

MONTREAL WITNESS,

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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No. 12.

COMMERCE AND CHRISTIANITY.

A lecture on the above subject was delivered last night, by the Rev. Dr. WILKES, D. D., before the Young Men's Christian Association, in the Bonaventure Hall. The lecture was preceded by prayer.

The Rev. LECTURER after stating that commerce was a part of civilization, springing out of it, requiring its parent so that both were thenceforward the happier, observed that commerce must have a mission, and one of no mean importance, and wherein Christianity took hold of her with a kindly hand. The commercial spirit had been a mighty instrument in diffusing civilization through the world. It had spread the printing press, built ships, and the true merchant was a pillar in the temple of God as well as a column on the exchange. The best interests of humanity were concerned in keeping commerce and christianity together; but there was a tendency to put them asunder. It was also said that this was not a subject for the pulpit to meddle with. But religion had to do with commerce, and every other practical subject, and indeed with the whole of man, and hence ministers could not let this subject alone. Doubtless, it would please Satan if he might unmolested set up a perfect temple of Mammon in the world, whence religion should be utterly excluded; but Christians must protest against such a divorce, for it were well that the feet that trod the exchange during the day, should, in the morning, have trodden the sanctuary. Christianity elevated commerce, and without it, the latter could never rise to its proper position. As the Albatross sailing over the sea, and alighting, wearied, upon the deck, could not rise thence, till, by being cast clear of the ship's sides, it could use its broad and powerful wings, so commerce without Christianity could have no high aspirations. Commerce might be defined as an exchange of equivalents for mutual advantage. Its earliest form was that of barter. It doubtless existed amongst the antediluvians, and Homer spoke of the equivalents which were given in exchange for the accoutrements of some of his heroes. In its more complex form a medium of exchange was required, and money was brought into requisition. This medium must have been early invented, for we read of monetary transactions by Abraham, and there was reason to believe its use was known before the flood. Its employment gave rise to banks, bills of exchange, drafts, promissory notes, brokers, &c., wherein it was necessary that men of great ability and high integrity should be employed. It also called into existence a purely commercial class, to be the intercensors of commodities; for the producer could not, in general, be conveniently also the seller; and if antiquity conferred honor, then might this class boast; for, not to speak of the commercial transactions connected with Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph, it was almost impossible that Noah could have built so vast and costly a vessel as the ark, without the prior existence of a commercial class. The name of the city of Sidon—so called after the antediluvian—proclaimed its immense antiquity, and the people of Tyre had been for centuries noted as merchants, even in ancient days; whilst in the book of Job many allusions were made to persons and things connected with the commercial profession, such as navigators, swift ships, also to writing in a book, iron pens, &c.; and, in various other ways, abundant notice made of the use of metals, and general progress in science, art, and commerce. To show the antiquity and extent of commerce we might go to ancient Egypt, Phœnicia, the early States of Greece, and, in more modern days, the Italian republics, the Hanseatic towns, and, above all, to our own beloved and commercial country of Great Britain. But commerce was a most worthy employment, useful alike to producer and consumer, and eminently calculated to enlarge the views; yet, it must be confessed that, whilst it opened out large prospects for good, it also afforded ample space for the exercise of human depravity, by the exercise of all the petty arts of deception, and unscrupulous overreaching, throwing what might be a region of delight and prosperity into a tract of darkness, a veritable Pandemonium. In trade, legitimately and honorably pursued, all the maxims of morality and generous principles of Christianity might be carried out. To live and let live was its true axiom. But if they took the selfish principle, of getting all they could by all the means and details known to cheaters, they did their part to frustrate God's purpose of beneficence in the economy of trade and commerce, the effects of which conduct upon the character were of the most blighting and woeful kind, and the most fearful ill the soul of man could be afflicted with had risen from the lust of gold. Surely, then, here, if anywhere, Christianity had a right to interfere; she could not stand tamely by and see a tide of corruption and evil flowing through the channels of trade; here, if anywhere, must Christianity have her full force and range of influence. He would notice two things: the happy results of legitimate commerce, and the course proper to the commercial class to realize those benefits. The tendencies of legitimate commerce were all beneficial. It bred and fostered industry, and industry was essential to happiness; it created wealth, and the possession of wealth in one enabled that one to stimulate to its possession others, by creating a demand for what he desired, and they might be able to furnish. The possessor of wealth could also aid in all ameliorating and charitable works, and especially could he aid in sending the gospel to the benighted by means of the missionary. Another beneficial effect of commerce was the development and enlargement of the mind, by the promotion of geographical discoveries; nor was it true, that only the most common or sordid qualities were required to make the successful tradesman or merchant.—Dr. Johnson's opinion to the contrary notwithstanding. In looking at and appraising men who had been commercially successful, we were too apt to take those who had rather abused a noble profession to gratify

a grasping acquisitiveness, instead of those who had acquired wealth honorably and used it wisely and liberally. The erection of towns and cities had been another result of commerce, and they were no mean boon to Christianity. They were the centres of the arts and of civilization, and in them virtue, to exist, must be of a vigorous growth, because it was surrounded by such a tainted atmosphere. Commerce also called forth the best productions of each soil and country; it was favorable and conservative towards law; by making the people of a country known to each other, it formed a national spirit; required and defended liberty, and the establishment and maintenance of the principles and forms of justice. No country was more devoid of national spirit than India, where, for purposes of trade, one village was scarcely known to another; and in no other countries was it so strong as in the commercial ones of England and America. Commerce was favorable to social liberty; it had broken the charm of feudalism, and established civil rights, and orderly government, by law, where formerly only the law of might prevailed. In the arts, it promoted those of peace rather than those of war; it broke up the old idea that stranger and enemy were synonymous, and took the former to its bosom. It improved education, provided telegraph wires and all the other modern modes of transmitting thought, thereby facilitating the dissemination of the Gospel. It afforded some of the finest exhibitions of benevolence and lofty ethics, for the highest integrity was one of its essential elements.

Such were a few of the benefits of commerce; what were the practical means to be adopted by the commercial class to secure these benefits? First, the principle of the whole of their business conduct must be higher and nobler than selfishness, which was, in itself, an unmingled evil. Self-love was altogether different, but the spirit of selfishness was the one that prompted the inquiry: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Men should remember the interests of others in their dealings as well as their own, for no other principle would stand before God in the judgment. Some might say "There are two sides to a bargain, and I must mind my own;" but Christianity denounced this selfishness, which principle was at the root of all the evil that had been associated with commerce, whilst the caveat of Christianity was against the thus ignoring the rights of others. The true end to be sought by commerce, was, as in every other pursuit, the glory of God, the giver of all things; for the elements of wealth lay in the earth, the fullness whereof was His, and the scriptures said, "Remember the Lord thy God, for it is He who giveth thee the power to get wealth." The endeavor to obtain wealth was not reprehensible, but the all-absorbing desire to get money for its own sake was to be eschewed. This determination was strongly exhibited in certain instances; and the lecturer read an extract from a New York newspaper article, written ten years ago, wherein the avidity in that city, for obtaining more and yet more, was brought out in a striking and painful manner. And why, he asked, did every one mean to be rich? Was it to do good to man, or to have it said after death, that he had sold his life to gather gain and build a mansion for his son? Wealth was the natural aim of the merchant; but its employment should always be with an eye to the good of others and the service of God. By so doing the true dignity of the profession would be constantly kept in view, all selfishness and petty trickery forced out of sight, and they would be living for something more than the mere gathering of wealth. Of such a merchant it would be said, "His word is as good as his bond;" and he would faithfully adhere to a verbal agreement, although much to his loss; he would despise that abominable maxim, "Whatever I may legally do, that may I properly do." Some said that, to put a man into trade or commerce, was to place him in a dangerous path, from the strong temptations to swerve from strict rectitude, which would frequently beset him. But let the Bible be his guide: it gave him principles of action; and in it would also be found the precept, that their gains should be devoted to the sanctuary and to Christ. With commerce, Christianity ever has much to do: the former could not stand enshrined in a separate temple of Mammon without being disturbed. Trade's noblest purpose was subserved when it promoted the founding of colleges, the building of churches, and the establishment of missions. The practice of the true principles of commerce was, in so far, a fulfilling of the law of God, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you." Covetousness was, as Harris had said, "the monopoly of wickedness." Commerce, under this dark guidance, had discovered new countries, then torn them away from the native inhabitants; it had sent settlers who had trodden on the aborigines. Under it the Spaniards had enacted fearful cruelties on the Indians of South America, and the Caribs of the West Indies, and the Americans had trodden down the blacks in the Cotton States. Let them then create a public sentiment to bear upon this abuse and perversion of the commercial spirit, let both the pulpit and legislature work to this end, and parents instil into their children sound and honest views; let commerce be planted side by side with Christianity, and we should yet see them both flourish so as they had never been known before.

The Doxology was then sung, and after the Benediction had been pronounced, the meeting separated.

PETITION.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Charles Stanley Monck, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the Island of Prince Edward;

The petition of the Employees of HUMBLY SUBMIT.—That your Petitioners are deeply impressed with the fact, that the common sale of Intoxicating Liquors, so far from being a benefit, as frequently represented by interested individuals, is a source of unmitigated evil to working men generally. The Liquor Traffic is the chief and immediate cause of the drunkenness, immorality, lunacy, crime and poverty which abound in our midst; and these are not its accidental attendants, but its natural fruits. There are thousands of working men throughout Canada, whose uncontrollable passion for strong drink arises from Physical disease engendered in the system by habits formed in Taverns and Groggery Groceries, and their only hope of deliverance is in the prohibition of the sale of these seductive and dangerous beverages.

That your Petitioners are persuaded, that there is no safety for our Class so long as the law continues to license houses for the common Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.

That your Petitioners would point out, that the evils flowing from Taverns, Saloons, and Groggery Groceries are not confined to the victims themselves, but that all classes suffer directly and indirectly from a traffic which augments the price of food, reduces the wages of industry, and increases the burden of taxation.

That your Petitioners submit, that it is just, expedient, and perfectly consistent with constitutional principles, that the people be empowered to protect themselves from the results of this demoralizing system. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Excellency to give legal sanction to a Bill now before the Legislature, entitled "The Temperance Act of 1863." (No. 5, 1863.—2nd Session.)

And your Petitioners, will ever pray.

Sets of printed forms of the above, or the general petition, together with a circular letter of instructions, can be had on application to the Secretary of the Alliance, 38 Great St. James Street, Montreal.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CASTE IN CANADA.

[To the Editor of the Witness.]

DEAR SIR,—Permit me, through the columns of your most valuable paper, to allude to the manner in which I was received at one of the so-called public Skating Rinks in this city. I learned by the daily papers that no one (mark the expression) would by any means be admitted except recommended by a subscriber or known to the proprietor. I mentioned the fact to several who were in the habit of frequenting the Rink, among the number were some of the employees of the Rink, and was informed by them that it was not the case. However, I was determined to ascertain for myself; accordingly, I repaired to the Rink, and, on entering the precincts of that icy Palace, I was accosted by a gentleman who, I afterwards learned, was the proprietor, and who demanded of me what was my business. I replied that I wished to gain admission to the Skating Rink. I was then told that I could not be admitted unless recommended by a subscriber, or known to the proprietor,—all of which I found no fault with. However, I waited a few minutes, and a gentleman came in, whom I knew to be a subscriber; he asked me why I was not skating. I told him I could not for reasons above mentioned; he then told me that he would vouch for me, and accordingly went to the proprietor with that view, but, to his great surprise, was informed that persons having the misfortune to be born with a dark skin were not eligible to the privileges of the Skating Rink, as there had been objections made by some of the subscribers when, on a former occasion, a coloured young man was about to make his appearance upon the Rink. The proprietor said nothing more to me; but, as soon as I could make it convenient, I asked him if I had not complied with the rules of the Rink. He answered in the affirmative, but added that he did not like to tell me before that I could not be admitted under any circumstances, for the reasons above mentioned; so the fault rests somewhere, which I leave to the well-thinking portion of the community to decide. Nothing remained for me but to evacuate the premises with a very unfavorable opinion of British Freedom and equality, and, being reminded that his Honour the Mayor had, in the great magnanimity of his heart, flooded a place in the vicinity of the Victoria Skating Rink, thither I directed my steps and skated without further interruption.

ETHIOPIA.

REMARKS.

We had no idea that color-phobia existed in Lower Canada, and regret exceedingly that any respectable man should be excluded solely on account of his color from any place of public business or amusement, with the rules of which he is ready to comply.—Ed. Wit.

LEASING THE SALMON-FISHERIES.

[To the Editor of the Witness.]

SIR,—I addressed to the Department of Crown Lands, through your medium, some queries having reference to the Leasing of Salmon-Fisheries, and have, in reply, been furnished with the following information:—

1. The maximum term of lease is nine years, and is fixed by statute. Season-licenses will be substituted for leases, when less than three years are successfully tendered for.

2. No minimum rental has been fixed, nor has

the department any preference between short and long periods of lease.

3. While the department desires to obtain the highest rent consistent with the most desirable occupation, it will follow the usual practice of not being bound absolutely to accept the highest tender.

4. All this is, of course, perfectly satisfactory. Allow me, however, again to urge upon the department the superiority of the public auction over the tender system. This is recognized elsewhere. Act 15 Vic, cap. 31, sec. 6, of the New-Brunswick Parliament, provides that "the lease of such (salmon-fishing) station shall be sold at public auction after 30 days' notice," &c. SPORTSMAN.

THE PRISON INSPECTORS, MR. MCGINN AND THE TEA.

[To the Editor of the Daily Witness.]

SIR,—In your journal of this day, you express your approval of the act of the authorities in dismissing Mr. McGinn, as you say, "after the statements made by the Prison Inspectors concerning the tea business, which were not, so far as we have seen, disproved; though the Canadian Patriot seems to have made some strong points, which we copied, against the fairness of the Inspectors on other matters."

Allow me to say, that the strongest point made out in the article of the Patriot, is in reference to the tea itself. It reads as follows:—

"It has been stated, and reiterated, that Mr. McGinn has charged 7½ per cent for tea. Take 100 per cent. off this official misrepresentation, and you have the correct sum charged, or 7½ per half gallon." This makes the astounding profits "small by degrees and beautifully less."

The proof of this assertion is to be found in Mr. McGinn's letter, published in the Transcript more than a month since, and which to this day stands uncontradicted by his answers. In that letter Mr. McGinn also shows that this charge was in strict accordance with a contract entered into by the Deputy Inspector General and Sheriff Boston on his behalf, in the year 1854,—a contract which has been invariably acted upon by the present as well as former governments.

The only issue to be tried is, "has Mr. McGinn departed from his contract with the government?" The system we know is bad; but, if that makes Mr. McGinn guilty, it, at the same time, makes every Jailer in the Province guilty also; for the Prison Inspectors' Report goes to show that, on these contracts, many of them must have realized more than treble the profit per head, as compared with the Montreal Jailer.

The extract from the Canadian Patriot, which you gave yesterday, only referred to some of the minor charges preferred in that magazine against these Inspectors. Nearly every statement in their official report is reviewed, and proved to be false from the Prison Rules and other of their own official documents.

The startling discovery that these Government Commissioners should, throughout their investigation, have acted so corruptly, makes one almost lose sight of the accused for the time being, and the all-absorbing question for the present is, "how will the Government deal with these official falsifiers, both of figures and facts." JUSTICE.

Montreal, Feb. 9th, 1864.

[To the Editor of the Witness.]

SIR,—Those interested in the cause of Protestant education in Lower Canada are deeply indebted to you for your persistent efforts in its favor; and it is to be hoped that the influential city of Montreal will aid your endeavors by holding a public meeting of all Protestants, without delay, in order that matters may be put in trim for pressing their just claims upon the Legislature at its approaching session. Quebec, Feb. 4, 1864. A SUBSCRIBER.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

THE DEFENCES OF CANADA.—Colonel Jervois, of the Royal Engineers, has just returned to England, after an inspection, says the Army and Navy Gazette, of certain important points connected with the defence of British possessions in America, he was instructed to make. We trust that the government "will do something" where so much is needed. Surely Parliament will not refuse to listen to wisdom and moderation. Quebec is now relatively much weaker than it was in the days of Montcalm or Montgomery. The seaboard is almost bare. Great interests are at stake, angry papers are at work—a steady spirit of encroachment animates a powerful nation to whom our fisheries are objects of envy and desire, and we may all be on the eve of a war in which a general scramble can be made with comparative impunity.—Quebec Gazette.

THE INLAND NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The Inland Navigation Steamboat Company have just held their annual meeting at Montreal, and elected a staff of directors. The appointment of a captain to the new boat, the Grecian, now in course of completion at Montreal, has caused changes with regard to the officering of the other boats of the line. These changes we may expect, so far as they concern the public, will soon be announced by advertisement. The Company have determined to run their boats to the long wharf lately purchased by Capt. Bowen and Mr. Gilderleeve, and which was previously held by Messrs. Anderson & Ford.—Kingston News.

STABBING AFFRAY ON THE CITADEL.—On the 2nd inst., a quarrel took place between two soldiers of the 62nd, in the citadel barracks, when one of them stabbed the other, inflicting a deep and dangerous wound. The perpetrator has been handed over to the civil authorities, and the wounded man lies seriously ill in hospital. The quarrel originated in some gambling affair in the recreation room of the regiment.—Quebec Gazette.

FOUND DEAD.—Yesterday afternoon a woman, named Margaret Campbell, was found dead in her house, situated on Queen street, between Pine and Sumach. She had long been addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor, and there can be no doubt that this was the cause of her death. An inquest will be held this morning at ten o'clock by Coroner Riddell.—Toronto Globe.

ARSON AND ROBBERY.—On the 29th ult., a bureau was discovered to be on fire in the residence of Mrs. Bradfield, dressmaker, Hamilton. The fire was, fortunately, soon extinguished, but it was discovered that a large sum of money, \$410, had been abstracted by the servant girl, Hannah Fitzgerald. Several articles in the bureau were saturated with coal oil, and a quantity had been poured on the floor; there is, therefore, every reason to believe that the place was deliberately fired, with the intention of concealing the theft. The girl had been with Mrs. Bradfield some two or three years, and has hitherto borne a good character.

EXTRADITION CASE.—A person named Israel Dufresne, was lately arrested at Upton, C.E., and brought before the Hon. Edward Short, at the Court House in Sherbrooke, charged with having participated in the murder of John Parker, in Massachusetts, with Alex. Boisvert, who escaped from the officers in charge of him by leaping from the cars between Quebec and Richmond. As the Judge did not consider the evidence sufficient to warrant his being committed to prison in order to extradition, he was discharged.

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.—The Nor'-wester of Oct 9. mentions that there was every prospect of a good fall hunt, and that large herds of buffalo had been found much nearer the settlement than for many years past. It also states that the loss by prairie fires this year has been very great. Hardly a day passed but conflagrations swept over the plains on either side of the river, and the farmer who had not lost some hay or other produce in this way counted himself very fortunate. We find the following paragraph in the Nor'-wester, taken from the St. Paul Pioneer of September 18: "Messrs. Borup and Oakes received yesterday from Mr. Bannatyne, of Fort Garry, a consignment of gold taken from the Saskatchewan gold fields, of the value of about \$500. Mr. Oakes informs us that other consignments of much larger amount are on their way. We learn from Mr. Bannatyne that the Saskatchewan mines have turned out the past season much better than was expected, and that the average amount taken out daily by each person engaged in mining has been about \$5."

TEXAS.—A loyal Texas man informs the New Orleans Era that the wheat crop of Northern Texas was very large last season. The Union sentiments in Dallas, Calhoun and Parker counties is so strong that men talk openly for the Union in the streets. The new conscription law gives Magruder 18,000 to 20,000 men, but it is said a large portion of them will lay down their arms at the first opportunity. Large numbers will enlist in the Union army if it penetrates the interior.

A terrific gunpowder explosion occurred at Liverpool on the evening of the 15th of January. A vessel named the "Lotty Sleigh," lying in the river, bound for Africa, with a considerable quantity of gunpowder on board, took fire and was deserted by her crew, after they found it impossible to subdue the flames. The vessel was soon blown to atoms, and the concussion was so great that the destruction of glass in Liverpool and Birkenhead was most extensive, and the greatest alarm and consternation for a time prevailed. People were knocked down in many places, but no loss of life was reported.

A young man named Dennis Kinsley about 17 years of age, a native of St. Catharines, arrived in that town about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 29th ult., having deserted from the American army. He was refused admission into a hotel at which he applied, and having lain down on the platform in front of the house, was soon after found in a semi-conscious state, and ordered away. He was afterwards taken into the house, where he lingered till the afternoon, when death put an end to his misery, his system probably having been weakened from want and exposure.

The American town of Port Angeles situated at the foot of one of the loftiest peaks of the Cascade range of mountains in a direction nearly opposite to Victoria, British Columbia, has been nearly swept away by a torrent of water which burst upon it suddenly through a gorge which opens into the rear of the town.—Nearly all the buildings are destroyed and many lives lost, and the farms in the neighbourhood ruined. The accident is supposed to have been caused by the late rains melting the snow and ice in the mountains, and causing avalanches into the lakes at the foot hills. These lakes were then overflowed, and rushing down the gorge, carried everything before them. It is said that the Indians told the whites, when they were laying out their town, that its site was subject to overflow, but no heed was paid to the information.—Victoria Weekly Chronicle.

The Cincinnati Enquirer mentions that lately, in one of the stores of that city, a lady, the wife of a government clerk, paid a bill which she supposed one of \$100—the price of a shawl she had purchased—with directions to forward the shawl to her residence. As the shawl was not forthcoming, the husband called at the store to know the reason, and was informed that the lady had paid a \$1000 note instead of one for \$100, and that the shawl was retained until the mistake should be rectified.—The Enquirer remarks that thousand dollar bills must be more plentiful with Government clerks than one dollar bills are with local editors, when this gentleman (who is simply a clerk in one of the Quartermaster's departments) and his wife could make such a big mistake and never miss the money.

Contemporary Press.

THE CARDROSS CASE.

It is with a feeling of inexpressible relief, in which we are sure our readers will cordially share, we announce that the action raised by Mr. McMillan against the General Assembly has been abandoned; and that the readers of newspapers will in future be spared the perusal of wearisome legal discussions in our courts of law under the heading "Cardross Case." It is now upwards of five years since the case made its first appearance in the Court of Session; and since then its pros and cons have been argued at such length, and the real principles involved have been buried under such a mass of legal terminology, that the public at last looked with a feeling of revulsion upon the bare mention of the case. So thoroughly persuaded are we of this, that we shall not now enter into a history of the protracted litigation for the purpose of showing how the Judges from the very first did all in their power to blink the real issue raised; and, after allowing the lawyers on both sides to debate for weary months, till Solomon's maxim was reversed, that in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom, it was discovered at the eleventh hour by one of their Lordships that the proper parties had not been cited,—a suggestion which was gladly caught at by two of his brother Judges, so that when the case afterwards came up for judgment, the Court dismissed the action, on the ground that no decree of damages could be obtained or enforced against the General Assembly of 1858, which expired when it rose, and that the reductive conclusions, if discovered from this demand, could not be proceeded with as a separate and independent conclusion; and, in the second place, that as the allegation of malice against the three individual defendants,—Dr. Beith, Candlish, and Bannerman,—had been withdrawn, an action wanting this essential would not lie against them while proceeding in the discharge of their ecclesiastical duties. The present action was raised against the individual members of the General Assembly, to obviate the objections taken by their Lordships in the former case; and it was pretty confidently stated that the counsel for Mr. McMillan had taken the benefit of some of the hints thrown out by the Judges, especially by Lord Deas, and had so framed their procedure in the new action that they would be able to steer clear of all difficulties, and might reckon upon success. When the case was again brought before the Lord Ordinary, it was, however found that it had not quite the hopeful aspect which these parties would have had the public believe; and yesterday it received its coup de grace in the First Division from its own promoters, the pursuer's counsel having unexpectedly announced its abandonment. In one aspect it would have been well, looking to the protracted nature of the struggle, and the expense which has been incurred, had judgment been finally taken upon the important point involved,—viz., the Church's spiritual jurisdiction; but enough has perhaps transpired in the progress of the case to show that the courts of law will be chary to interfere with the discipline of non-established Churches, however fond they may be of letting it be known that their courts are not recognised in the eye of the law, and that persons in the situation of Mr. McMillan will not so easily succeed, as was at one time supposed by some, in setting at defiance the decisions of the ecclesiastical courts to which they have sworn obedience.—Edin. Witness.

