairn,—That this meeting, viewing with satisfaction that the proposal to form a public park on the mountain, which will make a magnificent park, is likely to be carried out, to the great advantage of the citizens of Montreal, desire to record their opinion that power should be obtained from the Legislature, authorizing the Court to name three Commissioners, for the purpose of securing the land requisite for the purpose; and that a Committee of this Society be named for the purpose of taking steps, when the park is finally decided on, of endeavoring to have a portion set apart for a botanic garden.—Carried. The Committee appointed were Messrs. W. Lunn and Chas. Alexander, with Captain Rayner. It was then moved by Mr. S. J. Lyman, seconded by Capt. Raynes,—That this Society recognizes the valuable services of the Fish and Game Protection Club, in the protection of insectivorous birds, and that the directors be empowered to grant such pecuniary aid as they may deem necessary in the furtherance of their objects.

ANNUAL SOIREE OF THE NAZARETH-STREET MISSION SABBATH-SCHOOL.—The annual festival of this school was held on Christmas evening, in the basement of St. Joseph street Canada Presbyterian Church, which was kindly granted for the occasion. The attendance of children was large, there being over 200 present; also of parents and friends, about 100. The chair was filled by George Rogers, Esq. Tea, buns, and cakes, of which there was a large supply, were served at half-past five o'clock, to which the little folks did ample justice. The arrangements throughout were complete. Several hymns were sung by the children during the evening; also two or three anthems by the choir, accompanied with the melodeon. Addresses were delivered by P. W. Torrance, Esq., Rev. J. M. Gibson, Rev. Dr. Irvine, Rev. D. H. McVicar, and Rev. Mr. Young, pastor of the St. Joseph street church,—to the delight of the juveniles. An interesting occurrence of the evening was the presentation of a handsome pocket-Bible to Robt. James Paterson, one of the senior scholars of the school, for regular attendance and marked good conduct, by Geo. Browne, Esq. The superintendent, in name of the teachers, presented a neatly-bound book to one of the junior girls of the school. The superintendent, in the course of his remarks, took occasion to return thanks to the ladies and other friends who so kindly aided them with donations in the shape of clothing and money, for the relief of the more destitute of the scholars. When the little ones took their departure, the teachers assembled and partook of refreshments, and spent a very pleasant hour together in taking a glance over the work in which they are engaged. May this school, which was commenced a few years ago with very few pupils, and now numbers about 200 on its roll, continue to go on and prosper, and may it continue to be as a light in a dark place!—Com.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.—The Quarterly Meeting of the Governors of the Montreal General Hospital, was held on the 13th of Nov. last; Mr. Morland in the chair.

The Committee of Management reported that the expenses of the quarter had been \$3,937.84, which expenditure is \$654.59 less than that of the corresponding quarter of last year. Of this sum over \$3,000 had not been paid, there being no funds in the Treasurer's hands, owing to the circumstance that the usual grant from the Legislature for the past financial year had not been received. So it would be difficult to say when further assistance from the Government might be obtained. The Committee solicited the earnest attention of the Governors of the Hospital to the finances of the Institution, with a view to the adoption of some means that should for the future more nearly equalize the income and expenditure.

The new building in process of erection for reception of fever patients, is so far advanced that it is now being roofed in.

During the quarter, 440 in-door, and 2,395 out-door patients had received the benefits of the Institution.

Of the in-door, there have been admitted during the quarter, 333; remained from preceding quarter, 107. Total, 440. Of these, were discharged, 316; died, 25; remained in 1st Nov., 99. Total, 440.

Of the discharged and deceased, there were:—Males, 226; Females, 115. Total, 341. Catholic, 161; Protestants, 180. Total, 341. Citizens, 249; Sailors, 58; Strangers, 25; Immigrants, 9. Total, 341.

Of the Out-Door, there were:—Males, 1,071; Females, 1,324. Total, 2,395. R. Catholics, 1,939; Protestants, 456. Total, 2,395. Citizens, 2,287; Sailors, 72; Strangers, 34; Immigrants, 2. Total, 2,395.

The following resolution was passed:—That the Committee of Management be requested to communicate with the Government, with respect to the unpaid grant for the current year, and to state that if, under any circumstances, grants have been made contingently to other institutions, in expectation of their being afterwards sanctioned by Parliament, this Institution present its claim for like treatment. Montreal, Nov. 14, 1867.

In Halifax, the Street Railway Company intend running covered sleighs during the winter.

A MINE OF UNTOLD WEALTH.—We are informed on what appears to be reliable authority, that the silver-mine discovered in Prince Wm., is capable of producing silver ore to the value of \$10,000 per day, and that the artimony extracted from the ore is sufficiently valuable to pay all the expenses of mining. We have been further told that Mr. Lawrence, the owner of the mine, has refused \$200,000 for a single acre of this silvery soil. He owns, it is said, a thousand acres, thinks the mine inexhaustible, and supposes himself to be the richest man on this continent.—Visitor, St. John.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE, Tuesday, 31st Dec., 1867.

The weather for the last few days has been very variable. Nevertheless, upon the whole, it has been fine and seasonable, and somewhat disposed to a healthy severity.

Greenbacks bought at 25 1/2 to 25 3/4 dis., and sold at 25 to 25 1/4 dis. Silver bought at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 dis., and sold at 4 to 4 1/4 dis.

In Toronto, Greenbacks are buying at 7 1/2 and selling at 7 3/4. For Bills of the Bank of Upper Canada brokers are paying 6 1/2 c., and for Canadian Bankers, 95 c.

Lake Superior is becoming a valuable iron-producing region. The mines near Marquette are said to have produced four hundred and fifty thousand tons of iron during the past year.

The Chicago Republic published no new sayings. Local monetary affairs presented of Friday a stringent, and not even the best names could be placed in all cases. The rates of interest at the banks and on the street were 2 1/2 per cent.

A despatch to the N. Y. Tribune of Monday last, from Chicago, reports: "That a large Southern Railroad combination is being effected, in opposition to Vanderbilt's Northern through route to the Pacific. The plan contemplates a fusion of lines between St. Louis and Philadelphia, with the Pennsylvania Central, and with the Missouri Pacific and Union Pacific from Kansas City."

We would not be surprised if the United States Congress took some steps during its present session looking towards a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty. The Northern press is all but unanimous in its views on the subject, and something will have to be done to put down present prices of food and clothing in order to relieve the pressure upon the working classes—thousands of whom are without employment in all the towns and cities, and look to Congress for some alleviation of their present desperate position.

A meeting of gentlemen interested in the Champlain Canal was recently held at Fort Edward, N. Y., in the course of which the Hon. Mr. Burdett, of Troy, thus alluded to the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the consequent loss to American trade:—"I do not forget, Mr. Chairman, that the Government has, within the last two years, taken away from us many advantages enjoyed for twelve years previously by the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. This treaty not only admitted the reciprocal exchange of the growth and production of the two countries, but it admitted manufactured lumber. Since that treaty has been abolished, in one article of lumber, the price has gone up from \$30 to \$60 per thousand feet, or more than double. The whole operation of the repeal of that treaty has been ruinous to the transportation interest connected with the Champlain Canal, as well as damaging to the best interests of the people. I hope, therefore, Mr. Chairman, without dwelling further on this point, that this treaty may be restored at an early day."

PETROLEUM.—The demand, for local consumption, is brisk, and a good deal of oil is being disposed of to local dealers. Several lots were sold by auction last week at 14c to 15c, one lot going at 13 1/2 cents. We quote No. 1 refined 15c to 17c; No. 2 do 14c to 15c; Benzine, 34c to 35c. Refiners complain that at present prices they are working at a loss of 1c per gallon.

COMMERCIAL BANK.—The bills of this bank are nearly at par in Kingston. The money brokers will give 97 cents on the dollar, or silver for bills. So quick a resumption of credit was scarcely ever known. Certainly not in Canada says the Whig.

FEARS FOR THE CATTLE.—An Amherstburgh correspondent of the Windsor Dominion writes, 17th inst., that the cattle in that vicinity are faring very poorly; no water, at least none to speak of, can be procured by the farmers residing a few miles from the river. The little they can have in barrels from the lake or river is half ice when they reach home. Fears are entertained that the cattle will go mad from the effects of licking the snow when thirsty.

BANKING AT HALIFAX.—The directors of the Halifax City Banks have come to the determination that, after the 1st January, renewals of notes falling due shall not be for more than two-thirds of original, and, from the 1st July to the 31st December, one-half shall be the minimum, and after that the system of renewing shall for ever cease.—Herald.

TRADE.—We have no important feature in any branch of business to report this week. Every branch has been remarkably quiet, the only movement being confined to groceries, which have been dealt in to a limited extent by local buyers to assort stocks. Many of our large importing houses, who usually take advantage of the dull spell, are taking stock, winding up the current year's business.—Ibid.

FINANCIAL.—The Money-market is quiet and without change. Banks are discounting fair to choice Commercial Bills at rates ranging from 7 to 9 1/2. On the street there is not much doing. Transactions in short-date paper have been done at a wide range of prices; viz., 8 to 10 for first-class names, and 1 1/2 to 2 per cent. per month, according to the class of paper. Stocks have ruled quiet; but prices generally are a

shade better than last week, and the market for Bank shares especially firm. Sterling Exchange is nominally without change. Bank and Bank indorsed 60-day bills are worth 10 1/2 to 10 3/4; the discount of the business having been done at 10 1/2. Bank rates are 10 1/2 to 11 1/2.—Ibid.

DEPRESSION OF TRADE.—All the iron manufacturing establishments in the vicinity of Wheeling and Pittsburg have determined upon a reduction of the wages of the operatives, or total suspension of work at the mills. The aggregate capital employed in Wheeling in the iron manufactures is about \$3,000,000, which, by a stoppage of the mills, will be idle, and 5,000 men will be thrown out of employment. If the laborers consent to a reduction of thirty-three per cent. on their wages, all as will continue.

