

SUMMARY.

COMMUNICATION by telegraph is now open direct between Valparaiso and the United States. LORD DUFFERIN, it is said, will go to Egypt for a while to look after British interests in that country.

ADVISED from Honolulu report the volcano of Kilauea in eruption on a grander scale than for a quarter of a century.

SOUTHERN, convicted of stealing the body of Earl Crawford and Halsey, was sentenced to five years penal servitude.

LORD DUFFERIN has invited the Porte to turn its attention to measures of reform, particularly in Armenia, conformably to the Berlin treaty.

The Queen will review the troops who fought in Egypt when all those who are not to form part of the army of occupation have returned to England.

SENATOR WADE HAMPTON told some Confederates the other day at a reunion that they should bear in mind that the sword can never settle the question of right.

NO. 1's explosive manufacture, in Ayres, was entirely wrecked on Friday by an explosion of some combustible used in making bombs. Several workmen were killed.

THERE is much excitement in North Carolina over the alleged discovery by Dr. Gregory of a lotion which it is claimed, turns negroes white. A man who it is alleged was bleached is now being examined by physicians.

NEW YORK insurance circles are excited over the report that a company in Ireland and another in Scotland are about to establish agencies in that city. Foreign competition has already driven several local companies out of the business.

THE RUSSIAN, according to a Telergraph dispatch, having no further difficulty with the Serv Turcomans, are preparing to subjugate the Sark Turcomans. The first cavalry has already proceeded over one hundred miles south of Merv.

DEAN RICHARDSON, expelled from the Hanson Place, Brooklyn, N.Y., Baptist church because the company of which he is president laid a railway track on Sunday, was restored to membership last evening on expressing regret and asking forgiveness.

A RECEPTION in honor of the American Bible Revision Committee was given at Mr. Elliot Shephard's residence in New York. Many prominent gentlemen were present. Dr. Schaff presented a great and growing favor for the revised version of the Bible.

A PULLMAN SLEEPING CAR attached to a train which left London for Glasgow caught fire from the stove. One passenger was burned to death, and three passengers escaped with great difficulty. The accident is novel in England and creates a sensation.

A NEW POLITICAL movement, entitled the Northern Reform Club, has been started in Newcastle. The object is a union of the various political organizations to effect parliamentary and land law reforms and bring pressure upon the Government to carry them in Parliament.

PROP. TYNDALL unveiled the statue of Thos. Carlyle on the Thames embankment at Chelsea on Thursday. Mr. Tyndall expressed a wish that a memorial should be raised in the same place to Ralph Waldo Emerson, the "loftiest, purest, most penetrating spirit that ever shone in American literature."

MR. DAVITT at Greenock last week announced his intention of visiting the Highlands and Island of Skye, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the case of the crofters. He denied that anybody connected with the Land League had anything to do with the action of the tenant farmers in the Highlands.

THE CELEBRATION of the 200th anniversary of the founding of Pennsylvania by William Penn, was opened on Sunday week in Philadelphia with special religious services in the churches of all denominations commemorative of the event. The whole week was spent in celebrating the event in a suitable manner.

IN THE new Prussian Parliament the various parties will be represented as follows: Conservatives, 150; Catholics, 100; Poles, 20; National Liberals, 40; Progressives, 40; Socialists, 30. The repeal of the existing laws against the German Socialists is expected shortly after the meeting of the present Parliament.

PROFESSOR X. A. WILLARD died suddenly of neuralgia of the heart in Little Falls, N.Y., on Thursday. He was a voluminous writer on agricultural topics, and the most eminent authority on matters pertaining to the dairy in the United States. He was the author of a practical dairy husbandry and practical butter book.

A NUMBER of convicts, working in the Cowl tunnel near Waynesville, N.C., on Wednesday evening, unearthed the skeleton of a mastodon, six feet below the surface, in a perfect state of preservation. All the bones of the monster, which had been about forty feet in length, have been secured. They crumbled somewhat on exposure. Masses of red marble lay above the skeleton.

THE HUNGARIAN delegations met on Thursday. The Emperor, receiving the members, said the moderation of all the cabinets was a valuable guarantee for a satisfactory final settlement of the Egyptian question. There was no speech for increasing the ordinary army expenditure, but a small sum would be required for further development and organization, and placing the army in a more prepared condition for war.

THE programme of Marshal Serrano's party comprises the re-establishment of the constitution of 1869, modified as follows: Alfonso and his dynasty to be recognized as the legitimate rulers of the country; the King to have the power of dissolving the Cortes on condition that the new Legislature be summoned immediately; present life senators to retain their dignity in the new Legislature, and the sitting of Congress to be limited to six months.

THE PARK THEATRE in New York, where Mrs. Langtry, the famous beauty, was to act, was burned early Monday evening, causing a loss of over a quarter of a million dollars. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the curtains of a box taking fire from a gas jet while the upholsterers were at work. One of the caretakers is supposed to have been burned to death, while there were several narrow escapes of other employees. The building was previously pronounced to be very unsafe in case of fire.

MAJOR ARCHD. GEORGE ASTEN CONSTABLE died in Brooklyn on Wednesday, aged 61. His father was a large publisher in Edinburgh, and first published Sir Walter Scott's novels, and was also the publisher of the Edinburgh Review.

The major saw considerable service in India as commander of an artillery regiment, and received numerous medals of honor. He participated in the Afghan war of 1842. He went afterwards to Australia, then to South America, thence to Canada, where he lived several years, and was major in a brigade. He served on the Union side during the civil war in the United States, under Commodore Foote. After that he was connected with Harper's publishing house in New York until his death.

CANADIAN.

LADY LANGRISH, wife of Sir Hector Langrish, died in Quebec on Sunday.

THE C. P. R. FREIGHT BLOCKADE has been broken and everything is now running smoothly.

THE SUPREME COURT sat in Ottawa during the past week and rendered judgment in several cases.

THE WAGES of the sectionmen on the Canadian Pacific Railway have been raised ten cents per day.

THE NEW Dominion of Canada \$4 note will soon be put into circulation. The count bears a vignette of the Governor-General.

SIR ALEXANDER CAMPBELL is building a \$12,000 private residence on the corner of Metcalfe and Lisgar streets, Ottawa.

THE ELECTION in Yale district B. C. has resulted in the defeat of Mr. Humphreys, the Government candidate, by eighty-seven majority in a total vote of 101.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to repair the Rideau Canal at various points during the winter season. Tenders for material to make the necessary repairs have been called for.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER estimates that this season there will be a surplus of 2,000,000 bushels of grain for exportation to Europe, and that next year that quantity will be quadrupled.

IT IS SAID that the Hon. Mr. Chapleau, Secretary of State, intends building a summer residence in the vicinity of High Falls, on the Lièvre. The scenery at this point is particularly fine.

A COUPLE named Macdonald from Glenarry, were in Ottawa the other day. The old man was near 105 years, and his better half 106 summers. They are both hale and hearty.

THE VOTE was taken in Fredericton, N.B., on Thursday on the petition for a repeal of the Canada Temperance Act. The Act was sustained by 40 majority. The majority for the Act when it was adopted was over 200.

MR. CARPMEIL, superintendent of the Meteorological Service, has written to the Marine Department to say that Mr. Wiggins forecast of a great storm on March 11th next is absurd from a meteorological point of view.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD has purchased the handsome residence of the late Mr. Thos. Reynolds, known as Earncliffe. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the Ottawa River, halfway between the centre of the city and New Edinburgh.

SENATORS SMITH and O'Donoghue, representatives of the Irish Roman Catholic Conservatives, have issued a circular to the Roman Catholic Bishops of Ontario, protesting against the pulpit of St. Michael's Cathedral being used for party purposes.

THE REV. MR. STAFFORD, the well-known advocate of temperance, arrived in Ottawa last week to secure the services of Roman Catholic teachers for his schools in Lindsay. He was unsuccessful, as there are only three of that denomination attending the Normal School there.

MR. BELFORD, the Toronto publisher, was arrested for not supporting his wife by Detective Reid, who when warned that his warrant was illegal said, "I will arrest you anyway, you d—d infidel," and Mr. Belford making some resistance smashed Mr. Belford's face with his baton, breaking two of the bones of his nose, so that now he is threatened with erysipelas.

