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CORRESPONDENCE.

METHODIST AND PAPAL CHURCHES IN THE UNITED STATES.—AN ERROR CORRECTED.

(To the Editor Montreal Witness.)

Sir,—In your issue of last Saturday is an extract from a report read by an American clergyman at the Evangelical Alliance General Conference, recently held at Amsterdam, in which is the following:—"It will surprise some persons to know that the Roman Catholics are now the most numerous sect in the United States, numbering not less than four million souls, or just twice as many as the next strongest; namely, the Methodist, who number two millions." This is an error which will surprise some persons to know could have been committed on so grave an occasion. A slight attention to facts clearly detailed and widely circulated should have been given by any person preparing a report for such an occasion as the one alluded to. Is it not well known that the Papal church credits itself with every one calling himself by its name, whatever may be his attendance on its ordinances, while the Methodist Church gives those only who are enrolled on its books as communicants? The clergyman whose report we correct should have known this; and, further, that there are many who attend the Methodist ministry as regularly as do most of those who are counted for the Church of Rome; and yet are not counted in the two million Methodists reported. Reference to Dr. Stevens' interesting and widely circulated centenary volume of "American Methodism," supplies the following:—"Adding the travelling preachers to the membership, there are now in the United States, about 1,901,164 Methodist communicants. Adding three non-communicant members of its congregations for each communicant, it has, under its influence, 7,604,656 souls,—between one-fifth and one-fourth of the whole national population." Hence, instead of the Methodists being second, and but one-half in number of the members of the Papal Church, they are actually the first and largest section of the Christian Church in the United States; and nearly double, if not fully so, in number, to the Roman Catholics.

J. B.

Montreal, December 17th, 1867.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

(To the Editor Witness.)

DEAR SIR,—Having observed some remarks on the doings and deservings of the Grand Trunk Railway, I hope you will allow me, a private individual, and with no mercenary animus, but with a clerical or (to coin after the fashion of Mr. Carlyle) parsonic mind, to say a few words in praise of this institution as a grand national promoter of the best interests of the Dominion.

Government, in the abstract notion, is supposed to be a nursing father or mother, and so to afford aliment and protection to her struggling children in this bleak climate. The army is here, with its marching columns and exhilarating bands, ready to defend the country; and no doubt in *terrorum* does its turn of good. The navy is, just now, like the gardeners, frozen out. But I question, without going into other departments of the public service, whether any agency is doing half the good that Mr. G. T. R. is doing us.

Without the Grand Trunk, what a wilderness we should have in some of our best settled and most flourishing localities! It seems to me that the steam-horse is *le cheval de bataille* after all. Who feeds us half so well? Who enables us to go and see our friends? Who holds the country together, and makes it a country, and promotes the welfare of commercial interests, agricultural and moral and evangelical,—if it is not the great moral and material power of the locomotive? Why, sir, the Company—that in the most gracious manner extends its favor to a poor preacher, and sends him forth to offer free salvation to the working thousands—is a benefactor; no mistake about it. I question whether the Government, the church (in any aspect), the army, or the navy, would give me two pence towards the carrying out of our great message to go and preach the gospel; and yet many times, and all over, this G. T. R. is sending men free by her lines to do work which we seem inclined to pay for. I view these men as greater and more efficient than hierarchs, or commanders-in-chief, or governor-generals, or any other high and mighty potentates; and I consider the G. T. R. both one of the best benefactors of our race, and the most liberal helper to men who have a work to do which, I repeat, very few seem inclined to pay for; and, I say again, I hope, in your accustomed liberality, you will allow me to see made public these few crude remarks in praise of railway enterprise generally, and the G. T. R. in particular.

I am, dear sir, yours truly,
PASTOR.
Montreal, Dec. 28.

[For the Witness.]

HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR THE DOMINION.—A SUGGESTION.