THE NEW BOSTON LINE OF STEAMSHIPS.—The Worcester Spy, in noticing the withdrawal of the Cunard boats from this port, aptly remarks:—"After all, the merchants of Boston will show to better advantage supporting their own new line of trans-Atlantic steamers. The 'Ontario' of that line, which has just made the passage from Boston to Liverpool inside of ten days flying the stars and stripes is better worth the attention of the American merchant than any British vessel that ever sailed the ocean."

THE CHICAGO HOG MARKET.—In their circular of December 21, Messrs. Henry Milward & Co. estimate the number packed up to date to be 528,981, against 165,000 last season and 55,000 during the previous season, up to the same date. Concerning the receipts and shipments during the week, the Tribune says:—"The receipts of hogs for the week ending to-day, were 73,142 live and 26,453 dressed, making a total 99,595, against 149,772 for the week previous, and 141,949 for the week ending December 7. The receipts are large and somewhat in excess of the anticipations of those who were well posted. The quantity is somewhat better, as a great bulk of the arrivals is made up of hogs from the interior of Iowa, where it will not pay the farmer to market his corn, and rush his hogs, half-fattened, to market. There must be an error in the shipments of dressed hogs. The shippers have been buying with considerable freedom during the week, and more were taken than the shipments show. The figures are those reported by the various railroads to the Secretary of the Board of Trade. It is hinted in several quarters that the shipments have not been reported, to the end that the market might be retained within the influence of the 'bears.' We think it a small piece of business for railroad officers to engage in. Messrs. Milward & Co. state in their circular: 'We know of one instance in which 4,000 head were shipped by a single firm. In relation to the probable duration of the season, we are still of the opinion expressed by us all along, and find nothing to change it. It seems to us that the packing will certainly aggregate 800,000 head, if not more.'"

CAMBRIDGE CATTLE-MARKET, Dec. 24.—Cattle.—Receipts, 713 head, a difference of 612 less than last week. With present supply the market was quiet and the demand light. We found dealers not disposed to make concessions; as the weather was favorable and but few cattle, they had rather keep them over than to change prices. Quality fair. Prices of Market Beef—Extra, \$13 to \$13.50; first quality, \$11.50 to \$12.50; second quality, \$10.00 to \$11.00; third quality, \$7.00 to \$9.00. Prices of Store Cattle—Working Oxen, per pair, \$150, \$200, \$250, and \$300. Milch Cows and Calves from \$37, \$50, \$75, \$85, and \$100. Yearlings, \$18 to \$23; two years old, \$25 to \$33; three years old, \$40 to \$60.

Sheep.—The Sheep market remains comparatively unchanged, with but few exceptions. Some of the dealers talked 1c. per lb. off, but if any difference not over 1c. per lb. The supply being light, butchers bought without much hesitation. Quality hardly equal to last week; not so many good lots. Prices of Sheep and Lambs—In lots at \$1.50, \$1.75, to \$2 each; extra, \$2.50 to \$5, or from 2 1/2c. to 3c. per lb.

Poultry.—The supply of live poultry was light, scarcely reaching a ton's weight. Dressed poultry has been brought in abundantly since last market, and our markets are well supplied. We found a better quality at market than at Thanksgiving time, and prices for corresponding quality unchanged.—Boston Journal.

GLASGOW PIG-IRON MARKET, Dec. 6.—The pig-iron market has been very dull this week, and prices of warrants have further receded, 53s. 3d. one month, and 53s. cash having been accepted to-day. At the close there were sellers on the latter terms, and buyers at 1 1/2c. less. We quote No. 1 Gumbrie, 60s. 6d.; No. 1 Coltness, 60s.; No. 1 Gartsherrie, 53s. 9d.; No. 3 G.M.B., 52s. 6d.—Glasgow Post, Dec. 7.

CREDIT MOBILIER.—The extraordinary meeting of the Credit Mobilier proved somewhat different from what people anticipated, and from what the unfortunate shareholders had a right to expect. The proceedings were confined to the confirmation of Count de Seriaz (late Governor of the Bank of France) as President, named by the government, and of two other directors in place of the Messrs. Pereire, who have been "withdrawn." A statement was laid before the meeting, from which it appeared that 47 1/2 millions, out of the paid-up capital of 120 millions, had been lost. Nominally, therefore, the assets remaining would be 73 millions; but of these 60 millions are locked up in the Société Immobilière, or great Building Company of Paris (another scheme of the Messrs. Pereire), the 500-fr. shares of which are now offered at about 80 fr., those of the Credit Mobilier itself being only a little above 100. There are among the securities 56,000 shares of Spanish Mobilier, not easy to realize just now, and 18,000 bonds of the Transatlantic Company, for which the Credit Mobilier has been made to pay the paper.—Herald.

REVIEW OF THE BRITISH CORN TRADE.—The weather this week has very seasonably increased in cold, with sharp night-frosts and occasional fogs; but remaining very dry until the last day of the month, and field-work has now been got very forward, and fair preparations made for winter; but it would seem potatoes get worse, and those yet sown have become relatively dearer than bread. Under such circumstances we have been accustomed to look to Scotland, but the north has fared no better than the south this year, so we must hope for a mild season to eke out the other esculents, and it is well we can fall back upon a fair crop of hay. Thrashing has continued at about an average rate; so the lower orders cannot complain that farmers are

holding back the corn, and we see no reason for much apprehension as to the near approach of winter, as our necessities are not likely to be felt till we verge on summer, when other sources of supply are open. Prices have been scarcely supported, but this period of the year is usually dull, when payments occur about Christmas, and millers are not likely to change the land-to-mouth system lately prevailing. In France the country markets have mostly declined—say from 1s. to 3s. 6d. per qr.; but Marseilles, with large arrivals, though in calm, noted very little difference in rates. Rates in Belgium, Holland, and Germany have been tending downwards in consequence of the dull London reports. This influence has been also felt at Odessa, though without much effect on prices, which closed rather higher. In Canada, the markets have been remarkably steady; but, in New York, though some sorts of flour were dearer, the tendency was in buyer's favor, and more business in the way of exports to Great Britain would have been done but for the difficulty of obtaining vessels in conformity with orders—say for cargoes of two thousand five hundred to three thousand qrs. wheat, to call for orders at Cork. As we have had a touch of frost in our own country, and St. Petersburg is already closed, with the prospect of the entire Baltic to follow, we must look for a diminution of supplies; and, should the frost be intense, there is very little doubt that, as we get into the winter, the rates will rather advance. With hurricanes and tornadoes abroad, we can hardly expect perfect calm.

The continued dull accounts from London as respects wheat had their response generally in the count. More especially as regards inferior qualities. Several markets were down in price.—Mark-Lane Express.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

MONEY MARKET.—As the year draws to a close, the money market, contrary to the expectation of many sagacious calculators, shows an almost unexampled condition of ease, which promises to continue for a long time. This anomalous state of the money market is owing chiefly to the prudential steps which were early taken to avoid the consequences of a stringent demand for money, but also to the measures taken by Congress to prevent a further contraction of the currency. The Secretary of the Treasury has notified Senator Sherman that no contraction will take place during December and January; and after that Congress will not doubt have prevented any further contraction by law. These considerations have imparted a feeling of confidence to the business public, which manifests itself by a revival of business on the Stock Exchange, a general advance of prices of railroad stocks, and greater firmness in the prices of Government securities of all kinds. A moderate speculative feeling has shown itself; but prices are not unduly inflated; they are only beginning to advance to their natural level.

When regular ten per cent. stocks, like Fort Wayne, and Chicago, and Rock Island, are selling at one to two per cent. below par, it is absurd to say that they are inflated. It is the general opinion of many prudent and intelligent financiers that there is a large margin for a rise in most of the investment stocks now dealt in at the Stock Exchange. The last bank statement is highly favorable, much more so than could have been anticipated after the favorable ones of the two preceding weeks. There was an increase of \$3,357,154 in legal-tenders, and of \$588,823 in deposits, while the loans show a decrease of \$2,164,192. There is a decrease of specie of \$1,418,749, and of circulation of \$69,479. No changes incident to the quarterly returns of the banks on the first Monday of the next year will be likely to seriously disturb this very easy condition of the money market. But money is reputedly stringent in most of the Western cities, and there may be a small outflow in that direction; not any damaging extent to our own banks, however. Call loans were readily made on Saturday at 6 per cent, and in some cases stock-bodies had no difficulty in borrowing at five per cent. As there will be a very large amount of money disbursed in the shape of dividends after the first of next month, there will be, necessarily, a great increase of the funds seeking a permanent investment, which will have the effect of sending up the prices of all sound dividend-paying stocks. The decline in the prices in gold appears to have been permanently checked at 33 to 34; and, the shipment of coin to Europe being much less than had been calculated upon, and the arrival from Panama unusually heavy, at the close of the week there does not seem to be any great danger of a further advance.—N. Y. Independent.

DRY-GOODS.—The sudden severity of the winter in the beginning of the month brought business to an untimely stand-still; but the re-opening of communications with the country during the past week caused a revival of trade. Sales, however, have been on a moderate scale, and prices have not resumed anything like a fixed line. In many cases prices are merely nominal, and our quotations cannot be relied upon as giving the exact rates at which operations may be effected. They are as near, however, as it is possible, in the present condition of the market, to get to the truth. Agents are anxious to sell, while jobbers are not anxious to purchase; i. e., if the financial questions now before Congress should be settled, as it is highly probable they will, there will be a virtual increase of the currency, the positions of jobber and manufacturer will be essentially changed, and prices will be considerably advanced. The auction sales have consisted mainly of odds and ends and broken lots; but some of the older houses, who have facilities for purchasing low, show great confidence in making preparations for the spring trade.—Ibid.