MR. VERR FOSTER, the Irish philanthropist, returned to Winnipeg last week from a visit west to the end of the C. P. Railway. He is delighted with the country and says the population of Regina is already eight hundred. Mr. Foster appears to be hopeful of the success of Irish families on their arrival here, with aid from the Dominion Government and Pacific Railway Company.

MR. J. KIRBY, in the employ of Sir John Macdonald's private secretary, has received the melancholy intelligence of the death of a younger brother, wounded on the "Alexandra" during the bombardment of Alexandria, from the effect of which he had partially recovered, but volunteered, like a brave Briton, for the march on Tel-el-Kebir. In consequence he suffered a relapse and died. Two other brothers were killed in H. M. S. service, one at Alma and the other at Balaklava.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER who arrived home on Wednesday from the North-West was interviewed by a reporter. He went as far as the end of the track on the C. P. Railway, near Salt Town, 82 miles west of Moosejaw Creek, and about 180 miles west of Winnipeg. Ralls are now being laid at the rate of three miles per day. He speaks very highly of the country and climate. He was at Salt Town, the end of the track, on Saturday last. He was greatly surprised at the rapid growth of Winnipeg.

THE COMMISSION to enquire into the claims in connection with the construction of the Intercolonial Railway is now organized, and consists of Judge Clarke, E. Bronchton, Esq., late General Manager of the Great Western Railway, and Colonel Bolton, of Cobourg. They have chosen the first named gentlemen (Judge Clarke) chairman, and appointed Mr. L. K. Jones, secretary to the Chief Engineer and General Manager, secretary to the Commission. They will no doubt proceed at once with their labors.

THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION referred to in a recent despatch will be held on the 7th of November as follows:—At Charlottetown, in the Provincial buildings; at Halifax, Provincial buildings; at St. John, Custom House; at Quebec, Provincial buildings; Montreal, Post Office; Ottawa, Railway Company; House of Commons; Kingston, Tete du Pont Barracks; Toronto, Temperance Hall; London, Post Office; Winnipeg, University. Entries will be received up to the commencement of the examination. There are already 150 entries, including about 30 French Canadians.

AN ARRANGEMENT has been made by which agricultural immigrants and their families will receive reduced-rate tickets from the United Kingdom at \$2 per head. The people in whom Father Nugent is interested will come under this arrangement. Miss Richardson has made urgent representation to the Immigration Department as to the desirableness of establishing a home at Quebec for the reception of immigrants.

It is said that the provision of accommodation for them in the new immigrant sheds there, separate from the other immigrants, as new sheds have to be built at that point to replace those destroyed by fire. The proposition of Miss Richardson will be considered before the plans are drawn.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the growing necessity for direct telegraphic communication between Ontario and Manitoba, the Great North-Western Telegraph Company propose laying a submarine cable in Lake Superior, under the charter of the Company, to connect Fort William, Manitoba, with Ontario. The telegraphic system requires 600 miles of line, with a cable, and another link along the Canadian Pacific Railway over the Rocky Mountains, together with the existing system in British Columbia.

Telegraphic communication on Canadian soil and waters, from ocean to ocean, would thus be secured. The practicability of the scheme has been admitted by eminent engineers. The proposed line for the laying of the cable is from some point on the Indian Peninsula, north-west of Owen Sound, connecting with land lines along the Manitoulin Islands, and small cable links to St. Ignace, Mich., and by one cable through Lake Superior to Thunder Bay. The estimated cost of the cable is \$400,000.

THE PREMIER and the LICENSED VICTUALLERS—The Globe Ottawa correspondence says: "Sir John Macdonald is said to have expressed his deep sympathy with the British victuallers, and promised to use every possible means to bring about the changes suggested. How he proposed to influence the Provincial Government remains to be seen. It is asserted that in fulfillment of his election promise Sir John will attempt at the coming session of Parliament to obtain control of the Ontario liquor law by federal legislation. The fact is Sir John has with Mr. Mowat. The Mail has no allusion to the deputation whatever.

AN IMPOSTOR.—The Superintendent of the Dominion Police, Ottawa, received a telegram from Winnipeg asking him if he wanted one Hon. R. H. Westcott, who was arrested yesterday in that city, holding Mr. J. Daly, ex-M.P., of a large amount. Westcott is an impostor and has been travelling in America under numerous aliases for some time. He is now in London, and is being sought by the British Consul at St. John's. The impostor was arrested by the Superintendent of the Dominion Police, Ottawa, and is now in custody.

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STATE OF IRELAND.—Mr. Smyth, member of Parliament for Tipperary, in a speech delivered at the National Conference, declared that the recent National Conference was not a representative one. He warned his countrymen against the policy of the Government, and declared that the only way to secure the rights of the people was by the use of force. He declared that the only way to secure the rights of the people was by the use of force.

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CAIRO, Oct. 24.—Khartoum advances state that the False Prophet at the head of the whole unbelieved population of Southern Arabia has utterly defeated Abd-el-Kader and Giegler, the Egyptian Governor, in seven sanguinary encounters. The Egyptian losses are estimated at 8,000 killed and wounded, with a stand of arms, including 5,000 Remingtons. The remainder of the Egyptian army took refuge in Khartoum. The False Prophet is now in the provinces south of that city are lost to Egypt. Khartoum is in danger of being captured. The prophet permits the pouring of boiling tallow upon the heads and faces of captives, and otherwise cruelly tortures them. His man-eaters in some cases actually devour the prisoners for refusing to recognize him as the true prophet and caliph. Dr. Schweinfurth states there is a movement for a real revival of Islam, comprising Afghanistan and Morocco, and the doctor is confident this movement will embrace Khartoum. The prophet's adherents increase like wild-fire, and the prophet himself is said to be marching toward Cairo. Abd-el-Kader is now in the hands of the prophet's man-eaters, and is being tortured to death. The prophet is now in the hands of the prophet's man-eaters, and is being tortured to death.

THE ANNIHILATION OF CHRISTIANS.—Dorelli Bey, public prosecutor, states that the massacre at Tanta has been the moment. Abd-el-Kader's aide-de-camp appeared and declared the annihilation of the Christians to be in accordance with the prophet's will. This assertion is made on the evidence of six inhabitants of Tanta.

AN UNWIRE DECEPTION.—The minutes of a Cabinet meeting held before the war, for the purpose of showing to the Cabinet, when Dervish Pasha, Turkish Commissioner, was present, decided to meet the British with arms in England.

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THE FRENCH ANARCHISTS.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—The published details of the anarchist conspiracy show it is composed of a small number of staunch supporters in all towns and manufacturing villages in France. The members are mostly young men who distribute revolutionary papers. Each group has a distinctive name. A letter signed by the authorities recommends the groups to pretend to be trades unions. All the groups in the department form a federation, some having secret symbols, and these federations are the link between the groups and the Central Committee of the persons arrested on Saturday belong to the federations. The Central Committee is composed of a delegate from each federation. It meets monthly in Geneva, and its communications are by handwriting show him to be a member of the conspiracy. The disturbances in August at Montreuil les Mines were not ordered at the committee's approval, but were premature. They were due to the dereliction of the manager of the mine. The dynamite found by the authorities was manufactured at St. Saver, Switzerland. A anarchist, who was arrested, has produced great uneasiness. The action of the Government in suspending the trial of the persons arrested in connection with rioting at Montreuil les Mines is much criticized, this is taken as a resolution not to allow the anarchists to enjoy impunity. Two Republican newspapers at Lyons have been warned that their printing presses will be blown up.

LYONS, Oct. 27.—The situation is critical. A panic has seized the population. The theatres last night were empty. The much threatened attempts on public buildings. Measures of precaution have been taken.

A semi-official note, referring to the events at Montreuil les Mines and Lyons says:—"The Government is sending the army to the frontier, organized association whose head office remains abroad. There is no ground for undue alarm, as the authorities are firmly resolved to repress all attempts at violence and to maintain the public order. The government has means at its disposal to this end."

TROOPS occupy the railway and all strategic points in Lyons. Soldiers have been strictly forbidden to fraternize with the anarchists and civilians. The words dominating Lyons are prepared, at the word of command to lay any portion of the city in ashes. If further explosion occur the city will be placed under martial law. Threatening letters abound. The Archbishop and director of the Post Office have received such threats, and the persons of both have been threatened. The anarchists are even the police disarmed and seized forty microgrammes of dynamite.