M. THIERS' DEMAND FOR LIBERTY IN FRANCE.

M. Thiers' speech in the French Legislative Corps has occasioned a good deal of excitement in Paris. After taking a review of the past, he stated that he would have spent the remainder of his life in retirement, when a great change was wrought by the decrees of November 1861, and February 1862. Up to that time the Legislature was silent, discussing hardly amending—the bills sent down by the Council of State—(no, no)—it had no effectual control over the finances. Those decrees had changed all this. They did not confer all the liberties that were desirable, no doubt, but they were a pledge of those that still remained to be achieved; and, for his part, he thanked the Emperor for them. (Marks of approval.) From the time those decrees were issued he had recommended his friends to take the oath of allegiance to the Emperor. Having given that advice he could hardly, though it was not, they would understand, congenial to his feelings, avoid acting upon it himself; and he therefore again returned to public life. Having pointed out that, ex professo, the Constitution might be changed by means of a senatus consultum, M. Thiers went on to show that the history of France, from 1830 to the present day, proved that though the country appeared at times, and for such long periods, so oblivious of liberty that she seemed to forget its very existence, yet she never failed to turn towards it with irresistible force. He proceeded to draw a picture of liberty paling before the military grandeur of the First Empire, but gradually acquiring her sway when one army was hurled in the burning abyss of Spain, and another in the frozen deserts of Russia; and even Napoleon himself during the Hundred Days granted complete liberty. It had been said he was not in earnest. He proved the contrary by appealing from the words of Napoleon dazzled with success, to Napoleon rendered greater, wiser, and better by misfortune. (Partial applause.) M. Thiers then drew a picture of the reactionary policy of the Restoration, endeavouring to stem the tide of liberty, and endeavouring in vain.—At last the time came when the prerogatives of the Crown clashed with the prerogatives of the country. Twice, under different forms, that great question arose;—twice, two thrones were overthrown. He would compare that question to the "Cape of Tempests," so dreaded by navigators of the fifteenth century; now, by a happy inspiration, that stormy headland had received the name of "Cape of Good Hope." Heaven send their "Cape of Tempests" might soon change its name, and be happily doubled. (Loud applause.) I will say nothing (continued M. Thiers) of our agitations in 1848. We went through the Republic to come to the Empire. The idea of liberty once more disappeared. An immense military reaction ruled in Europe. Nevertheless, the vivifying spirit of the age acted upon peoples, and even upon Sovereigns. The Princes were assembled in Paris in the persons of their representatives to regulate the consequences of the glorious peace of the Crimea; and for the first time liberty had a congress for a tribune, and a diplomatist for an orator. The illustrious Count Cavour was authorized to denounce the Italian

Princes,—some because they had not given liberty, and others because they were the sons of Princes who had refused it. The emotion caused by this event was immense. The Italians armed; the Austrians armed also; they were soon in conflict; we rushed to the rescue; and Italy was freed. The impulsion was so rapid that, in spite of our stipulations at Villafranca, all the Princes were overthrown; and but for the universal faith of the peoples in a prudent policy, the Pope would have fallen like the others. [Movement.] This is not all. The agitation extended to all Europe. Austria has sought in liberty a compensation for her defeats. The name of liberty comes back to us in every echo, and France cannot be deaf to the world. The decree of Nov. 24 was issued. The necessity of liberty was once more felt. Well, now, if this is a real and serious necessity, in what measure must it be satisfied? That is a grave question, I admit; and yet, if we examine it well, it is not insoluble. I will know that liberty excites in France very various sentiments. Some are inspired by the name with unlimited desires, others with chimerical fears. But that there is a measure of liberty which is necessary cannot be doubtful. Ask at Vienna, Berlin, Madrid, and Turin, and you will find that fact admitted beyond discussion. I am happy to say that this necessary measure is quite compatible with our existing institutions, provided we do not dry up the happy source from which emanated the decree of Nov. 24. Five things are indispensable to constitute what I call the necessary measure of liberty. M. Thiers proceeded to define these five requisites as individual liberty—by which he meant that no citizen should be liable to any arbitrary interference or measure on the part of the State; liberty of the press—by which he did not mean impunity in case the press attacked the honor of citizens or disturbed the public peace; electoral liberty—by which he did not mean that the Govt. should never interfere in the elections, but that it should abstain from forcing candidates on the electors; Parliamentary liberty—by which he meant that the Legislature should be able to control the Executive; and last, but most important of these conditions, that public opinion once clearly ascertained, should guide the acts of the Government. (Uproar.) Out of these five conditions, which were in his possession of, which were those that still remained to be achieved, and which they might legitimately claim? They were in possession of individual liberty. There was but one exception—the law of general safety. That law was an exceptional one applicable to one class of citizens; but when one member of the community was liable to be unjustly treated all were threatened alike. That law, moreover, applied to circumstances which fortunately no longer existed—(prolonged uproar)—(which it is necessary to account for by reminding the reader that the law in question was passed immediately after Orsini's attempt.)

A member exclaimed,—Those circumstances were renewed but yesterday.

M. Thiers proceeded to state that it was far from his intention to offend the Assembly by criticising any of its measures, but pointed out that the law was to expire in 1865—that no one dreamt of renewing it—and that the only question was whether it should not be repealed before it naturally came into abeyance. That, however, was a question for the Government to decide, and which he would not dwell upon.—Coming to the freedom of the press, which he described as the most "acute" part of liberty, he went on to say that, if there was a man in France who had been inconvenienced by the freedom of the press, that man was assuredly himself. (Laughter and applause.) Well, both he and an illustrious man with whom he had long carried on the business of Government, and against whom he had long debated—M. Guizot—had experienced to their utmost the inconveniences of a free press; and yet—and he was sure M. Guizot would bear him out—as politicians of experience they were convinced that the freedom of the press was necessary.—(Uproar.) He could understand, though he could not approve, that liberty should be withheld. But when they were allowed to speak in that Chamber with the utmost freedom, criticism and blame the Government, the papers which printed their debates were not allowed to comment upon them. When the Chamber was free to speak, he could not understand why the papers should be debarred of the freedom of writing. Why, it was like a man who told a secret to ten persons in succession, and then whispering it in the ear of an eleventh, recommended him alone not to repeat it. That was the way that the springs of Government were damaged. A free press did not make the public opinion of a country; it exaggerated it; and the very exaggeration of the press rendered the country moderate; and thus public opinion reached the Chambers, which, after refining and filtering it, laid it before the Throne. That was how matters proceeded in countries whose political education was complete. It was high time that that of France should commence. She ought not to remain forever in a state of political nonage. (Uproar.) They were told that the Government was very strong; he believed its material strength to be such that no party would venture to attack it. Well, if the political education of the country were not commenced now, when would it be commenced? Did they want that in Europe, where the press was everywhere free, France should be the only nation kept in statu pupillari? (Uproar.) He was told that education had been commenced. The Minister of State had told them the other day that, out of sixteen papers printed in Paris, two only supported the Government. It was true; but what was the condition of the rest? The Government can warn them, and, if warnings are not sufficient, can suspend and suppress them. It is the mission of the press to criticise the Government, and yet it is the Government which decides how far it is to be criticised. People talk of the licence of the press. But had they suppressed that licence? Had they, not on the contrary, given a monopoly of it to the Government papers, who resorted to it against those citizens the Government disliked? (Uproar.)

M. E. Pelletan here exclaimed.—The Government papers are calumniators.

M. Thiers protested he had no wish to allude to his own case, but if he wished to forget, he would like hon. members to remember. (Laughter and applause.) However, he would do no more than point out that it was the Government which decided how far it was to be criticised, and leave them to decide. He then proceeded to condemn the excessive zeal of the Government in electioneering matters, and advocated with great force the advantages of Ministerial responsibility as the sine qua non of political

freedom. He then said,—I have but a few words to add. Yes, I have served an august family, now a prey to misfortune, to whom I owe that respect due to great calamities nobly borne. I owe to it the affection due to those with whom I have passed the best part of my life. There is one thing that family will not expect of me, but which I will willingly offer in the pride of my heart. It is the resolution to spare it the sight of its old servants seeking the glitter of power when itself is in the bitterness of exile. There is one thing it will never ask of me,—to sacrifice the interests of my country to its own. (Applause.) I declare, therefore, that if we are granted those liberties I have named, and which I believe the country really requires, I shall accept them, and be numbered among the submissive and grateful subjects of the Empire. (Interruption.) But, gentlemen, if it be our duty to accept, it is that of the Government to grant that which is necessary for the satisfaction of the legitimate wishes of the country, in whose name I respectfully demand it. Let it not be forgotten,—this country, barely awakened, so fervid, and the exaggeration of whose desires follows so closely on their dawn, if it permits us to-day to express its wants, with all due deference and respect, the day may come when it will extract them.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA IN CONFLICT WITH THE GERMAN NATION.

The most remarkable feature in the latest advices from the European Continent is the haste with which Austria and Prussia are endeavoring to settle their difference with Denmark. The rejection of their ultimatum by Denmark is followed by as sudden an advance of their troops, as though their own existence were at stake.

The reasons for this extraordinary haste are clear enough. Austria and Prussia have been greatly surprised by the conduct of the minor German States. Hitherto these States had uniformly followed the lead of the two great Powers. Now they have so completely identified themselves with the national inspirations of the German people, as to threaten Austria and Prussia with as much greater danger than the difficulty with Denmark has ever done. The minor States desire to act as the agents of the German nation, and thus what has hitherto been a mere abstraction, becomes for this first time in the politics of Europe a living reality. It is this that Austria and Prussia dread; as, in their opinion, no less than in the opinion of the National German party, the victory of the nationality principle in Germany would seriously interfere with their present position as Great Powers. Austria, especially, in denunciatory notes to the minor German Courts, has contested the competency of the Frankfurt Diet to decide the succession question.

If a European war should grow out of the difficulty between Germany and Denmark, it would be, on the part of the German Diet and of the German people, a war for the inherent rights of a people against the pretensions of European diplomacy. Austria and Prussia, in permitting themselves to be forced to fight in such a war upon the side of the Germans, would fight in favor of a principle, which, if carried out, would lead to the sure destruction of both. It is natural that they should fear such a state of affairs more than a falling out with the Frankf. t Diet. They think that Denmark may find powerful friends, but that this is much less likely to happen with the Federal Diet.

Their plan, as far as we can infer from the last advices, was to bring, in conjunction with England, such an amount of diplomatic influence to bear upon Denmark as to induce her to withdraw the obnoxious constitution, then to conclude peace, to recognize King Christian IX. as Duke of Schleswig and Holstein, and treat the decision of the Federal Diet with sovereign contempt. The English Government does not seem to us altogether opposed to this plan; for, although we learn by the "Arabia's" advices that English artillery has been sent to Copenhagen, the English Cabinet has repeatedly disapproved the Danish Constitution, to which Austria and Prussia object, and has advised Denmark to repeal it.—Tribune.

THE RECIPROcity TREATY IN MICHIGAN.

The reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada is just now attracting considerable attention. The ten years it had to run, before notice of its abrogation could be given by either party, expired in September. After that time, either party can abrogate it by giving one year's notice. There appears to be considerable difference of opinion among business men, as to whether the continuance of the treaty would be beneficial to the people of the United States or not, one side believing that it would, and the other that it would not. A set of resolutions have been introduced by a committee into our Board of Trade in favor of the abrogation of the treaty. In the preamble to the resolutions, there is a claim, which, if true, would certainly call for its speedy abrogation. This clause is as follows: "Whereas, The operation of that treaty has been and would continue to be most prejudicial to the interests of the whole country, and the Western States in particular, curtailing their business to the advantage of the most indifferent and unsympathizing of neighbors."

It is to be hoped that, if, after a careful consideration of the question, a majority of the board should still be in favor of its abrogation, that the last part of the above clause will be stricken out, as it displays more feeling than judgment, and is rather ungracious after the generous hospitality and kind attention that our board met with at the hands of the Canadians, only a short time ago, when they visited Canada and the East on a grand pleasure excursion.

Now let us see what the figures in the case show as to the working of the treaty.

In a report laid before Congress in 1855 on this subject we find the following figures, with the statement that "they demonstrate the wisdom and policy of that measure." These figures, the one set for 1853, the year before the treaty was made, and the other set for 1855, the year after, show the immense impetus that the treaty gave to our trade with Canada, which increased from \$20,691,390 in 1853, to \$42,942,754 in 1855. There can be no doubt but that if the treaty is abolished, this magnificent trade of over forty millions will dwindle to its former diminutive proportions.

In closing this article, I would remark that under the treaty we have the free navigation of the River St. Lawrence and the canals of Canada, on just the same terms as Canada herself has. Canada and New York have both inaugurated a system of canals and railroads

far beyond their own wants, and looking for patronage to the West, and it is for the interest of the West that there should be all possible competition for carrying her great staple products to the seaboard. Cheap transportation from the West to the Atlantic benefits our great interests. The agriculturist, the great producer and consumer, is benefited, although a few commission men in New York city, and the defeated lines of commerce, might suffer by not being able to monopolize, at our expense, our great staples of production. The people of the State of Michigan do not suffer by this treaty; the great majority are greatly benefited by it. While in some respects I have no doubt but that the treaty can be amended to the better satisfaction of the whole country, yet its total abrogation would be most injurious and impolitic.—Letter in Detroit Free Press.

CHILI.

The sad calamity which was the sole theme of the review of the events in Chili by last steamer has continued during the past fortnight to occupy the minds of the people. On every hand indignation has been expressed at the fanaticism of the priesthood, which was the cause of the horrible catastrophe, and at the cruel, heartless conduct of those priests connected with the church which was burned. With one mind the people of Santiago demanded that the building should be razed to the ground, and had not Government issued an order to this effect, notwithstanding the most strenuous efforts of the priests, most certainly the people would have done the work themselves, and now a struggle goes on between priests and people; the former, if possible, to regain the power and influence they have lost, and the people to assert their own freedom of thought.

By the voice of the people the first result has been obtained in an act of the Senate; that henceforth there are to be no illuminations of churches and splendid night services, and that proper measures be carried out in all the churches as to proper construction and sufficient number of doors.

While this has been carried, the Clergy have arranged the publication of a new newspaper for the defense of "religious interests."

Another result of this calamity is the organization of a fire brigade for Santiago and much enthusiasm has been displayed in this matter. The fire companies in Valparaiso are the most popular of the social institutions of the city.

Two thousand one hundred corpses, extracted from the burial ground; besides these a number of single limbs and pieces of bodies have been found, and not a few sufferers died afterwards from the effect of burns and other wounds, so that about 2,500 altogether may be safely estimated to have perished through the priests' folly and imprudence.

On the 31st of December a similar calamity had nearly befallen the worshippers in the San Isidro church. One of the numerous candles on the altar came in contact with a pot of artificial flowers, and although the fire was immediately extinguished there was such a great confusion, rushing to the doors, falling and crying, that the service had to be closed for the night. Letter from Panama in N. Y. Tribune.

WHY "THE UNION MUST BE ALL SLAVE OR ALL FREE."

BY HORACE GREELEY.

There is a pause in the progress of the War, broken only at intervals by the deep reverberations of Gilmore's heavy guns as he executes, little by little, the Nation's judgment on guilty Charleston; or by tidings of some cavalry raid, some desultory skirmish; which, however, annoying may be its issue to one side or the other, does little to determine or to hasten the event of the struggle. The severity of mid-winter has arrested all decisive operations; and it is hardly probable that another great battle will be fought this side of the Mississippi before April at the earliest; though some of the most important conflicts of the two preceding years were fought between November and April.

Beyond the Mississippi, it should be otherwise. Texas, with what is left to the Rebels of Arkansas and Louisiana, ought to be fully restored to the Union before May. Isolated completely from the far stronger remnant of the Rebellion, the trans-Mississippi region ought to be cleared of Slavery and militant Treason forthwith. In that genial, semi-tropical climate, the Winter should present no resistless obstacle to the operations of War; especially to that belligerent which commands the ocean and the unobstructed, navigable rivers. Fifty thousand men should suffice to win back Texas in a sixty days' campaign, with not more than one serious conflict. My own decided opinion is, that an army of forty thousand well-appointed troops, with a tolerable proportion of cavalry and light artillery, might, under an able and earnest commander, recover Texas before April without fighting a battle at all. I do not believe there are thirty thousand men now in arms against the Union westward of the Mississippi; and I am confident that to equip and provide a concentrated force of even twenty thousand, through sixty days of active campaigning, would overtax the remaining resources of the Rebellion in that quarter. At all events, the Slaveholders' Confederacy being permanently divided, the policy of concentrating upon and overwhelming the weaker portion of it, while the rigor of the season forbids decisive operations in the other, is too plain to need elucidation.

A majority—small and doubtful one year ago, but strong and certain ever since the Rebel defeats at Gettysburg and in the suppression of the New York Riots—has stood by the Government of the Union, and now joyfully anticipates an early fruition of its long deferred hopes. That majority is taunted by its adversaries with having "perverted the War for the Union into a War for the Negro;" and that clamor is echoed by some who should be candid and intelligent men. Let us consider it:

1. There is no longer any open, pronounced hostility to Negro Soldiering. They who might otherwise be required to serve themselves, and would rather be excused, are perfectly willing that the Blacks should fight in their stead. And, as these constitute a large proportion of the Copperheads, the outcry against Black Regiments is suddenly hushed into profound silence, save in Kentucky and among a very few fossils of other Border Slave States.

II. Nor is it any longer pretended that the Blacks cannot be induced to enlist, nor that they will not fight. Not less than Sixty Thousand of them are already enrolled under the National flag, and no week fails to add at least a thousand to their number. It is probable that we shall open the next campaign with

fully One Hundred Thousand Black Unionists in arms, and more getting ready to follow.

III. Nor do we often, if ever, hear of late that the Rebellion can never be put down by arms. On the contrary, the Seymours and Parkers, the Richardsons and Coxes, who rasped away on this string almost exclusively ten to thirty months ago, have now subsided into a mournful yet gratifying silence. Instead of incessant and confident assertions that "the Union cannot be restored by force," we now hear from them as positive assertions that Force has already done its proper work—that the Rebels are subdued, so far as they ever ought to be—that nothing is now needed but to "continue the war to its legitimate objects"—proffering to the South a restoration of her 'rights'—and we may have Peace in a month.

IV. In other words: The substantial success which we failed even to approach during our two years of Pro-Slavery War for the Union, has confessedly been achieved by the very first year of Anti-Slavery War upon the Rebellion; so that the Opposition stoutly assert that the restoration of the Union only awaits proper overtures on the part of the Union. And it is manifest to all that, while we are enlisting and organizing at least a full regiment of Blacks per week, besides amply replenishing our thinned regiments of whites, the Rebellion is not recruiting its Armies nor yet recuperating its Finances, but is visibly growing weaker day by day.

V. Now, then, what is demanded by the Opposition is, that we abandon the policy which has wrought this mighty and gladdening transformation—abandon the Four Millions of Southern people whose prayers and whose best efforts, so far as they could evade their shackles, have been given to our cause, and conciliate the Southern Rebels by sacrificing the most decided if not the most numerous division of Southern upholders of the Union.

What would be the morality of such a course? What its probable issue, in a universe governed by Divine Omnipotence, Omnipotence and Justice?—N. Y. Independent.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

THE RECIPROcity TREATY.—In the U. S. Senate on Thursday, Mr. Howe, representative of Wisconsin, presented the petition of the citizens of Wisconsin, praying that the Reciprocity Treaty be so modified as to prevent the admission of lumber from Canada, or such a tax imposed as to prevent undue competition with our own citizens. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

VICTORIA ITEMS.—The Colonist advocates the establishment of a Government Assay Office and Mint in Victoria, and suggests that the services of two of the Assay staff here who have left should be secured.—The Victoria Bible Society held a meeting in the Methodist Church on Monday evening, Chief Justice Cameron in the Chair. The church was crowded, and the Rev. L. Taylor delivered an interesting address. Collection, \$68.25.—The Rev. L. Taylor is lecturing on the "Holy Land" in the Methodist Church.—Victoria was visited with a fearful gale on Sunday night. It tore up trees in all directions and did considerable damage in town. It unroofed the building occupied by the Daily Chronicle, causing \$400 to \$500 damage. The flag end of the storm was felt in this city.—British Columbian, Dec. 9th.

SAN DOMINGO.—A council of war which took place at the Palace on Saturday last, at which astounding revelations were made—of course the public knows nothing of this, but I have it from the best sources—the Segundo Cabo of Gen. LA Vergas (Captain-General of St. Domingo) stated that they needed immediately 40,000 men there to be able to succeed, and that even then at least 20,000 must remain there for two years. Spain cannot do this. The Intendente showed that over \$6,000,000 had been sent from this island alone. It was shown that there are in the hospitals of St. Domingo, Puerto Rico and Cuba over 8,000 sick and wounded, of which not one-tenth would ever really recover, that five-tenths would die, and two-tenths have to be sent to Spain to recruit, and two-tenths would become unfit for service hereafter. It was shown that there is little or no more money that can be spared from this island, that few more troops can be sent, and that there is no armament.

DISGRACEFUL AFFAIR.—In the village of Lucan, C.W., one Edward Hodgins lately went into the bar-room of the Lucas Hotel, for the purpose of hiring a horse and cutter. As he was about to take his departure, the landlord's wife entered and immediately treated him to a quantity of gratuitous abuse, which he endured with perfect calmness. The landlord then stepped from behind the bar with the intention, as Hodgins thought, of going out, and dealing him a treacherous blow, knocked him down, and kicked him most unmercifully. Not satisfied with this, he seized a stick of firewood and beat him on the head in a most shameful manner, inflicting a fearful gash over the right eye. The wounded man was removed and placed under medical treatment, and the doctor gave it as his opinion, that if the blow had been one inch higher up, nothing would have saved him from instant death. The landlord was arrested, tried before a justice, and fined \$5—cheap, certainly when we consider that the life of a fellow-being was nearly sacrificed! The young man Hodgins is a quiet, inoffensive person, and is generally respected.

SAD ACCIDENT.—A sad accident occurred to a person named William Shearer, at Beachville, on Tuesday the 19th ult. While driving a load of wood down a steep hill, the front board of the sleigh box gave way, and the wood sliding forward threw him on the whiffstretches. The horses ran away, drawing the sleigh over him, and he was found about half an hour afterwards with his leg dreadfully crushed, the bones being completely smashed, and injuries about the head and face, apparently from a kick of the horses. Drs. Turquand and Richards took out about twenty pieces of bone, and every means has been tried to prevent amputation. He is lying in a very precarious state.—Ingersoll Chronicle.

A fire occurred on the 31st ult., in a house occupied by John Cowan, on the 8th line, two miles north of Markham Village, and could not be extinguished until the building and most of its contents were completely consumed. The Economist says:—The whole loss will not foot up to a large amount; still, to Mr. Cowan, it is very serious, as it leaves him, we understand, very destitute.