Would it not be well that something were done on a large scale to have put on record, as *pabula* for future historiographers, as many as possible of the facts connected with the origin and progress of the several Provinces which now constitute the Dominion of Canada? Official Governmental documents are of vast value as far as they go. But they are not enough; they are too limited in their scope, leaving much untold that is very essential to the composition of satisfactory history. It is a fact that not a little that would be of interest and importance to those who shall live in the future, is being lost by the death of our aged fellow-colonists. It is exceedingly desirable that whatever is worthy of remembrance, whether of local or general character, should be transferred to a *perpetuating paper* from the crumbling tablet of memory, and from the custody of treacherous tradition; and tradition with us is neither very hoary nor senile as yet, but will ere long become both.

History combines interest and instruction as no other merely human composition does; and yet there is, perhaps, no department of knowledge in such an unsatisfactory state. How many kingdoms and countries have no history of a legible and trustworthy character, beyond a few centuries last past. There has been, at best, a sad commingling of fiction and fact in the early history of almost every nation and country; and all efforts, even by the strongest minds, to sever the true from the false have proved utterly futile. Lack of contemporaneous records renders it impossible to get at the actual state of matters in the earlier periods of not a few influential communities. Now, this tantalizing incertitude that cleaves to so many histories may be altogether prevented as regards the early history of these Provinces. It will unquestionably be our fault, if the future historians of "the Dominion of Canada" have not an ample supply of recorded and attested facts, so that their story shall be truthful and full, whatever else of attraction it may possess or lack.

Would it not be wise to originate an association, say at Montreal (which is somewhat central), under some such designation as "The Historical Society of the Dominion of Canada?" And let this society issue circulars inviting the formation of an auxiliary society in every township, town, and incorporated village in the Dominion. These auxiliaries would collect and put on record whatever was of interest, whether past or passing, relative to persons, property, places, and events in their respective localities. A copy of these records, or a synopsis of them (and more important papers in full) might be annually forwarded to the society at Montreal. Such an historical net spread over the land as is here suggested, could not fail to collect (along with much rubbish no doubt) very many facts of importance and interest, which otherwise would be lost to the future.

The foregoing bare suggestion is thrown out to the literary and leading gentlemen in the Dominion, and primarily to those residing in and around Montreal, who might take the initiative and act as a motive power on all beyond.

ANDER EDY.

Ontario, Dec., 1867.

M. LE REDACTEUR.—Pouvez-vous me dire, s'il est plus permis à des Canadiens catholiques, d'enrôler des sujets de Sa Majesté pour le service du Pape, qu'il ne l'a été aux Américains du Nord d'en enrôler pour la défense de l'Union? Ces années dernières, plusieurs racleurs américains ont été condamnés à la prison et à de fortes amendes. Et il y a aujourd'hui, au No. 38 St. Vincent, un bureau public d'enrôlement pour le Pape, annoncé et préconisé par les journaux catholiques, comme la *Minerve*, le *Nouveau Monde*, etc. N'est il pas du devoir des autorités d'intervenir?

LEX.

REPLY.

We cannot understand, any more than "Lex," why enlistment for the Papal army should be quite lawful in Canada, seeing that enlistment for the American army was so great a crime. We suppose it is the old difference between "my ox and your cow."—ED. WIT.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

The following circular has been addressed by the Secretary to the Fellows of the Botanical Society, for the purpose of getting it again into a working condition.

This society was instituted in 1860, with a view to promote the study of botany and elaborate for practical purposes the botanical collections and researches of its various members. Botanists throughout Canada and the neighboring States entered zealously into the scheme; the society had a successful career, and for three years published its scientific papers under the title of "Annals." These publications having been discontinued and the operations of the society suspended, the widely scattered botanists of Canada and the adjoining Provinces have, during the past four years, felt the want of a convenient medium of intercommunication or mode of diffusing botanical information. By these "Annals" a stimulus was given to scientific investigation, and much valuable information was published which would otherwise have been lost. It is for these reasons that it is proposed to reorganize the Botanical Society of the Dominion of Canada. Local field-clubs will be formed in connection with the parent society. To promote the study of botany and collecting of specimens, a certain number of Fellows will undertake to supply, to correspondents in their districts, the names of such plants as may be sent to them. Ladies, as well as gentlemen, are admissible as members of the society. It is proposed that periodical meetings of the members shall take place in the principal cities, during the holding of the great annual agricultural exhibitions in the several Provinces. At these meetings the ordinary business of the society will be transacted, officers elected, and scientific papers read.