PARIS, Oct. 30.—Proclamations have been posted on the walls in St. Sulpice appealing to the people to commit acts of violence against the "false driving Bourgeoisie." Affixed to the proclamations as signature is the representation of a drawn dagger. The documents end that the anarchists are now in Lyons, and "Socials." The police removed the proclamations. The newspaper Paris says the Anarchist Society has correspondents in Boston and Mont

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE.

If a favorite argument of the protectionists be reliable Canada must be speeding very fast down the road to ruin. According to the estimate at the Customs for the current year, the balance of trade for the current year will show a balance of trade against her of about eighteen and a half millions of dollars. And yet the country, on the whole, maintains a comfortable position. The truth is that the relative values of exports and imports prove nothing. The old "balance of trade" theory is now pretty well abandoned by political economists. Wealth is being constantly created from the productive sources of the country. Those sources, when traced back, will be found always to be rooted in the soil, and growing out of it. The country which is producing from its soil more than is consumed by its inhabitants must be growing wealthy, unless its people are notoriously wasteful and spendthrift. —*Observer-Reflector.*

LAW.

The two curses of Canada, as every sensible person is aware, are "politics and whisky," and which is the greater it is not easy to decide, for both about equally permeate the body of society, and weaken and destroy its most vital element. Perhaps the worst of the two is the whisky curse, for whilst there is evidence to show that there is reason to suppose that the other is diminishing, the whisky curse is diminishing in intensity, there is reason to suppose that the other is increasing. The fact that the number of appointments in Canada which is at least free from political influence, to wit, the Judges. Happily for Ontario justice has not yet been prostituted by the politicians, and the same may be said of the most exacting moralist could desire. —*Observer-Reflector.*

TEMPERANCE, YOUNG MEN, AND BUSINESS.

The day for "whiskey heads" in business is fast passing away. The larger the city the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets, and the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets, the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets. The day for "whiskey heads" in business is fast passing away. The larger the city the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets, and the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets, the more the "whiskey heads" are off the streets. —*Observer-Reflector.*

RELIGIOUS ANIMOSITY.

The attacks on the head of the Catholic Church in Ontario we regard as a most lamentable thing—as a circumstance for which the Tories will be forced to offer much atonement. The Catholic Church is not a religion, it is a church. In 1879 they were reviled; now they are ridiculed through their Archbishop. Can good come out of this? Nay, conflict between Protestants and Catholics is not a religion, it is a church. In 1879 they were reviled; now they are ridiculed through their Archbishop. Can good come out of this? Nay, conflict between Protestants and Catholics is not a religion, it is a church. —*Observer-Reflector.*

EXTREMELY CONSOLING.

Consumers of highly-taxed coal, breadstuffs and other necessities of life, will be delighted to hear that an Order-in-Council has been passed placing locust beans on the free list. —*Port Hope Globe.*

NO ROSE WITHOUT A THORN.

Manitoba is a country blessed with soil and climate especially for the raising of wheat and many other food products, but cursed with the most incompetent Government, both Federal and Provincial, under the sun. —*Winnipeg Free Press.*

THEY DON'T HITCH!

Yesterday Police Magistrate Denison gave five years imprisonment to a man found in a woman's room. He praised the courage of the young woman in her circumlocution. But the "light" of Brighton for defending herself from a similar character as the intruder sentenced yesterday, was convicted of manslaughter. —*Toronto World.*

PROSPERITY IN THE STATES.

It may be doubted if there was ever a season when the reports of all the American States financial journals indicated so general prosperity. There have been seasons when, under speculative influences, or the sudden revival of business after a period of stagnation, the profits and greater activity occurred, but after three years of general activity in business, with every branch manufacturing and mercantile industry, almost to find that the reports show a general prosperity is very remarkable. —*Boston Journal.*

"HOLD, ENOUGH!"

Is not it about time that people began to treat the predictions of the so-called weather prophets with the contempt which they deserve? By such means only can the public be saved from being misled by the prognostications of men who are no wiser than their fellows as to the future. Take, for instance, Mr. Vennor's prediction for the month of November. He says there will be much rain and snow, and as everybody knows October has been the finest month of the year. By all means let the weather prophets subside. —*Belleville Intelligencer.*

A VETERAN ON PROHIBITION.

"That was a fine article you had in today about Talmage and prohibition," said the venerable ex-probationer, James Beatty, as he stepped into the *World* office. "I have been drinking for years. There'll be prohibition parties in nearly every state and province before four years. And then there is this tobacco. Its growth will be prohibited. A young man was seen to smile. "We want to do you good," said the old gentleman addressing him. "You young fellows with your smoking and drinking. You want to do good, and you will ruin it out." —*Toronto World.*

IMPORTATIONS UNDER THE N.P.

We hold an idea—we suppose, now, an erroneous one—that the National Policy must first and above all things the protection of the home industries. It is a policy which is popularly supposed to be an outcome of the National Policy. Why, then, import the bologna? —*Baltic (N.S.) Recorder.*

PAUPER IMMIGRATION.

The conference of the combined city charities discussed a very important subject at its meeting. The subject was pauper immigration. It was a subject which ought to be seriously alarmed at the probable arrival here at an early date of a large number of penniless immigrants. Let it be known that paupers will be sent back to their native land, and that they will work the land on our shores, and it will have a salutary effect in nipping in the bud emigration schemes of this character. We have our own poor people, and we do not want to be bothered by charity should begin at home, and during the long Canadian winter maintain at home. —*Toronto Evening News.*

THE SINKING.

The men who are interested in the good government of Canada are not only the rich men and property holders, but every man who lives in the country. All classes have the same proprietary rights in the country. The rich man, and the same loyal attachment binds them to the country. Manhood suffrage is the suffrage to this country, and it is gratifying to know that the great majority of the men who have gone into all classes of society. —*St. Mary's Journal.*

"A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME, &c."

There is at least one brewer in Kansas who thinks that prohibition does not prohibit. He has quadrupled the capacity of his establishment and no longer calls it a brewery, but a "chemical laboratory." He has also quadrupled his stock, not beer, but a "stomach invigorator." The Supreme Court has decided that a man must swear that this "stomach invigorator" has no intoxicating qualities. The brewer has taken it with him, and he believes nobody wants to interfere with it. —*Hamilton Spectator.*

MERELY HUMAN.

The jury system is perfect in theory, but it is not by any means perfect in practice. Jurors are only human, and are open to unseen influences. The system is the best that could be devised, and if now and then a verdict is rendered which appears to be in direct opposition to the facts brought out in evidence, only shows that the whole jury discharge their duties faithfully and try to deal out justice. There is really more room for surprise in the differences between the verdicts of the jury and the judge, than the differences between the verdicts of the jury and the judge. —*Toronto Telegram.*

SELF-EVIDENT.

The other day the Toronto Mail dubbed the Hon. Adam Crooks "the unsentimental ass of the Educational Department." Now I refer to the same gentleman. "Pro" is a very common word. The reader will draw his own conclusions. —*Hamilton Times.*

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, Oct. 12, 1882.

Sir,—My wandering steps have lately been led into Northamptonshire—not a very lively county, though one of considerable variety. In former days the typical poacher was supposed to hail from this shire, and a good deal of it may still afford him a fair field for his nightly sport. But various manufacturing industries have gradually spread over the land, the somewhat recent discoveries of iron having given a new value to many a fine agricultural estate, and dotted the country with blast furnaces and mills. At the same time the staple trade of the county town has spread into other towns, some of which have been built up from mere villages, and now the whole shire has much to do with the "Conduct of the Understanding" of England, by furnishing boots and shoes for a large proportion of the population. One of these towns of recent growth is Wellingborough, where I am staying for a couple of days this week. There is not much that is pleasant in the town itself, which is almost entirely given over to leather and iron, though bearing traces of its former life in the shape of its "Sheep street" and its "Cheese lane," its market-place and its annual fair, but huge factories are now on its highways, and the old-fashioned houses of the people who used to tread those ways are replaced by a pale, slim race, who move in and out of the sound of the factory bell. One morning I went to the factory bell. One morning I went to the factory bell. One morning I went to the factory bell. —*Observer-Reflector.*

"Well, yes," he replied, "there are several things like it; but they are poor substitutes." This was a mystery of the trade into which I could not follow him, but I have no doubt that some Montreal manufacturers will quite understand the drift of his remark.