—Rev. W. H. Milburn, the blind Methodist preacher, announced recently to his congregation in Irving Hall that he had become a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

HOME MISSIONARY MEETING OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

A meeting of the congregations of St. Andrew's and St. Paul's churches, Montreal, was held under the auspices of the Presbytery of Montreal, in St. Paul's Church, on the evening of Wednesday last. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Mr. Soodgrass, who briefly explained the object of the meeting. The Presbytery had last year revived and old but useful scheme, and had employed three missionaries, an account of whose work would be found in the Report, which had been distributed to the congregations. There was a wide field for occupation, but the Presbytery needed means. A sum of \$170 was due to the missionaries, and a further sum of \$200 would become due in May. One missionary was laboring at Elgin, in the Beauchamp County; another had been employed at Grenville, on the Ottawa; and a third was occupied in Griffintown, Montreal. He then called upon the Rev. John Cameron, M.A., of Dundee, who addressed the meeting on the obligation arising from the enjoyment of Christian privileges; the Rev. James Black, M.A., Chatham, who spoke on the subject of a missionary sphere for every Christian; and the Rev. Frederick P. Sym explained and enforced the Presbytery's Home Mission Scheme. In the course of his remarks he urged the erection of another city church of our communion, and stated that he had learned the startling fact that while the population of Montreal was 110,000, there was but church accommodation, whether Protestant or Catholic, for 45,000.

The Chairman having called upon any of the members present to address the meeting.

Alexander Morris, Esq., asked permission to submit a resolution to the meeting. The scheme had strong claims upon the support of the congregations of the Church of Scotland. It was local in its occupation, affecting the city and Presbytery. Surely it would not be allowed to languish for want of support. If the Canadian Presbyterian Congregations in this city could raise \$1,000 a year for city mission purposes, the Church of Scotland surely could do likewise. The Church of England in the Montreal Diocese, was setting a noble example in this respect. He would move that a committee be now appointed to solicit subscriptions in the aid of the Presbyterian and City Home Missionary effort and that they have power to add to their numbers. He hoped this action would lead to a permanent auxiliary formed in this city.

The resolution was seconded by John Smith Esq., (Alexander Street), and adopted. The following Committee was then named: J. McDougall, A. Christie A. Morris, J. M. Ross, A. McKerron and D. Fraser. The benediction was pronounced and the meeting adjourned.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

LORD STANLEY, M.P., ON OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.—Lord Stanley, M.P., in distributing the prizes to the successful competitors at the Oxford local examinations at Manchester, addressed the assemblage on the advantages to the middle classes of these examinations. They enabled middle-class men who had risen from an humble position, and wished their children to have a better education than themselves, to see that this was done by the tests of the schools which the examinations furnished. He considered that the examinations did good by preventing the very evil they were supposed to cause,—that of cramming; for what the examination should bring out, and did to a great extent bring out, was the thorough, accurate, and familiar knowledge which cramming could not give. Cramming implies just that show and parade of things superficially acquired which may impose upon parents who have forgotten their own early teaching, but which will never impose on an examiner who understands his business. (Hear, hear.) The fault, or the tendency to the fault, is in the school; the detection of it is the duty of the examiner who tests the school. As to the fear of overworking the boys, Lord Stanley said,—We used to say when I was an undergraduate at Cambridge, that anybody who had it in him to become a senior wrangler might become one,—that is, might obtain the highest distinction in one kind which the university can give,—by reading steadily six hours a day. I believe that was true; and I hold it certain that those, whether boys or men, who hurt their health by overstudy, are not those who labour steadily, or at a moderate pace, but those who neglect healthy exercise and care in other respects, and more especially those who, having been idlers for the greater part of their time, try and make up lost ground by a desperate push at the last.

THE TOWNLEY CASE.—The Home-Office has replied to the letter of the Derbyshire magistrates on the Townley case. In reply to the request for a public inquiry into the sanity of Townley, Mr. Waddington, writing for Sir Geo. Grey, replies that the law has provided no machinery for such a purpose. He admits that the report of the Lunacy-Commissioners, if it had stood alone, would not have saved the convict from the gallows; and as to the objections urged against the validity of the magistrates' certificate, he says that no whisper of the facts stated by the magistrates had reached the Home-Office; but Sir George Grey has called upon the magistrates who signed the certificate for an explanation of the part they took, and also upon the governor of the jail for an explanation of his conduct in admitting to an interview with the prisoner borough-magistrates, who, it is now said, had no authority in the county-jail.—Eng. Paper.

THE SHAKESPEARE TERCENTENARY.—The National Committee for commemorating the tercentenary of Shakspeare do not appear to be progressing in a way likely to attain a high degree of success or favor. Much valuable time has been lost in personal bickerings and recriminations, and a protest has been published during the last few days by Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. Shirley Brooks, Mr. Robert Bell, and other literary men of eminence, assailing, in strong terms, the whole proceedings of the body of gentlemen in London who have put themselves forward as the leaders of the movement. The irregular and unbusiness-like character of the proceedings of the executive body is dwelt upon, but the final blunder, in the opinion of the seceders, was the committee asking the public to contribute £30,000 towards a monument, without having a site or any defined plan of action fixed upon. The tercentenary occurs on the 23rd of April, about three months from the present time, and no programme worthy of the name has yet been put forth.—English Paper.

GERMANY GIVING SOVEREIGNS TO EUROPE.—The total number of European Sovereigns—excluding the non-hereditary Pope and the semi-

Asiatic Sultan—amounted, on the 1st of January of the present year, to exactly thirty-nine. Of this number no fewer than thirty are of direct German origin—that is, born and bred in Germany, while of the remaining nine there are four German descent. The only five non-German Sovereigns of Europe, the rulers of France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden, are, however, more or less closely related to German families.—English Paper.

GERMANY AND DENMARK.—The relative position of the different States of Germany, with regard to the Schleswig-Holstein question, is now as follows:—Baden, Saxe-Weimar, Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Altenburg, Brunswick, Sondershausen, Reuss, Waldeck, and Coburg-Gotha have already acknowledged the Prince of Augustenburg as Duke of Schleswig-Holstein. Wurtemberg, Bavaria, Hesse-Darmstadt, Homburg, Greiz, Anhalt, Frankfurt, and Bremen have recognized his rights to the succession. Saxony, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and Rudolstadt are favorable. Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, Nassau, Lichtenstein, and Mecklenburg-Strelitz are unfavorable. Austria, Prussia, and Luxembourg are decidedly hostile. Oldenburg, Homburg, and Lubeck are undecided and wavering. The views of Lippe-Deimold, and Schaumburg-Lippe are unknown.—English Paper.

AUSTRIA.—The Vienna correspondent of the Times, writing on the 16th ult., says:—"In the Presse of to-day it is said that 50,000 Austrian soldiers are about to proceed to the north, but I believe the statement to be incorrect. It is true that orders have been issued to place 50,000 men on a war footing, but only half that number will be sent to the German Duchies, the other 25,000 men will be quartered in and near this city, and kept in readiness to move at a day's notice to any part of the empire where their services may be required. The public treasuries are empty, so that the Minister of Finance has no choice but to raise money by means of another lottery loan.—The amount of the loan will be 40,000,000 fl.—There will be five drawings of the lottery in the course of the year, and at each of them a few large and many small prizes will be won. Blanks there will be none. The price of issue will probably be about 105 or 106.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.—Breslau, Jan. 22.—Advices received from Poland state that the peasants of different places had refused to join the Communal Guards, organized by the Russian Government to operate against the insurgents. Several mayors were consequently brought to Zelechow, a district town in the government of Lublin, where they were publicly flogged by the Russians.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES' HEALTH.—The Princess of Wales continues to make uninterrupted progress towards recovery. The royal infant also is growing in health and strength. On Monday week her Majesty planted an evergreen oak in the grounds of Frogmore House, to commemorate the happy event of the birth of the young Prince; and before leaving Windsor expressed her high appreciation of Dr. Brown's skill and attention, and as a proof of which, her Majesty has been graciously pleased to present to that gentleman a very valuable garnet ring, set with diamonds, in acknowledgment of his services in connection with the event.

THE DISTRESS IN THE COTTON DISTRICTS.—A large increase, we regret to say, has taken place in the pauperism of the cotton manufacturing districts. Many mills have been closed, and in others the hours of labour have been curtailed. This state of things is attributed to the uncertainty which prevails "as to the present price of cotton being maintained." Mr Farnall reports an increase of upwards of 5000 in the number of persons receiving parochial relief; and Mr. Maclure states that there has been an accession of about 5000 to the roll of poor people who are assisted by the relief committees only.—15.

DR. MANNING A CARDINAL.—It is reported that the Pope has created a new cardinal without publishing the appointment, reserving the nomination in pectore, to adopt the phrase of the Roman Court. The dignity is Dr. Manning, Cardinal Wiseman's vicar-general. The learned prelate is at present in Rome, and preaches to the English residents in his faith.—Eng. Paper.

A NEW COMET.—Mr. W. T. Lynn, of Greenwich, in a letter to a contemporary, says:—"It may interest your readers to know that a comet, which was discovered on the 28th of December last by Respighi, is rapidly approaching the earth, and will probably become visible to the naked eye. Its nearest approach will be about February 1, being then 18,000,000 miles. There appears a high degree of probability that it is identical with a comet observed in 1810, and that its period is therefore rather more, than 53 years."

EXCESS OF REVENUE.—A return from the National Debt office states that, in the year ending the 30th of September last, the revenue of this kingdom exceeds the expenditure by £2,041,168.—English Paper.

THE NEW PACIFIC MAIL ROUTE.—The Pacific mail steamship route about to be established between Sydney and Panama will not only give us an additional mail communication with Australia, but will more intimately connect that portion of the globe with the American continent, and also this country with the fertile islands of the Pacific, now growing into great importance through the French settlements there. The English and French lines give us a mail communication with India five times a month; with China, Brazil, the River Plate, and some parts of the West Indies, three times a month; and with Mexico twice a month; and we have by English and German lines a communication with the United States ten times monthly. Owing to the increase of traffic with the West Indies and the Cape of Good Hope, the new contracts for conveying mails to those places have been entered into at reduced subsidies. Notwithstanding the French Oriental mail line, the Peninsular and Oriental Company have as much traffic as they can manage; and as the Government have determined on sending troops to and from India and China by the Red Sea, it is probable that private steamers will be hired to do the work, and this will cause the establishment of another Oriental mail steam line. In a few years the large sum of nearly a million sterling a year now paid by this country for the conveyance of ocean mails will probably be reduced one-half. The commerce of the East, through the advancing prosperity of India and the opening up of the trade with China and Japan, is enriching the Oriental steam-packet companies, both French and English. The development of the resources of Central America, South-Western America, California, and British Columbia, is rapidly increasing the profits of the Royal Mail Company; and the traffic between New Zealand and Australia with Panama will still further increase it.

Steamers are now running profitably between Liverpool and the Isthmus of Panama without a mail contract, and German and English steam lines convey mails between the United States and this country with regularity and despatch for merely a portion of the postage paid on the correspondence in such mails.—English Paper.

AN EFFECTIVE EMIGRANT AGENT IN IRELAND.—The town of Galway has been considerably enlivened this week by a visit of an Irish American, a native of Loughrea, who has kindly offered to take out to America, free, as many able-bodied men as he can procure. As soon as the object of the visit of Mr. Feeny—for such is his name—was known, large numbers of our poor labourers proceeded to his quarters anxious to be booked. He stated that he had been commissioned by a railway contracting company to engage as many labourers as he could in Ireland to work on railways. On their arrival, the sum of £2 per head is to be paid to them to procure an outfit, and \$5 a day is promised them on arrival at their destination, but where that is we have not been able to learn. Every man is to have 2s per day stopped out of his salary for the expense incurred. Large numbers are said to have entered their names on these terms. In Loughrea Mr. Feeny is said to have procured over 250 men, and in Galway, although the booking only commenced on Friday, more than 200 are said to have got their names enrolled. Whether these names are engaged as bona fide labourers or otherwise it is impossible to determine. It is said that Mr. Feeny was arrested under the Foreign Enlistment Act in Loughrea, on suspicion of enlisting for the Federal army, but as no proof could be had he was acquitted.—Galway Express.

FRENCH V. ENGLISH RAILS.—French trade is indeed far from being ruined by English competition. Manufacturers admit this; and the Protectionists, who predicted ruin and desolation, are almost dumb. I have (says the Times' Paris correspondent) just heard of an American company in want of rails instructing its agents to give a large order to the manufacturer who should supply the best article at the lowest price. The agents tried some houses in England, and then in France, and finally gave the order to a long established and well-known firm in the department of the Moselle, where they found what they wanted, at least as good, as certainly cheaper than in England. The head of the establishment is M. Wendel, one of the richest ironmasters, and until now one of the most ardent, I dare say, sincere Protectionists in France. He has beaten the English manufacturers in open competition.

MYSTERIOUS MURDER STORY FROM ST. PETERSBURG.—A tale of a murder, perpetrated in a mysterious manner, and of the discovery of the murderers by scientific means, is now the common talk of the inhabitants of the Russian capital. In the so-called old city, on the right shore of the Neva, behind the fortress, is a small house which enjoys the reputation of having once been the residence of Peter the Great. One of the few rooms in the house is stated to have been used as a sleeping chamber by the celebrated monarch, and this apartment is now visited with feelings of veneration and awe by many thousands of Russians. Although the room is not in reality a chapel, a priest is attached to it; and it is richly adorned with gold and precious stones, on which account two soldiers are constantly on duty there. A few evenings since, after the priest had withdrawn to his dwelling, situated on the opposite side of the street, he was summoned to return to the chapel, as two men required his services. The good man soon repaired to the little chamber, and afterwards returned to his house. On the following morning the two soldiers on guard were found murdered at their posts, and the alms-box, which contained 400 roubles, had disappeared from its accustomed place, whilst the costly articles with which the room was so plentifully adorned were found undisturbed. It was suggested that the eyes of the murdered soldiers should be immediately photographed, in the hope of successful testing the discovery recently made in England, when, to the surprise of all, the result was the production of the portraits of two soldiers of the private guard at the palace, on whose breasts were the insignia of the Cross of St. George. The murderers were at once sought out, and apprehended. In these days of sensation narratives, an allowance ought to be made for the statement of the mode in which the murderers are said to have been discovered.—Ex. Paper.

A FORTUNE-TELLER IN FRANCE.—The Correctional Tribunal of Rive-de-Gier (Loire) last week tried a man named Tiesler, a fortune-teller by profession, on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences from a wealthy farmer named Piquet, residing at Morant, a village near Rive-de-Gier. The principal witness against the prisoner was M. Piquet himself, who deposed as follows:—"In the beginning of October I went to consult the prisoner on the subject of my daughter's marriage. He produced a pack of cards, and after shuffling them, turned up three kings, which appeared greatly to surprise him. He then assured me that the match proposed would be a very happy one, and I was about to pay him when he seeing my purse was well filled, suddenly exclaimed, 'Ah! M. Piquet, you are rich, but you little think that you have a treasure of 600,000 fr. buried in your cellar. I saw it in the cards, and as I am authorised by the Government to discover treasures, I will point out the exact spot if you will give me 500 fr.' Being anxious to obtain this splendid fortune I gave him the money, after some hesitation. It was arranged that he should come at midnight and show me where to dig. He came, and after going through an incantation to drive away the evil spirit, he pointed me out a spot where he assured me I should find the treasure at the depth of six feet. I and my son at once set to work, but soon came to a solid rock, which prevented us digging further. The prisoner then threw his cards into the hole, and said the evil spirit had been too strong for him. He promised to use more powerful exorcisms, but he did not, and so I lost my 500 fr. I was much laughed at by all the village for being thus duped, and the affair having come to the knowledge of the police, the prisoner was arrested." M. Piquet's son and daughter having deposed to the same effect, the tribunal declared the charge proved, and condemned the accused to a year's imprisonment, 400 fr., and all expenses.

CHRISTMAS IN LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, Dec. 26, four inquests were held in Liverpool on the bodies of infants who had been suffocated in bed by being overlain by their mothers. In all four cases it is believed the mothers were intoxicated.—Exchange paper.

—The traffic-receipts of railways in the United Kingdom for the week ending January 16th are £43,564 above the corresponding week of last year.

—On the 16th the Emancipation Society held a farewell service in honor of Mr. Geo. Thompson, who sails for the United States on the 23rd. Mr. William Evans presided on the occasion, and the proceedings appear to have been of a more than ordinarily interesting character. M. Victor Schœlcher, the liberator of the slaves of France, Mr. Morse, the American consul, and Mr. Henry Vincent were among the speakers. Letters of apology were read from Mr. Bright, Prof. Goldwin Smith, and other friends of emancipation.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.—The great event of the past week in the political circles of Washington has been the complete absorption of the five-twenty loan. Just think of it. In a time of war, when business is generally stagnant, when industry stops, with one-third of the nation warring against the other two-thirds, and without any foreign aid whatever, five hundred millions of dollars have been taken at par. Till within a few years, great loans were always taken by great bankers. Louis Napoleon was the first to appeal to the people for a loan offered in small amounts. It remained for Secretary Chase to develop our national resources by the negotiation of a loan to the people in a larger sum than ever entered the mind of any Napoleon. It is generally thought here that the next loan will be a five per cent. ten-forty; that is, government will offer its securities at par, paying five per cent interest, and redeemable any time at the pleasure of government, between ten and forty years. This great increase of personal property, passing from hand to hand, counting its values by hundreds and thousands of millions of dollars, furnished a powerful inducement to stock gambling. Already there is great excitement over the rise in five-twenties. Great fortunes are being rapidly made in stocks and by contracting with government, and the effect of every such gain is to allure fresh speculators into the ring.—N. Y. Independent.

LOYAL CHURCHES IN THE RECOVERED SLAVE STATES.—We learn that important movements are going on in the Pro-Slavery Churches of that portion of the Seceded States which has been recovered by the National armies. All the citizens who have either remained loyal to the Union cause, or have become Unionists since the re-establishment of the Federal authority, are desirous to separate themselves from those Pro-Slavery Churches which have been the most ardent promoters and supporters of the Rebellion. A large number of them are expressing a wish to connect themselves with the Church organizations of the Free States. To promote this movement, the War Department has transferred a number of Methodist and Baptist Churches, which have been abandoned by their Secession pastors, to the care of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the American Baptist Home Missionary Society. Both are now exerting themselves to plant loyal Methodist and Baptist Churches in the Slave States. Bishop Ames of the Methodist Episcopal Church has recently visited New-Orleans, and temporarily supplied three churches in New-Orleans, one in Memphis, one in Little Rock, one in Pine Bluff, one in Vicksburg, one in Natchez, and one in Baton Rouge. It is, obviously, highly probable that this ecclesiastical movement will go hand in hand with the Free States movement in the Slave States, and it deserves therefore to be recommended to the special attention of all the Anti-Slavery Churches of the North. Combined and energetic efforts on their part might greatly aid in extirpating not only Slavery but Pro-Slavery sentiments in the Slave States.—Tribune.

THE POOR MAN'S BIRTHRIGHT.—We deeply regret the appearance of a grave proposal to repeal the act whereby the Public Lands of the United States are made Free—160 acres being allotted to each Actual Settler on the payment of \$10 for the cost of survey and transfer. That act is worth more to this country than a year's cost of the Rebellion. It is to-day drawing hither the most intelligent and energetic portion of the Laboring Class of all Western Europe, who are every day becoming more and more aware that the wild land which they must pay for if they settle in Canada, Australia, or almost anywhere else, is freely proffered them in the United States. Nine-tenths of the pioneer-settlement of this country—as we presume in most others—has hitherto been the work of men who had never had \$200 when they went on the quarter-section which they redeemed from savage Nature and made permanently useful to civilized Man. To charge them \$200 for a quarter-section is to prevent hundreds of thousands from ever feeling that they have a roof over their heads of which no one has a right to deprive them—that henceforth their dependence for a livelihood is on God alone. Only a blind-man's-kin to insanity would now think of repealing the Homestead Act. We have heavy taxes to shoulder, and we want as many as possible to help pay them. Europe seems on the brink of collisions and convulsions, which are likely to send millions of her people abroad in quest of peace and prosperity, and we trust many of them will be attracted to this country. Every one of these will be contributors to our revenue.—Tribune.

THE QUESTION OF INDEMNITY.—It appears from the diplomatic correspondence between our Government and Great Britain, recently published, that upon the question of indemnity for the depredations of the Confederate vessels built in England, the two governments are flatly at issue. Thus, in a note of the 14th of September, Earl Russell writes to Mr. Adams:—"When the United States Government assume to hold the Government of Great Britain responsible for the captures made by vessels which may be fitted out as vessels of war in a foreign port, because such vessels were originally built in an English port, I have to observe that each pretensions are entirely at variance with the principle of international law, and with the decisions of American Courts of the highest authority, and I have only, in conclusion, to express my hope that you may not be instructed again to put forward claims which Her Majesty's Government cannot admit to be founded on any grounds of law or justice." To this Mr. Adams in October replies, in a note to Mr. Seward:—"Upon these principles of law and these assumptions of fact, the United States do insist and must continue to insist, that the British Government is justly responsible for the damages which the peaceful and law-abiding citizens of the United States sustain by the depredations of the Alabama." It remains to be seen in what way this divergence of views can be reconciled.—Boston Journal.

CANADIAN NEWS.

SINGULAR EFFECT OF THE UNADULTERATED.—Last week, a farmer residing in the township of Bozauquet, hired a butcher to assist him in killing his hogs, and during the day he supplied his assistant with an unlimited quantity of whiskey.—The result was that before night he was so drunk that he was unable to return home, and he was put to bed with the farmer's eldest son. Under the large quantity of Ohio strobhine imbibed during the day, the man of blood imagined that he was still engaged in the destruction of the porcine race. Springing from the bed, he seized his knife, which lay on a table in the room, and stabbed his sleeping bed-fellow, inflicting a ghastly wound in his cheek. The cries of the youth alarmed the members of the family and the ruffian was promptly disarmed. The absurd custom prevalent among farmers and others of dealing out immoderate quantities of "rot-gut," to the chocking, and logging "bees," belongs to the dark ages, and should be done away with.—London Free Press.

CANADIAN ALLIANCE.—On the 29th ult., an eloquent address was delivered at the Advent Church, Waterloo, O. E., to a large and deeply attentive audience, by Mr. Manning, of the "Canadian Alliance for the Total Suppression of the Liquor Traffic." At the conclusion of the address a branch of the "Alliance" was formed in the place forty persons taking tickets of membership, including the clergy and some of the most respectable citizens of the village.

MERITED PUNISHMENT.—The report reached us from a military source, that George Anderson, a soldier of the 30th Regiment, whose exploits we noted a few days since in having visited the United States and deserting with a bounty did not meet with marked approbation from his officers. On the contrary his case was considered by a court-martial, who sentenced him to severe punishment by imprisonment and afterward to be "drummed out" of his regiment. The offence could be viewed in no other light than disgraceful felony, combining the double crime of theft and perjury, and also involving great disrespect for the honour of Her Majesty's arms.—Kingston Am.

A JEWISH COLONY IN CANADA.—The unsettled state of Poland begins to produce the effects which are generally the consequence of political disturbance; two hundred Polish Jews, we learn lately arrived at Quebec from Hamburg; they intend to form a colony in the country near Ottawa.—Jewish Chronicle.

OFF THE TRACK.—The accommodation train on the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway, which left Brantford at eight o'clock yesterday morning, going westward, ran off the track when about half-way to Paris. Quite a piece of the road and some of the cars were more or less damaged, but no one was hurt. The passengers had the pleasure of getting out and footing it to Paris, about three miles distant, where they arrived of course too late for the Great Western train going east that morning.—Hamilton Times, 30th.