FRIGHTS.—Freights are very dull, and rates are nominally unchanged.—New York Tribune, 24th.

DRESSED FOWL.—Chickens are very abundant, and are selling at low rates,—many tons of frozen birds at 7c. to 8c. per lb., while very few of the best fresh; each 15c. Some large holiday turkeys, of 25 lbs. each, will bring 20c., though few reach 15c. The Express Companies have so much on the way, they are engaging all the carts they can to deliver on Monday, and want dealers to keep open to-morrow (Sunday). One mammoth turkey, of 40 1/2 lbs., brought \$40 to a caterer who wished to beat every one else. In a word, the markets are heavily glutted with poultry, and sales are very slow.—Ibid.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.

THURSDAY, Dec. 26th.

Business in Stocks and Bonds has been very limited during the week. Prices, however, are well maintained. The Transfer Books of the following Banks are closed:—British North America, Merchants, Toronto, Gore, Eastern Townships, Union, Royal Canadian, and Canadian Bank of Commerce. Bank of Montreal.—The stock has again advanced in price, and sales have been effected at 129 and 129 1/2. There are now no sellers under 130. Bank of British North America.—Transfer Books closed on the 24th. A half-yearly dividend becomes payable on the 4th January. City Bank.—But little doing. Buyers at 98 1/2; sellers at 99 1/2. La Banque du Peuple.—In moderate demand at 107. Holders asking 107 1/2. Ontario Bank.—Not quite so strong, the stock being offered to-day at 99, which brings at 98 to 98 1/2. Commercial Bank of Canada.—Has been dealt in at 30; 31 is now generally asked for the stock. Merchants' Bank.—Scarce and in demand at 110. Merchants' Bank.—Nominal at 104 1/2 to 105 ex div. Bank of Toronto.—Nothing yet doing ex div. La Banque Jacques-Cartier.—Inactive at quotations 105 to 106. Gore Bank.—Transfer Books closed. Nothing doing ex div. Quebec Bank.—Nominal at 99 to 99 1/2. La Banque Nationale.—Nothing doing. Quotation nominal at 106 to 107. Eastern Townships Bank.—Books closed. No transactions ex div. Union Bank of L. C.—100 1/2 ex div. is offered, but no sales have yet taken place. Mechanics' Bank.—Inactive at quotation; 96 to 97. Royal Canadian Bank.—Nothing doing ex div. Transfer Books closed. Railway Stocks and Bonds.—Champlain old stock continues to be dealt in at 12. Nothing doing in other Railway Stocks, Montreal Telegraph Company.—Scarce and in demand at 133 1/2. Last sales were at this rate. Richelieu Navigation Company.—Quotation nominal at 103 to 105. No sales to report. City Passenger Railway Company.—Buyers at 98. Holders asking par. City Gas Company.—In good demand at 136 1/2. No stock in market. Montreal Mining Co.—Quotation nominal. Nothing doing for some time past. Canada Debentures.—Continue to be scarce. Pr. is offered for Sterling and Currency Sixes. 88 for Sterling and Currency Fives. Sellers of the former at 88 1/2. Montreal Corporation Bonds.—Have been considerably dealt in at 91. Montreal Harbor Bonds.—No Bonds in market for a long time past. Exchange.—Continues to be very scarce, and but little doing outside the Banks. 75 days date Bank Bills are worth 10 1/2 to 10 3/4,—with small transactions at 10 1/2.—Herald.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.

MONTREAL, Friday, Dec. 27.

Business dull, but probably not much more so than usual at this particular period; the turn of the year, it is reasonably expected, will (if all be well) show improvement. The Minister of Customs has, it appears, given intimation, which seems more particularly intended for the people of the Lower Provinces, that parties aggrieved by the tariff may address the department at Ottawa up to 1st March, when Parliament will again be in session and a tariff framed. Let us hope that will give satisfaction. The Lower Provinces are quite dissatisfied with new tariff arrangements, and especially with the increase of duties; but there appears to be little doubt but that even had matters continued as they were with their own tariffs would have had to be increased. The package duty is very obnoxious; and it is only common sense, as well as common decency, to have all frivolous and vexatious items on duties abolished. All petty charges, and small, as well as large uncertainties, and uncalculated for duty-payers, should not be continued in any way. Here we have a new interpretation of the tariff in one very small way lately,—it is, duty is now demanded on commodity paid abroad for buying goods. It is just as reasonable to add duty on all charges, including freight and insurance. It takes a pretty close observer to find out of the form of declaration made with entries at Custom-House, where it is stated that the goods will be referred to are at invoice cost, or fair market value at port of purchase, that this cost requires commission to be added. Our business community must bestir themselves, and take present opportunity of getting a right tariff,—that is now afforded.

Teas cannot be noted as changed here for any good grades; business has been light. Fine Japans at low prices are wanted, but such cannot be imported to sell to meet views of buyers. An increased demand may be looked for for Teas with the new year. The import for the year has been considerable, but profits of importers cannot have been heavy. There is a good stock and pretty general assortment remaining over.

SUGAR.—Moderate business to report, and no change in prices; 8 1/2c. to 8 3/4c. for Muscovades, and Refined as per list before given. The year's business in Hhd. Sugars has been light, and not remunerative. Regular imports for sale of Raw Sugars have been very light. The present vexatious and unevenly interpreted tariff has had a good deal to do with the falling off in Sugar imports by our merchants, though, no doubt, much of the change is owing to the increased demand for Refined Yellow Sugars. Prospects of the crop in the Islands generally are very good.

MOLASSES.—Little to report in sales, and prices as before. Stock is moderate. The importing of Molasses has not shown much of a margin to the importer.

COFFEES.—JAVA, 22c. to 25c.; fair moderate demand. Stock moderate. In Rio, Cape, Laguayra, and Maracaibo kinds,—little to notice. Stocks generally good.

ICE, \$4.10 to \$4.20. Import has been about as in former years. Stock held now is not heavy. Price has gradually crept up, owing mainly to advance abroad.

SPICES.—Pepper and Pimento have ruled low, and little trade of a heavy nature to notice. Ginger and Nutmegs also dull. Cassia, as noticed before, has advanced, and is in small stock with fair demand, at 32c. to 34c. Caraway Seeds are high,—13 1/2c. to 14c.

FRUITS.—Prices of Currants have ruled low for the year. Old and inferior seem at last to be getting out of favor; really good new are not plenty; 5 1/2c. to 6c. are current values for new; old, 3 1/2c. to 4c. Malaga Raisins have varied little during the year; new crop opened

at quite moderate prices and not showing a profit to importer; they continue with no change of moment as to price, and a fair stock. Valentias are in moderate demand, also at unchanged figures; quantity held over is not to say large. Almonds keep well up, but demand has fallen off to a considerable extent. In Walnuts and Filberts, trade has been about as usual. CIGARETTES.—In these articles, except Soda, there has been but little change during the year. All is not in large supply at the moment. Bi-Carb. Soda has fallen considerably during the year, until it has reached a point lower than for a length of time past. Present prices are \$4.25 to \$4.50, with fair stock; Sal-Soda \$1.75 to \$2.—small supply.

FISH.—The trade has not been a satisfactory one, on the whole. The want of inspection has told seriously against it; besides, the general dullness has effected this branch of business. A good many Herrings remain over, but most will likely be absorbed by trade during the winter. Dry Codfish also dull; fair supply. Salmon has fallen a good deal from last year's rates, and has not been selling at a profit to packers or buyers at Fisheries. In Mackerel, not much has been done. Green Codfish closed about \$4 at close of navigation.

OILS.—Cod, during the year, has fallen considerably, and is now, for heavy lots, not easy to move, even at or under 50c; 50c. to 55c. are quotations for small parcels. Seal has also fallen during the season; it is now held at 55c. to 65c. Petroleum has sold at extremely low figures. In other oils, no special change to note. SALT is now in small supply for coarse, and held at \$1.50. Fine, \$1.80 to \$2.25. Imports less than last year, and very light stock held over. It has not paid importers much until now.

Corn Exchange Daily Reports.

Furnished exclusively to the "Daily Witness."

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES.

MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 27.

Flour, per bbl. of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$8 to \$8.25, nominal; Extra, \$7.60 to \$7.80; Fancy \$7.35 to \$7.45; Superior, from Canada Wheat, \$7.20 to \$7.30; Extra Super, from Canada Wheat, \$7.30 to \$7.40; Superfine from Western Wheat, nominal; City-brands Superfine nominal; Superfine No. 2, \$6.75 to \$7.00; Fine, \$6.25 to \$6.40; Middlings, \$5.50 to \$6; Pollards, \$4.50 to \$4.75; Bag-Flour, \$3.50 to \$3.55 per 100 lbs. Market firmer. Sales to some extent at 2 1/2c. to 5c. better than yesterday.

OATMEAL, per bu. of 50 lbs.—The range is \$5.90 to \$6; very little in the market.

WHEAT, per bush. of 60 lbs.—U. C. Spring may be quoted at \$1.62 to \$1.65. PEAS, per 60 lbs.—Nominal, at 82c. to 83c. OATS per bushel of 32 lbs.—Firm, and may be quoted at 40c. to 42c. in store.

CORN, per bu. of 56 lbs.—Nominal, at \$1 in bond. BARLEY per 48 lbs.—Very firm; may be quoted at 80c. for ordinary L. C. samples.

MALT, per bush. of 36 lbs.—Latest sale at \$1.20. BUTTER, per lb.—Some sales of medium to choice dairy at 15c. to 20c.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—Market quiet; First Pots \$4.45 to \$5.50; Seconds, \$4.95 to \$5; Thirds, \$4.55 to \$4.65. Pearls steady; \$5; \$6.

DRESSED HOGS, per 100 lbs.—Receipts liberal; rates are \$5.75 to \$6.12 1/2, according to quality.