Another point which interested me more was the condition of the workpeople of the shoe industry. I had noticed the existence of a good coffee tavern in full working order, and also a large and handsome pile of buildings, which I had noticed the existence of a good coffee tavern in full working order, and also a large and handsome pile of buildings, which I had noticed the existence of a good coffee tavern in full working order, and also a large and handsome pile of buildings. —*Observer-Reflector.*

Some drawings even in the coffee tavern movement. No doubt it needs to be watched. One gentleman—a man of some position—was seen to be drinking, and would simply graduate through the coffee room to the tap room, having acquired in the one the distaste for home and the love of company and excitement in the other. The result was a sharper stimulus of the tavern. There may be something in this, but there is so much evidence of the decline of the tavern in public use, that I am inclined to doubt the wisdom of being so hopeful. —*Observer-Reflector.*

Still stranger facts have yet to be related respecting the celestial wonder. When it has appeared in 1886 it was missing. Here, however, it might have struck some planet, or it might have been deflected by the gravity of a distant star, or it might have been deflected by the gravity of a distant star. —*Observer-Reflector.*

It is not at all time that people began to treat the predictions of the so-called weather prophets with the contempt which they deserve? By such means only can the public be saved from being misled by the prognostications of men who are no wiser than their fellows as to the future. Take, for instance, Mr. Vennor's prediction for the month of November. He says there will be much rain and snow, and as everybody knows October has been the finest month of the year. By all means let the weather prophets subside. —*Belleville Intelligencer.*

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

There are attracting many hundreds of our youth by the offer of instruction which will be worth money to them in connection with their education. The schools are not only of the highest order, but they are also of the highest order. The schools are not only of the highest order, but they are also of the highest order. —*Observer-Reflector.*

METHODIST UNION.

Sir,—In your weekly issue of the 11th inst. is a communication from the pen of the Rev. E. A. Stafford, in which, in a passing allusion to the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, he makes some statements which are calculated to mislead the public mind in regard both to the origin of the Church and its reconstruction after the Union or Disruption of 1833, and also with regard to the action of the Union committee of the M. E. Church in Toronto. I am sorry to find that the Union committee of the other Methodist bodies, who have been personally cognizant of the matters relating to its history since 1820 to point out Mr. Stafford's errors.

After mentioning the growth of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the fifty years after 1833 and the decision of the Canada Conference to unite with the Wesleyan Conference in 1857, he says: "The Union committee of the M. E. Church in Toronto, in 1833, or has access to them or to some of the files of the secular papers of those troubled years, viz., the *Cobourg Reformer*, the *Northampton Mercury*, the *Wellingborough Advertiser*, and also the *Liberal* paper then published by the late William Lyon Mackenzie, I think he could scarcely reiterate the statement that 'his own eyes and ears' were not taken into account, and for a time was so received." It is true, the columns of the *Guardian* were closed against those who were adverse to the more liberal and liberal views of the day, but the bearings in that paper. But their opposition was very severely misrepresented upon in the *Guardian*, and in no way misrepresented upon in the *Guardian*, and in no way misrepresented upon in the *Guardian*. —*Observer-Reflector.*

EXTENDING COMPREHENSIVENESS.

I make no apology for transcribing the list of subjects: it is a study in itself. First come "Trade classes" in carpentry and joinery, cabinet making, bricklaying, engineering, painting, and so on. Then come "Technical classes" in book-keeping, house decoration, and tailors cutting. Then a number of others are scheduled separately: these are "Technical classes" in book-keeping, house decoration, and tailors cutting. Then a number of others are scheduled separately: these are "Technical classes" in book-keeping, house decoration, and tailors cutting. —*Observer-Reflector.*

THE ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

One of the most interesting papers read at the recent meetings of the American Association was that of Professor Bell on the use of the induction balance in surgery. The subject was of great interest to the audience, and the paper was well received. The subject was of great interest to the audience, and the paper was well received. —*Observer-Reflector.*

THE ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

How a WHOLE BREATHES.—The windpipe does not communicate with the mouth, a hole being made in the wall of the back of the head. Engineers would do well to copy the action of the valve of the whole breath. The instrument worked all right, we are told, in a paper read before the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; only unfortunately it mistook for Professor—mistook! a bed-spring for the bullet! No wonder, then, that the President, Professor Emswath, said that "repeated probing by fingers and instruments, not protected by the method of the induction balance, led to the final result." The bill of the American doctors range from £5,000 to £2,000 for Dr. Lamb for the autopsy. —*Observer-Reflector.*

IN THE STEREO.

Sir,—I have watched with some interest the discussion in reference to the treatment of steerage passengers per SS. "Sardinian," and as one who has crossed a dozen times as steerage passenger by the Allan Line, the last having been in the above named ship and on the voyage that has called forth the letters of "Wayfarer" and "Two steerage passengers," I would only say in reference to the statements made in both the *World* and *Telegraph*, that the reader will draw his own conclusions. —*Hamilton Times.*

have aroused the indignation of any man to hear the coarseness of the rebuff he got. I remember to me he had been rebuffed by a woman, when he told me he had been rebuffed by a woman, when he told me he had been rebuffed by a woman. —*Observer-Reflector.*

It was scarcely the correct thing for passengers who were paying their way, and paying for the food, to be told that they were to be treated as if they were half-starved. It was scarcely the correct thing for passengers who were paying their way, and paying for the food, to be told that they were to be treated as if they were half-starved. —*Observer-Reflector.*

Mr. Editor, I never passed a line for publication before, and I hope the good of all interested will be accepted as my excuse for troubling you with this. —*Observer-Reflector.*

TWIN COMETS.

OTHER INSTANCES ON RECORD—CAUSE OF STARS SHOWN. (To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—The following research after instances of twin comets, kept on record by the sons of the present time, may prove of interest to your readers at the present time. Mr. Arago notices the birth of a new body, by way of disjunction, recorded by Ephorus who mentions that a comet in B.C. 373 separated in two, each portion retaining different cometary characters. He observes that the comet of 1618, which passed its perihelion passage on November 8th of that year, split into several fragments. The Chinese recorded a similar case in 1703, when a comet together and moving in the same orbit A.D. 890. Hevellius also informs us that the nucleus of the comet of 1652 separated into four or five parts.

But the most noteworthy of all these twin comets is unquestionably Biela's, sometimes called Gambart's (that had two discoverers) whose perihelion passage occurred on the 13th of March was observed in 1772, 1805, 1826, 1832, 1846, 1852, 1858 and never seen afterwards. When it returned in 1846 it exhibited phenomena which were entirely new. Dr. Schmidt's observation lately recorded of the present comet. On December 19th, 1845, Hind observed a sort of protuberance on the north side of the comet, which was not seen again. Challis at Cambridge found it had separated into two distinct bodies. Wichman at Königsberg and Maury at Washington confirmed these observations. The two comets, which were distant from each other 154,500 miles. They reappeared in 1852, were watched by Seccchi at Rome, on Sept. 10th, travelling in the same orbit, and were separated by 30 seconds of Right Ascension, the distance between them having increased to 1,200,000 miles.

Still stranger facts have yet to be related respecting the celestial wonder. When it has appeared in 1886 it was missing. Here, however, it might have struck some planet, or it might have been deflected by the gravity of a distant star, or it might have been deflected by the gravity of a distant star. —*Observer-Reflector.*

MR. BLAKE AND HOME RULE.

A LETTER FROM THE MEMBER FOR AGENT TRAIL.

The Hon. Edward Blake, or his friends have seen fit to publish in pamphlet form, an official report of a speech by him in the Dominion Commons on the 12th of May last. The report is a long and elaborate one, and is full of errors and misstatements. The report is a long and elaborate one, and is full of errors and misstatements. —*Observer-Reflector.*

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A RUSSIAN CRISIS.

Fears are expressed in Russia at the probability of another severe commercial crisis similar to that of 1873. The main cause is the remarkable fall in the price of wheat and corn which resulted during the last few weeks from the abundance of the harvest in Western Europe and America. A little while ago merchants were buying wheat at 100 rubles per 100, and corn at 40 rubles (24 100) the bushel (thirty-six pounds), giving a quarter of that amount in cash as hard money to clench the bargain. The demand for the demand for corn from abroad ceased and the price dropped heavily, until a few days ago 85 coppers, or 1s 8d per bushel was being refused on the exchange in Russia. In this manner there are thousands of merchants in Russia who have bought corn for 100 rubles, the price which they could not sell for more than 85 coppers, or 1s 8d per bushel. —*Observer-Reflector.*

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THE CAPTURE OF TELEKEIR.