ACCIDENT.—Last week two boys were amusing themselves at Norham, Percy, by throwing chips at each other when one happened to fall upon one of their eyes, which cut it so much that the humors of it ran out, thus depriving him entirely of sight of that eye, and endangering also the sight of the other, for there is a strong sympathy between them. Parents cannot too strongly warn their children against such dangerous ways of amusing themselves.—Hastings Messenger.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—A child died on Sunday last in Dunnville, said to belong to a strange woman who was boarding at Flanders' Hotel, and had come from the States. But since the interment of the child rumours have been in circulation that the woman is not a stranger from the States, but had been in the service of a respectable family in town, and that the child had met with foul play. As the matter will no doubt be fully investigated by the proper authorities, we forbear to notice the several rumours afloat at present.—Dunnville Independent.

FIRE IN DABRY.—Early on the morning of the 23 ult. the log dwelling-house of Mr. John Grimby, jr., on the Gravel Road, in Derby, was destroyed by fire. Nearly everything was saved. There was no insurance on the house.—O. S. Times.

LAND SALE IN LINDSAY.—Five thousand acres of land were offered for sale at Jewett's Hotel, Lindsay, at noon on Tuesday last. James Wallis, Esq., Peterboro, was the offerer. There was a very large attendance of land speculators, and Mr. James Gallon was Auctioneer. The lands were situated principally in the vicinity of Fenelon Falls, and in the townships of Somerville, Bexley, Verulam, &c., county of Victoria. A portion only of the land in Verulam and Fenelon was sold, at prices varying from \$3 to \$8 50 per acre, what was sold being considered cheap. The lands sold realized about \$7,000.—Lindsay Post.

THE ROND EAU POINT.—The timber on the Rond Eau Point was sold at the Royal Exchange Chatham, on Tuesday the 2nd inst. A party from Quebec gave \$2,000 as a bonus for the privilege of cutting the timber, and pays the Crown timber dues for all the timber taken off besides.—Chatham Union.

—The grand lodge of the British American Order of Good Templars, at a recent meeting at Sherbrooke, passed a resolution commendatory of Mr. Dunkin's bill for the suppression of intemperance, and instructing inferior lodges to petition the Legislature to pass the same.

—On the 2nd inst., two men named respectively David Potter and John Anderson, who were walking together near Toronto, and who had been drinking at a tavern, started on a race. Anderson who had got considerably ahead of Potter, fearing that the latter might feel annoyed, allowed him to catch up. Potter did so, passed him a few paces, without saying a word, though apparently maddened at being left behind, and then turning round knocked Anderson senseless to the ground with a pair of steel knuckles. The assaulted man saw or heard nothing till he felt the keen edge of a bowie knife buried in his neck and thighs. Anderson managed to crawl to a house which was near, and lies in a very precarious condition. Potter has been arrested, and committed for trial.

—We regret to learn that the house belonging to Mr. George Timanus, near St. George, was totally destroyed by fire on the 30th ult. Mr. Timanus carried on the match-making business, and it is supposed the fire originated in the room set apart for this purpose. We are informed that there was no insurance upon the property destroyed.—Galt Reporter.

—Nearly all the adult population of Belleville have become united in the temperance enterprise in connection with an order of Good Templars.

MILITARY SCHOOLS.

(Special Telegram to the Witness.)

QUEBEC, 10th.—The military schools will be opened at Quebec and Toronto on 1st of March next.

THE WITNESS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, FEB. 13, 1864.

NOTICE TO NEWS-VENDERS AND OTHERS ALONG THE LINES OF RAILWAY.—The Daily Witness will be delivered to News-men, or others desirous of selling it at any Railway Station, for 12 1/2 cents per dozen, payable in advance at this Office.

LATEST NEWS.

Spain sends more troops to St. Domingo. The "City of Washington" has arrived. The Polish insurrection is increasing in Lublin. The "China," from Liverpool on the 30th, arrived at New York yesterday evening. It is said that the Confederate capital will be removed to Columbia, S. C. The Bank of France is negotiating a loan of 50,000,000 francs with the Bank of Austria.

The "Alabama" left Singapore on the 24th December. She had burned a British and two American vessels in the straits of Malacca. The Richmond Sentinel says, that the fortifications of Newbern being found too strong the army had fallen back. The Free State Nomination Convention met at New Orleans on the 2nd inst. Hahn and Flanders were nominated.

The Vienna correspondent of the London Times says that Maximilian has not definitely accepted the crown of Mexico; but will do so if he can get a loan of £10,000,000 stg. Communication with Cumberland Gap is reported cut off, and nearly all East Tennessee is in the possession of the Confederates. Small-pox is raging at Knoxville.

The Cape of Good Hope News says that the murder of James Gray has been proved against an officer of the United States steamer "Vanderbilt." This may prove a serious business. In the matter of the "Chesapeake," Judge Stewart decided on the 10th, that the vessel and cargo should be restored to their owners upon the payment of the legal expenses of the Court.

We have later news from Europe by the "City of Cork." Some more sanguinary engagements had taken place between the Poles and Russians, in which the former seem to have been worsted. News from Mexico reveals anything but an agreeable state of things in that country. Several minor engagements are reported. The recapture of San Louis Potosi is amongst the news.

The Danish question remains unchanged. There seems to be less probability of war, notwithstanding that the Prussians continued to advance, and their commander had summoned the Danes to evacuate Schleswig. France and Russia agree with England; but will leave active interference to her. Smith, of North Carolina, stated in the Confederate House of Representatives on the 30th ult., that the Confederate armies consisted of 200,000 men whom they were unable to feed. Chambers, of Virginia, replied that double that number could be fed; if not, terms should be made with Lincoln at once.

THE DUKE OF AHOLO, who has died after a lingering illness caused by a cancer on the neck, belonged to one of the oldest noble families in the Highlands, that of Moray or Murray, originally, it is said, from Moravia. He had no striking abilities, but is said to have been much liked by his tenantry,—the old sympathetic tie continuing strong on both sides. The Duke often wore a "tail" of Highland retainers clad in his own tartan. The most noted action in his life was a high-handed attempt to shut up an ancient foot-path through Glen-Tilt, one of the most romantic passes in the Highlands, which, though it was his own estate, he was forced to leave open, contenting himself with the destruction of a bridge.

FATHER CHINIQUEY'S MARRIAGE.—The celebrated Father Chiniquy has followed the example of Luther and many other converted priests, by entering the condition which the Scriptures, by direct implication, pronounce good,—namely, marriage. Unlike Luther, however, he has not found a nun to share his joys and sorrows, but a young lady of Kankakee, Illinois, named Euphémie Allard. The marriage took place on the 26th ult., and caused, according to the Chicago papers, a great sensation among Mr. Chiniquy's friends. The Journal de Quebec says, "This result will convince those who have refused to believe in the immorality of the apostate." We think the inference would be all the other way. It is not by marriage that Mr. C. will lose the confidence, at all events, of Protestants. We wish, however, that we could find some satisfactory account of the application of the enormous sums sent to him from England, the United States, and Canada. It will be remembered that a minister in England stated publicly that he had remitted to him £7000 sterling, or \$35,000; and it is well known that he received large sums from other sources. What became of it all?

THE TERCENTENARY.—The Toronto Leader in advocating a very laudable object, namely, the Shakespearean Tercentenary celebration, uses some singularly objectionable language. He says, for instance: "Shakespeare appears to have intercepted in its descent all the Shekinah destined to fall in after ages, and suffered it only to glance off his wings in broken pallid flashes amidst the myriad and disguised plagiarism of the present day." The notions of the Shekinah must be singularly confused which, in any way, couples that Divine manifestation with the author of much that appears in Shakespeare's writings. This effort to deify men, is very near akin to the attempt making by Colenso, Renan and others, to drag down the Scriptures and the Saviour to the level of ordinary writings and men. We are happy to see that the Observer has ably testified against the infidel tone of the Leader. The Observer also very properly objects to balls and theatricals as the means of celebrating the Tercentenary.

THE MALDEN MURDER.—ARREST OF THE MURDERER.—Our readers will remember that in December last a cruel murder was perpetrated at Malden, Mass., the victim being Frank E. Converse, assistant-cashier of the Malden Bank.—Despite the most searching investigation and untiring efforts of the authorities, and interested private individuals, no clue to the murderer could be obtained up to within a very recent date; but, from various causes, suspicion at length rested upon a person named Green, the postmaster of Malden, a man who had always borne an unblemished character, but who like many other respectable people was known to be in debt. Suspicion at length ripened into certainty, and the telegraph now brings us the information that Green has been arrested.—When taken in charge by the Constables, he is said to have acknowledged his guilt, and to have informed them, with the utmost coolness, of the way in which the cruel deed was done, and the whereabouts of the stolen money, pistol, &c.; but, subsequently on his trial, when arraigned upon two complaints—the one for killing Converse and robbing the Bank, and the other for firing a block of buildings last November—he has pleaded not guilty to the first, but guilty to the second. What the result may be, or whether he is the horrible criminal he is supposed to be, we cannot say, nor do we wish to comment upon the case while yet under trial. The telegraph has already given all the facts ascertained up to the present moment. Under any circumstances, the case is a most sorrowful one; and one fact conduces to make it more so, namely, that the prisoner is the husband of a young and amiable lady, and the father of an infant of some three months only.

FRENCH-CANADIAN LONGEVITY.—It has become the fashion of late amongst French-Canadians to celebrate with some pomp, golden weddings,—that is to say, the fiftieth anniversary of a marriage when both the contracting parties are still living. The great number of such celebrations constantly recorded in the French papers of the Province, are indicative of great longevity and regularity of habits of life. The ceremony always takes place in the parish-church, where the priest performs a mass, at which all the relatives and descendants to the third and fourth generations attend, escorted by numerous friends and fellow-parishioners. On the 1st instant such a ceremony took place at Orleans Island. Another also has just taken place at Papineauville, the happy bridegroom, Mr. Beaudry, being the pre-

centor of the parish, and the 50th anniversary he celebrated being that of a second marriage. The venerable old couple stood in the midst of a crowded church, supported by a groomsmen and a bridesmaid selected from amongst their grandchildren. Mass was performed, the priest delivered a touching address, and a collection for the poor was taken by two grandchildren. After the service, 30 sleighs full of friends and relatives escorted home the venerable partners with flags flying. A dinner was served, at which 120 guests sat down; after which, violin-players being in attendance, Mr. Beaudry, although 81 years old, opened the more joyous proceedings by dancing a minuet with his wife. The priest presided over the feast throughout. Mr. B. was once a western trapper, and has many interesting adventures of his youth to recount. Through his second wife he has 10 children, 74 grandchildren, and already 15 great-grandchildren.

FREIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—THREE MEN KILLED.—About 8 o'clock on the morning of the 9th inst., as a freight-train from Sarnia, was approaching the bridge which crosses the Credit River, a short distance west of Georgetown Station, it was noticed by those on the train that an axle-tree of one of the rear cars was broken. The engine-driver whistled "brakes down," and those on the cars—knowing their danger—did all in their power to stop the cars; but, owing to ice on the track, and the train being on a down-grade, their efforts were unavailing. The train entered the bridge,—the engine and tender and some of the cars passed on in safety; but the two rear cars, becoming detached, ran off the track, dashed through the side-rail of the bridge, took an awful leap into the air, and fell, with a fearful crash, into the shallow and frozen river beneath,—a height of 125 feet. These two cars contained three men,—Mr. R. Kennedy, the conductor of the train; and two brakemen, J. Waddie and R. Crooker,—who were mangled in such a horrible manner as to be scarcely distinguishable as human beings. The mangled bodies were gathered up and sent to Georgetown, where an inquest was opened in the afternoon.

THE NEW JAILOR.—Much as we regretted the removal of Mr. McGinn, on various accounts, we could not but approve of that act after the statements made by the Prison Inspectors concerning the tea business, which were not, so far as we have seen, disproved; though the Canadian Patriot seems to have made some strong points, which we copied, against the fairness of the Inspectors in other matters. The setting aside of Mr. Bogue we could not help approving also, under the circumstances, although we had the most reliable private testimony that he was a worthy, honest man; but we must say, we cannot approve of the final appointment of a tavern-keeper to that most responsible office.

In England butchers were, and, perhaps, still are excluded from juries, and tavern-keepers are excluded from City and Town Councils, as we think they should be here; and the same principle should exclude them from managing prisons or asylums, for which men of decided Temperance principles should invariably, we think, be selected.

The following Minute of the Council of the Canadian Alliance on this subject has been sent to us for publication.

"That this Council views with considerable alarm and profound regret, the humiliating fact, that a tavern-keeper has been appointed to take the charge of the Montreal Jail.

"That viewing this selection from the light which in this nineteenth century has been thrown upon prison discipline, and the reformatory influences which all punishments should tend to promote, the Council is deeply impressed with the conviction that the authorities ought not to have made choice of a person whose immediate antecedents have been in connexion with a traffic which produces nine-tenths of the crime of this city, and which crowds our extensive jail to overflowing.

"That the appointment of such an individual as the Governor of the Montreal Jail is a stigma upon the city, and an insult to the public sentiment of the community.

"That the Secretary be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to the several newspapers of the city, respectfully requesting the publication of the same."

THE JEWS IN CHINA.

It has long been known that there are Jews in China, but, beyond the mere fact of their existence there, little heretofore has come to light concerning them. Lately, however,—as we gather from a remarkable account in the Jewish Chronicle,—a curious discovery was made by a Jewish officer of the British navy. It seems that he, serving under Commander Hollins, had assigned to him the command of a small vessel carrying three guns, for the purpose of penetrating the rivers and streams of the interior. On one occasion, he sailed more than 30 miles up a river, and, seeing something resembling a fortification, he resolved to ascertain its nature. As he approached, the vessel was surrounded by multitudes of Chinese junks, the crews of which let fly a shower of stones. The lieutenant endeavored to scatter them with grape-shot; but the natives, only noticing it with a yell, attempted to climb into the vessel. They were met on every side by the sailors, and the fight began to grow desperate, when their chief—a tall, majestic-looking man—who had effected a footing on board, was captured. To the intense surprise of the Jewish officer, the prisoner, extending his hands, addressed him in Hebrew. He replied in the same

tongue; and the chief then told him that, if he were set at liberty, he would show them the city, and permit them to depart unmolested. The officer accepted the proposition, and, accompanied by some sailors, visited the town. They found it to be an immense city, with walls and fortifications, containing 1,000,000 inhabitants, all of whom are Jews. Here they have every privilege, and may carry their produce to other cities, but are not allowed to emigrate. They keep a standing army of the young men of the place, in order to protect themselves. Their laws command the observance of the Jewish religion, but their rites and ceremonies differ very much from those of English Jews. They observe the Sabbath on our Thursday, which they call the seventh day. Their synagogues are beautiful buildings, each capable of containing 2000 persons. They generally consist of a large hall, with an arched roof of stained glass, supported by variegated marble pillars, with porcelain cornices. The ark is a beautiful structure, and is approached by nine steps of the whitest marble. On opening the doors and drawing the curtain the whole building is flooded by the light which issues forth, for in every available spot within the ark are candles, which are kept burning continually. In each house of worship are three "saphorim," which are written on pure white vellum, and only handled by the priest.—Women are only allowed to enter the Synagogues on festival days.

The Chief took much trouble to explain everything to the English, and the party returned to the ship laden with presents, one of which, was a prayer-book, written in Chaldaic on vellum, which has since been presented to the British Museum.

We should like to see corroborative statements of this strange story.

THE ENGLISH IN CHINA.

We learn from recent papers that English affairs in China have suddenly assumed a strange position. Some time ago the Chinese Emperor applied to the British for aid against the rebels. This aid was willingly given. England relaxed her Enlistment Act, and permitted her officers to enter the service of the Emperor, and yet retain their rank and title in the Royal navy. She allowed the Chinese to build their vessels in her dockyards, and even to purchase several ships fully equipped from her navy. Commodore Osborne spent years in building and manning these ships, and many assembled round his standard, animated by high hopes of putting an end to a bloody war, of perhaps causing the acknowledgment of British supremacy, and of gaining wealth and renown. Now all this is over. Osborne, after waiting a month at Pekin for instructions, has been suddenly ordered to return to Britain with all his vessels. The motive for this strange procedure seems to have been distrust. 600 foreigners, with powerful steamers and effective artillery, seemed to be a dangerous force to admit into the interior. Undoubtedly they think that the strangers, if once possessed of the country, would refuse to give it up; remembering probably that they themselves were invited down from the northern deserts in 1684, to quell a rebellion in Pekin, and that the usurper was expelled but to make way for a sovereign of their own dynasty. Without the English, the fleet would be worse than useless, as it might enable the Provincial Governors to resist the power of the Central Government; and, to escape these two evils,—the latter of which was real, and the former purely imaginary,—the Mandarins resolved to send both officers and fleet back to England, and to risk the indefinite prolongation of the Taiping rebellion.

When the fleet was thus summarily dismissed, the British Minister, considering that his countrymen, who had regularly enlisted for four years, were wronged, announced that the question must be referred to London, and that, in the meanwhile, he would keep the ships as a kind of indemnity. At this the Mandarins were completely non-plussed. They were in danger of losing all that had been expended upon this costly expedition, which, they had hoped, would be partially repaid by the sale of the ships; and what was worse they were in danger of drawing upon them the hostility of Great Britain. In this dilemma, after much hesitation, they had recourse to the American Minister, Mr. Burlingame, and laid the matter before him in all its details. They gave satisfactory proof that their envoy had exceeded his instructions with regard to the enlistment of men and officers, and showed that they were not bound to redeem pledges which he was not authorized to give.

The evidence was sifted in three days, and the Minister, contrary to his first impression, came to the conclusion that the Chinese Government had not been guilty of any breach of faith. The evidence when laid before Sir Frederick Bruce, carried conviction also to his mind, and he promptly wrote to the Mandarins that the affair might be settled in Pekin, and that he would not retain any of the vessels. The alacrity in acknowledging the rights of the Chinese Government has added to the high character which he already bears for justice and integrity.

The dismissal of the fleet will indefinitely postpone the reduction of Nankin, which has been in the hands of the Taipings for ten years, during the whole of which time it has been vigorously besieged. The rebels too, will, probably gain fresh confidence and strength

from the removal of a power which they had just reason to dread, and will now be harder to subdue than ever before.

CORPORATIONS THE CHIEF DANGER OF CANADA.

The accumulation of property in mortmain by ecclesiastical corporations has proved the great danger politically and economically of Roman Catholic countries. The orders and communities of the Church of Rome indefinitely multiplied and extended,—all of them accumulating real estate, by legacy, gift, purchase, and none dividing or selling unless to make more favorable investments; whilst all are under the hierarchy, and that under the Pope,—present such an organized array of wealth and power, as is exceedingly dangerous if not fatal to civil liberty. Accumulation is the business of these communities, and when they are all at it, and always at it, for centuries, without any checking, dividing, or dispersing process, they must necessarily become the owners of the greater part of the soil, and the people must become their tenants and dependents. This process has gone on in some Roman Catholic countries until the most stringent laws against holding property on mortmain, and against death-bed legacies had to be enacted, or until the mere necessity of self-preservation forced the State to confiscate ecclesiastical property.—In others again the only remedy presented for the intolerable evil was revolution; and such revolutions are the most terrible of all. The clergy with their immense hold on the property and people, possess such resources that the popular leaders are again and again overthrown, as in Mexico, and the long continued struggle between popular and clerical power brings the country into anarchy and exhaustion. Now Canada has just been piling up this agony for herself. Equally exposed with the most purely Roman Catholic country to the accumulation of property by religious communities and ecclesiastical corporations,—she has neglected the precautions adopted by Roman Catholic countries to limit that accumulation and is consequently in a worse position. Her orders are constantly receiving and constantly purchasing property, as any one at all acquainted with the state of things among us must know—and the end of all this cannot fail to be most disastrous. Indeed that result has already come. The Hierarchy rules Canada. It possesses an influence, not always apparent, which paralyzes all opposition to its will. Its only restraint is the fear that the people of Canada should get their eyes opened to their real condition of vassals to the Romish Bishops, and by a united struggle, throw off the yoke. Bit by bit it is getting the control of education—bit by bit it is accumulating property. The old story of the wolf is being realized. Only let in my little finger said the wolf, and the kind girl consented to so small a request. Only let in my hand. Consent again. Only let in my arm. Still the tender-hearted and timid girl opened the door wider, though not without considerable apprehension—and when it was wide enough in sprang the wolf and devoured her. And this is only in a figure the process which Canada is going through.

But it is not clerical corporations alone that we have to fear—a great and influential corporation is dangerous. Take that of a great Railroad for instance. Who does not know that the State of New York has been trying in vain to shake off the dangerous control which the Central Railroad Company has obtained over it? Who does not know that the State of New Jersey is just like a pocket borough belonging to the Camden and Amboy Railroad? And Canada is still more dangerously situated than either, inasmuch as our Grand Trunk is a more gigantic concern. Should this company succeed, as it has nearly done, in aggregating all the railroads of Canada, and bringing them under one central management—as the hierarchy does with all the religious communities—it will be too strong for any administration. It will dictate to Parliaments and Ministries. It will influence with its patronage—menace with its opposition, or buy with its money a majority in any House; or if it does not obtain the majority, it will make such a strong and persistent and unscrupulous opposition as to overthrow before long any Ministry.

Now, if these two Hierarchies, that of Rome, and that of the Grand Trunk, were to join for mutual aid and comfort, where would Canada be?

THE FENIANS IN IRELAND.

The Fenians of the United States, where the last scheme for getting up an Irish insurrection originated, endeavor to draw into the plot Protestant Irishmen on the pretext that the brotherhood is got up irrespective of creed or party.—Its leaders are all, or nearly all, Roman Catholics. At its great convention a good part of the time was occupied in eulogies to the memory of a Roman Catholic priest, and the brotherhood made their introduction of the order into Ireland conspicuous by carrying thither from California and burying in his native soil the remains of a Roman Catholic priest. His funeral was made the occasion of drawing together thousands of the ignorant and discontented Irish peasantry. The Protestants of Ireland and the Protestant press are opposed to the treasonable schemes of the Fenians, and in the event of an outbreak the Protestants and Roman Catholics would be found arrayed against each other just as the slavery and anti-slavery parties are now in the United States.

We do not believe that all Irish Roman Catholic sympathize with attempts to sever

the connexion between Ireland and Great Britain. Numbers of them are doubtless as loyal to the British Throne as any Protestants in the empire.