POAK, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—Mess, \$18.50 to \$18.75; Thin Mess, \$17.50; Prime Mess and Prime, nominal, at \$12.50 and \$11.50 respectively.

FINANCIAL.—Sterling Exchange firm; Bankers' 60-day drafts on London, 10 1/2 to 10 1/4 premium; counter or discount-rate, 11 to 11 1/2 premium; Best Private nominal at 9 1/2 premium. Documentary and Produce bills, 8 1/2 to 9 premium. (The rate for 60-day Sterling Exchange in New York city to-day, as reported by telegraph, was 10 1/2 premium.) Demand-drafts on New York, gold at 25 discount,—the quotation for gold in that city at noon to-day being 133 1/2.

LATEST WESTERN ADVICES.—The following are the latest Western Advices received by telegraph at the Corn Exchange:—

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 27.—Wheat, No. 1, \$1.91; No. 2, \$1.81 in store; receipts, 17,000 bush. Flour, \$8.25. Dec. 27.—No. 2, \$2.50.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—No. 2, \$1.87 in store; receipts, 6,000 bu.; shipments, 1,000 bu. Corn, 8 1/2c. in store; receipts, 46,000 bush.; shipments, 38,000 bush. Mess Pork, \$20.50.

SPECIAL NOTICES

—Jacobs' Rheumatic Liquid cures sprains.—Everybody recommends Hunt's Empire Hair Gloss.—Use Dr. Colby's pills for torpid liver.

TOILET ARTICLES.—Among the many compounds now offering to our lady friends, there are few that we can so readily recommend as those emanating from the celebrated house of Joseph Burnett & Co.,—the cocoaine for the hair, for instance.—Home Journal, N. Y.

NEGLECTED COUGHS AND COLDS.—Few are aware of the importance of checking a cough or "common cold" in its first stage; that which, in the beginning, would yield to a mild remedy, if neglected, soon preys upon the lungs. "Brown's Bronchial Trochee" or "Ocean Lozenges," afford instant relief.

TWO QUESTIONS EASILY ANSWERED.—Why should men wear beards? Because they are a great protection to the throat and lungs and add much to their personal appearance. Why should we use "Bryan's Pulmonic Wafers?" Because when used for coughs, colds, tickling in the throat, hoarseness, &c., they act like a charm. Ministers and lawyers use them, physicians recommend them, and singers and public speakers say they are the very best medicine in existence for the cure of such complaints. Sold by all medicine dealers, at 25c. per box.

## Family Reading.

[For the WITNESS.]

## MEMORIES.

Oh! is it an angel's voice  
Breathing in my ear;  
Whispering of the years ago,—  
Ever hovering near;  
Bringing olden memories  
Round my heart this night,—  
Bringing hot and bitter tears  
Blinding o'er my sight;

Bringing back my childhood  
And the "Long Ago,"  
A face of glowing beauty,—  
Ah! I loved it so;  
Bringing back the glory  
Of a summer day,  
Ne'er by me forgotten,  
Though long past away;

Bringing back the fragments  
Of an olden song,  
Floating on the breezes,  
Borne by winds along:  
Sung by lips now silent,  
Hushed their music now,—  
And the curls lie withered  
On the noble brow;

Bringing back the perfume  
Of a rosebud fair,  
Scentless now 'tis lying,  
And the giver's—where?  
Oh! is it an angel's voice  
Breathing in my ear?  
Whispering of the years ago,—  
Ever hovering near.

M. PATTERSON.

Jerusalem.

NORWOOD; OR, VILLAGE LIFE IN  
NEW ENGLAND.BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.  
THE ELM-TREE.—(CONTINUED.)

There was but one event that befel the party which filled them with astonishment, and that was the sudden and unexpected death of Agate Bissell. None out of Dr. Wentworth's family even knew that she was ailing, that under a fair appearance a hidden fire was in her heart, that would surely take away her name from among those who had so long known and loved it.

She had manifested, while Rose's wedding service proceeded, a tremulousness, as of one consciously weak, but who had determined not to give way till Rose was married. But Agate could hold out no longer. Scarcely had Rose received the salutations of her own kindred before her father called her aside and her husband also, and quite a stir arose and excitement among the crowd, as Dr. Buell, with some dignity and firmness, as if repressing a nervous tremble, approached Agate Bissell, and, taking her by the hand, walked to the very place where Rose and Barton had been standing, and stood before the excited crowd, who wondered that, even at a wedding, Parson Buell should venture on such a bold jest! Then came forth Parson Edwards Dwight Bigelow, with whom Buell had many a night held glorious wassail of theology, discussing till after midnight, whether sin was born in the nature of a child or began only when developed by action; what was the nature of generous and right actions anterior to a saving change; whether conversion stood in the act of choice on the sinner's part, or was an irresistible and efficacious influence exerted upon him *ab extra*. Over these and kindred savory thoughts they had dissipated many a night.

There stood Parson Buell and Agate Bissell, and made answer to the solemn interrogatories, and she gave away her name; and, with a blush as tender and beautiful as if she were just seventeen, she accepted her bridal kiss from Dr. Buell.

Deacon Marble was all a-tremble. The tears ran down his cheeks. "I wonder what Polly would have given to have seen this day. I guess she thinks that she died too soon. Howsoever, she couldn't help it. Well, well, well—Agate, you've took us in this time. This is the best one yet! I dew say, when I saw Parson Buell a kissin' you, I sort of shivered all over. But you stood it beautiful. But no merit, you know, no merit, cos I s'pose you're used to it, eh?"

Agate, who really looked queenly, replied: "Why, Deacon Marble, my husband never kissed me before in his life."

"You don't, now! I can't hardly b'lieve that. Dr. Buell is a nice and strict man. But courtin', you know, and engaged, why kissin' is accordin' to natur, and grace too. I kissed Polly a hundred times afore I married her, and you say that Dr. Buell never kissed Agate Bissell before?"

"Yes; I believe he kissed Agate Bissell; but he never kissed Agate Buell before!" This quite overthrew the good deacon,—he laughed immoderately, and repeated the story to every one on the ground as an instance of remarkable wit.

"Fact is, I meant to have Agate myself;—wasn't s'pry enough,—lived too far out of town. Ministers get the fust pick among the gals, anyhow. Polly would have liked it amazin'."

"Which?" said Hiram, giving him a nudge with his elbow.

"Which what?"

"Which of you two would Polly been glad for Agate to marry?"

"Good—good," said the deacon, all in a twinkle; "if it had been me was marryin' Agate, and Polly had been here, wouldn't she have had enough to say? Why she would have said 'my husband;—why, stop—if Polly'd been here, she'd a been my wife, and I couldn't a married Agate, could I? Well, that's a good one!" said the deacon, quite exhilarated with his mistake, which he endeavored to explain to several, but somehow failed to make it as fresh as when it had happened of itself.

Col. Esel seemed to have charge of Rose Hetherington, and not to be displeased with the fair Quakeress. Gallant Will Belden, who had borne Arthur out of Bull Run, hob-

bled about as if he were one of the family. There were stories about that he meant to be a member of it some of these days. In a moment's pause, Mrs. Wentworth turned to her husband.

"Ah, Reuben, if Arthur could only have been spared to see this! I should have been too happy."

Tears ran down her cheeks. Dr. Wentworth stood silent for a moment, and then, with a deep sigh, replied:

"Arthur is here—sees all, knows all, and is happier than all. Nature in us yearns for his bodily presence, his noble sunny face, his ineffable smile, the bold, tender eye; but grace teaches us to think of him," said Wentworth, wiping his eyes, "without sorrow or tears, my dear; that is,—beginning to be conscious of the tears running down his cheeks,—without any except the tears of affection—and fond memory—"

The rest of his exposition he made to his pocket-handkerchief.

Mother Taft was grown very feeble. But she was like a winter apple that grows sweeter the longer it is kept. She seemed like an overjoyed child.

"If Taft had a-lived to see this! Rose married to Barton, and then Agate Bissell married a minister, too—that's a most like goin' to heaven! To think that I carried Rose 'round in my arms the minute she was born, and a sweet child she was! I didn't dream I should be here, and see her standin' up with Barton! Maybe I shall 'tend her babies, jest as I did her. But I don't believe I shall ever live to see them married off. I am getting old; but somebody will see it. I hope they will be kind to them. Kindness goes a good ways, you know. You can coax a dog with meat, you know, when you can't drive him with the bone."

And so the kind old soul went on talking without caring whether anybody heard or not—her own voice seemed to be a comfort to her.

Every one was joyful; yet it was a joy strangely mixed. There were some absent who might have been there, and some dead who would never return! But it was a grief that fitted well with joy and deepened it. Tears smiled, and smiles wept.

As the evening came on and Mrs. Wentworth walked toward the mansion with Rachel Cathart, she said:

"Only Alice's presence was wanting to make the day perfectly happy."

"Alice," said her mother, "is very heart-sore. Life goes wearily with her. But she has determined to give her life to the instruction of the poor black children. She has gone to Lynchburgh, where his parents lived, you know, and I hope she is happier now."

But the people are dispersing. The sun is just setting. Some linger, and seem reluctant to leave. If you, too, reader, linger and feel reluctant to leave Norwood, I shall be rejoiced and repaid for the long way over which I have led you.

(Concluded.)

[FOR THE MONTREAL WITNESS.]

RECOLLECTIONS OF A CHECKERED  
LIFE.CHAPTER IV.  
DELIRIUM-TREMENS.