SCENES AND INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE—NARRATIVE OF AN OFFICER WITH THE BRITISH FORCE.

CAMP AT TELEKEIR, Sept. 16, 1882.

Our "only general" has made his effort and delivered his blow, and the Egyptian army is a thing of the past! Of course you in England will all about it, and probably more than we can tell you, but some few details from an eye witness may interest you.

After the action of the 17th troops came pouring into the camp at Kassasin. The Highland brigade arrived the day after, with Sir E. Hamley and Sir A. Allison. The 11th passed over quietly, but on the 12th came the longed-for order, "Pack everything; strike tents after dark; troops to bivouac on the march to be sounded." The leath against which the army had been training was to be slipped at last and we were to go to the enemy. All the officers' light baggage and men's valises were stacked by the line of railway long before the appointed hour, and the moment the signal was given, the Highlanders every tent, the troops marched off with their step and the bivouac, and then came a great and most impressive rush—not a sound but the occasional stamp of a horse; not a light, all was still as the grave, and the enemy had not a single out-post, not a single sentry beyond the line of his works.

Daybreak found most of the regiments close to the bivouac, and the first thing we saw on the morning of the 13th was the first rays of morning light up the sand wastes, the enemy's camp was visible, and instantly the Egyptian burst into life and arms, and the first thing we saw on the morning of the 13th was the first rays of morning light up the sand wastes, the enemy's camp was visible, and instantly the Egyptian burst into life and arms, and the first thing we saw on the morning of the 13th was the first rays of morning light up the sand wastes, the enemy's camp was visible, and instantly the Egyptian burst into life and arms. —*Observer-Reflector.*

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After the action of the 17th troops came pouring into the camp at Kassasin. The Highland brigade arrived the day after, with Sir E. Hamley and Sir A. Allison. The 11th passed over quietly, but on the 12th came the longed-for order, "Pack everything; strike tents after dark; troops to bivouac on the march to be sounded." The leath against which the army had been training was to be slipped at last and we were to go to the enemy. All the officers' light baggage and men's valises were stacked by the line of railway long before the appointed hour, and the moment the signal was given, the Highlanders every tent, the troops marched off with their step and the bivouac, and then came a great and most impressive rush—not a sound but the occasional stamp of a horse; not a light, all was still as the grave, and the enemy had not a single out-post, not a single sentry beyond the line of his works.

Daybreak found most of the regiments close to the bivouac, and the first thing we saw on the morning of the 13th was the first rays of morning light up the sand wastes, the enemy's camp was visible, and instantly the Egyptian burst into life and arms, and the first thing we saw on the morning of the 13th was the first rays of morning light up the sand wastes, the enemy's camp was visible, and instantly the Egyptian burst into life and arms. —*Observer-Reflector.*

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

ISSUED LAST WEEK.

Number copies of WEEKLY WITNESS	27,300
" " DAILY WITNESS	78,245
" " MESSENGER	54,000
" " ACROBE	1,274
Total	160,819

The Witness.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1882.

?

Are the readers of the *Witness* satisfied that during the present year they have received full value for what they have paid for it?

Are they satisfied that each number they have read has brought two cents worth of instruction?

Are they satisfied that each number has brought more to interest the household for the week than two cents spent in any other way?

Have they spoken of the *Witness* and recommended it to their friends and to those whom it might benefit?

Have they endeavored to introduce it into other families besides their own?

Are they endeavoring to make up clubs whereby they reduce the price of the *Weekly Witness* to themselves and at the same time assist in greatly extending its circulation and usefulness?

Will each subscriber resolve that before the close of this year the *Weekly Witness* will double its circulation in Canada?

THE SOUDAN WAR.

The war in the Soudan has a serious aspect for English people. Egypt is now actually under the protection of Great Britain, and there can be no doubt that it always will be able to demand the protection of the nation which has such a predominant interest in the Suez Canal which gives modern Egypt its great importance. The intention of the Government, as announced by one of the under-secretaries, to declare Egypt independent of the Sultan can only mean that their intention is that Egypt must be dependent upon Great Britain alone. A country owing to one power its independence of another is necessarily not independent. England has set the Khedive on the throne, she has upheld his authority, she has consented to an Englishman's accepting the supreme command of the army, and to the regiments being officered by British soldiers. What is the difference between the Khedive and one of the great Princes of the Indian Empire? It is small, and is one of degree and not of kind. The course of events is too strong for the opinions of any party or any wing of any party, and if a party does not walk willingly, it is dragged along in spite of remonstrances. In spite of all that the Radicals may do or say Egypt is already virtually a part of the British Empire. We are responsible for the good government of Egypt as well as for her safety. Every time news of fresh oppression, rebellions and disturbances in the vast Egyptian possessions in Central Africa are received, many Englishmen, Americans and Europeans will ask why England does not insist upon the Khedive's doing something for the amelioration of the condition of these peoples. The continuation of the slave trade will be justly enough laid at England's door. In a thousand and one ways responsibility will be pressed upon her and forced home to her as time goes on. There can be no doubt that her direct interference would be an inestimable blessing to the people of Central Africa and to the world at large. The present rebellion in the Soudan is said to be a religious uprising; it is far more probable, nay, almost certain, that its origin is the oppression of the Egyptian rulers. Sir Samuel Baker's description of Khartoum as he saw it on his great expedition to Central Africa will give one a pretty correct idea of the origin of the rebellion. "Khartoum," he says, "was not changed in-

ternally; but I had observed with dismay a frightful change in the features of the country between Berber (two hundred miles lower on the Nile) and the capital since my former visit. The rich soil on the banks of the river, which had a few years since been highly cultivated, had been abandoned. Now and then a tuft of neglected date-palms might be seen, but the river's banks, formerly verdant with heavy crops, had become a wilderness. Villages once crowded had entirely disappeared; the population was gone. Irrigation had ceased. The night, formerly discordant with the creaking of countless water-wheels, was now silent as death. There was not a dog to howl for a lost master. Industry had vanished; oppression had driven the inhabitants from the soil. This terrible desolation was caused by the governor-general of the Soudan, who, although himself an honest man, trusted too much to the honesty of others who preyed upon the inhabitants. As a good and true Mohammedan, he left his territory to the sole care of God, and thus, trusting in Providence, he himself increased the taxes. In one year he sent to the Khedive, his master, one hundred thousand pounds in hard dollars, wrung from the poor peasantry, who must have lost an equal amount in the pillage that accompanied the collection of taxes. The population of the richest portion of the Soudan died from oppression, and abandoned the country, and the great portion betook themselves to the slave trade of the White Nile, where, in their turn, they might trample upon the rights of others; where, as they had been plundered, they would be able to plunder; where they could reap the harvest of another's labor; and where, free from the restrictions of a government, they might indulge in the exciting and lucrative enterprise of slave-hunting. Thousands had forsaken their homes, and commenced a life of brigandage on the White Nile. This was the state of the country when I arrived at Khartoum. The population of this town, which was about thirty thousand during my former visit, was now reduced to about half the number. The European residents had all disappeared, with the exception of the Austrian mission and Mr. Hansall, the Austrian consul; also, an extremely tough German tailor, who was proof against the climate that had carried off his companions." It is well-known that Sir Samuel Baker's expedition has not proved permanently successful, and that Colonel Gordon's expedition was not less a failure. As the Government was then so it probably has remained since with little change. Is it wonderful therefore that the people should be ripe for rebellion? Is it to be hoped that rebellions and consequent frightful bloodshed and desolation will cease until better Government is established? Is it likely that the Khedive will be himself, with rebellion at home, strong enough to establish Government in the Soudan? If he be not able whose duty is it? It seems, then, that Britain is destined not only to protect the little square corner of Africa laid down on our early maps as Egypt, but that she must extend her sheltering arm to the very mountains of the moon. If Britain be forced in spite of herself to civilize the Upper Nile region the railway is the instrument by which she must do it. English Syndicates may as well begin at once planning a road to be built by Government grant from its present terminus to Nyanza, there to connect with one from Mozambique and eventually to be continued to the Cape.

A BAD POLICY.