The Belfast Weekly News in a recent article on the various schemes for freeing Ireland from Saxon rule, thus refers to the Fenian Brotherhood:—

The Fenian Brotherhood, like the Phoenix Society, of which it is the successor, originated in Ireland. Everyone knows that its avowed object is to secure, not the Repeal of the Union only, but Hibernian independence; and every one knows that the arguments in which it trusts are the weapons of actual warfare. In every district there are what are called "Circles" of Fenians. The leader of this particular section is called "the Centre." There are no specified places of meeting; no club-rooms; no apparent means by which a member of a Circle can bring home conviction to his brethren. The "Centres" alone communicate with each other; and the "Chief Centre" in Ireland is in immediate correspondence with the similar geometrical functionary in America. What the actual number of the members may be we know not; but we do know enough of the habits and thoughts of the Irish peasantry to be aware that such an organization is eminently calculated to excite their imagination. They have ears at any time to bear an agitator. They know that England is Protestant and they themselves are Romanist. They have traditions of hatred and enmity on religious, social, and political grounds, and they do not pause to inquire whether these traditions are in accordance with the circumstances by which they are surrounded. Since before '68 they have been always taught to look to France or America for aid; and now, aware that more than two millions of their countrymen are resident in America, they are credulous enough to believe that some day an Irish army of invasion will cross the Atlantic, and that the Stars and Stripes will be seen upon our shores, and will glitter over battle fields upon which the pride of England will be trampled to the dust. Feelings such as these, illogical, impracticable, and absurd as they are, do nevertheless influence the conduct of large numbers of men, ignorant of history, and utterly unable to distinguish between the stories of agitators and the warnings of statesmen, give themselves over, like pliant clay, into the hands of persons who mould them for the worst purposes. It is said by many writers who view affairs through some philosophical medium which, to others, is painfully opaque, that no notice should be taken of these things by the Government. Ireland, it is manifest enough, could not, even were it united and were all its people to rise in arms, hold out for a single week in armed conflict with England; and the feeling of ultimate security makes the philosophers to whom we refer altogether indifferent to the fact that lunatics must not only be watched because they are dangerous to others, but because they are dangerous to themselves. It is quite true that, even if England were engaged in a war with France or America tomorrow, all the Fenians in the country could not produce any considerable diversion in favor of the enemy. An unarmed and incoherent mob must go down before any regular force supplied with the engines of modern warfare; but we hold that England has to do something more than hug herself with a just sense of security. She has to save these miserable dupes from the knives who play upon them. She has to remember that a condition of political discontent is inconsistent with a career of social progress; and that the indolence and resulting misery bred by the habit of looking forward to a revolutionary future, are not only injurious to the material interests of the country, but seem to spectators, and even to the people themselves, the excuse for the very course of conduct which led to it. Men argue in a vicious circle sometimes, and put the effect for the cause and the cause for the effect with wonderful facility.

Had Ireland devoted itself to industry with the same zeal that it has ever done to politics, what a glorious country it would have been today! Instead of flying from its shores as from a lazar-house, her sons would stand up on their own soil a noble race, unsurpassed by any living men in many of the best attributes of humanity. Her resources would have been utilized; her water-power would not be running waste into the ocean; her harbours would not be solitudes; on her hillsides and her plains, in the South as in the North, tall chimneys would point upward to indicate the lofty influence of labour; and the trading politicians, who now breathe hatred towards England, would be unknown save as village oracles or debaters in some city tavern. It should be the object of the Government to search out this conspiracy which unquestionably exists, and to punish its crafty and iniquitous leaders. Ireland has been almost agitated off the face of the earth; and the Executive that makes no effort to punish the chiefs of a conspiracy which excites the false hopes of an ignorant people, should make way for successors who do not entertain philosophic scruples as to the punishment of pseudo-political criminals.

The above article, we think, ignores the more excellent way of allaying agitation. Exemplary punishments may be, and sometimes are necessary, but they do not make a people contented and happy. If they did, Ireland, some century or more ago, would have been one of the happiest and most contented countries in the world, and so should Poland now. If our voice could be heard on the other side of the Atlantic, we would say in prescribing for Ireland, try them with Tenant Right, which after all would be only a measure of justice.

The receipts and expenses for the years 1862 and 1863 compare as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	INCREASE.
Receipts.....	\$242,797-95	\$267,892-26	\$25,095-31
Expenses.....	\$124,955-48	\$145,645-57	\$20,690-09
	\$117,842-47	\$122,246-69	\$4,404-22

The increase in the expenses arises from the necessity for very heavy repairs to the Rolling Stock, which has now been in use for a great number of years, with but little outlay upon it before last year, the purchase of two new passenger cars, heavy repairs to the steamers, and the increased cost for renewal of the permanent way, including the purchase of 200 tons of new iron put into the track.

These increased items of expense will continue to be necessary for the next three or four years.

The Assets are more than sufficient to meet all the Liabilities, a large part of which have, indeed, been already paid off. When all is paid there will be a cash balance in the hands of the Company of about \$34,000.

The line from St. John's to the Vermont Central Railway, near St. Albans, will be opened during the summer of 1864, and will have a prejudicial effect upon the receipts from through traffic in connection with the Vermont Central and other connecting railways.

The agreement with the Grand Trunk Railway Company, adopted by the Special Meeting on the 12th of October, 1863, has since been submitted to the Shareholders of the Grand Trunk Company and approved by them, subject to certain modifications.

The changes are of but little practical importance, and do not at all affect the principle of the agreement sanctioned on the 12th of October, 1863.

The balance sheets are too long for us to give in detail, suffice to say that the assets are \$86,954.33, against which are liabilities to the amount of \$48,326.36.

The report was adopted, and on motion of A. MOLSON, Esq., seconded by ROBERT ANDERSON, Esq., a vote of thanks to the Auditors was passed, and they were requested to accept of one hundred dollars for the arduous duties they had performed.

The Hon. JOHN ROSE moved, seconded by the Hon. THOMAS RYAN, a vote of thanks to the Hon. James Ferrier, the President; and Wm. Molson, Esq., the Vice-President, for their unremitting attention to the interests of the Company; and they were requested to accept \$1,000 in acknowledgment of their valuable services.

Moved by W. MURRAY, Esq., seconded by M. E. DAVID, Esq., and resolved that John McLean and John Barry, be retained as auditors. Carried.

The following were appointed Directors for the ensuing year:—E. M. Hopkins, J. Ferrier, C. J. Brydges, Honorable J. Rose, J. Thomson, W. Dow, W. Molson, E. H. King, W. E. Phillips.

The Honorable JOHN ROSE submitted a draft of a Bill to be laid before the Legislature at the next session to legalize the agreement between the Grand Trunk and this Company.

Moved by Honorable James Ferrier, seconded by E. M. Hopkins, Esq., and resolved that the agreement between the Company and the Grand Trunk Railway Company, finally executed by both Companies under their seal on the 1st of January, 1864, be accepted and approved by the shareholders of this Company by adding the words following, at the end of the 8th Clause:—"That the minimum shall always suffice to meet the interest on the bonded debt and Preferred stock of the Champlain Company." Carried.

This clause originally ran as follows:—"In case Parliament shall not until after the year 1864 grant power to amalgamate the two companies, for such sale and purchase as mentioned in the last preceding clause, the proportion of the next earnings belonging hereunder to the Montreal and Champlain Company shall not in any year exceed a sum to be hereafter agreed upon.

At a meeting of the Directors, subsequently held, the Hon. James Ferrier, was re-elected President, and W. Molson, Vice-President of the Company.

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LITERARY NOTICES.

THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN ALMANAC AND ANNUAL RECORD FOR THE YEAR 1864; a hand-book of statistical and general information. Edited by James Kirby, Esq., M.A., B. C. L., advocate. John Lovell: Montreal.

Mr. Lovell is ever patriotic in his publications. A Canadian Directory, and then a series of school books, of a character to educate a Canadian national spirit, have made his name already well and favourably known all over the country, and now he presents us with a British North American Almanac. There were Canadian, and we suppose Nova Scotian and New Brunswick almanacs before, but this is one which regards the country as one from Cape Race to Vancouver. Time only can vouch for its correctness, although on this score we have little ground for apprehension, and we are sure that, had it no other recommendation than that we have stated, it would be considered a step in the march of progress. Much valuable information is included in it on almost every subject that comes within the extensive reach of its design.

"THE BRITISH-AMERICAN MAGAZINE."—The February number opens with an article on "The Discoveries and Trade of the rival French and English Colonists in the Hudson-Bay Territories;" showing the long-continued struggle between the two nations for that large portion of this continent. Another and succeeding article will trace its history to the final transfer of the territory to the Crown of England. A favorable view of the character of the Hon. F. Binecks occupies the personal sketch article, and of its correctness, or otherwise, many in Montreal will be able to judge, from personal acquaintance with the subject of the paper. "The Accuser and the Accused," by Mrs. Moodie, is finished, and has been a pen-and-ink picture to remain upon the memory. "Volunteer Reviews" will be read with interest by others, as well as those connected with the Force. The remainder of the arti-

cles are chiefly continuations, and are not particularly noticeable, any more than are the few new ones introduced. But whilst the prose department, in point of talent, remains much as before, with, perhaps, too much space devoted to but second-rate stories, the poetic department contains what we esteem as being the best poem that has yet appeared in these pages, and our appreciation of which we shall show, by transferring it to our own. We allude to "The First Bath," by James McCarroll, one of the few Canadian writers of genuine poetry. The Reviews and the Notices of the Periodicals are as full, yet concise, as usual.

—We have received from Messrs. Boucher and Manseau a very pretty quadrille, dedicated to his Professors by a student of the Canadian School of Medicine and Surgery, Mr. Valade, the son of the well-known School Inspector. The quadrille is called "Hippocrate," a very old and grave name to a very new and rather frivolous subject. Moreover, the title page honors the father of medical science with various instrumental sketches of the craft. But the fascinating strains—highly creditable to our native talent—will, no doubt, be highly appreciated beyond the circle of medical men and their patients.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES:—published in Philadelphia at one dollar per annum, is a weekly paper for Sunday School teachers. It is conducted with considerable ability, and always contains something of practical interest to Superintendents and teachers of Sunday Schools. It also contains a good deal of valuable reading for parents and children.

—The last Canadian Illustrated News has a good likeness of Thackeray, and commences the Abbé Ferland's "History of Gamaoche, the Pirate Crusoe of Anticosti."

SPECIAL NOTICES.

ANNUAL REGISTER OF REAL AFFAIRS.—The tenth number of this valuable annual work is before us. It contains 130 illustrations, and is of permanent interest to gardeners and agriculturists. A mere glance at its contents will show that no farmer could better spend twenty-five cents a year than in purchasing this useful register. The index of contents refers to nearly two hundred distinct items. The most prominent subjects treated of are Farm work for each month of the year round, road making, management of swine, mechanical contrivances to save labor, dairy-farming and cheese making, collecting and preserving insects, Fruit culture &c. &c. The Register will be sent by mail free of postage on receipt of 25c. at the Witness Book Store.

TO MINISTERS.—Owing to the present low rate of exchange on New York, the Bibliotheca Sacra, one of the most valuable theological books published, will be supplied for two dollars to all who remit immediately. The Bibliotheca has been published for over twenty years, and numbers among its contributors some of the ablest theological writers of the United States of various denominations. Orders may be sent to the Witness Book Store.

—A Boarding and Day School has been opened in Cowansville by Mr. G. F. Krause, a German by birth, but who as well as Mrs. Krause is familiar with the French language, which is used at the table. Mr. Krause is assisted in teaching by the Rev. J. F. Farrar of Cowansville. The course commences with the most elementary English branches.

—For coughs, hoarseness, irritation and soreness of the throat, nothing is so efficacious, as a throat-remedy, as Brown's Bronchial Troches. As there are imitations, be sure to obtain the genuine.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

—The attention of the public in general, and of Temperance men in particular, is earnestly invited to the form of petition adopted by the United Canadian Alliance, and inserted in another column.

—Mr. Louis Archambault, the member or Assumption, has brought before the Court at Joliette a man who had accused him of being "a robber." The man has been sentenced to pay a heavy fine and costs.

—The Court of Queen's Bench has decided to grant the application of Mr. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., for a rule nisi, to shew cause why a new trial should not be granted to William Greenwood, now under sentence of death for the murder of the child of Agnes Marshall. The final arguments in the case will be heard on Thursday the 11th inst.

—Noel Roy, a young man employed in the brewery of Langelier & Co. at St. Hyacinthe, while walking through an upper flat, did not see—owing, probably, to the steam that filled the place—a trap-door left open. He fell through into an immense boiler, containing four hog-heads of beer, boiling. A few minutes elapsed before he could be drawn out of the burning liquid. A priest was immediately sent for, who confessed him, and gave him absolution. He died in twelve hours at the Hotel Dieu, suffering horrible agonies. The brewers publish a card to the effect that they have not barrellated that unfortunate beer, but poured it out in the street at a heavy sacrifice.

—In view of an expected great increase of the tax on whiskey in the States, there was a gigantic speculation in that article last fall and winter; but the speculators were utterly dismayed when they found the additional tax was made by the House of Representatives to apply to stocks on hand. They therefore beset the Senate so urgently, and with such powerful lobby arguments, that that venerable body seems to have succumbed, and voted to allow the speculators, instead of the government, to profit by the rise of the stock on hand. The difference to the Treasury would be \$4,000,000, but it is believed that the House of Representatives will not recede from its position.

CITY ITEMS.

JUSTICE DEPRIVED.—Some time ago, one Louis Verbois was charged with having robbed a store in Notre Dame Street, and a warrant for his apprehension was issued. He fled to Quebec, and was followed thither by Detective Coallier, in order to execute the warrant. When the latter arrived, he found that Verbois was in custody, on a charge of enlisting a man for the Federal army. Coallier, before he left Quebec, made a deposition as to his coming thither to execute the warrant; setting forth, also, the nature of its contents, so that Verbois, in case of an acquittal, might be transferred to the authorities here. He has been acquitted, but, instead of being detained for a few hours, as desired by the Clerk of the Crown for the District of Montreal, who sent a telegram to that effect to Quebec, seeing there was a charge of felony against him laid before our Court, he was, on a motion for his discharge, set at liberty, on the ground that there was no legal plea to justify the prisoner's detention. There seems to have been an oversight, in the warrant not having been left at Quebec, for if it had been so, it might have been executed on the instant of Verbois' acquittal.

HOSPICE ST. BALDICE.—An hospital has been opened under this title at No. 46 Vitre Street. It is especially established for the treatment of women's diseases, will contain a lying-in ward, and be under the control of Drs. J. B. Trester, Bibaud, Emery, Coderre, D'Orsonnens, and Pelletier.

EXAMINATION OF VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.—The following officers appeared yesterday, for a practical examination, before the Military Board:—Major Masson, Brigade-Major, Terreboune; Capt. Isaacson, Hochelaga Light Infantry, Montreal; Captains Cinquiers and Normandeau, and Lieut. Jean L. Tétu, Chasseurs Canadiens; Lieutenant Horne, Hochelaga Light Infantry; Lieutenant McGlasshan, unattached; Essigns D. McDougall and James Kearns, Volunteer Infantry, Durham. Five of these gentlemen went up for first-class certificates, and four for second-class.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE.
Friday morning, February, 12, 1864.

Snow commenced falling last night about 6 o'clock, and although the storm has not been heavy, yet this morning everything is covered with a fresh white coat of some three inches deep. The weather is fine and mild.

REVIEW OF THE MONTREAL MONEY MARKET.
MONTREAL, Friday, Feb. 12, 1864.

We note some slight improvement in the value of Sterling Exchange; but the very large supply of American and other Paper in this market induces continued heaviness. Bank price is still unchanged, being 10 per cent. prem., and very flat on the street. Bank Exchange can be procured at 9 1/2 to 9 1/4. Private paper is nominally 9 to 9 1/2 per cent. premium; but there is hardly any offered. The minimum rate accepted by the Commissariat Department for the 30-day Bills was 1 1/2. U.S. funds are scarce, and consequently, saleable at a less discount than would correspond with the premium on Gold. Bank demand-drafts on New York are quoted to-day at 36 1/2 to 36 3/4 dis. Private Paper is worth 36 1/2 to 37 dis. Brokers are buying American Bank notes at 37 1/2 dis.; selling at 36 1/2 dis., which have been about the figures during the week. Silver is bought by Brokers at 3 per cent. dis., and sold at 2 1/2. Gold in New York has been pretty steady; but still there has been a quiet upward tendency. From that city, this day, at 11 a.m., via Boston, we have the following financial telegram, viz.:—Sterling Exchange, 7 1/4 to 7 1/2; Gold, 59 1/2.—Quiet.

On Change to-day, Gold sold—buyer 40 at 60, —buyer 60 at 60.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES CURRENT.
MONTREAL, Feb. 12, 1864.

FLOUR.—Pollards, \$2.25 to \$2.50; Middlings, \$2.70 to \$2.90; Fine, \$3.50 to \$3.70; No. 2, Superfine, \$3.70 to \$4.00; No. 1, Superfine, \$4.20 to \$4.30; Fancy, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Extra, \$5.00 to \$5.15; Superior Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.50. Bags, \$2.30 to \$2.37 1/2. The Produce business has latterly been so quiet, and the fluctuations so trifling, that there is nothing particular to add in the way of remark to the above quotations.

WHEAT.—U. C. Spring, 95c. to 96c. ex-cars; U. C. Winter, 95c. to \$1.

OATMEAL.—\$5.00 to \$5.25 per brl. of 200 lbs.

BARLEY.—70c. to 75c. per 60 lbs.

PEAS.—Good, 65c. to 70c. per 66 lbs.

OATS.—About 40c. per 32 lbs.

BUTTER.—Fair to choice from 16c. to 19c.

POKE.—Mess \$15.50 to \$16.50; Prime, \$12; Prime Mess, \$14. Market firm, with upward tendency.

DRESSED HOGS.—\$6.00 to \$6.25.

LARD.—Firm; barrels, 9c. to 9 1/4c.; kegs, 9 1/4c. to 10c.

TALLOW.—8 1/4c. to 8 1/2c. Fair business doing.

CUT-MEATS.—Hams, sugar-cured, canvassed, 12 1/2c. to 13c.; uncansvassed, 10c.

ASHES per 100 lbs., Pots, \$5.35 to \$5.37 1/2; Inferiors, \$5.45 to \$5.60; Pearls, \$5.55 to \$5.57.

PETROLEUM.—Dull, at 35c.

SEEDS.—Clover 9c. to 9 1/4c. per lb.; Timothy \$1.75 to \$2.00 per bush.

JOHN DOUGALL & CO.,
PRODUCE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
270 St. Paul Street.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKETS.
FRIDAY, Feb. 12, 1864.

There has been little business done during the week. Apart from the Auction sale yesterday, some small sales at Auction turned out failures. Tea.—Attendance yesterday was good, and prices fairly satisfactory. Nearly 10,000 packages were offered, of which about three-fourths were sold; a large quantity of the Hyson offered was withdrawn as well as of the Souchong; but most of the finest Young Hysons were sold, as well as of the Imperials and

Gunpowders. We do not alter our quotations. English and U. S. advices note firm markets.—Coffee.—Rio and Cape, 21c to 23c; Laguayra and Maracibo, 21c to 24c; Java, 25c to 27c. Sugars.—Bright Sugars brought 9 1/2c at auction sales during the week. One lot of Cuba sold at equal to 9 1/2c, time, and was stopped. Porto Rico's are held, in lots, for medium to fair, 9 1/2c to 9 1/4c; and bright, 10c to 10 1/4c; Cuba, 9 1/2c to 9 1/4c for low to fair. An advance is reported in United States, owing to the destruction of cane by severe frosts. West India advices all are in the direction of full prices.—Molasses.—34c. to 37c. Prunes.—Currants 6c. to 7c. Raisins easier. Fish.—The commencement of Lent has shown the stock to be light, and prices are firmer. Herrings are held at \$3.50 to \$5 for medium to fine. Table Codfish held at \$4.50 to \$4.75. Oils.—Cod is 85c; Seal 87c to 94c.

MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES.
FOR MARKET DAY FEB. 12, 1864.
(Carefully Corrected for the Witness.)

Flour, country, per qt.....	12 1/2 to 13 1/2
Oatmeal, do.....	12 1/2 to 13 1/2
Indian Meal.....	7 1/2 to 8 1/2
Peas, per min.....	3 1/2 to 4 1/2
Barley, do, per 50 lbs.....	3 1/2 to 3 1/2
Oats, do.....	2 1/2 to 2 1/2
Buckwheat.....	2 1/2 to 2 1/2
Flax Seed.....	7 1/2 to 8 1/2
Timothy Seed.....	6 1/2 to 7 1/2
Turneps, per couple (old).....	6 1/2 to 10 1/2
Ducks, do.....	4 1/2 to 5 1/2
Fowls, do.....	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Chickens, do.....	1 1/2 to 2 1/2
Ducks, (Wild).....	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Pigeons, (Tame).....	1 1/2 to 1 1/2
Partridges.....	2 1/2 to 2 1/2
Woodcock, English.....	10 1/2 to 10 1/2
Grouse.....	10 1/2 to 10 1/2
Hares.....	17 1/2 to 17 1/2
Salpê.....	0 1/2 to 0 1/2
Plover per doz.....	0 1/2 to 0 1/2
Hares, per pair.....	0 7/10 to 10 1/10
Halibut per lb.....	0 1/2 to 0 1/2
Haddock per lb.....	0 3/4 to 0 3/4
Soles, English, per lb.....	1 1/4 to 0 1/2
Butter, fresh per lb.....	1 1/2 to 1 1/2
Do, salt, do.....	1 1/2 to 0 1/2
Beans, small white, per min.....	5 1/2 to 5 1/2
Potatoes, per bag.....	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Onions, do.....	1 1/2 to 1 1/2
Washed Hogs, per 100 lbs.....	\$5 50 to \$6 25
Maple Sugar.....	0 5/4 to 0 1/2
Maple Syrup, per gallon.....	0 1/2 to 0 1/2
Honey, per lb, in the comb.....	0 7 to 0 8
Lard.....	0 7 to 0 8
Eggs, fresh, per dozen.....	1 1/2 to 1 1/2
Eggs, for 100 bundles.....	\$3 00 to \$12 00
Straw.....	\$2 50 to \$4 00
Apples, per bri.....	\$3 50 to \$4 00
Lemons, per box.....	\$8 00 to \$9 00

REMARKS.—We have no change to note to-day in prices. In Oats there is a downward tendency, prices in the States are said to have declined 10 cents. Attendance very small, hardly any one present.

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—FEB. 12.
First Quality Cattle, \$5 to \$5.50; Second and Third, \$3.00 and \$4.00. Milk Cows, \$20 to \$30; extra, \$35, and \$40. Sheep, \$3.50 to \$4.50; extra, \$6 to \$8. Lambs, \$2.50 to \$4. Hogs, live-weight, \$4.75 to \$5.12 1/2; dressed, \$6.75 to \$6.25. Hides \$5.00 to \$5.50. Pelts, \$1.40 to \$1.80. Tallow, rough, 5c.

REMARKS.—Market dull.

WOOL AT NEW YORK.—Since the auction of the 2nd inst., there has been an increased movement in both Domestic and Foreign Wool, particularly in grades adapted to the manufacture of army goods, and though prices are without decided change a better tone certainly prevails the market at the close. The movement of the last few days seems to be regarded as the harbinger of the increased activity during the remainder of the month, and as the monopoly is broken and the period of activity in the manufacturing districts is at hand it is not probable that the sanguine expectation of the trade may be realized. The sales include 125,000 lbs. Domestic fleeces and pulled at 7 1/2c to 8 1/2c; 20,000 lbs. California, 47c to 50c; 100,000 lbs. heavy fleeces (in western part of the State), for the Philadelphia market, equal to 87 1/2c here.—Shipping List, Feb. 6.

ALBANY LIVE STOCK MARKET, Feb. 8.—Prices of Beets are better this week and the advance being equal to about 1/2c per lb live weight. The drovers have done reasonably well and do not complain. There was less speculative feeling than usual, some dealers having lost heavily on last week's ventures, and lent coming in this week. Average quality in market better than last week, but not up to the mark.

MAILS TO THE RED RIVER.—The establishment of mail communication between Forts William and Garry is now under the consideration of the Postmaster-General. By the Lake Superior mail contract recently signed the service is to be fortnightly to Fort William, and weekly to the Sault. Way calls are to be made at Bruce Mines, Killarney and Little Current.