HALIFAX, N. S., 9th Dec., 1867.

Sir,—At a meeting held in the Council Chamber, Kingston, Ont., on 27th September, 1867, the Very Rev. Principal Snodgrass in the chair,—it was resolved to re-organize the Botanical Society on an extended basis, with branch societies in each Province of the Dominion. With the view of giving effect to this resolution, I have been requested to address a circular to the Fellows of the old society, for the purpose of ascertaining how far those who had not an opportunity of being present at the meeting are desirous of co-operating in the scheme. Should you wish to continue your membership, you will please intimate your desire, either to me or to

one of the Provincial Secretaries of the society, not later than the 1st January, 1868, at which time the list will be closed, and all Fellows who have given no response to this application will be regarded as not desirous of joining in the new organization.

The terms of membership remain the same as formerly,—the annual subscription being two dollars, entitling each member to the Society's publications and other privileges. There is no entrance fee, but persons not previously connected with the Society require to be recommended by two Fellows, in the ordinary manner.

A Publication Committee has been nominated to whom all scientific papers sent in will be immediately referred.

The Society's Provincial Secretaries are:—
For Ontario—John Macoun, Lecturer on Botany, the College, Belleville, Ont.
For Quebec—John Bell, M.D., General Hospital, Montreal.

For Nova Scotia—Professor Lawson, Dalhousie College, Halifax, N. S.
For New Brunswick—Professor Jardine, St. Dr., Provincial University, Fredericton, N. B.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
GEORGE LAWSON, LL.D.,
General Secretary and Treasurer Bot. Soc.,
Can., formerly of Kingston.

MONTREAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of this Association was held last Thursday week, in the basement of Zion church. The attendance was small. Rev. J. M. Gibson, President of the Association, took the chair, and conducted the services; after which he announced that the subject for consideration was, "Methods of securing the attention of Scholars."

Rev. Mr. GREGG commenced the discussion, by saying that there were two conditions of an external kind which must be met in order to secure the end in view,—the one having reference to the place where the school met, and the other to the time of meeting. The room should be thoroughly ventilated. It was a mistaken custom to meet in the basements of churches, as was generally done; because they were usually cold, dark, and damp; whereas they ought to be made as light and airy as possible. In short, he believed the idea of basements in churches should be done away with entirely. The time of meeting was usually at the very worst hour of the day to secure the attention of any person, old or young. Especially was this so in summer, when they met near the middle of the day.

In regard to method, it was desirable that all the members of a class should be as nearly as possible alike in attainments; for, while they were teaching the grown, the attention of the others would be lost. In teaching infant-classes, the subjects should be mainly of a narrative or historical nature; many of the narratives in the Bible being peculiarly interesting to the childish mind. Singing should be frequently introduced and taught, which would require a knowledge of music on the part of teachers. In regard to grown-up or Bible classes, the teacher should always be prepared to have something to say of interest, and to this end should himself study well the lesson beforehand. Finally, if the teacher were to come with a thoroughly prepared lesson, and with a prayerful spirit, he could not fail to gain the attention of his scholars.

Mr. CUSHING said the teacher should bear in mind the importance of the work, and the short time he had to do it in, and should therefore press as much as possible into the half-hour usually allotted to the lesson. He should also be well acquainted with the general literature of the Bible, and with the history of its events found in other books.

Prof. WILLIAMSON thought Sunday-school teachers knew but little of the art of teaching. They should study carefully the principles of the art, as was done by teachers of secular education.

Dr. DAWSON heartily concurred with Mr. Gregg's views upon the unfavorable plan of holding the meetings in basements, and that in the middle of the day. The teacher should be of a kindly disposition and familiar and friendly with his scholars, avoiding, as far as possible, the disposition of a taskmaster. Let him awaken the attention of children by asking them something they do not understand, and, together with them, search out the answer. Their curiosity would then be excited and the end gained.