The policy of holding wheat and other grain over for any length of time after it is in a marketable condition has always, in the long run, proved to be a bad one for the farmer to pursue. Should the price be low from any cause which he thoroughly understands and which he has good reason to believe will be only temporary in its effects, of course the farmer is quite justified in holding. But when he finds that this cause has vanished, or that, as the case generally proves, from some other unforeseen cause the price has gone lower still, he should not be tempted to hold over in the hope of retrieving his loss, but he should sell at once. We have known farmers to hold over their wheat after the highest point had been reached, and who have held on and on in hope of a recovery of prices until they had two seasons' crops on their hands, for both of which they had to accept a low price. A good many of these have held after their first mistake against their better judgment, and though a pride of will which prevented their accepting lower prices than their neighbors got. The farmer should know what price will return him a reasonable profit, and if he can get that when his grain is ready for sale, or when it could at the earliest be got ready for sale, he should accept it, and of course we need not say as much more as he can get, for he is entitled to that. But what we contend is that the highest price which he can get at the earliest opportunity after an early threshing is the best price, the most profitable price for him in nine seasons out of ten, and therefore, as the saying is, year in and year out. By selling immediately the farmer avoids loss by shrinkage which is great. Grain dealers only, we believe, who weigh in and weigh out know how great it is. We wish that farmers who pursue the holding policy would weigh their grain into the granaries and charge themselves with that quantity at the ruling price of the time, and then when they come to sell weigh it out again. They would, we believe, find themselves almost invariably out of pocket even when they do, which is not often, get a few cents more per bushel. It takes more than a few cents on every bushel to make up for the shrinkage of a few bushels. Every time wheat is turned over there is a loss, and if it is held it is to be turned over more than once if it is to be preserved in good condition. Considerable waste through vermin, unsound floors, accidents such as leaving the granary door open to the delight of the hens, and calamities such as fire, have to be counted on. By selling at once the farmer gets a higher proportionate share of the money paid by the consumer in Europe than he would otherwise do, for the reason

that after the close of navigation the transportation charges are higher, as the railroads have a monopoly during the winter and take advantage of it, and the extra price paid for this is taken out of the price paid to the farmer originally. This year the crops in Europe, as well as in America, are abundant, so that the needs of those who buy our wheat are supplied to a greater extent than for some years back by their own country, and for what they need there are many more than usual with a larger supply than usual competing against one another to supply them with. Thus the consumer will be able to buy at the very lowest price the sellers can afford to sell for, and as the season goes on and a large surplus over the year's needs comes into the market or weighs upon the market, the price will recede, for holders, if they be grain dealers, will sell at a slight loss rather than look forward to a constant loss of interest. This surplus may sell at a fair price if the prospect for next year's crop be bad or if it prove bad, but a farmer or even a dealer who would hold now on the prospect of a bad crop from seed not yet sown, would be about the most silly of silly gamblers. Farmers should count the loss of interest by holding, more closely than they do. Grain dealers count all these things, and those who speculate most are those who are in the long run most unsuccessful even as grain dealers. Every year farmers should sell at their earliest convenience and this year of abundance they should do so more especially.

THE DEPOPULATION OF THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS.

The depopulation of the rural population of the Highlands of Scotland has been progressing, in a quiet but no less effective manner, for over half a century without any attempt being made to arrest its progress; but, on the contrary, many well-wishers and friends of Scotland and Scotchmen have not only approved, but also aided in the depopulation of the romantic glens of their native country. A traveller in the Highlands will be rather surprised to see thousands and tens of thousands of acres of land, whose rugged surface plainly indicates the fact that at no very remote period the plough used to make its annual rounds here, but whose ridges no longer smile with ripening grain and are fast assuming their original clothing of heather. In other places forests are growing where potatoes and oats used to flourish, and deer may be found browsing over what used to be the garden patches of Scotland's yeomen. Over a much larger surface natural grasses have usurped the place of cultivated crops, and black-faced sheep are feeding and their young ones skipping over the fields which formerly were annually refreshed by the sweat of Scotland's pious and loyal children. Once and again a voice of warning has been raised against the suicidal policy of thus driving away Britain's best defenders to people foreign lands, but these warnings have been unheeded while statistics continue to show a gradual increase in the whole population of the country. This increase is, however, almost wholly confined to the cities, towns and villages where there has been a large influx of Irish, and even foreign inhabitants, but comparatively few of the descendants of Scotchmen. Throughout nearly the whole extent of the Highlands the crofters are being squeezed out of their small holdings, which are being rapidly changed into large stock farms, and while many of them leave the country many others merely remove to the sea-shore and there form hamlets where a precarious subsistence is secured in various ways besides tilling the soil. When the census enumerator makes his rounds the inhabitants of these hamlets are included in the returns of the population of rural districts, although they derive but a small portion of their livelihood directly from the soil, and by this means the rapid decrease in the rural population is prevented from becoming too prominent, and some British statesmen would like to make others believe that the decrease in the rural population of Scotland is very trifling at most. It is well-known that Scotchmen used to form a very considerable portion of the British army and navy, but, according to recent returns, out of every thousand British soldiers only eighty are from Scotland, and if the truth were fully known it might turn out that a large percentage of these "Scotch soldiers" are of Irish or foreign extraction, if not born in other places beside the land they hail from. Foreigners are also rapidly taking the place of Scotchmen as common sailors in the mercantile marine as well as in the navy. With all these facts staring them in the face it is not wonderful that Professor Blackie and others are about to hold a series of public meetings throughout the Highlands to protest against the depopulation of North Britain.

THE SCOTT ACT IN FREDERICTON.

It was a fact of remarkable interest that the first part of Canada which adopted the Scott law was not a rural district, but a capital city. It is more interesting still that after three years' trial that law having been again submitted to the citizens—this time by its opponents—has been again adopted by them. Its history in Fredericton has been most chequered, and that place has been the fighting ground for the most important of the constitutional disputes to which it gave rise. For the first few months it worked so well as to rouse the liquor interest to the most determined and organized action for its destruction. It was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, and, as a consequence, was for a long time practically out of force. At last, through the intervention of the Alliance, the matter was carried to the Supreme Court of Canada, where the constitutionality of the law was affirmed. This did not satisfy its enemies, who instituted a new case which they carried to the Privy Council of Great Britain, and it was only four months ago that the decision of that Court settled the question of constitutionality for ever. On the very day that the news of this decision reached Fredericton the liquor people started a canvass to secure the repeal of the law, which may not be submitted to any one constituency often than once in three years. The law has not had a fair trial in Fredericton

as during almost the whole of its term of trial it has been regarded as of questionable constitutionality. Seeing, however, that its effect has been sufficient to produce these superhuman efforts against it, its friends may smile at the jeers of a grain-saying press who ask if the Scott law really accomplishes its end.

STATIONARY BOILER INSPECTION.

An article drawing attention to the want of any kind of regulation and inspection for stationary boilers in the country appeared in the *Witness* a short time ago. Since that article appeared two very convincing arguments for the inspection of these boilers have been furnished by the bursting of at least two boilers. Fortunately neither of these resulted in loss of life. That was the accident, however; the bursting can hardly be called accidental, as it has been found that boilers that are in good condition and well attended to do not burst. To insure their being in good condition one means presents itself, a good rigorous testing and a conscientious inspection at not too long intervals. The effect of this on marine boilers has been for nothing but good, and there is no reason to suppose that it would be less efficient if applied to stationary boilers. Marine boilers are now tested to determine their strength and a steady surveillance is kept over the boilers to insure their continued efficiency. Then no man is allowed to take charge of a steamboat engine unless he has spent a certain length of time in a machine shop and engine room, and can prove his ability by passing an examination. This is a necessity on a marine engine, as upon the perfect efficiency of the engine, and upon the skill and coolness of the engineer the safety of the vessel and all on board often depends. The stationary engine does not require as much care, and its not of very much importance to the public whether the engine itself is kept in an efficient state. The public question is, What is the condition of the stationary boiler? With regard to the examination of the attendant on a stationary plant, there is much to be said. To a man steam users are against being forced to hire none but licensed men, and certainly it would be a rather heavy burden upon possessors of under, say, a twenty-horse-power engine to be forced to hire an expensive man solely to manage the plant. The better plan would be to allow the inspector to consider the man as an indispensable part of the machine, and as such to examine him in connection with it just as he does the safety valve. Give the inspector as full power to condemn the fireman, if necessary, as he would have to condemn the pressure gauge. Of course, the larger the engine the greater the skill required, and the inspector should, in any case where he considers it necessary, have the power to order the employment of a regularly trained engineer. Such questions could be safely left to the discretion of the inspector. The Ontario Assembly has made an attempt to deal with this subject, but there is a reason for taking it up as a Dominion question. The present system of marine inspection is in the hands of the Dominion, and it would be a pity to separate the inspection of stationary from that of marine boilers. The present board of marine inspectors and examiners could act as a sort of court of revision in cases where the decision of the inspector did not satisfy the steamers, and the two things are so substantially the same that it would not seem wise to separate them.