DETROIT FUR MARKET.—Paying—Otter, No. 1, \$3.00 \$4.50; No. 2, \$1.50 to \$2.00; No. 3, 75c to \$1.00; No. 4, 25c to 37 1/2c. Red Fox, No. 1, \$1.25 to \$1.75; No. 2, 75c to \$1.00; No. 3, 25c to 50c. Gray Fox, No. 1, 60c to 75c; No. 2, 20c to 30c; No. 3, 12 1/2c. House Cat, black, No. 1, 10c to 15c; No. 2, 6c to 10c. Mink No. 1, \$2.50 to \$4.00; No. 2, \$1.50 to \$2.00; No. 3, 75c to \$1.00. Wild Cat No. 1, 30c to 40c; No. 2, 25c to 31c; No. 3, 16c. Raccoon No. 1, 60c to \$1.00; No. 2, 30c to 40c; No. 3, 15c to 20c. Muskrat, No. 2, 12c to 16c; No. 3, 6c to 8c; No. 4, 4c to 5c. Skunk, black, 20 to 30c; nar. strip, 10c to 15c; broad strip, 6 to 8c. Opposum No. 1, 15c to 18c; No. 2, 7c to 10c. Deer per lb, red, 50c to 60c; short blue, 60c to 65c; short gray, 40c; winter 25c.

CORN EXCHANGE REPORTS.
[Furnished by the Corn Exchange exclusively to the Witness.]

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES.
MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE,
February 12, 1864.

FLOUR.—Superior Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.50; nominal; Extra, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Fancy, \$4.55 nominal; Superfine, \$4.25 to \$4.30; Superfine No. 2, \$3.85 to \$3.92 1/2; Fine, \$3.60 to \$3.65; Middlings, \$3.00 to \$3.10; Pollards, \$2.50 to \$2.60. Market very dull; some small lots of Superfine were reported within the range quoted, a selected lot bringing a trifle over outside price. A round lot (2500 bbls.) changed hands yesterday evening at \$4.25, without inspection. A 200-barrel lot of Extra reported this forenoon at \$4.90.

POKE.—A sale of 160 barrels Mess (December inspection) reported at \$15.75.

LATEST WESTERN ADVICES.—The following are the latest Western advices received by telegraph at the Corn Exchange:—MILWAUKIE, Feb. 11.—Wheat \$1.12 1/2 in store. Receipts 19,000 bushels. Flour, \$5.35. Mess Pork, \$19.50; buyers offering \$19. CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—Wheat \$1.18 in store.

Family Reading.

AT HOME.

Brothers and sisters there rapidly gather, Filling the mansions prepared for them long. Pressing to hear the kind words of the Father, Raising the notes of the jubilant song.

THIRTY YEARS AGO.

Thirty years ago almost the entire kingdom and nearly every civilized nation in the world, were profoundly ignorant, if not blind, in relation to the nature and properties of intoxicating drinks.

But now the spell is broke—abstain, be free! No more shall this vile yoke enslave the free; Come join with heart and hand our firm teetotal band.

Thirty years ago it was a doubtful question whether a confirmed drunkard could be reclaimed. No Christian man possessing any proper conception of the boundless resources of the Supreme Being, could doubt his power to arrest even a drunkard in his downward course.

When conversing with those antiquarian gentlemen, we have found it necessary to point out living men and women who have been reclaimed from habits of intemperance, and thus to convince them, by the evidence of their own senses, that Temperance reformers are not imposing upon themselves or the public any mere creation of philanthropic fancy.

Thirty years ago the trade of the licensed victualler and publican was considered to be not only respectable, but its introduction into a destitute neighbourhood quite an acquisition. It is true the law always regarded the business of making and selling strong drink as a dangerous one, and hence none but persons who are certified to possess a good moral character are permitted to engage in it.

the trade. But though always regarded as dangerous, thirty years ago it was held to be respectable and honourable. What a change has come over the spirit of this dream! Not only is the trade beginning to be looked upon as unnecessary, but as a positive source of evil, and lords and nobles, as well as other owners of public house property, are removing them as nuisances from their estates.

Thirty years ago the clergy of the Established Church, and the ministers of the gospel generally, regarded the Temperance movement as unsound in theory and dangerous in practice. The spread of total abstinence was, in their opinion, the spread of error, the effects of which would be the removal of those barriers by which vice and infidelity have hitherto been held in check.

We are prepared with any number of facts illustrative of the various positions we have taken in this article, but we have purposely refrained from giving them for the sake of brevity. Upon the whole, the progress of thirty years is so decided and extensive, that we may reasonably hope for great things in the future, and the most natural conclusion to which we can come is to thank God and take courage.—Weekly Record.

CHEERFUL HOUSES.

What sort of a house do you live in? We do not ask whether it is costly or cheap, wide or narrow, of three stories or one.—Whether it is in the city or country, we care not. It may command a fine prospect, it may be shut in by sand-banks, or by higher buildings. These things are incidental. But we ask, is your house cheerful? Outdoors have very little to do with this question; it is a matter of inside care and taste.

Now we assert that the pleasantness of a house depends almost wholly on the way in which it is "kept." The grandest mansion can be made gloomy and repulsive, contributing to a "splendid misery." Some of the roughest, cheapest houses are cheeriest to live in. There is an air of comfort about all the rooms, a home-likeness which gladdens the heart. What makes the difference? We ask chiefly by way of suggestion, but we may be allowed to offer two or three hints to those who can use them.

Let there be plenty of sunlight in your house. Don't be afraid of it. God floods the world with light, and it costs you an effort to shut it out. You want it as much as plants, which grow sickly without it.—It is necessary to your health, spirits, good-nature, and happy influence. Let the sunlight stream freely in. Sydney Smith used to say, in his cheery tones, "Glorify the room," and the shutters were opened wide to the god of day. Flowers and vines are good in their place, but never allow them to keep out the sun.

We do not believe in keeping a best room for rare company. We think the dwellers in a house, those who are there constantly, and to whom above all, it needs to be made pleasant, should enjoy its best parts. We do not believe in having a carpet which will not bear the light. How absurd to keep its flowers bright, while the roses fade on the cheeks of your wife and children! Have

only what will bear proper use, and use it. Let not cost be mistaken for comfort. Many a housekeeper sighs for new furniture, when taste and good judgment and possibly that absolute essential, tidiness, are much more wanted. Proper outlays should never be grudged; for where can money be so well spent as in making home pleasant and cheerful? But the best comforts are those within the reach of all. Where love and true politeness and cordial manners prevail, a home can very easily be made pleasant.

It is no slight thing to have cheerful dwellings. A house should be made attractive to the busy mother, who toils in it the day through; to the father, who comes home wearied in his cares; to the children who are all the while moulded by outward impressions, even the slightest. It should be made agreeable to neighbors and friends. It should help to cultivate contented hearts, a beaming kindness of manner, buoyant and happy Christian feelings.—Pacific.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION—SKATING.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, in writing from the State of Maine a few years since, gave as a reason why so many women died of consumption in that State, that they were housed up so closely during the long winters. The ill ventilated apartments in which they were secluded from the inclement weather and pure air without, had so impaired the lungs, and the consequent healthfulness of the blood, that it was difficult to find a healthy female who had attained the age of twenty-five years. Even those who wore the rosiest cheeks during their school days, when they took active exercise in the open winter air, soon sank down enfeebled during the long snow-drifted winters in the vitiated atmosphere of the old homestead.

Now when the females of New England and elsewhere have become so weakly as a class as to awaken the fears of all friends of education, we find public attention being aroused to the subject, and physicians, moralists, and divines, rival each other in their denunciations of the closet lives of the other sex, and in devising some means of bringing back again the healthy race of the days of our mothers.

We welcome every sign of returning good sense on the part of the women of the land. Give us once more the "checked apron" days when girls were proud to be healthy, when they feared not the rain at "milking time," or the howling blast when there was a spelling-school, or a "sliding down hill." Those were days when there were roses blooming in winter, and when the loud laugh from expanded lungs rang out above the storm. And now, when she puts on the skates, so long monopolized by her brothers, and in the bracing atmosphere of a keen winter's day, seeks exhilarating exercise on the frozen river, we can but welcome her to the healthful pastime. The doctor may be cheated out of a patient, but pity him not. If all our young ladies would take every day practice in skating upon the ice of the river with their brothers and friends, the habit of out-door exercise would soon be looked upon as too great a boon to be ever again sacrificed to a foolish, fashionable, delicate, breathing enervated life within secluded and unhealthy rooms.

REVELATIONS OF THE MICROSCOPE.

Brush a little of the fuzz from the wing of a butterfly, and let it fall upon a piece of glass. It will be seen on the glass as a fine golden dust. Slide the glass under a microscope, and each particle of the dust will reveal itself as a perfect symmetrical feather. Give your arm a slight prick, so as to draw a small drop of blood; mix the blood with a drop of vinegar and water, and place it upon the glass slide under the microscope. You will discover that the red matter of the blood is formed of innumerable globules or disks, which, though so small as to be separately invisible to the naked eye, appear under the microscope each larger than the letter of this print.

Take a drop of water from a stagnant pool or ditch, or sluggish brook, dipping it from among the green vegetable matter on the surface. On holding the water to the light it will look a little milky; but on placing the smallest drop under the microscope, you will find it swarming with hundreds of strange animals that are swimming about in it with the greatest vivacity. These animalcules exist in such multitudes that any effort to conceive of their numbers bewilders the imagination.

The invisible universe of created beings is the most wonderful of all the revelations of the microscope. During the whole of a man's existence on the earth, while he has been fighting, taming and studying the lower animals which were visible to his sight, he has been surrounded by these other multitudes of the earth's inhabitants without any suspicion of their existence! In endless variety of form and structure they are bustling through their active lives—pursuing their prey—defending their persons—waging their wars—prosecuting their amours—multiplying their species—and ending their careers; countless hosts at each tick of the clock passing out of existence, and making way for new hosts that are following in endless succession. What other field of creation may yet, by some inconceivable methods, be revealed to our knowledge?

REAL COURAGE.

Boys and girls, as well as men and women, are apt to sometimes mistake prudence for cowardice, and yet no two qualities can be more different. "Pooh!" said a rough boy once to his more gentle cousin, "I do believe, John, you are afraid to go near that horse just because he isn't tied." "There is no need of my going near him, Stephen," was the reply, "and there is danger of his kicking any one who teases him uselessly." "Ha! Ha!" shouted Stephen, "you're a brave, now, ain't you? The idea of being

afraid of a horse!" and, with a taunting look at John, the foolish boy walked up to the grazing animal, and poked him with a stick. The horse gave an uneasy start, but continued pulling at the grass.

"See here!" exclaimed Stephen, growing bolder, "if you'll promise not to taint, John I'll present you with a lock of his tail in a minute."

John didn't faint, but Stephen did; for as he stealthily approached the horse in the rear, the animal bounded away, after performing a flourish with his hoofs that laid his tormentor senseless in the dust.

John tried hard to restore Stephen to consciousness. He loosened his clothing, rubbed his hands and feet, and bringing water in his cap from a pool near by, dashed it on the boy's white face, but all in vain—there were no signs of life. The nearest house was their own home, a quarter of a mile distant. John felt that not a moment must be lost. He approached the now quiet horse, and leaping upon his back rode swiftly, without saddle or bridle, to his uncle's house for help.

When, after a long illness, Stephen recovered, he was a wiser boy, and told his cousin that he really believed the horse had managed to knock a little common sense into him. "And what a dunce I must have been, John," he added, "to fancy you were afraid of that horse!"

HONOR THE ROPE.

A Sunday-school teacher was talking to her class about honouring their parents; and to show the difference between honor and fear she said,—

"Suppose a mother has a rope in her hands and shakes it at Mary and John, and they mind only when they see the rope; do they honor their mother?"

"No!" replied the members of the class very promptly, and one little one, added, "They honor the rope!"

Little reader, do you honor the rope? or do you, for very love and respect to your mother, go and do immediately and cheerfully what she bids you without waiting for her to repeat the request? Nay, more, do you, even in your mother's absence, delight to do the things that you know she would approve, whether she has requested you to do them or not? and do you do all this when perhaps of your free choice, you would do otherwise? If so, you are a happy child, for you honor your mother. The approbation of good men and the smile of God is upon you. Go on and prosper. Live long in the land and enjoy the things the Lord gives to you.—S. S. Advocate.

A LITTLE GIRL CONSIDERING THE POOR.

The following anonymous note was received from the Ottawa country, about a fortnight ago, at the Witness office:—

"Little Isabel received \$2 at Christmas;—she encloses them to Mr. Dougall, hoping he will do her the favor to give them in food, or fuel, or as he thinks best, to some poor children."

REPLY.

The money enclosed in the above note has been given to assist the family of a poor but hard-working and sober man, who can only obtain occasional employment in winter. His wife is a diligent, active woman, who does not allow her spirits to sink even in the most trying circumstances. They have four children, the eldest, probably, about eight years of age, the three younger of whom have the scarlet fever, one slightly, the other two severely. The case was only made known through a message from the little girl who was taken ill, to her Sunday-school teacher to come and see her, and when "little Isabel's" money was given to the distressed mother, she fairly cried for joy that she would thus be enabled to procure necessities for the sick children. Among these necessities was fuel, to enable her to make a better fire, and so to keep the windows of the very small house a little open for the purpose of ventilation. "Little Isabel" will, doubtless, enjoy the blessing promised to all those whether old or young who "consider the poor." See the 41st psalm.

EXCITING SCENE AT A LECTURE—CORA HATCH, THE SPIRITUALIST.

Last Sunday evening Mrs. Cora L. V. Scott (late Cora Hatch) lectured at Clinton Hall, New York, taking for her subject the question, "What is Deity and Origin of the Earth?"

At the conclusion of her lecture an invitation was extended to the audience by the speaker to ask her any questions growing out of the subject of which she had treated. Among those who embraced this opportunity was a person in the rear of the hall. He desired to ask the gentleman who preceded him how he knew of the existence of intelligence except through the medium of materiality.

A young man at this point of the discussion arose and exclaimed—"Don't allow that man to speak; he is my father, and he has abandoned his wife and family."

The person who was interrupted continued, however, and the young gentleman was obliged to subside for the time being. The interruption, however, caused great excitement among the audience. At the close of the meeting, which took place a few moments later, the young gentleman approached the person whom he had interrupted, and, addressing himself in part to the audience and to the person so offensive to him, said: "I have come here to shame that old man. He is my father. He left his wife and children, and is now living with Cora Hatch, in East Broadway."

A Voice—Well, go home, and don't come here to settle your private troubles. Young Man—You may think I am doing wrong; but if you knew the facts of the case you would think I was doing right.

Several Voices—Go on. Let us hear the story.—Take the stand, &c.

Young Man—I have done everything to get that man to do right by his family, but have not been able to do so. I am his son, and I am here to shame him in public. His name is Wm. McKinley, and he keeps a store at the corner of Chatham and Pearl sts. He has beaten my mother and treated her most shamefully, and he abandoned her to live with Cora Hatch. The young man, Mr. McKinley, Jr., appeared to have the crowd with him, and was repeatedly applauded. Mr. McKinley, Sr., skeddaddled in the middle of the controversy, while the fair lecturer, who appeared to be much excited, retired to the ante-room in company with some friends, one or two ladies among the number. The scene was decidedly sensational and was quite a novel one in its way.—N. Y. Paper.

[This is probably, a fair specimen of the moral character of a great number of lecturers, male and female, on peculiar subjects.—Ed. Wit.]

MORNING AT POMPEII.—The dead city wakes not at dawn like the living, and, though it has now half divested itself of the ashy robe that has clothed it for ages, the retreating night leaves it yet slumbering on its funeral couch. Tired to death, the tourists who saw it yesterday yet linger in their beds, and the morn that illumines the mummy city shines there upon no human face.—Strange is it to see by her rosy and azure light this carcass of a city death stricken in the midst of its pleasures, its labours, and its civilization, and which has not undergone the tardy dissolution of an ordinary ruin. You stand expecting that the masters of these perfect houses will come forth in their Greek or Roman dress; you listen for the roll of the chariot whose track is still upon the pavement; you look for the reveller to re-enter the tavern where his cup has marked a ring upon the counter. We walk in the past as though we were dreaming of it—we glance at the corners of the streets, and there an inscription in red letters announces the spectacle of the day. Only the day has gone by more than seventeen hundred years since!—Gautier.

HOW STATUES ARE MADE.—A correspondent of the London Reader gives the following details regarding the production of statues:—"The sculptor, having designed a figure, first makes a sketch of it in clay a few inches only in height. When he has satisfied himself with the general attitude, a cast is taken of his sketch, and from it a model in clay is prepared of the full size he designed for his statue, whether half the natural height, or life-size, or colossal. The process of building the clay, as it is called, upon the strong iron armatura or skeleton on which it stands on its pedestal, and the bending and fixing this armatura into the form of the limbs, constitute a work of vast labor of a purely manual sort, for whose performance all artists able to afford it employ the skilled workmen to be obtained in Rome. The rough clay, rudely assuming the shape of the intended statue, then passes into the sculptor's hands and undergoes his most elaborate manipulation, by which it is reduced (generally after the labor of several months) to the precise and perfectly finished form he desires should hereafter appear in marble. This done, the form is destroyed. From this last plaster cast again in due time the marble is hewn by three successive workmen. The first gives it rough outline, the second brings it by rule and compass to close resemblance with the cast, and the third finishes it to perfection."

THE LOVE OF FLOWERS.—We were much struck with the love of flowers manifested by the English laboring class. In no other places did we see finer plants of geranium, finer fuchsias, than in the windows of laborers' cottages. We often stopped to admire the vigor, cleanliness, and brilliancy of bloom of the half-dozen plants standing on the window-ledge of poor shattered houses, without another attraction apparent within or without. These glorious flowers were the only visible link which connected these rude children of toil with refinement and beauty. It is well known to horticulturists that the finest prize flowers at the shows in England often are those sent up by the working-men in manufacturing districts. A small allotment of land gives them opportunity. It is not food for the mouth that they most eagerly seek. There is a higher appetite. At the expense, if need be, of bodily comfort, they rear flowers, in earnest rivalry one with another, and are redeemed from many of the curses of toil by being ordained humble priests of the garden. The ministry of flowers is not apt to be recorded. The sick-room knows their gentle service. Many a heart-weary creature has felt their soothing lesson. Many a joy has been heightened and many a trouble lightened by their unconscious influence. The parent who teaches his children to listen to the voice of the Savior, "consider the lilies of the field," will have given no unimportant education. It may add little to the gifts of shrewdness and thrift—to keenness and money-making. But it will give to leisure an elegant occupation. It will produce tastes scarcely compatible with dissipation. It will open sources of enjoyment that poverty cannot obstruct nor bankruptcy shut. Few things, so easily learned so inexpensive, will produce so pure and continuing satisfaction or sympathy with nature, and the habit of finding our joys in her communion.—H. W. Beecher in N. Y. Independent.

DOING GOOD THROUGH INSANE.—Among the patients in the lunatic asylum at Milledgeville, Georgia, is the celebrated African missionary and author, Dr. Bowen. Since he has been a patient, he has written a spelling book and grammar, which have been published, and is now engaged on a work on chemistry and philosophy.

The Miscellany.

THE FIRST BATH.

Once more God leans against the purple bars That close the rosy portals of the day; Till, slowly through a mist of fading stars, Before His shining shoulder they give way, And outward rolls His Treasurer, the sun, Unpacking gold upon the mountains' height, And binding splintered glories into one, Till all the pure, young earth is filled with light. While wondrous, changing webs of jeweled gauze From out his great, round coffers of the sea, Far up the heavens, with lustrous hand he draws To turban up his eastern majesty.

And now they drape him through the sultry hours, Lest all his splendors, in their noontide glow, Should fall too fiercely on the new made flowers That bless him with their dewy thanks below, Where work the hidden harvest's golden moles In tender shocks and still unconscious buds; Until, at last, the secret treasure rolls Through amber vales, or gleams in mellow woods.

But, see!—beneath his warm, declining beam, One comes, in beauty flashing with surprise, Superbly naked, to a crystal stream, The first that ever met her radiant eyes; And as, with lips apart and quickened blood, She sudden pauses in the bright retreat, She sees an angel in the silvery flood With emerald sandals on her peary feet.

A moment, and amid the mirrored skies That seem commingled with the starry sands, She steals, and, bending in her whiteness, tries To catch the water spirit in her hands. Strange, sparkling flashes meet her eye and ear; And, now, with fevered innocence, she sees The angel stooping, too, within her sphere, With diamonds rippling round her snowy knees. Nearer and nearer still, the trembling pair Approach, half smiling and all eager-eyed; Until, at last, their forms of earth and air Melt into one, within the dazzling tide.

THE CHANNINGS.—A TALE OF DOMESTIC LIFE.

CHAP. XXIV.—(CONTINUED.)—THE EXAMINATION.

The magistrates sat on the bench in the town-hall of Helstonleigh. But previous to the case being called on—the police had spoken too fast, in saying they were waiting for it—Arthur became acquainted with one great fact: that it was not Mr. Galloway who had pushed matters to this extremity. Neither was he aware that Arthur had been taken into custody. Mr. Butterby had assumed the responsibility, and acted upon it. Mr. Butterby, since his interview with Mr. Galloway in the morning, had gathered, as he believed, sufficient corroborating facts to establish, or nearly so, the guilt of Arthur Channing. He supposed that this was all Mr. Galloway required, to remove his objections to harsh measures; and, in procuring the warrant for the capture, Mr. Butterby had acted as Mr. Galloway, and in his name.

When Arthur was placed in the spot where he had often seen criminals standing his face again wore the livid hue which had overspread it in his home. In a few moments this had changed to crimson; brow and cheeks were glowing with it. It was a painful situation, and Arthur felt it to the very depths of his naturally proud spirit.—I don't think you or I should have liked it.

The circumstances were stated to the magistrates just as they have been stated to you. The placing of the bank-note and letter in the envelope by Mr. Galloway, his immediately fastening it down by means of the gum, the abstraction of the note between that time and the period when the seal was placed on it later in the day, and the fact that Arthur Channing alone had access to it. "Except Mr. Hamish Channing, for a few minutes," Mr. Butterby added, "who kindly remained in the office while his brother proceeded as far as the cathedral and back again; the other clerks, Joseph Jenkins and Roland Yorke, being absent that afternoon."

A deeper dye flushed Arthur's face, when Hamish's name and share in the afternoon's doings were mentioned, and he bent his eyes on the floor at his feet, and kept them there. Had Hamish not been implicated, he would have stood there comparatively free, with a clear eye and a serene brow. It was that, the all too consciousness of the sin of Hamish, which took the spirit out of him, and drove him to stand there as one under the brand of guilt. He scarcely dared look up, lest it should be read in his countenance that he was innocent and Hamish guilty; he scarcely dared to pronounce, in ever so faltering a tone, the avowal "I did it not." Had it been to save his life from the scaffold, he could not have spoken out boldly and freely that day. There was the bitter shock of the crime, felt for Hamish's own sake: Hamish, whom they had all so loved, so looked up to! and there was the dread of the consequences to Mr. Channing, in the event of discovery. Had the penalty been hanging, I believe that Arthur would have gone to it, rather than betray Hamish. But you must not suppose he did not feel it for himself: there were moments when he feared lest he should not carry it through.

Mr. Butterby was waiting for a witness—Mr. Galloway himself; and meanwhile, he entertained the bench with certain scraps, anecdotal and the like, promising what would be proved before them. Jenkins would show that the prisoner had avowed, in his presence, it would take a twenty-pound note to clear him from his debts, or hard upon it—

"No," interrupted the hitherto silent prisoner, to the surprise of those present, "that is not true. It is correct that I did make use of words to that effect, but I spoke them in jest. I and Roland Yorke were one day speaking of debts, and I jokingly said a twenty-pound note would pay mine, and leave me something out of it. Jenkins was present, and he may have supposed I spoke in earnest. In point of fact I did not owe anything."

It was an assertion more easily made than

proved. Arthur Channing might have large liabilities upon him, for all that appeared in that court to the contrary. Mr. Butterby handed the seal to the bench, who examined it curiously.