THE PRESIDENT reviewed the suggestions that had been made, and recommended them to avoid all abstractions, and the use of long, hard words beyond the comprehension of children.

The Secretary, Mr. BROWN, read a letter from Mr. Pardee, the great Sunday-school teacher of Chicago, which was written in answer to an invitation of the Association, and in which he promised to hold a Teachers' Institute in Montreal on the 8th, 9th, and 10th days of January next, for the special benefit of Sabbath-school teachers.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE NEW-ENGLAND SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY.

On Monday, this Society celebrated its anniversary by a social entertainment in the St. Lawrence Hall, where about a hundred ladies and gentlemen assembled to commemorate the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. The company began to arrive at about eight o'clock, but it was not till nearly nine that it adjourned to the large drawing-room. The evening was then spent in the most agreeable manner, with music, short, often and addresses, social converse, and, at eleven o'clock, an elegant supper, served in the large dining-hall.

The President, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN BROWN, said, the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, having this year fallen on a Sunday, they had postponed their celebration to the day following. It had also been resolved to make the celebration chiefly of a festive character,

with merely extemporized speeches. During the past year, the Society had not much indulgence to relieve, but a few persons of New-England lineage had received assistance. Altogether, a little more than \$100 had been expended in this manner. The purposes, however, for which the New England Society had been formed were national and social, rather than charitable; and the result had proved that the idea was a right one. They also entertained the most friendly and affectionate feeling towards old England, without which there would have been no New England. He was persuaded that England was their friend, and so especially was its Queen, Victoria, for she was the friend of all.

After music had been given, the PRESIDENT called on

The Rev. Mr. BONAR, Chaplain of the Society, who, after some introductory remarks, said he was an American by choice, though a Scotchman by birth. There was much to thank God for in the history of the Pilgrim Fathers; and much that had been found in the events of the past few years was due to those Englishmen who, as Pilgrim Fathers, came to that continent, yet were loyal to their own country and Church. They were true Englishmen; but Englishmen who were far in advance of their nation.—It was the descendants of these Englishmen in New England who had done the brunt of the thinking, planning, and fighting during the late rebellion in the United States; and he felt no dismay at the present political condition of things there, nor anxiety for the result, when he saw such New-England men as Sumner, Colfax, and others, at the head of affairs. The Puritans had always had the advantage over the Cavaliers. They had longer heads and better principles. He could not wish anything better for the members of this Society than that they should carry out these New-England principles. He trusted that the residents here from New England would always bring them with them; combining them with loyalty to the Queen, while they were themselves, at the same time, loyal to their fatherland.

After some further music, the President called upon

The Rev. Mr. CORDNER. He said he had so often spoken upon occasions similar to the present, that what could he say more? But the story of the Pilgrim Fathers, like all good stories, would bear repetition. The circumstances which attended the coming of the Pilgrim Fathers to this continent were peculiarly English in the resolute temper and perseverance which characterized them. Those Fathers had fled to Holland for freedom of worship; but there they found the surroundings of a foreign people, and a foreign language; and returning to England, they thence embarked, after their mind and wavering had been sifted from their number, and proceeded in the "Mayflower" and "Speedwell" across the ocean towards Virginia, but were landed on the rock of Plymouth. They there planted a flower which had spread to Maine, and was now on the Pacific. The descendants of these Pilgrim Fathers were there digging in the mines, and were now also in Walrusia, trying what they could get there. But the principles which the Pilgrim Fathers brought out with them were fraught with effects beyond the idea of those men themselves; for they carried with them the idea of the primal rights of man. They had clear and correct ideas on the indefeasible right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; and if they could not enjoy this right in England, then they would seek it in Holland, and even in America. They went thither, and planted an order of society which was now the ruling power on this continent. A hundred years before their time, Jacques Cartier and his followers were toiling up the St. Lawrence, drawn by the love of adventure and religious enthusiasm. They colonized in the interests of their faith; out, in doing so, their ideas had been different from those of the New-England colonists, and the results had been different. We were not bound to admire these Pilgrim Fathers in all things, for they were human and fell into errors. But they were true to their principles, and honest to the core; and had made this continent a controlling force in the civilization of the world.