I had now become a confirmed tippler. My business prospered, for I was indefatigable in my attention to it. My usual course was to rise early, take a dram, then a shower-bath, a slight breakfast, and start for my office. Most likely I had another dram by the way, and, during an hour devoted to reading correspondence and the newspapers, it was usual for me to tone myself up with another drink or two, and thereafter to keep myself up to a certain point of elasticity by tipping all day. After business, heavy potations followed, requiring the shower-bath and the former routine over again next morning. It was evident to myself that I was fairly in the toils of intemperance, and I became alarmed. I had been foolish enough to believe that my habits were not fully known among business people, but this illusion was dispelled by friends speaking to me on the subject. I resolved to make an effort to stop, and that for altogether. I had been drinking, heavier than usual when I made arrangements to be away from my business for a few days. I went to my lodgings, and resolved to stay in doors till I could do without drink. What an undertaking! The first day was bad enough; the second was torture. My nerves were "nowhere," and I could scarcely lift a cup to my mouth. My mind was on the rack. I reflected on my past follies and intensified imagination aggravated them into mountains of infamy. There was also an almost irresistible inclination to drink, which I had resolved not to gratify. I could not sleep, and I believe no condemned criminal, on the eve of his execution, ever felt more real horror at his position. The third day was worse, and my mind wandered. I fancied I heard strange sounds, and my eyes which felt like balls of fire, did more than their office, for I often started, thinking I saw something alongside of me, which, on investigation, proved to be nothing. That night was fearful. Towards morning I dozed a little; and, when day-light came, I started from a half-sleep with a choking sensation in my throat, and fell on the floor in a kind of faint. With an effort, I retained consciousness, and, calling a young man from the adjoining room, requested him to run to a friend of mine, not far off, and request him to come with a doctor. Both soon arrived, and the medical man at once comprehended the state of the case, for he had been in the navy, and had seen many cases of the kind. He immediately ordered some brandy to be given me, instructing my friend to remain by me, and, in case of relapse, to administer more brandy until his return with medicines. He returned, and first gave me some cathartic compound, and left instructions that I should be given some other medicines, which I understood were of a strong narcotic nature every two hours. I got through the day tolerably well, but towards morning my troubles began in earnest. I shall describe them minutely as a warning to

others, as indeed all this narrative is meant to be.

It is a strange thing, but nevertheless true, that persons suffering from this most horrible disease very rarely see anything that is agreeable in their delirium. Their visions are of a painful kind, and, for the time being, are terrible realities. Another still more remarkable thing is, that, after recovering, they remember all those scenes through which they have passed in imagination,—a circumstance which does not occur in the case of almost any other delirium. Well, as I said, towards evening my troubles began in earnest. I was alone in my room, my friend having left for a short time to attend to some business. While walking about the room, I saw an immense rat run across the floor and get inside the grate, which was empty, it being summer time. Now, if there is any animal which I abhor, it is a rat. The rat having taken possession of the grate as a rostrum, began to squeal, on which a whole family of the race gathered round him, and commenced dancing in the most harmonious manner. I rang the bell furiously, and ordered the servant to send up the landlady. On her appearance, I began to upbraid her with not having previously informed me that her house was so overrun with rats, to which she replied that she had never seen one in the house. I pointed to the fireplace, and asked her if she did not see that patriarch of his race making faces at her. She smiled, left the room, and in a short time my friend and the doctor arrived. I complained to them of the rats; they looked knowingly at each other, made me undress and go to bed. But no sooner had my head touched the pillow than a rat gave a most unearthly squeal and scrambled from below it. The bed, in short, was swarming with rats, that ran over me in all directions, their long life-like tails sticking out everywhere. By and by the rats disappeared and I heard some of my most intimate friends in the next room talking of me in the most disrespectful manner. I called on them to prove their assertions, but was answered that I had for ever forfeited the position of a gentleman, and should enjoy their friendship no longer. Then there came an infuriated crowd of the street-dame, demanding that I should be delivered up to them for an offence of which I knew I was innocent. The police interfered to protect the house; and, fire-arms and swords being used, a great many were killed on both sides.

My friend got me smuggled out of the house by a back-door and taken to a hotel, where I used to live, in another part of the city. All the time I heard the cry of the infuriated rabble close at our heels, and heard the report of the fire-arms that were being used in the riot. At last I got to the hotel and was at once concealed between two feather-beds, where I was nearly suffocated, while every now and then I got a stab from a sword or other sharp instrument thrust through the bed. After having been hunted from concealment to concealment in this way, for a long time, I had a little relief. My friend came and told me that the rabble had dispersed, on his assuring them that I was dead and that he had arranged to have me buried immediately in Greenwood Cemetery. Accordingly, I was put into a coffin with a small breathing-hole in it. I felt myself carried down stairs, heard the execrations of some and the commiserations of others at my fate, felt my coffin shoved into a hearse and the door banged to.

Presently, however, the lid of my coffin was removed, and my friend smiled upon me. Never was such a cheerful-looking hearse before. There was plenty of light, and all around were dishes of prairie chickens, grouse, quail, and all kinds of game; while bottles of claret, hock, champagne, and every kind of wine, were lying in a pile at the far end of the hearse. I made a bound for this wine cellar, but it eluded me, and appeared at the other end of the hearse, while my friend, hitherto faithful, laughed at my disappointment. Again, by some means, the crowd had learned the trick played upon them, and were in full cry after us again. This brought my friend once more to his allegiance, and the hearse went off at railroad speed. We reached the East River, and, by some means, drove straight on board a large ship lying at the pier. She was instantly cast off, and we were carried without sail or steam up the river. But our pursuers were not to be baffled. We saw the river swarm with small boats full of excited enemies, who still kept about the same distance behind us. After sailing in this way for some distance, we came to a slip with rails running into the river. Our vessel sailed up towards those rails. A steam-engine was attached, and away she went like a railway carriage, at the rate of sixty miles per hour. The speed must have been greater than this, for our trouble now was to get breath. We seemed to be flying, and left our pursuers far behind. Presently our ship was transformed into a sledge drawn by four black horses. An imp of a most diabolical aspect was driver, and we were pursued by hundreds of wolves in the true Siberian style. This agony lasted long, and was followed by an almost endless succession of others, all of an equally painful character. In fact if I were able to describe them properly, they might not inaptly be taken as an imitation of Dante's "Inferno" in prose.

At last, one bright summer morning, I awoke with a great joy at my heart, and a sense of escaped peril behind. I began to speak to the nurse about those awful dangers through which I had passed, when he kindly asked me not to distress myself, as I had been very ill, and that he would explain everything to me by and by. That evening I was quite well but weak, and the doctor, and my faithful friend, who had been with me almost day and night, explained to me that I had been over nine days in delirium, during which time I had neither ate nor slept. The night before, they had given my case up as hopeless, and my friend, with tearful eyes, had gone home, as he said he could not stay to see me die. The nurse told me; but after midnight I had fallen into a quiet sleep, and after four hours awoke, saved.

From the remarks I made to the imaginary individuals with whom I was conversing, those about me saw plainly the horrid torture I suffered in mind, and the body, sympathizing with its companion, was reduced almost to a skeleton. In a short time, strength returned; and the impression made by this fearful sickness gradually faded from my mind. One would have thought, after such a warning, I would have abandoned drink altogether, but such was not the case. My doctor advised me to take a glass or two of beer to dinner and supper, and it was not long before I ventured further. Let others beware, for, in my case, it seems as if this attack had permanently injured the constitution and the brain; for ever since then, a day's excess will destroy my nervous system, and, so far as temperance is concerned, completely deprive me of self-control; so that, once inebriated, there is no cessation to indulgence till health or opportunity is gone. Total abstinence is the only course for me; and for others, in similar circumstances, there can be no doubt it must be the best also. Yet, with this mature conviction, I have often been beguiled into the idea that I could control myself and take a moderate glass like my neighbors. Vain thought! In every instance the experiment has resulted disastrously. Let me earnestly say to all who are struggling with this fearful and most enslaving habit, there is only one way of returning to the proud manhood of former days, and that is by total abstinence.

(To be Continued.)

## THE ART OF NOT HEARING.

The art of not hearing is fully as important to domestic happiness as a cultivated ear, for which so much money and time are expended. There are so many things which it is painful to hear, many of which if heard will disturb the temper, and detract from contentment and happiness, that every one should be educated to take in or shut out sounds at will.

If a man falls into a violent passion and calls me all manner of names, the first word shuts my ears, and I hear no more. If, in my quiet voyage of life, I am caught in one of those domestic whirlwinds of scolding, I shut my ears, as a sailor would furl his sails, and, making all tight, scud before the gale.—If a hot and restless man begin to inflame my feelings, I consider what mischief these sparks might do in the magazine below, where my temper is kept, and instantly close the door.

Does a gadding, mischief-making fellow begin to inform me what people are saying about me, down drops the portcullis of my ear, and he cannot get in any further. Some people feel very anxious to hear everything that will vex or annoy them. If it is hinted that any one has spoken ill of them, they set about searching and finding out. If all the petty things said of one by heedless or ill-natured idlers were to be brought home to him, he would become a mere walking pin-cushion, stuck full of sharp remarks. I should as soon thank a man for emptying on my bed a bushel of nettles, or setting loose a swarm of mosquitoes in my chamber, or raising a pungent dust in my house generally, as to bring upon me all the tattle of spiteful people. If you would be happy when among good men, open your ears; when among bad, shut them. It is not worth your while to hear what your servants say when they are angry; what your children say after they slammed the door; what a beggar says whose petition you have rejected; what your neighbors say about your children; what your rivals say about your business or dress.

I have noticed that a well-bred woman never hears an impertinent or vulgar remark. A kind of discreet deafness saves one from many insults, from much blame, from not a little apparent connivance in dishonorable conversation.

## SELECTIONS.

—The noblest spirits are those which turn to heaven, not in the hour of sorrow, but in that of joy; like the lark, they wait for the clouds to disperse, to soar up into their native element.

TO-MORROW.—The day when misers give, when idlers work, and when sinners reform.