"SAMPLING ITS BIGOTRY."

If any of our readers happened to see a few days ago, when we did not at the time, an evening contemporary published in this city, called the *Post*, they must have been somewhat surprised and amused by an article which claimed to be a crushing exposure of a piece of extreme villany on the part of the *Witness*. We had "falsified a cablegram" had "deliberately and willfully falsified the truth," had accomplished "a profligate piece of journalistic 'forgery,'" and had given our readers "such detrimental falsehoods to digest." We are not inclined to reply to this tirade with any long quotation of a certain passage referring to a note in one man's eye and a beam in another's; we shall not express all the anxiety which we at once felt for the digestive organs of the readers of the *Post* when we read its warning against the evil effects of swallowing "detrimental falsehoods." It is only necessary to state the facts to show on which side the falsification has occurred. In a cable despatch published by us on Thursday Mr. Davitt was made to say that he "claimed" instead of "denied" that there were splits in the "Irish national forces." Our article apparently had not the intelligence to observe that if we had wished to deceive the public we should hardly have printed in the very next sentence Mr. Davitt's declaration that there was no difference of principle between himself and Mr. Parnell; we cannot, therefore, expect that any assurance of good faith on our part will have the least effect on the journal which has, to quote its own words, "had recourse to such 'tactics' 'to satisfy its prejudice and bigotry.'" We have therefore little expectation that our contemporary will withdraw or apologize for its libellous attack when we inform it that the word "denied" which was in the original copy of the telegram, was unaltered when it passed from the editor's hands, and remains unaltered in the "copy" still—the mistake (confessedly a bad one) of compositor and proof-reader being due to the indistinctness of the copy. Even when the writer referred to saw an editorial in the *Witness* of Friday—written and published before we could possibly have seen his vituperative onslaught—quoting Mr. Davitt as having "declared" that there is no split in the Irish party, though we may hope that he "was ashamed of himself," we do not suppose that any thought of apology for his unfair conduct would enter his mind. We need hardly say any more for the satisfaction of the public, who are not likely to take the word even of the venacious *Post* although with better show of reason it had accused us of falsifying cablegrams. But for the satisfaction of that journal itself we conclude by adopting as peculiarly appropriate to its own tirade—which the chance of a word—the sentences in which it winds up the interesting, if somewhat

malevolent, article of which we are speaking as follows—"It would give us some 'satisfaction' to learn that the article was 'simply the work of an individual reporter' or editor, but it can scarcely be admitted that similar wholesale perversion of the 'truth' would be attempted by any subordinate if they were not winked at by the 'management of the paper.' It is no credit to a paper to convey deliberate falsehoods to the reading public, and especially to a class who are so easily influenced by what they read when it affects certain 'interests and certain nationalities.'"

THE CROOKS ACT.

The Ontario License Act, which the Local Opposition have been lately attacking so violently, has in the six years of its existence proved itself one of the best and most practical license laws ever known. This act passed in the session of 1875-6, withdrew the power of granting licenses from the municipalities and put it into the hands of local boards of commissioners, consisting of three unpaid members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The number of licenses granted was made directly dependent on the number of the population, and every tavern licensed to sell liquor had to both furnish regular meals and a certain number of bedrooms, thus doing away with the saloon nuisance almost entirely. To see to the proper carrying out of the law, paid inspectors were appointed who gave their whole time to the work, and in considering the application of a hotel-keeper for a license, the inspector's evidence is generally final. The effect of this law has been beneficial in the extreme; not only has the number of licensed houses decreased enormously, but the unlicensed grog-shops have almost ceased to exist. The value of a license has become so apparent that the licensed hotel-keeper is quite willing to play the spy and complain of anything he hears of being done outside of the law. Sunday-selling has almost entirely ceased, the risk of fines and loss of license being too great to make it a profitable business. Such men as ex-Vice-Chancellor Blake become commissioners, and everything that a strict adherence to the law can do is done. If the amount of fines be accepted as any criterion of the decrease of breaches of the law, it is satisfactory to find that in the year 1876-7, the first year in which the law was enforced, the sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars was collected, while in the year 1880-1 the fines amounted to about nineteen thousand dollars, a decrease in five years of nine thousand dollars, or very nearly one-third in that short time. The allegations of the Conservative press that the commission is used as a part of the political machine by the Reform party has been received by the Reform press with a universal cry of "prove it."

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETING.

The British Scientific Association decided at its last meeting to hold its meeting for 1884 in one of the outlying cities of Greater Britain. The selection of Montreal, though cordially supported by Canadians on the spot and now heartily seconded here, was not the result of any invitation from our citizens but to all intents spontaneous. It is strange what a place America seems to be taking in the minds of all Englishmen, both of the thoughtful and the thoughtless classes, as the future centre of the English race, from Herbert Spencer and a ceaseless procession of lesser philosophers who come over to study the new world development of civilization to Mrs. Langtry who has so often heard of great, free America, and wished so much to see it. Sir Stafford Northcote, the leading Conservative statesman of the day, finds it necessary in addressing the citizens of Glasgow to comfort them with the assurance that no matter how great Chicago may become, Glasgow must still flourish. Of course it is the United States that is usually thought of as America. The thinker is not quite so ready as Mrs. Langtry to acknowledge her conventional boast of achieved liberty except in so far as he acknowledges the freedom from some of the traditional curbs and branches of the old world, but while he sees too plainly that an old feudalism is giving way to a new and more dangerous because more irresponsible oligarchy, he is still convinced that the civilization which is to be developed by time in the larger conditions of the new world will have many advantages over that which will develop in the old. So far, all that is highest in material and intellectual wealth remains behind. Art and thought and refined culture centre in England. But already the weight of numbers is in America, already the average of wealth and of education is higher here than there, and in the minds of many it is only a question of time when the centre of influence and of power will move across the sea. There is at least sufficient prospect of this result to make the development of the phenomena of the new world extremely interesting to the thinkers of the old. It is to this intelligent curiosity, doubtless, that we owe the compliment that has been paid us, and which our citizens are doing all they can to meet with cordiality lest it should slip from their hands.

QUEBEC'S ENDEAVOR to recover the ocean carrying trade, which she has lost through apathy and Champlain street government, has created a good deal of interest not only in Canada but abroad. The general opinion seems to be that Quebec is only rabbling her eyes to see that her loss is irrecoverable. An American commercial journal says: "If we were disposed to take part in the 'contention we might venture to suggest that, as a matter of fact, the 'commercial forces' will always be most potent and most progressive in the community 'that exhibits the greatest public spirit.' Quebec was a respectable figure in history before Montreal was commercially of much account, but Quebec subsequently went 'asleep, while Montreal remained awake and kept up with the times. There is more than one seaport in the United States that in former years was prominent as the seat of an important foreign commerce that to-day is scarcely heard of as such. The truth is, eternal vigilance' (which is but another phrase for public 'spirit') is not less a condition of com-

mercial supremacy than it is the price of 'liberty, and when that condition falls away it is succeeded by the dry rot of indifference, and from that there is rarely a recovery. The moral, we need scarcely add, is applicable to other communities besides that of the ancient town on the 'heights of Abraham.'"

THE MONGOLIAN may not after all crowd the Caucasian out of America. Recent reports from the celestial kingdom represent the race to be diminishing rapidly even at home. Droughts, floods, locusts and insurrection are, it is said, rapidly depopulating the central provinces of China. The population of China in 1812, when the last census was taken, was said to be about three hundred and sixty millions, now it is estimated at about two hundred and fifty to three hundred millions. One war, which lasted for ten years, is said to have caused the death of from twenty to thirty millions of people. A law provides for an annual census return, but owing to rebellions and other calamities it has been neglected. One province, named Chekiang, has made the return and its population now is about eleven and a half millions against twenty-five and a quarter millions in 1812. The wealth of the country has decayed also in proportion apparently. This province, which yielded a land tax of five and three-quarter millions in 1812 now only yields two and one-tenth millions. The revenue derived by the central government from the province now amounts to less than three million pounds sterling against twelve million pounds sterling in 1812. Civilization and railways will, however, diminish the loss, by war and famine and probably turn the tide even if this new account of things be well founded.