Dr. STEPHEN HUNT was called on, in most complimentary terms, to speak, and did so in a brief but very happy manner.

The PRESIDENT then expressed the thanks of the Society to the representatives of the Sister National Societies present, namely, the St. George, St. Andrew, and the German Society.

The representatives of these societies, Mr. Clare, Mr. W. McFarland, and Mr. Wagner, briefly responded. Mr. Joseph DOUTRE replied at some length on behalf of the Institut Canadien. The President of the St. Patrick's Society sent an apology at not being able to be present. The President regretted that the Mayor had not been able to attend.

The company then descended to the supper-room, where an elegant and bountiful repast had been provided. Grace was said by the Rev. Mr. Bonar; and the good things having been partaken of, the guests returned to the drawing-room, where the other social and musical hour was spent; the company departing at a little after midnight,—all seeming well pleased at the quiet, cheerful, and extemporaneous manner in which the anniversary had been celebrated.

Letters of regret were received from Hon. L. J. Papineau, Rev. Dr. Balch, St. Patrick's Society, and St. Jean Baptiste Society.

FIRE IN DION'S BILLIARD-ROOM, IN NORDHEIMER'S HALL.

Shortly after two o'clock on Sunday morning, an alarm of fire was sounded, calling out the three sections, thus showing that the danger was of a serious nature. The fire was in Nordheimer's Hall, and the brigade quickly arrived. The Chief and Sub-Chief entered Dion's billiard-room, which was full of smoke, but showed no fire. Ladders were, however, placed against the rear of the building, in Forti-

fication lane, in order to ascertain where the fire was burning. Whilst this was being done, the flames burst through the roof of the billiard-hall, and, in spite of copious streams of water that were poured on it from the Bank of Toronto, the roof at length fell in, setting the room itself on fire. The flames seem to have worked their way upwards between the walls and plaster, and at length to have burst out as above stated, at length consuming the billiard-hall below. The Bank of Toronto seemed to be in considerable danger at one time; but the plentiful supply of water, which was thrown from its roof, soon put an end to any further hazard. In the meantime, the light from the fire was very brilliant, and spectators had gathered in Great St. James and Craig streets, and also in Fortification lane. A number of pianos were got out from the rooms of Messrs. Gould & Hill, and a quantity of furniture from Mr. Dion's rooms, and placed upon the street. The flames in spite of every exertion, gradually made their way towards the front on St. James street, more particularly towards the corner next to Baird & Crawford's. It was not till after nearly three hours' hard work that the fire was fairly got under, and the water continued to be played on the building until eleven o'clock. The billiard hall is a complete wreck, with billiard-tables covered with half-burned beams, and mirrors hanging broken on the walls. A very large portion of the flooring had given way, and seven or eight pianos belonging to Messrs. Gould & Hill, were destroyed, the others being saved. An enormous quantity of water found its way into the lower stories of the building, and both Mrs. Davis' Berlin Wool store and the tobacconist's shop received much damage from this cause. Messrs. Gould & Hill are stated to be insured in the "Liverpool & London," for \$10,000, and Mr. Jos. Dion for \$7,500 in the "Citizen." Both Mrs. Davis and the tobacconist are insured. The *Gazette* says:—Mr. Dion lost 16 billiard tables at 500 dollars each, making 8,000 dollars, the gas fixtures 1000 dollars, carpeting, furniture, mirror 3,500 dollars, making 12,500 dollars; also the Champion Billiard Cue of Canada, the Champion of Champions being saved. At the time of the fire, there were two of the billiard employees, named Leon and Charbonneau, asleep over the bar.

We have not heard of any serious accident at the fire, though there came very nigh being a p rhaps fatal one, like that of poor Sharpe's. A cornice at the back of the building, in Fortification lane, fell, and, in doing so, broke one of the ladders, on which a fireman, named Hynes, was standing. Seeing that the cornice was about to fall, he leaped into one of the windows, being struck on the back by some of the falling pieces of timber. For a while he was in great danger, but another ladder was at last brought, and he was rescued from his perilous position. We should add that the Orange hall, in the attic, was utterly destroyed, with most of its contents, including a splendid picture of Her Majesty, &c.