"I could have understood this case better, had any stranger or strangers approached the letter," observed one of the magistrates who knew the Channings personally, and greatly respected their high character.—"You are sure you are not mistaken in supposing nobody came in?" he added, looking kindly at Arthur.

"Certainly no one came in while I was alone in the office, sir," was the unhesitating answer.

The gentleman spoke in an undertone to those beside him. "That avowal is in his favor. Had he taken the note, one might suppose he would be anxious to have it appear that strangers did enter, so as to throw the suspicion off himself."

"I have made very close inquiry, and cannot find that the office was entered at all that afternoon," observed Mr. Butterby. Mr. Butterby had made close inquiry; and to do him justice, he did not seek to throw one shade of guilt upon Arthur more than he deemed the case warranted. "Mr. Hamish Channing also—"

Mr. Butterby stopped. There, standing within the door, was Hamish himself. In passing along the street he had seen an unusual commotion around the town hall; and, upon inquiring its cause, was told that Arthur Channing was under examination, on suspicion of having stolen the bank-note lost by Mr. Galloway.

To look at Hamish, you would have believed him innocent and unconscious as the day. He strode into the justice-room, his eye flashing, his brow haughty, his color high. Never had gay Hamish looked so scornfully indignant. He threw his glance round the crowded court in search of Arthur, and it found him.

Their eyes met. A strange gaze it was, going out from the one to the other; a gaze which the brothers had never in all their lives exchanged. Arthur's spoke of shame all too palpably—he could not help it in that bitter moment—shame for his brother. And Hamish shrunk under it. If ever one cowered visibly in this world, Hamish Channing did then. A low, suppressed cry went up from Arthur's heart: whatever fond, faint doubt may have lingered on his mind, it died out from that moment.

Others noticed the significant, prolonged look exchanged between them; but they, not in the secret, saw only, on the part of Hamish, what they took to be vexation at his brother's position. It was suggested that it would save time to take the evidence of Hamish Channing at once. Mr. Galloway's might be received later.

"What evidence?" demanded Hamish, standing before the magistrates in a cold, uncompromising manner, and speaking in a cold, uncompromising tone. "I have none to give. I know nothing of the affair."

"Not much, we are aware; but what little you do know must be spoken, Mr. Hamish Channing."

They did not swear him. These were but informal preliminary proceedings. Country courts of law and justice are not always conducted according to the orthodox rules, even that of Helstonleigh. There would be another and a more formal examination previous to the committal of the prisoner for trial—if committed he should be.

A few unimportant questions were put to Hamish, and then he was asked whether he saw the letter in question.

"I saw a letter which I suppose to have been the one," he replied. "It was addressed to Mr. Robert Galloway, at Ventnor."

"Did you observe your brother take it into Mr. Galloway's private room?"

"Yes," answered Hamish. "In putting the desk to rights before departing for college, my brother carried the letter into Mr. Galloway's room and left it there. I distinctly remember his doing so."

"Did you see the letter after that?"

"No."

"How long did you remain alone while your brother was away?"

"I did not look at my watch," crabbedly returned Hamish, who had spoken in a resentful tone throughout, as if some great wrong were being inflicted upon him, in having to speak at all.

"But you can guess at the time?"

"No, I can't," shortly retorted Hamish.—"And 'guesses' are not evidence."

"Was it ten minutes?"

"It may have been. I know he seemed to be back almost as soon as he had gone."

"Did any person—clerk, or stranger, or visitor, or otherwise—come into the office during his absence from it?"

"No."

"No person whatever?"

"Old fellow, who has done this?"

"Mr. Roland Yorke!" exclaimed the bench, indignantly; "what do you mean by this behavior? Stand away, if you please, sir."

"I'll stand away when Arthur Channing stands away," retorted Yorke, apparently ignoring whose presence he was in. "Who accuses him? Mr. Galloway does not.—This is your doing, Butterby."

"Take care that their worship don't commit you for contempt of court," retorted Mr. Butterby. "You are going on for it, Roland Yorke."

"Let them commit me, if they will, foamed Roland. "I am not going to see a friend falsely accused, and not stand up for him. Channing no more touched that money than any of you did. The post-office must have had it."

"A moment, Mr. Roland Yorke; if you can calm yourself sufficiently to answer as a rational being," interposed the magistrate who had addressed Arthur. "Have you any proof to urge in support of your assertion that the prisoner did not touch it?"

"Proof, sir!" returned Roland, subsiding, however, into a tone of more respect; "does it want common-place proof to establish the innocence of Arthur Channing? Every action of his past life is a proof. He is honest as the day."

"This warm feeling does you credit, in one sense—"

"It does me no credit at all," fiercely interrupted Roland. "I don't defend him because he is my friend; I don't defend him because we are in the same office, and sit side by side at the same desk; I do it, because I know him to be innocent."

"How do you know it?"

"He could not be guilty. He is incapable of it. Better accuse me, or Jenkins, than him!"

"You and Jenkins were not at the office during the suspected time."

"Well, I know we were not," acknowledged Roland, dropping his voice to a more reasonable tone. "And, just because it happened, by some cross-grained luck, that Channing was, Butterby pitches on him, and accuses him of theft. He never did it! and I'll say it with my last breath."

(To be Continued.)

HURTING A CHILD'S HEART.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"I don't expect anything of my children." The tone was fretful, with a quality of accusation. The face of the speaker wore an injured look.

A boy, between fourteen and fifteen years of age sat reading. He moved uneasily, as if pain had disturbed him, but he did not lift his eyes from the page on which they were resting.

"The harder a mother slaves for her children the less they care for her." The boy moved again; almost with a start, as though the pain felt an instant before had suddenly increased.

"All children are thankless!" so the speaker kept on, talking to a friend, yet really thrusting at the boy.

"Not all," answered the friend. "I have a mother, and I know my heart in regard to her. It is full of love and gratitude, and I cannot remember the time when it was not so."

"There are exceptions to all rules. And besides, there are few women like your mother. That would be a cold heart, indeed into which she did not inspire love."

"Love begets love. That is the old trite story; and as true to-day as it was a thousand years ago. If children grow up cold and thankless towards their parents—if they early separate from them, going off into the world, and treating them with neglect, the fault, in most cases, rests with the parents. They did not make themselves lovely in their children's eyes."

There followed this a dead silence for some minutes. The boy had let his book fall from before his eyes, and was listening intently. His mother saw this, and had a quick perception of what was passing in his mind.

"Edward," said she, "I don't like boys in my bedroom. Go down stairs." This was not spoken harshly. The mother's tone of voice had changed considerably.

The boy rose without hesitation, and left the room.

"I don't think it's always good to talk before children," remarked the lad's mother, as soon as he had retired.

"A proper regard for our language and conduct before children," was answered, "is a theory of the gravest consideration. They have keen instincts—their eyes are sharp—they read us, and know us sometimes better than we do ourselves."

"They are sharp enough, I suppose; but not quite so sharp as all that," was answered. "I'm not one of those that make children of much importance."

"Our estimation in the case will not alter the result my friend. Of that we may be certain. As we were to our children so will they be to us. Love begets love, and kindness good-will. If we do not hurt them wantonly, they will not in turn, wound us by neglect."

"Hurt them wantonly! I am not sure that I get your meaning."

"Are you much surprised that Tom Baldwin made his escape from home, at the first good opportunity?"

"Well, I looked for it, I must confess; but that don't excuse him. He's proved himself an ungrateful boy, after all his mother had done for him. But, as I said a little while ago, all children are thankless. I don't calculate on anything from mine.—They'll grow up, and scatter themselves east and west, getting off as far from home as possible; and I'll probably be left to an asylum in the poor-house when I get old and helpless."

"You talk in that way before your children?" said the friend.

"They know my sentiments."

"So I inferred. In that way you hurt them. You put their future on trial and write out a verdict of condemnation, when it is impossible for them to vindicate themselves against your cruel charges. I saw your boy stand and writhe a little while ago, under your sharp thrusts at him. He was no party to Tom Baldwin's unfilial act; and it was a hard thing in you, my friend, to make Tom's delinquency the occasion for smiting your own son, whom you may bind to you, if you will, by triple cords of love, not to be broken; or push away to a distance, where he can feel no warmth and no attraction. Take care!—You are on dangerous ground."

"O, you make too much of children," was answered, but with a little obstruction in manner.

"They are simply human beings. They have sensitive souls, quick to receive impressions. Tender to love, but hard or resentful toward all unkindness. They are creatures of feeling rather than thought, not generally holding malice, but rarely losing the memory of pain from unjust infliction. In after years this memory is often revived. It is my opinion that in a large number of cases, where children neglect their parents in old age the cause lies just here."

"All of which is simply vindictive," said the lad's mother, "and a poor compliment to human nature."

"Human nature doesn't often suffer unjustly through hard judgment," was answered. "But I am not offering an apology for her short-comings, only look after the cause. To prevent is better than to cure. Forewarned, forearmed. Is it not much the wiser course for us to make sure of our children's love in future by offering them love in the present?"

"You speak as though I didn't love my children," a crimson stain marked the woman's cheeks. There were sudden flashes in her eyes. She was a woman of quick temper.

"Every feeling has its sign," was calmly replied. "Love, anger, dislike—each expresses itself in a different way. And these signs every one knows. Even the babe of one brief summer may read them. Why is it that Edward feels that you do not love him?"

"Who says that he feels so?" The mother started. There was a mingling of anger with surprise in her face.

"Must it not be that you withhold, too often, the signs of love?"

"I shall get angry at you, if you talk to me any longer in this strain."

"No, my dear friend, you must not get angry with me. Too many sweet memories of the past are shared between us. Bear with me, now, as one who holds you in her heart. Shall I relate to you an incident that occurred in my house, only yesterday? It is under the warrant of this incident, that I have ventured on the plainness of speech which has disturbed you."

The red spots faded off from the mother's cheeks. The keen light went out of her eyes.

"Go on, she said, her voice dropping down from its sharp key."

"Edward had called to see the children. We always like to have him come. He is gentlemanly in bearing beyond what is usually seen in lads of his age. I have more than once compared him with my oldest son, and wished that John resembled him in many things. The two boys were in the parlor alone. John, I am sorry to say, is not always to be trusted. He is over curious and apt to meddle with things that should be sacred from his touch. Recently, he has become interested in insects, and has begun to collect and preserve them."

"There was a vase of wax flowers on the parlor mantle-piece, the ingenious maker of which had placed several imitations of moths and beetles among the leaves. The vase was covered with glass. John's new formed interest in entomology had given a special attention to these wax moths and beetles; and on this occasion he went so far as to lift the glass covering, that he might obtain a closer view. In venturing to do this, one of those accidents that so frequently happen with children and grown people, when they are not doing just right, occurred. The glass shield slipped from John's hand, and cracked to pieces on the floor. The noise startled and excited me. I went hastily to the parlor and saw at a glance the damage which had been done, and also comprehended the cause of the disaster. Edward looked pale and frightened; John flushed and grieved. Repentance and self-condemnation had come with the accident. Even through my indignation, which could not be stayed, I saw that hard words were struggling to come through my lips, but I repressed them. Experience warned me to keep silence until I could speak calmly, and under the influence of reason."

"I stood for a few moments, looking at the shattered glass, and then, without trusting my lips to say anything went out for the dust pan and brush. I was glad that I controlled myself. It is my experience that scolding almost always does harm; and even where it works correction of bad habits, I am certain that a different way would have been better. I was quite self-possessed when I returned. As I stooped to gather up the broken fragments of glass, John came up close to me. I did not speak to nor look at him. Edward had drawn back to a distant part of the room. Silently the work of collecting the pieces of glass went on, John standing near me all the while. It was done and I was about rising, when I felt his arm across my shoulder. 'I'm so sorry,' he said in a penitent voice, laying his face down against mine, which I had turned towards him. 'It was wrong to touch it I know, but I thought I should be so careful, I can't tell what made it slip out of my hand.' 'Accidents are almost sure to happen with us, my son,' I answered, gently, but seriously, 'when we are not doing what is just right. Let this disaster stand as a lesson for the future.' 'You shall take my money, and buy a new case, mother,' he answered in a spirit of manly justice, that was grateful to my ears."

'If this little experience will make you more careful about doing right,' I returned, 'none of us will very deeply regret the accident.' He put his arm around my neck and kissed me. I kissed him in return, and then went out, thanking God in my heart, that he had helped me to self-control in a moment of trial when passion would have hurt my boy."

"Not long afterwards I heard the boys talking together. Edward said, 'If it had been my mother she would have scolded at me, until I was mad enough to break everything in the house. Why didn't your mother scold you?' 'Because she loves me, and knows that scolding wouldn't make me half so sorry as I am.' 'I wish that my mother loved me,' said Edward, in a tone of voice so sad and longing that it brought tears to my eyes."

The mother of Edward caught her breath at this. Her lips moved as if she were about to speak; but she repressed what was in her thoughts, and kept silent.

"Of course your mother loves you," answered John. "So the friend continued. "But Edward said, 'No, I'm sure she doesn't love me.' 'Why do you say that?' questioned John. 'If she loved me, she wouldn't be always scolding me, and hurting me by hard words, no matter what I do. O, John, if I had such a mother as you, I'd be the happiest boy alive! I'd do anything for her.'"

There was silence for some time. It was broken by the friend, who said: "Forgive me for having told you this. The wounds of a friend are better than the kisses of an enemy. Forgive what may seem an exaltation of myself above you. He who knows my heart knows that in it there is no pride of superiority. He knows how weak I am, how often I fall short, how often passion gets the better of reason; how near it was to bearing me down yesterday. It was in His strength that I overcame, and helped my boy instead of hurting him. In His strength you may overcome also, and win the love of a child whose heart is athirst for your love, as is the drooping flower athirst for the dew and rain."

The mother of Edward bowed her face into her hands. For a little while her body shook with half choked sobs. Then she looked up at her friend. Her eyes were wet, her face pale, her lips curved with pain and grief.

"You are not hurt with me?"

"No, no," she answered. "Not with you but with myself. What have I been doing? What madness has possessed me? I know that love begets love—that in Mrs. Howitt's beautiful words, it has readier will than fear. I know, also, that hardness begets hardness; that driving is more difficult and far less certain than leading. And yet, knowing all this, I have sought to rule my children by passion and force; to drive instead of leading them into the right ways. No, no, I am not hurt with you. For all this plain speaking, which I so much needed, I thank you from the depth of my heart. If it is not better with both me and my children in future it will not be your fault. But it shall be better!"

And it was better. How quickly all changed under a new order of home government. Love and kindness found swift obedience where anger and harshness had met obstruction. Sunshine dropped in through a hundred places which had been closely barred against its sweet influences; and Edward, wondering at the pleasant change, drew nearer to his mother, and felt that she loved him.

O, love! sweet to all hearts. Ye who should give of its treasures, see to it that your hand fail not in its dispensation. It has signs peculiarly its own, which are never mistaken. If you would win love hang out the sign.

ARBORICULTURE.

Among all the changes which have marked this progressive age and enterprising people, none is more remarkable than the revolution in Landscape Gardening and Horticulture. It amounts to a revolution. Within the memory of those yet young, there was, in New England, especially, almost no attention paid to the embellishment of grounds. There was neither the time, the money, nor the taste required for the embellishment of grounds. A few hardy flowers might be found in the garden-corner—a honeysuckle and a bush or two of roses, a few "laylocks," as the lilac was called, exhausted the catalogue of shrubs.

The old-fashioned mansions of wealth sometimes held the whole country in admiration, by keeping a gardener, and spreading abroad in the door-yard a larger variety of shrubs and flowers. Happily those days are gone. Our people bid fair to attain an enviable reputation for taste in the embellishment of grounds. No one can ride through any part of New England, or of the Eastern States, without noticing, on every hand, the growing interest in arboriculture. Streets are better shaded. We are not any longer confined to one or two shade-trees. No tree will ever vie with the American Elm. It is beyond all controversy, the noblest of our trees. Yet it is not the only one worth planting. And even its magnificence is enhanced by the contrast of other vegetable forms and habits. In almost every village will be found grounds fairly laid out, and planted with no inconsiderable skill. Just now, the evergreen family seems to have an undue share of favor. New species and curious varieties are sought by our nurserymen with avidity, and so eagerly bought that they seldom can keep up their stocks.—The nurseries may be regarded as fair tests of the public taste. The number of them, increasing rapidly, the great business which they do, some of them assuming proportions beyond any in Europe or the world, the yearly augmenting catalogue of ornamental trees, show the rapid development of Arboriculture. No man who owns an acre in or near a town or village, but feels the public sentiment and becomes a planter of trees—not for fruit alone, but for beauty, which is fruit for the eye.—N. Y. Independent.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE "CITY OF CORK."

NEW YORK, Feb. 18th.—The s.s. "City of Cork" from Liverpool on the 25th, and Queens-town on the 26th, has arrived.

Cork papers of the 25th ult. contain the following late news: The steamer "Druid," from Liverpool for Nassau, to run the blockade, was at Queens-town.

BRESLAU, Jan. 23rd.—A sanguinary conflict between the insurgents and Cossacks and the Russian troops took place on the 18th, in the vicinity of Czenstochan. Several waggons filled with dead and wounded Russian soldiers have been brought, into the town of Czenstochan.

LEINBERG, Jan. 23rd.—The insurgent corps under Poniński and Wroblewski, have returned to the Government of Lubin, after having supplied arms and ammunition to the Lithuanian detachments. On the 16th inst. they engaged the Russians near the fortress of Zamose. The latter retired to the citadel.

BRASLAV, Jan. 23rd.—Letters from Warsaw describe the condition of those persons who have been transported into the interior of Russia as deplorable in the extreme. The insurgent leader Bossack is said to have had another encounter with the Russians, in the Government of Rodom.

(Very latest by the "City of Cork.") FRANKFURT ON THE MAINE, Jan. 23rd.—At yesterday's sitting of the Federal Diet the question of the withdrawal of the Austrian and Prussian reserves from the federal corps of execution was discussed. It was resolved that fresh reserves of federal troops should be maintained, and that the acknowledgment of the Diet should be expressed to Gen. Hake for his conduct in reference to the question of the occupation of Schleswig Prussia.

BERLIN, Feb. 23.—A debate on the Budget, as amended by the Chamber of Deputies, took place in to-day's sitting of the Upper House. The amendment was rejected by a large majority, and the Government Budget was adopted by 58 against 17 votes.

PARIS, 23rd.—A debate on the paragraph of the Address relative to Algeria took place in the Corps Legislatif. Mr. Picard explained the amendment of the left proposing to assimilate Algeria to France, and to grant liberal institutions to that country, with the right of electing deputies. Gen. Allert opposed the amendment, and M. Jules Favre made a speech in reply. The amendment was finally lost by 222 against 18 votes.

VIENNA, 23.—The request of a loan of 50,000,000 francs to the Bank of France from the National Bank of Austria was made to the latter by Paris financiers. The negotiations are still in a preliminary stage.

A warm debate commenced to-day in the Finance Committee of the Lower House of the Reichsrath upon the credit demanded by Government to cover the expenses to be incurred for military operations in Schleswig. Count Rechberg, who spoke in the name of the Government, entered into an historical explanation of the position of Austria in reference to that question. Full details of the debate are not known, as the proceedings are not published.

FORT MONROE, Feb. 9.—Ten refugees arrived here to-day from Wilmington, N. C. WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—A letter from the Army of the Potomac says:—Quiet has been restored on the Rapidan since the return of our forces. A regiment of rebel infantry yesterday threw up a range of rifle pits opposite Morton's Ford, and a longer line of breastworks within musket shot to the rear.

The number of prisoners taken during the last reconnaissance does not exceed fifty. NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Lewis Tibbetts, a corn dealer, stabbed a police-officer at the Produce Exchange to-day. He was arrested.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 2.—The free state nomination convention met last night; a large portion of the state was represented. The body was divided in choice for Governor between Hon. Michael Hahn and Hon. B. F. Flanders. Hahn having the majority, an exciting scene ensued, and the Flanders men bolted; the majority then nominated Hahn with a full ticket, who are all men of high standing. The bolters held a separate convention and nominated Flanders with a full ticket, a portion of which is the same as the regular ticket.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9.—A special dispatch from Fort Monroe to the American, from Mr. C. C. Felton, who is at City Point, says the rebel flag of truce steamer "Shultz," with Commissioner Ould and Capt. Hatch, the truce officer, arrived on Sunday at City Point. Two citizen prisoners, brought down by the "Shultz," were sent on board of the "New York." They were both Marylanders, one of them, Mr. A. Brengle, of Frederick, Md., was captured at Middleton on the 20th of June last, whilst acting as a volunteer assistant to the Sanitary Committee, and the other, G. W. Langley, of Baltimore county, was captured while driving a wagon of the Sanitary Committee near Chancelorsville, on the 27th of November. They were released through the interposition of the Rev. Mr. Pretrie. They brought exciting news from Richmond, which they represent was in a state of the most feverish excitement from midnight on Saturday up to the time they left, Sunday p.m. On Saturday the bells of the city were rung, and men were rushing through the streets, crying, "To arms—to arms—the Yankees are coming—the Yankees are coming!" During the remainder of the night there was intense commotion everywhere visible. The Home Guards were recalled out, and the tramp of armed men could be heard in all directions. Cannon were hauled through the streets, women and children were hurrying to and fro, and there were all the evidences of such a panic as has seldom been witnessed in Richmond.

On Sunday morning there was no abatement in the excitement. The guards were all marched out of the city to the defence, and armed citizens were placed on guard over the prisoners. Horsemen were dashing to and fro, and the excitement among the prisoners to know the cause of all this excitement became intense. It was soon learned that a large cavalry and infantry force, with artillery, had made their appearance on the peninsula, at Bottom's Bridge, within 10 miles of the city and that Richmond was actually threatened by the Yankees. The same hurrying of troops, arming of citizens, and the excitement among the women and children continued during the morning; and at two o'clock, when the two released prisoners were about to

leave in the truce boat, the alarm bells were again rung with great fury. The prisoners left in scenes of the greatest confusion, such as they never before witnessed.

The rumors that prevailed were conflicting and wild, it was their impression that from 8,000 to 10,000 cavalry would have but little difficulty in entering the city, liberating the Union prisoners, destroying the fort and public property, and retiring by the Peninsula before any sufficient force to resist them could be brought to the aid of the small garrison left to defend it. For several days previous to this alarm the troops in and around the city to the number of 4,000 or 5,000 had been sent off to join Lee's army, with great despatch. The impression prevailing that a movement was contemplated by Gen. Meade. In this they were right, as during the progress of the excitement sundry intelligence was received that Meade had crossed the Rapidan. On Monday morning a courier arrived at City Point, bringing copies of the morning papers, with the intelligence that the excitement had abated, and that it had been ascertained that the Yankees were falling back from the Chickahominy, and had abandoned the attack.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9.—General Meade, whose health has recovered since he has been here, is holding a reception to-day at Independence Hall.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—The Supervisors of this county to-day appropriated \$2,000,000 for bounties. They estimate the total number of men to be obtained by draft on the 10th day to March at about 8,800.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 9.—About sundown yesterday from 150 to 200 guerrillas crossed from Missouri into Kansas, near Aubrey, going in the direction of Olathe. Col. Ford, with 350 of the Second colored Regiment, started in pursuit at midnight. No report of the result has yet been received.

CAIRO, Feb. 9.—The steamer "Illinois," from New Orleans 29th, with a heavy cargo of sugar and molasses, has arrived. Her officers learned at Island No. 70 that the steamer "Gilburn" was seized by six guerrillas under Col. Lee, and used to ferry their horses, mules and wagons to the Mississippi side. They also captured Mr. Cole, Manager of Government woodyards, and two contrabands, releasing the negroes after crossing, but carrying off Cole and the men as the guard of the woodyards, who, it was said, would be hung. They also carried away property from Bolivar Landing, and burned the town. No harm was done to the boat or cargo.