THE CORONER'S JURY sitting on the victims of the "Asia" disaster has at length brought in a verdict which, while it unfortunately fixes the blame on nobody, is, we suppose, the strongest that, under the circumstances, could have been expected. In denouncing the want of proper equipment for the life boats of the unfortunate vessel, the jury, probably without knowing it, struck at one of the greatest defects of our fresh water marine. The boats of the average lake steamers are, as a general rule, about as unworthy as so many tubs, and the life preservers, while at one time they may have been efficient enough, have, through want of care, become almost useless. This state of things was brought to the attention of the authorities some time ago by the Lake Sailors' Union, who would naturally be supposed to know as much about the matter as any body of men. But to all appearance no attention was paid to their warning. In their petition they especially mentioned the fact that the proper number of oars were seldom or never provided. The "Asia" disaster fully corroborates their statements, and if the proper authorities do not see to the matter we think the next coroner's jury that sits on the victims of an "Asia"—an event which may not be far off judging from Captain Scott's report—will not do its duty if it does not lay the responsibility on more responsible shoulders than those of a "party" or "parties unknown."

MR. DAVITT may believe as he declares that there is no split in the Irish party, but the facts are against him. The National League meeting ended in a quarrel, and Mr. Parnell, who insisted upon his own policy, will not allow that there is little difference between his own and Mr. Davitt's policy. The clearest evidence of a split, however, is the fact that the Irish party and the greater portion of the American party have refused to accept the policy of Mr. Parnell and the new league, and have stopped the fund. They also savagely attacked the Parliamentary party, in which new league principles are predominant. The extreme party in Ireland, which is an active, if not large one, has always gone with the Americans. The new party will find that it does not possess the "sinews of war." Mr. Parnell finds himself where O'Connell did before him the moment he showed that his place was not in the van of revolution, and that he meant to limit himself to Parliamentary possibilities.

BRITISH BURMAH is growing populous and prosperous under order and good government. The imports and exports have become more varied and have greatly increased. The value of exports for the past year was six crores of rupees, and that of imports three and a half. Independent Burma, on the contrary, has become the home of anarchy, and is rapidly going down hill in every way. British traders are being attacked on the river, and the bold depredations of rebels in Upper Burma have spread dismay even as far as the capital itself, Mandalay. It appears only a question of time when it will become necessary for the safety of British Burma, as well as for the welfare of its own people, that independent Burma should pass under British rule. Had it not been for the Afghan war it would probably have been subdued at that time. It is said that the success of the British arms in Egypt has already had a salutary effect upon the Burmese officials. It is curious how far-reaching the results of the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, which was won in twenty minutes, have proved to be.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL is, there can be no doubt, the fighting man of the Conservative party. He gives and receives the hardest hits. His hits tell most with both parties. He is continually drawing forth thunders of applause from the Tories. It is rather funny to find a minister charged with tyranny because he insists upon calling the House together to consult it upon public affairs. Perhaps, however, from His Lordship's point of view such a proceeding is tyranny. Mr. Gladstone appears to have taken especial pains "to answer a fool according to his folly" or he would not have indulged in such an American outburst as that he had "entirely destroyed, smashed and pulverized Lord Randolph's" assertion. This must have electrified the House as did the grand old man's offer at the last session to take a bet at long odds. If Lord Randolph Churchill were younger, we would not hesitate to predict that he

would some day be a Tory Premier, but he is forty-three or four, and his lack of discretion is too plentiful to allow of the hope that a man of his age would some day become a minister.

THE AMERICANS while acknowledging that they could not compete with the outer world in the business done in iron ships, still hugged the belief that it was because those ships, being naturally the product of another country, were more cheaply built and equipped there than at home, but they have now to acknowledge that in wooden vessels they have also lost the carrying of their own trade. Of the 18,319,090 of tonnage cleared from the United States during the last fiscal year only 3,225,000 the *Commercial Bulletin* points out, was American. Of the total tonnage about one half was steam, of which America is destitute, so that the foreign sail tonnage sailing from American ports amounted to 4,225,000, or one million greater than that of the United States. The Norwegians, who secure a large share of the trade, earned \$12,000,000 by tonnage cleared from American ports to ports other than Norwegian. So the Americans cannot hold their own on what they have always regarded as their own ground.

CHRISTIANITY, as Macaulay complained, hardly gets fair play in India to this day. When the three members of the Salvation Army were arrested in the streets of Bombay, they were simply marching through the streets with a banner and singing hymns as they went. They were followed by a crowd of curious natives, which, of course, the very thing they desired, as they wanted an audience to preach to, but there were no signs that a breach of the peace was at all probable. Yet it was on a charge of forming an assembly which was likely to lead to a breach of the peace that they were brought to trial. A fourth member of the corps who preached in the hall secured by the army to an audience so large that as many stood without as within, stated that on his way to the meeting-house he had passed two native religious processions, both of which were protected by policemen. It certainly must appear to Mohammedans and Hindus as if the British Government had less respect for the Christian religion than for that either of Mohammed or Buddha.

TORONTO AND OTTAWA seem to be vying with each other in producing extraordinary sensations. The former has had more than a nine days' wonder in the kidnapping of one of her citizens by robbers, from whom he escaped after being imprisoned in an attic in New York State for over a week. It is not easy to judge, from the dissimilarity in kind, whether what Ottawa now furnishes surpasses the Western sister's effort or not. She, however, gives a very good companion story in the account of a train on the Canada Atlantic picking up a man sleeping in a buffalo robe out of his buggy, which the stopping of the train as drowsy nag had left standing across the track at one of the streets, unhorsing the buggy or unbugging the horse, hurling the buggy into the river, giving the horse a scratch as his share of the adventure, and bearing the somnolent owner of the rig, still wrapped in peaceful slumber and his robe, upon the ledge of the cowcatcher, safely into the station. Next!

THE CITY FATHERS of Ottawa want the paternal Dominion Cabinet to assist them in having manufactories started in that city. The country had been led to believe in 1878 that when the Government uttered the magic spell "N. P." the greatest want of every city, town and village would be for labor to operate the manufactories that would arise. In addition to paying the high duties, however, scores of small and great centres of population have been granting bonuses of thousands to hundreds of thousands of dollars to coax manufacturers within their bounds. Again, the repetition of the same potent spell last year was to have made investments here so safe as to tempt untold foreign capital to Canada, which would grow into tall smoking chimneys. Yet here come the rulers of the Federal capital, cap in hand, begging the Government to take a hand itself in establishing industrial works.

MILAN, King of Servia, has proved himself the most liberal and constitutional of the rulers of the Balkan provinces. Unlike King Alexander, of Bulgaria, who overthrew the constitution which he had accepted, he has adhered closely to those provisions which prescribed his own powers while he has allowed these referring to his people's rights the most liberal interpretation. It appears, however, that his liberalism has not disarmed the class of king-haters and order-haters who have become the most tyrannous and most liberty-endangering class of people that exist. It is they who make despotism to-day not merely possible but inevitable. After failing in their own attempts against the life of King Milan, they appear to have in a most cowardly way used as a tool a poor woman whose grief had unsettled her mind.

LYONS is one of the largest manufacturing cities in France, and one of the most revolutionary. In every great political revolution which has disturbed the nation, it has, with one single exception, taken a leading part. Some of these popular uprisings, most serious in their consequences, were born, reared and destroyed within its own limits. The riots of 1834 lasted for some days, and were finally put down only at the expense of a great deal of bloodshed. Lyons is at present in a very prosperous condition, but her prosperity will soon become a thing of the past if the revolutionary spirit is to reign. It is to be hoped that if a rebellion does break out, the Chambers will allow the Government, without undue interference, to take such measures as the gravity of the situation may appear to it to demand.

CLIFFORD LLOYD, a remarkably able, willing, courageous and successful officer of the law, who has proved himself to be the terror of those that did evil in Ireland during the late disturbances, earned for himself the hatred of the criminals and all who sympathize with the law-breakers as well as some unthinking people. It was said that he was indifferent to the blame and praise