The building was insured by the proprietor, Mr. Nordheimer.

ST. FRANCIS COLLEGE, RICHMOND, P. Q.—After the usual Xmas examinations, the autumn term was closed by public exercises in the College Lecture Room, on Wednesday eve, the 18th inst. Lord Aylmer occupied the chair. The Hall was crowded with the students and their friends. The prizes offered to the college students, by G. K. Foster, Esq., Trustee, for excellence in declamation and debate, were awarded by a committee, to Messrs. Nixon, Campbell, and Jenks. The prizes from C. B. Cleveland, Esq., Trustee, were awarded to Messrs. Stewart of Quebec, Gouin and Ewing, pupils of the Grammar School. The public exercises are spoken of as being even more excellent than usual. The remaining prizes from the above-named gentlemen, are to be awarded at the end of the session for excellence in the studies pursued throughout the year. The quarterly standing will be announced at the beginning of the next term.

ORDERS IN THE ROMAN-CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The Bishop of Montreal conferred the following orders, in the Seminary chapel, last Saturday, 21st instant:—*The Tonsure*—To Messrs. Joseph Napoleon Champagne, diocese of Montreal; Frs. Louis Tanqueré Adam, do.; D. J. Gillis, Charlottetown; Wm. Kelly, Boston. *Minor Orders*—To Messrs. R. P. C. Dufréne, Montreal; A. E. Coallier, do.; J. B. Morisseau, do.; M. Auclair, do.; James Lunigan, Halifax; James Kiely, Boston; Thos. Heslin, Hartford; Owen McKenna, New York; Edward Cassidy, Toronto; J. K. Smith, Hartford. *The Sub-Diaconate*—To Messrs. M. Laporte, Montreal; J. P. Leduc, do.; L. H. Paré, do.; A. P. Dubuc, do.; Ulric Thibodeau, do.; C. F. E. Bousquet, do.; F. J. Ouellet, Sandwich; John Flynn, Alton; J. A. Babineau, Chatham, N. B.; John Carter, do.; Wm. Varilly, do.; R. J. Sullivan, Hartford; E. McKenna, New York; Ant. Ouellet, St. John, N. B.; J. O. Lecours, of the order of Ste. Croix. *The Diaconate*—Messrs. J. E. Dugas, Montreal; J. R. Giroux, do.; Wm. J. Mihaan, Halifax; Chas. Clocke, Alton; Michael Weis, do. *The Priesthood*—To Messrs. Amable Lavoie, Montreal; J. M. A. Brien dit Durocher, do.—*Nouveau Monde*.

—Mr. Charles Antrobus, who was lately drowned, was a young gentleman well known in Montreal and Quebec. He was a son of the late Lt.-Col. Antrobus, and a nephew of W. H. Brehaut, Esq., of Montreal. The deceased (who was only twenty-two years of age, and whose family reside at Three Rivers) left the New York and Erie Railroad station, Jersey City, on the evening of the 12th, in company with two other gentlemen, with the intention of walking to the village of Passaic, where he resided. There was raging at the time one of the most fearful storms experienced in that section of the country for twenty years. Mr. Antrobus and his companions had proceeded as far as Barry's Creek, when, on attempting to cross a trestle bridge, he fell through, and was drowned, notwithstanding the exertions of his companions to rescue him. His body was recovered the following day. The deceased held, for some time, a commission in the Montreal Victoria Rifles.

Contemporary Press.

DECADENCE OF HUDSON'S-BAY POWER.

(From the Nor'-Wester.)