A POPULAR FALLACY.—It is commonly thought that there is much nourishment in beer, but the eminent chemist Liebig informs us that 1,460 quarts of best Bavaria beer contain exactly the nourishment of a two and a half-pound loaf of bread! This beer is very similar to the famous English Allsopp's, and our more popular American beer. The fact is, the nutritious portion of the grain is rotted before beer can be made; and if the fermentation of the beer has been complete, Prof. Lyon Playfair declares that no nourishment whatever remains in the fermented liquor; and, as the English *Alliance News* says, "No chemist now disputes these assertions; for, except in flavor and amount of alcohol, the chemical composition of all kinds of beer is alike, and brewers must laugh to hear doctors advising porter as more nourishing than beer, when porter is nothing but beer colored by burnt malt; and often when beer goes wrong in the making, and is unsalable as beer, it is converted into fine porter, the mere coloring covering many defects!"—*The Nation*.

LANGUAGE OF BEES.—It is surprising how soon a single bee will impart information to a whole family. For instance, place a piece of honeycomb, containing honey, where a single bee will find it; that bee will fill its sack, and fly away to its hive, and soon return with several other bees. These will return to their hive laden with honey, and soon come back with a score, or more, of bees; and in about half an hour thousands of bees will be employed in securing the honey. By what particular method, bees give information where honey is to be found, has never been discovered. It is not by sight, nor by smell, that they discover it, because when honey is

placed directly in front of a hive, and within a few inches of where hundreds of bees are flying about, not the least notice is taken of it till some have alighted by chance upon it, when the information is soon imparted to the family that is there, and in a few minutes there is a rush of bees to secure the treasure.—*Miner's Rural American*.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER.

JOHNNY AND HIS AYAH.

"ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU."

Can any of my little readers tell me where these words are to be found, and who spoke them?

Yes; they are in the Bible, and were spoken by the Saviour; and he meant to teach us that God is a hearer and answerer of prayer.

Does God only hear grown-up people? Does he not also hear little children?

Yes, he does; and the story I am going to tell you is one of many instances that God hears and answers the prayers of even little children.

There lived a lady in Madras. Can my little friends tell me where Madras is?

Yes; it is in India, where many English people live amongst a multitude of heathen and Mohammedans. This lady had several children, and she brought them up to know and love God. One day, a poor native woman came to her begging. She looked very poor, was very dirty, and in rags. The lady said to her, "This is a very idle way of getting your living. If I give you something to-day, you will again be hungry and in want to-morrow. Why don't you work for your bread?"

The poor woman said, "I don't know what to do."

The lady asked her who she was, and whether she had any children.

She said, "I am the widow of a Sepoy (or black soldier), and I have no children."

"Well, then," said the lady, "suppose you come into my house, and help my ayah (or black nurse) to take care of my children."

The woman said she would be glad to do so. So Hoossainee—for this was the woman's name—came the following day; and having cleaned herself, and put on decent clothes, she entered upon her duties.

She was a Mohammedan, and believed that Mohammed was the prophet sent by God. She did not know the true God and Saviour; but, after she entered the lady's service, she heard the Bible read by the Scripture-reader, who used to visit the house regularly to read the Bible to the servants in their own language.

Hoossainee was very grateful to the lady, and proved diligent and faithful. After she had been some time in the lady's service, the lady rewarded her for her good conduct by giving her the entire charge of one of her little boys. Thenceforth she was little Johnny's ayah, or nurse. Hoossainee was very kind to Johnny, and the little boy became very fond of her.

One day, when he was reading to his mamma, and she was speaking to him about the love of Christ to sinners, and what a precious Saviour he is to those that trust in him, Johnny said, "O mamma! I wish Hoossainee was a Christian. Do you think, mamma, if I asked God, he would make Hoossainee a Christian?"

His mamma replied, "God is a hearer and answerer of prayer, my dear; and I doubt not, if you pray to him, he will hear and answer you."

Immediately Johnny went on his knees, and said, "O God! make my dear Hoossainee a Christian for Jesus' sake." Then he added, "Mamma, I intend to pray this every day."

Johnny continued to pray for his nurse.

After some time, Hoossainee came to her mistress one day, and said, "Please, ma'am, may I speak with you?" The lady listened; and she continued: "I wish very much, ma'am, to be a Christian."

The lady replied, "I am delighted to hear it, Hoossainee; but it will be necessary that you should be perfectly instructed, and that some missionary, who knows your language, should see that you understand what it is to be a Christian, and what is required of a Christian, before you can be baptized. I will send you to a good missionary."

The lady then sent for her little boy, and said, "I have something to tell you, Johnny, that will make you very glad."

"O mamma! what is it? Do tell me! do tell me!"

"What have you been asking God for, my dear?"

"That Hoossainee may be a Christian."

"Well, my dear, I hope God has heard and answered your prayer."

My little readers may imagine what joy Johnny felt when he heard the good news.

His mother said to him, "If you had asked papa for anything, and he gave it to you, what would you do?"

"I would say, 'Thank you.' O mamma! I understand what you mean. Since God has given me what I asked for, I should thank him."

So Johnny knelt, and returned thanks to his heavenly Father for having heard and answered his prayer for his dear nurse.

The missionary was satisfied that Hoossainee was sincere and in earnest; he therefore baptized her, and gave her the name of Mary.

Now, my little friends, you must remember that this lady had several heathen servants; yet it pleased God that Hoossainee should be the one to whom he gave "a new heart and a new spirit" in answer to the prayers of a little child.

Should not this encourage you to pray for your own souls and for the souls of others, and to continue in prayer? for, if we were in earnest, we do not only ask once or twice, but we continue to ask till we get what we want. God loves this persevering faith, and will always reward it.—*London Children's Friend*.

The Miscellany.

THE BRIDAL WINE CUP.—A THRILLING SCENE.

"Pledge with wine—pledge with wine," cried the young and thoughtless Harvey Wood: "pledge with wine," ran through the bridal party.

The beautiful bride grew pale—the decisive hour had come. She pressed her white hands together, and the leaves of the bridal wreath trembled on her brow; her breath came quicker, and her heart beat wilder.

"Yes, Marion, lay aside your scruples for this once," said the Judge, in a low tone, going towards his daughter, "the company expect it. Do not so seriously infringe upon the rules of etiquette; in your home do as you please; but in mine, for this once, please me."

Every eye was turned towards the bridal pair. Marion's principles were well known. Henry had been a convivialist; but of late his friends noticed the change in his manners, the difference in his habits,—and to-night they watched him to see, as they sneeringly said, if he was tied down to a woman's opinion so soon.

Pouring a brimming cup, they held it with tempting smiles toward Marion. She was very pale, though more composed; and her hand shook not, as smiling back, she gracefully accepted the crystal tempter, and raised it to her lips. But scarcely had she done so, when every hand was arrested by her piercing exclamation of "oh! how terrible!"

"What is it!" cried one and all, thronging together, for she had slowly carried the glass at arm's length, and was fixedly regarding it as though it were some hideous object.

"Wait," she answered, while a light, which seemed inspired, shone from her dark eyes, "wait, and I will tell you. I see," she added, slowly, pointing one jewelled finger at the sparkling ruby liquid—"a sight that begets all description; and yet listen—I will paint it for you if I can. It is a lovely spot; tall mountains crowned with verdure rise in awful sublimity around; a river runs through, and bright fountains grow to the water's edge. There is a thick warm mist, that the sun seeks vainly to pierce. Trees, lofty and beautiful, wave to the airy motion of the birds; but there—a group of Indians gather; they sit to and fro, with something like sorrow upon their dark brows. And in their midst lies a manly form,—but his cheek how deathly, his eye wild with the fitful fire of fever. One friend stands beside him—nay, I should say kneels, for see, he is pillowing that poor head upon his breast.

"Genius in ruins—oh! the high, holy looking brow! why should death mark it, and he so young? Look how he throws back the damp curls! see him clasp his hands! hear his thrilling shrieks for life! mark how he clutches at the form of his companion, imploring to be saved. Oh! hear him call piteously his father's name—see him twine his fingers together as he shrieks for his sister—his only sister—the twin of his soul—weeping for him in his distant native land.

"See!" she exclaimed, while the bridal party shrank back, the untasted wine trembling in their faltering grasp, and the Judge fell, overpowered, upon his seat—"see! his arms are lifted to heaven—he prays, how wildly, for mercy! hot fever rushes through his veins. The friend beside him is weeping; awe-stricken, the dark men move silently away, and leave the living and the dying together."

There was a hush in that princely parlor, broken only by what seemed a smothered sob, from some manly bosom. The bride stood yet upright, with quivering lip, and tears stealing to the outward edge of her lashes. Her beautiful arm had lost its tension, and the glass, with its little troubled red waves, came slowly towards the range of her vision. She spoke again; every lip was mute. Her voice was low, faint, yet awfully distinct; she still fixed her sorrowful glance upon the wine cup.

"It is evening now; the great white moon is coming up, and her beams lie gently on his forehead. He moves not; his eyes are set in their sockets; dim are their piercing glances; in vain his friend whispers the name of father and sister—death is there. Death—and no soft hand, no gentle voice to bless and soothe him. His head sinks back! one convulsive shudder! he is dead!"

A groan ran through the assembly, so vivid was her description, so unearthly her look, so inspired her manner, that what she described seemed actually to have taken place then and there. They noticed also that the bridegroom hid his face in his hands, and was weeping.

"Dead!" she repeated again, her lips quivering faster and faster, and her voice more and more broken; and there they stood him a grave; and there, without a shroud, they lay him down in that damp, reeking earth. The only son of a proud father, the only idolized brother of a fond sister. And he sleeps to-day in that distant country, with no stone to mark the spot. There he lies—my father's son—my own twin-brother!—a victim to this deadly poison. Father," she exclaimed, turning suddenly, while the tears rained down her beautiful cheeks, "father, shall I drink it now?"

The form of the old Judge was convulsed with agony. He raised not his head, but in a smothered voice he faltered—"No, no, my child—no!"