BOSTON, Feb. 9.—Ed. E. Green, who was arrested for the Malden murder and bank robbery, was yesterday arraigned before Justice Hill in Malden on two complaints—one for killing Converse and robbing the bank, to which he pleaded not guilty; the other for setting fire to and burning a block of buildings in Nov. last, to which he pleaded guilty. The buildings that were burned adjoined the Post Office, and it is supposed Green set them on fire intending the latter building should also be destroyed.

FORT MONROE, Feb. 9.—The Richmond Sentinel of the 6th says our army had fallen back 16 miles from Newbern finding the fortifications so strong that it could not be taken without too great a loss.

The negro soldier who shot Col. Shaw was captured and shot. Hon. John Wilcox from Texas died last Saturday in Richmond.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The Times says, Gen. Butler has commenced the establishment of a common school system at Norfolk and Fort Monroe precisely like that in Massachusetts. It will ensure the education of hundreds of colored children.

Commissioners from the Dominican Republic which was suppressed by Spain in 1861, are here, applying to be recognized as belligerents. Mr. Seward laid the case before the Cabinet to-day. It did not receive very considerate treatment.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Richmond papers to the 8th inst. are received. The Examiner reports the arrest of A. W. Heinz, a baker, charged with being connected with an organization to release Yankee prisoners, assassinate Jeff. Davis and destroy the Government buildings and workshops in Richmond. Other arrests were likely to follow, as the roll of members was seized along with Heinz.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—The Mexi can General Leon, who left Manzanilla on the 1st, has arrived here on his way to Washington, with instructions from Juarez to the Mexican Minister. He reports that Negreti, who was repulsed at San Luis Potosi, on the 27th Dec., with a loss of 2000 men, afterwards formed a junction with Govezales, Ortega, and Doblado, and on the 5th of January again attacked that place, carrying it by assault, after a struggle of twenty-four hours, capturing most of the garrison and a large quantity of arms and ammunition. The traitors, Gen. Mexia and staff, had escaped. All of the captured traitors, commissioned and non-commissioned officers, were shot. The traitor Miramon occupied a position between Guadalajara and the City of Mexico. Gen. Bazaine had marched with a French army from Guadalajara toward Mexico, leaving a guard of 2000 at Guadalajara. The Mexican General Major had advanced from the vicinity of Colonia with 9000 men, and was expected to attempt the recapture of Guadalajara.

The latest news at Manzanilla was that Ortega and Doblado have been largely reinforced from Zaguatoca, and after leaving a strong garrison at San Luis Potosi, had started to intercept the communications of Bazaine, and the latter was making forced marches toward Lagos.

Vera Cruz dates to the 31st and Mexico to the 25th ult. are received.

The members of the Government of San Luis Potosi, appointed by Gen. Megra after capturing that place on the 4th of January, unanimously declared for the Empire.

A report from Celest, of January 9th, says Gen. Echegaray was taken prisoner at Salvatera and carried to Celest by the garrison. There had been a skirmishing between the French and Juarez troops; in one at San Juan de Loolans, lasting four hours in which Gen. Quereyria and a large number of soldiers were captured and many killed &c. The French loss was one killed and three wounded.

The Convoy from Jalapa, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th ult., without molestation. Several soldiers, three men and boys and four women travellers were butchered near Vera Cruz, recently, and their baggage robbed.

A special despatch to the Evening Post, dated Washington, Feb. 10th, says the Military Committee of the House this morning agreed to a resolution that all generals who, on the 15th day of March next, shall not have been in

active service for the previous three months, shall be dismissed.

ST. JOHNS, N.B., Feb. 10.—In the piracy case to-day, a witness proving the handwriting of Parker to Collins creating him a lieutenant in the Confederate service, was then put in as evidence. An attempt was also made to prove the handwriting of the Collector of Customs of Charleston on Parker's commission. The case was then adjourned until Monday, when the closing arguments of counsel will be heard.

FORT MONROE, Feb. 9.—The Daily Mississippian says the rebel capital is to be removed to Columbia, S.C. Flour is selling in Richmond for \$250 per brl.; Sugar \$7 to \$8 per lb.

The Savannah Republican of January 30th says no indications of a formidable attack in that vicinity. It reports, however, an attack on the rebel pickets at Whitmarsh and the shelling of Thunderbolt battery by a Monitor without effect. Lieut.-Gov. Weston of South Carolina died on the 25th of January. It was officially stated that the whole number of troops enlisted for actual service since October is 100,000.—Morgan was at Columbus Feb. 1st. Gen. Bragg had left Montgomery for Richmond.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—A Herald correspondent captured by the rebels in Louisiana and recently exchanged, writes that the entire rebel force west of the Mississippi on January 1st was 35,000 men. Price is at Camden, Ark. He has been strengthened by 5000 men under Morton and preparing for a movement on Little Rock.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—A refugee from the South says Atlanta will be destroyed in preference to being allowed to fall into the hands of Gen. Grant who is expected to move on it in the spring.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Gen. Hancock issued a stirring appeal to the people of this State, to fill up its regiments in the 2nd Army Corps. The Herald's army of the Potomac dispatch of the 10th says, Mosby was in the old Bull Run battle-field yesterday, with 300 men. The guerrillas skirmished with our pickets near Manassas last evening.

The Herald's Washington despatch of the 5th, Rebel prisoners arrived last night from the front, and were sent to the old Capital prison. The Legislature of East Va. adjourned sine die, without choice of a Senator in place of Bowden. It is believed that an extra session will be necessary, in which an election for two Senators will probably be held.

The Times' special letter from an officer on Gen. Banks' staff, dated Brownsville, Texas, states that the Mexicans are reorganizing their armies for offensive operations in the spring.—They are confident of their ability to drive the French out of the country.

BIRTHS. On the 7th inst., at 61 St. Antoine Street, Mrs. Wm. McR., of a son. At 16 Dorchester Street, on the 10th inst., Mrs. R. A. Sanchez, of a son. DIED. In this city, on the 7th inst., GEORGE McKAY, eldest son of R. HANNAH, aged 6 years, 8 months and 7 days. At Auckland, New Zealand, 14th Oct. last, JOHN GEORGE CHAPMAN, aged 24 years, nephew of the late Dr. Crawford of this city. On the 9th inst., HARRIET, daughter of CHARLES GLACKMETER, Esq., City Clerk, aged 11 months. In this city, on the 9th inst., Mrs. McTAVISH, aged 68. In this city, on the morning of the 11th, CLARA ANN MAGUIRE, third daughter of BERNARD MAGUIRE, two years and 5 months. On the 10th inst., HENRY FREDERICK, only son of HENRY P. NASH, aged 10 months and 7 days.

ADVERTISEMENTS. TO ADVERTISERS IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.—The Daily Witness circulation, according to the season, is from about 6,000 to 6,500 copies daily in the city of Montreal, being, probably, as many as all the other daily papers in the city put together. It is, therefore, an unrivalled medium for reaching all classes of the people, especially business men. It also goes by mail to about 750 subscribers, most of them business men throughout the country. The Montreal Witness, or Semi-weekly edition, is widely circulated in the country, having a mail list of upwards of 4,000, scattered over all parts of Canada, including a very large number of Merchants, Millers, Farmers, Manufacturers, and other business men. With one exception, this paper offers probably the best medium for giving advertisements a wide circulation and publicity of any paper in Canada, and for the part of Canada lying east of Oshogou it is probably the best. The Weekly Witness has a circulation of about 2,000, nearly all in country places, and among farmers. The charge for inserting advertisements in any one of the editions is 7 cents per line for first insertion, and 3¢ for each subsequent insertion. No advertisement being received for less than four lines. As persons at a distance cannot judge how many lines an advertisement will make, they may count it at one cent per word for first insertion, and a half cent for each subsequent insertion, but if less than 25 words to reckon it at that. Advertisers will be careful to specify whether they want their advertisements to be inserted in the Daily or Semi-weekly, or both, and to be sent accordingly. All advertisements are payable in advance at the above rates, without discount, and all letters ordering them should be post-paid. JOHN DOUGALL & SON.

BIBLE SOCIETY MEETINGS. The Anniversary Meetings of the Branch Bible Society, in connexion with the Montreal Auxiliary, will (D. V.) be held as follows:—The Ministers of the Gospel in the various localities, and the Rev. J. GREEN, Travelling Agent of the M. A. B. S., will give addresses on the Bible Mission in various parts of the world. The public are respectfully invited to attend. Dalhousie Mills.....Sabbath.....February 7, 11 A.M. Cote St. George.....Sabbath....." 7, 7 P.M. Charlottenburg.....Monday....." 9, 7 P.M. Lancaster.....Tuesday....." 9, 7 P.M. Williamson.....Wednesday....." 11, 7 P.M. Martineau.....Thursday....." 11, 7 P.M. Lunenburg.....Friday....." 12, 7 P.M. Oshogou, Centre.....Sabbath....." 14, 10 A.M. North Williamsburg.....Sabbath....." 14, 7 P.M. On the Sabbaths there will be a Lecture or a Sermon, as may best suit the occasion, but all formality of business will be avoided. A previous meeting for the appointment of officers, &c., &c., is recommended. Collections will be taken up at each meeting.

THE NEXT TERM OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE PROPRIETARY COLLEGE, DURHAM HOUSE, ST. LAWRENCE MANS STREET, (a short distance from Sherbrooke Street), Montreal, will commence on MONDAY, 26th January, 1864. Head Master.....REV. ALFRED SPONG. English Master.....MR. JOHN GOWDIN. French Master.....M. NAUSSIE DUCAL, A. M. Music Master.....MR. F. H. TORRENTON. Supl. of Ladies' Department.....MRS. SPONG. The English, French, Latin and Greek Languages; Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Mathematics; History, Geography, and Music are included in the studies. Ladies are likewise taught plain and Ornamental Needle-work. FEES FOR GENTLEMEN: Per Term.....\$8.00 1st Class....." 7.00 2nd "....." 6.00 3rd "....." 5.00 4th "....." 4.00 5th "....." 3.00 FEES FOR LADIES: Per Term.....\$8.00 1st Class....." 7.00 2nd "....." 6.00 3rd "....." 5.00 4th "....." 4.00 5th "....." 3.00 FEES PAYABLE IN ADVANCE. The above charges include Music, and the whole of the studies enumerated. The only extra charges are 50 cents per term for Stationery and 50 cents for Fuel. N. B.—A Stage will leave the end of St. Lawrence Main Street every morning at half past eight, and convey pupils to the Schools for three cents each. d.w.w.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—Attention and Co-operation is respectfully solicited to the following appointments:— Napanee.....Sunday.....January 31st Galt Association.....Friday.....February 6th Afr. Association.....Sunday....." 7th Afr. Association.....Monday....." 8th Brantford.....Friday....." 9th Brantford.....Sunday....." 12th Norwichville.....Tuesday....." 14th Scotland.....Wednesday....." 17th Simcoe.....Thursday....." 18th Guelph.....Sunday....." 21st Guelph Association.....Monday....." 22nd Fergus.....Tuesday....." 23rd Elora.....Wednesday....." 24th Beaverton.....Sunday....." 25th Woodville Association.....Tuesday.....March 1st Prince Albert.....Wednesday....." 2nd REV. JAMES T. BYRNE, General Agent.

RECEIVED BY "NOVA SCOTIA" AND FOR SALE.— STOUT GINGHAM UMBRELLAS 3-4 WHITE WOOL KERSEYS 6-4 GREY UNION SERGES 3-4 WHITE UNION KERSEYS 6-4 BLUE UNION SERGES 3-4 BLUE AND WHITE SAGATHY. R. ADAMS, 267 St. Paul Street.

FOR SALE.— Madder, Fancy Mourning, and Blue PRINTS Bleached and Grey COTTONS FLANNELS, White and Blue KERSEYS UNION SERGES, Grey and Blue NANKES, CORSEES, JEANS, DENIMS STROUGHS, and other Small wares. R. ADAMS, 261-1-f.b.

ADVANCES ON WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS OF WHEAT, FLOUR, &c., stored in Toronto, Hamilton, or other approved Western Shipping Harbours. Purchases and shipments of Produce made in the West with care and despatch. Our facilities and charges will be approved. T. M. CLARK & CO., Montreal. T. M. CLARK & CO., Montreal.

TO SABBATH SCHOOLS.—The Subscriber, who is engaged in the publication of a Religious Journal, begs to inform the public, and especially Superintendents and Teachers in Sabbath Schools, that, in connection with his Office, he has opened A SABBATH SCHOOL DEPT., Where, in addition to other publications, a good assortment of the AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY'S S. S. LIBRARIES will be found. They are unsurpassed in appearance, durability and cheapness. The reading matter is unexceptionable and they are deservedly popular wherever they have been introduced. Send for a Catalogue. THE "CHILD'S PAPER," Which has attained to the astonishing circulation of 310,000 copies monthly, will be furnished regularly from his Depot at the rate of 10 cents per copy per annum; when sent by mail (postage prepaid) 12½ cents will be charged. S. S. Bells, Picture Cards, Reward Books, &c., constantly on hand. All orders to be accompanied by the Cash. DEPOT: South-East Corner of Church and King Street, Toronto, (up Stairs). Address, H. LLOYD, Box 977, P. O., Toronto. d.w.w.

YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE, No. 33 BEAVER HALL, MRS. E. H. LAY, PRINCIPAL. The SPRING and SUMMER TERM of this School will commence on WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10th. There will be two Vacancies in the Boarding Department. g.w. RACHEL NOBLE'S EXPERIENCE.—PRICE \$1.—This work has already reached a Sixth Edition in Scotland. A new supply has just been received at the WITNESS BOOK STORE, 247 Notre Dame Street. 224

BATEMAN'S LIFE OF DANIEL WILSON, Bishop of Calcutta and Metropolitan of India, a large Octavo volume, neatly bound, with an Engraving of BISHOP WILSON; price \$1.50. For sale at Witness Book Store, 247 Notre Dame Street. ANNUAL REGISTER of rural affairs for the year 1864: Price 25c.; sent by mail. (This is a valuable work for Farmers and Gardeners.) For sale at the WITNESS BOOK STORE, 247 Notre Dame St. s.w. FARM AND MILL FOR SALE. The undersigned offer for sale their well-known FARM and SAW MILL, for American money at par, at less than its intrinsic value in Gold. Farm 625 acres, free from Stone, well watered, over 300 acres under improvement. 200 acres INTERVAL, good Sugary, House, Barns, Mill and Machinery, all new or nearly new. To holders of American money, Farmers, or Lumbermen, we pledge ourselves to show a better investment than can be found elsewhere in the Eastern Townships. Eaton, E. T., Jan 16, 1864. MOREY & NICOL.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.—The undersigned continues to offer his services to manufacturers for the sale of their goods, which his arrangements will enable him to effect promptly and satisfactorily. Drafts at three months for about three-fourths of net value of consignments, will be accepted in advance. A supply of warps, from good factories in the States, constantly on hand. For sale, consignments from various factories of Tweeds, Eloffs and Satinets; also, from Manufacturers in England, Scotland and Brown Ladies' Cloths, Mixed Melton Cloakings and Fancy Coatings. Orders for Dry Goods, accompanied by Cash or satisfactory reference, will receive prompt attention. JOHN DOUGALL, COMMISSION MERCHANT, 272 St. Paul Street. s.w.

THREE OIL WELLS, OIL TERTORY, and an OIL STILL at OIL SPRINGS, in the Township of Enniskillen, are for sale as under: Lot 12, Range B, Sanborn's Survey, part of Lot 18, 2nd Con.; 1 acre. On this Lot there is an Oil Well 235 feet deep; a Dwelling House and Barn; Lot Leased. Lot 23, Range B, Sanborn's Survey; part of Lot 15, 2nd Con.; 1 acre. On this Lot there is an Oil Well 154 feet deep; Lot Leased. Lot 18, Bruce Survey, part of Lot 17, 1st Con.; 1 acre. On this Lot there is an Oil Well 145 feet deep; Freehold. Lot 43, Bruce Survey, part of Lot 17 1st Con.; 1 acre; Freehold. Lot 58, Pike and Thompson's Survey, part of Lot 16, 3rd Con.; ¾ acre. On this Lot there is a Still, and the necessary Buildings and Tanks; Freehold. The owner of the above property is anxious to dispose of it at once, to enable him to carry out his decision of becoming a minister of the Gospel; and will, therefore, sell cheap and on good terms. Apply by letter (post-paid), to A. YOUNG, JR., COMMISSION MERCHANT, s.w.w. SAGRIS.

GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR A HAIR DRESSER.—To be disposed of.—The Business and Stock-in-Trade of the late JOSEPH JONES, comprising the requisite of a first-class Hair-Cutting Establishment, Perfumery and Toy Store, situate in the first Street of the City, next door (East) of the Ottawa Hotel, having an excellent well-established business connection, and in every way a most desirable opportunity for one in the trade. For particulars, &c., apply to No 76 Great St. James Street. WOOD.—The undersigned has received various samples of FORTIGN WOOL, from a Liverpool Wool Broker, ranging from 6d. to 2s. 2d. per lb. and the requisite of a first-class Hair-Cutting Establishment, Perfumery and Toy Store, situate in the first Street of the City, next door (East) of the Ottawa Hotel, having an excellent well-established business connection, and in every way a most desirable opportunity for one in the trade. For particulars, &c., apply to No 76 Great St. James Street. s.w.w. JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant.

FOR SALE. TEAS: 2500 CHOICE GREENS AND BLACKS. A full assortment of SELECTED TEAS. RICE, 1150 Bags. FIGS, 250 boxes. RAISINS, 400 boxes M. R. and LAYERS 140 boxes VALENTIA 50 boxes SULTANA CURRANTS, 40 brls. FIGS, 250 boxes. FILBERTS, 10 bales S. S. ALMONDS, 20 bales COFFEE, 75 bags PEPPER, 130 bags PIMENTO, 30 bags NUTMEGS, 13 cases CLOVES, 14 bales STARCH, 400 boxes SAGO, 10 cases TAPIOCA, 6 barrels MIXED PICKLES, 30 barrels BI-CARB. SODA, 130 kegs B LACK LEAD, 60 boxes INDIGO, 7 chests WRITING, 100 barrels LAMPBLACK, 20 kegs, &c., &c. And in Store and to arrive, 5s 11d. BARBADOES (free labor) SUGARS. g.w.w. J. A. & H. MATHEWSON.

CARPETING.—The Subscriber respectfully invites attention to his large and varied Stock, which he believes unsurpassed in the Province for variety or extent, selected by himself from the best Manufacturers during the past Summer, and to ensure freshness and new designs, it is replenished by nearly every steamer that arrives. Some Choice Patterns Now Opening, E.S.S. "Jura" and "Hibernia". FLOOR OIL CLOTHS, English and American, from the most celebrated makers and of new designs, a very large selection cut to fit dimensions. DAMASKS and LACE CURTAINS. A very choice and select lot at moderate prices. A good selection of CORNICES. EXPERIENCED UPHOLSTERERS constantly employed for fitting Carpets, Oil Cloths and Curtains. In soliciting the patronage of his friends and the public, J. B. has confidence in being able to satisfy their requirements, importing so largely for his Establishments in Montreal and Toronto, he has facilities which few possess in this branch of trade. WHOLESALE & RETAIL, 74 Great St. James Street, (Near the Ottawa Hotel.) J. BAYLES. s.w.w.

LEATHER COMMISSION BUSINESS.—The undersigned continues to receive consignments of Leather of various kinds, manufactured in Canada—upon which he makes advances by acceptance for about three-fourths of the value—and he offers these consignments for sale as under:— Spanish Leather, Slaughter Leather, Moccasin Leather, Harness Leather, Waxed Upper Leather, Grained Upper Leather, Grained Calfskin Leather, Waxed Calfskin Leather, Rips (whole), Kipsides, Splits, large and small, Emameled Cow, Patent Cow, Patent Calf, Lacing Leather, Sheapskin Linings. —also—. French Calfskin, Shoe Pegs, Beef Boots, Moose, Moccasin, Pure God Oil in barrels. The attention of Leather Dealers, Country Merchants, and Shoemakers is invited to this Circular. All orders carefully executed. s.w.w. JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant.

CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT, QUEBEC, 9th January, 1864. Notice is hereby given, that about 90,000 acres of Crown Lands, in the Townships of Marlton and Woburn, Counties of Compton and Bonaventure, C. E., will be open for sale to actual and intending settlers, on and after the TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY next. For particulars, apply to the local agent Wm. FARWELL, Esq., at Robinson, C. E. ANDREW RUSSELL, Assistant Commissioner. s.w.w.

CANADA AND EUROPEAN EXPRESS.—The British and American Express Co. have opened an Office in Tower Buildings, 22 Water Street, Liverpool, for the Forwarding of Parcels, Freights and Valuables of every description, by the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company's Steamers. Consignments solicited. Orders promptly attended to. AGENTS: L'pool, A. Blackwood, Jr., Tower Buildings, 22 Water St. London, Hill Son & Meadows, 35 Milk Street, Chesapeake. G. W. Wheatly & Co., 150 Leadenhall Street, E.C. Manchester, Globe Express Co., Market Street. Glasgow, J. C. Clarke, King Street. Dublin, do do Eden Quay. Edinburgh, Wm. Crouch, North Bridge Street. Montreal, D. T. Irish, Place d'Armes. Toronto, M. H. Irish, Toronto Street. Hamilton, J. D. Irwin, 1 West King Street. Quebec, W. C. Foot, St. Peter Street. Kingston, J. C. Clarke, King Street. Portland, J. E. Frindle, 99 Exchange Street. And in all the Principal Towns in Canada of whom any information can be obtained. PACKAGES delivered to any Railway Company in the United Kingdom, addressed care of B. & A. EXPRESS COMPANY, 22 Water Street, Liverpool, will be promptly forwarded. Pre-payment optional. s.w. J. W. HOWES, Manager.

BUSINESS CARDS. C. W. WILLIAMS & CO'S. UNEQUALLED DOUBLE THREAD FAMILY SEWING MACHINES. PRICES RANGING UPWARD FROM TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. Better Machines for Dress-making and family use have never been made. THEY ARE SIMPLE, DURABLE, RELIABLE and WARRANTED, and are kept in repair one year free of charge. MANUFACTORY on Prince Street. OFFICE and SALESROOM No. 29 Great St. James Street. Family Sewing done to order. On hand and for sale, a good assortment of Silk Thread and Needles. Also, the best Machine Oil. Agents wanted in Canada. s.w. C. W. WILLIAMS & CO.

NORCROSS & WILSON, BROKERS AND EXCHANGE MERCHANTS, 61 St. FRANCIS XAVIER STREET, MONTREAL. Notes and Drafts Collected, Gold, Silver, American Money and other Property Bought and Sold for small Commissions. All orders and funds entrusted to their care, by mail or otherwise, will receive faithful and prompt attention; and, as they are comparative strangers to this country—although of long experience in business—they beg leave to make reference to ALEX. MILLOY, Agent Canadian Inland Navigation Company; or to HENRY FRANKS, Manager of the Ontario Bank, of this city. A. N. WILSON. | J. NORCROSS. g.w.w.

R. A. D. ADAMS & COMMISSION MERCHANT. No. 255 and 257 St. PAUL STREET, MONTREAL. Solicits Consignments of Canada Manufactures and Produce, on which he will make advances of Cash when required, and will give prompt and careful attention to sales and remittances. s.w.l.f.b.

DR. A. J. BAZIN, SURGEON DENTIST, 39 GREAT ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL. The "MONTREAL WITNESS" is printed and published by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Proprietors, at 248 Notre Dame Street.—House head of Leumond Street.