She lifted the glittering goblet, and letting it suddenly fall to the floor, it was dashed in a thousand pieces. Many a tearful eye watched her movement, and instantaneously, every wine-glass was transferred to the marble table on which it had been prepared. Then as she looked at the fragments of crystal, she turned to the company, saying, "Let no friend hereafter, who loves me, tempt me to peril my soul for wine. Not firmer are the everlasting hills, than my resolve, God helping me, never to touch or taste the poison cup. And he to whom I have given my hand—who watched over my brother's dying form, in that

last solemn hour, and buried the dear wanderer there by the river, in that land of gold, will, I trust, sustain in me that resolve. Will you not, my husband?"

My ladies, I have nae mair to tell. Suffice it to say, that there was great grief in New-haven,—Rachel weepin' for her bairns, and wouldna' be comforted. In the hour of my trial, I bood' down my head and wept, but I kent that He wha' made us a'kens best how to guide what He has made. I prayed for my guidman's safe return. But God kent what was best for him, and so took him to Himself. I trusted in Him then, I trust in Him now, and I shall trust in Him as lang as I am living.

JANET MURRAY'S STORY; OR, THE PERILS OF FISHERMEN.

The following touching story was told to a company of ladies, as they sat on the shore of one of the Firths in North Britain, by an old woman who was often seen seated on a rock by the hour and straining her eyes seaward. The Scotch dialect rather adds to its effect than otherwise.

The herring fishing was over about a month, and my guidman—that's my husband, ladies—had laid by a guid pickle siller, and we had sketched out a lot o' plans for the future. My guidman was thinking about buying a new boat, although the auld one was no sae muckle the waur for wear; I was thinking about asking him for a new Sunday's goon; in short, we were biggin' thousands o' castles in the air on the foundation o' the guid herring season. Hech! hech! ladies, it's an awfu' truth that man proposes, but God disposes; the auld boat wasna' to mak' room for the new one, and my braw Sunday's goon, which, if I had had my choice, would have been as bright as a rainbow, was chan'ed into black—black as nicht, as sorrow, and as death!

There was a grand fishing o' the haddock, and the money in my purse was growing bigger every week, for the weather was at its best for many years, and the fish were plentiful.

Aweel, and aweel! on the nicht o' the fifteenth o' December, 1812, after I put the lines in order, and my guidman had ta'en his supper, aff he gangs frae the harbor wi' the boat and four or five young chiefs as ever ye set e'e upon, for a crew.

There wasna' muckle fear o' rough weather, although the sun had gone down rather redder than was to be desired. Some o' the new-married wives, and some o' the lassies soon to be married, used to gang doon to the harbor and see their guidmen and their sweethearts awa'. I was lang past that sort o' thing, not that my love was less, but that my confidence was greater, seein' it had been tried, found true, and through the lang period o' fourteen years. As I was tying up the house afore gangin' to bed, I heard the boats cryin' toane anither as they were workin' oot into the Firth. Then I knelt doon and prayed to Him wha hauls the sea in the hollow o' His hand, to Him wha walkit on the waters, and stilled stormy waves,—I prayed to Him to keep watch and ward on my guidman, and, if it was His will, to send him hame safe to me.

Prayer is a grand thing, ladies; it comforts us in affliction, it makes our joys a' the greater, and our hopes a' the stronger; ay! that it does. To bed I went, and the light o' the fire loupin' up and down sune set me asleep. How lang I sleepit I canna say, but I was wakened wi' a roar like thunder. It was the wild wind sweepin' ower the roof. Siccan a nicht it was! I had had my guidman oot in many a storm before, so I comforted mysel' wi' thinkin' that he would maist likely mak' for North Berwick or Dunbar when he saw the weather beginnin' to turn. I wasna' frightened, yet I couldna sleep for the roarin' o' the storm. Mornin' came. I went doon to the shore, and a' the wives and sweethearts o' Newhaven went wi' me. There was a heavy fog on the sea, so thick that we could just see the far end o' the pier. Naething mair was to be seen but the muckle waves loupin' and dancin' on the rocks and sands. Eastwards and westwards we lookit,—naethin', naethin', my ladies, but the fog and the angry roarin' sea—not a single boat. Weel, we spoke muckle as to how our guidmen and the lassies' lads would hae done. It was settled among us, without a doubt, that they had gane intil North Berwick or Dunbar, and so we expectit that in the afternoon they would ma-be tak' the road and come hame to comfort us. In the afternoon, me and the rest o' the women folk that could be spared took the road and went as far as Musselburgh to meet our guidmen and lads. The rain was poorn' doon like a waterfa'; but what was that to us; for we were lookin' for what was a' the world to our bosoms, and through wind and rain we went to find it, and we neither felt the cold nor the showers.

Coldly and grayly the short day went doon intil the west. Darker and darker grew the gloamin'; but no' a word o' them we loved afore a' the world. The nicht closed in at lang and last, but no' a sound o' the welcome voices!

Eh! my ladies, often and often have I said ower to mysel' the bonny words: "My guidman's foot has musie in't As he comes up the stair."

But my guidman's footfa' was never mair to brighten the sunshine of our lang-wedded summer. Two days passed awa', and the big waves, as if mockin' our sorrow, flung the broken spars o' the boats up along the shores.—There was weepin' and wailin', when we saw them, or in the grand words o' the great Book, there was "lamentation, and mourning, and woe." We kent then that we nicht look across the sea, but ower the waters would never blink the een that made sunshine around our hearths; ower the waters would never come the voices that were mair delightin' to us than the music o' the summer winds when the leaves gang dancin' to their song.

His glistening eyes, his sad, sweet smile, was her answer. The Judge left the room, and when, an hour after, he returned, and with

a more subdued manner took part in the entertainment of the bridal guests, no one could fail to read, that he, too, had determined to banish the enemy at once and for ever, from his princely home.

Those who were present at that wedding can never forget the impressions so solemnly made. Many, from that hour, renounced for ever the social glass.

DESCRIPTION OF HOLLAND.—FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

AMSTERDAM, Holland, Nov. 20, 1867.

I am sure that every boy and girl would take great pleasure in visiting Holland, it is such a queer, strange, funny place, and the scenes so odd and curious. There are such scenes as cannot be found any where else in the world. Most of the boys in New England carry knives in their pockets; and I dare say that there is not a lad among all of them who may read this letter who has not whittled out a windmill, or at least a whirligig; but there are more windmills here than they ever dreamed of,—windmills in the towns and cities, out in the country, and all along the shore of the sea,—all in motion wherever there is wind enough to turn them. Yesterday I could see nearly a hundred at a time. It was a gusty, breezy day, and the storm clouds were flying in from the German Ocean, and there was a tremendous commotion among the windmills. Each one seemed to be trying to whirl faster than the other.

Undoubtedly you have read of the exploits of that crazy knight, Don Quixote, who saw a windmill, and thought it was a giant, and went at it full tilt, and got tumbled into the dirt by the great fans, which went round and round just as if nothing had happened; but if he were alive in these days and were to visit Holland he might think with good reason that the land was full of giants.

WHAT THEY ARE FOR.

You wonder, perhaps, what the people of this country can want of so many windmills; but let me tell you that if it had not been for these mills in the past there would be very few people in Holland now. The windmills, in one sense, have made the country what it is. Looking upon your map of Holland you will see that the river Rhine, which has its source away south in the centre of Europe among the mountains of Switzerland, here reaches the sea. When it gets within about one hundred miles of the sea, it splits itself into a dozen or more channels,—all of which, after winding and running through a great marsh, pour their waters into the ocean. Holland, therefore, was once a great marsh or bog. There are very few stones in the country; there are no mountains or hills, but one dead level of marsh land.

Hundreds of years ago the people who lived near the mouth of the Rhine saw that the marsh land was very fertile, for the silt in the river brought down every year from the mountains made the land very rich; they saw also that if they could only get rid of the water on the marshes they might lay out cabbage gardens and little farms. They commenced by building dams here and there,—one on the branch of the Rhine called the Rotter, and the place in time was known as Rotterdam; another on the Amstel, which was the origin of the name of this city—Amsterdam. So all the dams in Holland came, not because the people were in the habit of using wicked words, but because they built dams on the streams. But the water soaked through the embankments, and every rain made their gardens wet; they dug ditches, into which the water settled, and then conceived the idea of building windmills for pumping the water into the river.

They set one of the forces of nature—the wind—to work against another force—the rain; and as a gust of wind will turn several thousand of mills just as easily as it does one, they have conquered the rain,—have forced the great river Rhine to quit the marshes, and have begun to pump the ocean dry!

That is the meaning of all those giants swinging their arms from one end of the year to the other—day and night—whenever there is a breath of air.

THE COUNTRY.

To see the country as it is, imagine a great embankment along the shore of the sea, against which the waves are always dashing. Walking along the embankment you notice that the land is ten, fifteen, twenty, even thirty feet lower than the sea. You can hardly realize that these gardens, green with cabbages, turnips, cauliflowers, and other vegetables, were once the bed of the ocean; that the waves rolled miles and miles inland; that vessels once sailed where farm houses now stand; that fishermen let down their hooks and nets above those meadows. But so it has been, and the story of the rise and growth and pumping out of Holland is one of the most interesting in all history. It shows us what enterprise, intelligence, perseverance, and hard work will accomplish.

It would give you a strange sensation to sail up the river from the ocean in a steamboat, or in a ship, and find yourself so high above the houses that you can almost look down the chimneys; also to see the cattle and sheep feeding down below, and men catching fish above!

Were it not for the wind-mills, the river, the ocean, and the rain would soon flood the fields and meadows and set all the houses afloat; but, because the mills are almost always going, the boys and girls of Dutchland sleep securely at night, go to school, eat three meals a day, play in the streets, go to church on Sunday, without ever dreaming of any danger.

Once there was a terrible disaster; a dam gave way and the water came pouring in, covering the meadows, drowning cattle and sheep, sweeping away farm-houses, villages, and towns, destroying many lives and, making sad havoc. But the people filled up the breach, set the wind-mills a-going, pumped the whole country dry again, and ever since have taken good care to keep all the embankments strong and in repair. There is a saying that "eternal

vigilance is the price of liberty," but here in Holland it is the price of life. Men are on the watch all the time to see that there are no weak places in the embankments. They are paid by government, and have control of all the mills. They wage constant warfare with the ocean, at a cost of nearly three million dollars every year; but, with the wind for an ally, they are enabled to keep the marshes drained, and have transformed the bogs into beautiful meadows, pastures, orchards, and gardens, and built villages and towns below the level of the sea.

SCENES ON THE CANALS.

The country is cut up by canals,—some deep enough to float the largest of ships, others small and narrow. You see hundreds of boats. Stand with me on the bank of the great canal which leads from the city of Amsterdam to the ocean and see the crafts. A boy riding a horse trots past us,—the horse towing a *Trekschuiten*, a packet boat, a canal omnibus or stage which plies between Amsterdam and the adjoining villages. A man stands at the helm, and his good wife is in the cabin dealing out bread, cheese, and beer to the passengers, who are eating, chatting, laughing, and smoking. The boat skims lightly over the water, and is far down in the bend of the canal, almost before you have had time to see what the people are up to on board.

Here comes a lazy lumbering craft, almost as broad as it is long, with a man and boy tugging at the tow-line. It is loaded with mud scooped up from the bottom of the canal. They are taking it out into the country to spread it on the land. Here is a family craft,—a boat which is at the same time a house,—the owner, with his wife and children, living on board. The father is tugging at the tow-line. The air is still to-day, and he is obliged to pull the boat along the stream; if it were breezy you would see him hoist the sail and go scudding away. His wife has a long pole in her hands, and is pushing with all her might to help her husband; and their two children, a boy and girl, are steering the craft. They live on board,—eat and sleep there in a little close cabin. Here they are to-day, tomorrow they will be at Haarlem, and the day after at Leyden perhaps, and next week will be here at Amsterdam again with a cargo of potatoes, or of something else. Now a schooner, then a barge, and then a ship,—her masts tall as church steeples,—the sailors in the shrouds getting ready to shake out the sails. On the bay beyond the green meadows are hundreds of boats and barges with sails set to catch the little breath of wind which puffs in our faces. Here comes a boat filled with cabbages,—another loaded to the water's edge with turpins,—another filled with sheep. Here is a marketman with chickens and geese, which are cackling and gobbling.

The canals, to a great extent, are the streets of Holland. In the summer they are thronged with boats of every description; and a month hence, men, women, and children will be skimming up and down these streets on scates, having many merry times through the winter.—"Carleton" in Boston Journal.

POPULAR TASTE FOR HORTICULTURE.

It is gratifying to record any evidences of an increasing taste for horticulture. The better adornment of suburban villas, the nearer inclosures of village gardens, and the increased attention devoted to the planting of trees along the avenues of cities are sure indications that a portion at least of our people have still a love for trees and plants and flowers. If this taste is not as general as we could wish, or not so cultivated as we could hope, it is still gratifying to know that it is surely though slowly increasing, and, with the growth of the country and the increase of wealth, will become general, and find its expression in magnificent gardens replete with all the accessories of modern Europe.

But, beside the increase of beautiful gardens, other evidences of horticultural progress are the multiplication of societies, organized for the purpose of disseminating information upon horticultural science, and encouraging the growth of fine plants and fruits by the award of premiums for superior specimens, thus bringing before the public the beautiful flowers and luscious fruits of every clime, as well as the thousands of varieties produced by the gardener's skill. Take from our gardens all that the cultivator by his skill has added to them, for the last fifty years, and they would be short of much of their beauty, and our tables would scarcely contain any eatable fruit or vegetable.

All this progress has been so gradual that the mass of the people do not realize the change, and look upon it as a matter of course. True, we do look for progress, but scarcely as rapid as has been effected in every department of horticulture. The fruits of thirty years ago, few as they were in number and variety, have nearly all disappeared; the flowers are mostly entirely new, and the vegetables which supplied the market then would scarcely be looked at by an intelligent dealer.

—Hovey's Magazine.

CRANBERRY CULTURE.

The Trenton Gazette gives an interesting account of the culture of cranberries in New Jersey:—

The savanna and bottom, or boggy lands of New Jersey, lying in Ocean, Burlington, Atlantic, Camden, and Cape May counties, are the best known for the culture of the cranberry. The lands used for its culture are the soft, spongy lands, known as swamps and savanna lands. Before the introduction of cranberry culture, they were comparatively valueless, now they range in price from \$25 to \$100 per acre.

Those lands having a running stream of water are the most valuable, as it is of importance to be able to flood the grounds during late fall and winter—in order to kill grass and vermin, and to protect the vines from frost. In dry summers, it is necessary, in order to preserve the moisture without flooding the land, to fill the lateral ditches with

water. This will moisten the ground sufficiently. To flood the bog in summer will involve the scalding of the vines. To prepare for the vines, the trees and brush are removed, the land tilled, and the roots grubbed out. Lateral ditches are dug from the main stream, dividing the ground into square plots, and the plot sufficiently raised at the centre to cause the rains to flow off.

The yield of berries is astonishing. A bog of a few acres, which had not received a particle of care since the vines were planted, yielded this year 100 bushels to the acre. Another of six acres belonging to Mr. William Allen, which yields this year its first full crop, produces about 200 bushels to the acre. These figures seem astonishing, but one has only to see the bog, and notice the perfect mass of fruit, to have all doubts removed. The cranberry crop of a single township in Ocean county, will reach this year 10,000 bushels, and that of the county is estimated at 25,000 bushels. The value of these lands when in vines is something remarkable. The Messrs. Gowdy have refused \$1,250 per acre, cash, for a bog the vines of which are two and three years old.

As soon as the bogs are in vines, they are valued at \$700 to \$1,000 per acre; \$1,000 per acre has been repeatedly refused for bogs which have been in vines two or three years. The reason for this is obvious. The lowest estimate for a full-bearing bog is 100 bushels per acre. The average is from 50 to 100 bushels above this. Take 100 bushels for an average yield. The cost of picking is 50 cents per bushel. The cost of cultivating, after the second year, will not average \$5 per acre. The present wholesale price of cranberries is \$5 per bushel, or a net yield of \$150 per acre, at the lowest possible estimate per year; or an interest of 45 per cent. per year on an estimated value of \$1,000 per acre.

But the average is above this. The yield when the vines are three years old, and for a long series of years, will almost certainly reach one hundred and fifty bushels per acre. The cranberry is not like strawberries, peaches, &c., perishable fruit, but can easily be kept for a year. In the spring the price often reaches \$10 per bushel. Take these figures, and you have a return of say \$1,400 net per acre per year,—an interest of 40 per cent. on \$1,000.

It is not possible that the market can ever be glutted with this fruit. The small area which can be employed in its culture, and the fact that the European market has been opened to its sale, and that the berries are now used for dyeing purposes, forbids the thought that they can fail to command a good price continually. But there is a wide margin for falling off in price, and large returns are yet secured.

IDIOT CHILDREN.—Dr. Hull, Superintendent of the Ohio State Insane Asylum, said recently: "A citizen of this State married an intelligent lady, who bore him ten children. After the birth of the first three, the father became intemperate, and during his career as an inebriate four children were born unto him. He then reformed entirely, and had three others. The first three were smart and intelligent, and became useful men and women, and so of the last three; of the four born to him during his inebriety, two have died in the lunatic asylum, another is there, and the fourth is an idiot." This is no isolated case. The records of every lunatic asylum, if examined, would fully corroborate the statistics published a few years since in regard to the idiots of Massachusetts, and prove most conclusively that the use of liquors is impairing the health and reason and shortening the lives, not only of those who drink, but of their offspring.

APRIL FOOLS.—Rev. Robert Collyer, in regard to early marriages, addressing a Boston friend, thus quaintly refers to his experience: "Ever so many years ago last April, two young April fools, of whom I was one, finding that they had a little over one hundred dollars in gold between them, and, besides that, a great golden bridge of hope—bigger than that in your public garden—went and got married on a Tuesday; on the next day started for America, a country in which they did not know a living soul. They have had their share of trouble, among which they have never reckoned their seven children, have never regretted the venture, and never expect to, but if they were young and single would very likely do it again, for not a year has passed since that time which has not found them in better circumstances in every way than they could have been had they not so united their lives and made that a chain to hold fast to fortune, that had else been nothing but loose lying kinks."

LABOR.—Britain is a great beehive of human labor. Taking space and population into account, I wonder if there be any other country in the world possessing so large a proportion of laborers, where harder work is gone through all the year round, and where the reward of labor is more liberal than in the United Kingdom. There are no means of calculating the value of production in this or any other country. But the amount of exports gives the value of the produce and manufactures of the country in excess of what is required for the wants of the nation, and I find that, in 1864, whilst the United Kingdom exported at the rate of £5 6s per head of the population, France exported at the rate of £4 3s; the United States, at the rate of £1 11s; Italy, £1 5s; and Russia, 8s. In proportion to area, the United Kingdom exported at the rate of £1,322 per square mile; France, at the rate of £754; Italy, £286; the United States, £17; and Russia in Europe, £12. To us the sea appears a scene of waste. The fisherman finds it more prolific than the richest land. Once in a year an acre of good land, carefully tilled, produces a ton of wheat, or two or three cwt. of meat or cheese. But the same area at the bottom of the sea, on the best fishing grounds, yields a greater weight of food to the persevering every week of the year.—"Levi's Wages and Earnings of the Working Classes."