The once supreme sway of the Hudson's-Bay Company is being fast narrowed down to arbitrary command, say for the first six months of service, over the half-paid laborers which they import from Europe. Notwithstanding the "bold face" which the Fenchurch-street office puts upon it, the facts stand out boldly to us who have a chance to see behind the curtain, that the Hudson's-Bay power is like the profits, a thing of the past. * * * The lion which we long ago knew to be toothless, now turns out to be, like that of the showman's "real live one," only stuffed with straw. Any one may tread on his tail, or his dignity, without eliciting anything save the natural indignation of the Church-street showman at the exposure of his humbug.

Twenty years ago, Hudson's Bay stock commanded fancy prices, "on 'Change." Twenty years ago Company posts were small castles where the officer in charge lorded it with the sway of a Bashaw, and then could have been seen the *Honorable* Company imprisoning some unfortunate half-breed, and burning down his house, for having dared to barter for a few furs. Now, however, how great the change! False statements and lying promises fail to work off the declining stock. Bashaws of the interior find their forts besieged, their trains plundered, and themselves shot at, by the native tribes which they have "under complete control"; and for an example of the extent of the change in political matters, we need only cite the fact, that at the late general court there appeared before them those who had openly set their authority at defiance, and who were unbribed, simply because the court knew that it had no real power to back it, and dared not move in opposition to the will of the people.

The conclusion which must inevitably be drawn from the candid consideration of facts which lastly present themselves here is, that this last of the "Grand old Governmental Corporations" has become inert, powerless, a nuisance. It has outlived its time, and the sooner it ceases to impede human progress, and is sent to join the rubbish of the past, the better it will be for this fair land, and for the millions who will yet inherit its productiveness.

THE CAMPAIGN IN ABYSSINIA.

ABYSSINIA is a land of mountains. It stands up like a fortress out of the surrounding flat country. We hear much of the "table land," but the table land is given by ravines, roughened by lofty peaks, never into profound gulfs by large torrents. Nevertheless, there are always abundant roads and paths in every mountain land, and even points of passage over the widest rivers. The map, if correctly laid down, and the roads, if correctly marked, indicate the nature of the theatre of operations and the probable course of the expedition. Having selected Anseley Bay as a landing-place, the next point to be gained must be Halai and Adegerat, the first because it is at the head of the passes; the next because it is at the head of the valleys, and, consequently, the roads leading to the basin of the Tacaze river. Once at Halai and Adegerat, Sir Robert Napier must choose whether he will move on Gondar, or whether he will work by his left round the sources of the rivers towards Magdala and Debra Tabor. In either case, the occupation of Adowa appears imperative, because, if he move on Gondar, his route lies through it; and, if he move along the crest of the great ridges, possession of Adowa secures his right and base from all possible interruption. The prevailing opinion is, that he will prefer the crest roads, which followed, will enable him to interpose effectually between Magdala and Debra Tabor. The triangle of Halai, Adegerat, and Adowa, nearly equidistant, and commanding all the roads, secure his base completely. If adopted, he can move on Antalo, make good his ground, and push forward to Sakato. Here he would be master of the head of the valley of the Tacaze and the country on the right bank of the Abai, and a further movement on Genzara, Zebit, or Gabuire, would place him between Magdala and Debra Tabor. In the meantime, if he found it practicable and expedient, a flying column following the crest road through Jyeta to Dove, would strike the road from Tajourah to Magdala and Debra Tabor, and take the prison of the captives in the rear. That the army, in following such a line, would have to encounter great obstacles no one will dispute, but not more than they would find in working through Adowa by the Silke pass upon Gondar. By the first route, they would tend incessantly towards Magdala; by the second, they would march away from that fort, and also from their possible friends, the Chiefs of Tigra, Codjam, and Shoa. On the whole, though tedious and arduous, we see no difficulties in the enterprise that a force of 12,000 men may not readily overcome. One thing, however, we trust will be carefully guarded against. The army must not be accompanied by Egyptians in any capacity, if it is desired to secure the friendship of the people. The Abyssinians hate the Egyptians, and if they appear only as camel or mule drivers, or followers, will suspect an intention of handing them over to the Viceroy. Upon that head there must be no mistake, and we believe Sir Robert Napier is too good a politician to make such a blunder.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

From a letter from Zulla, under date of the 31st of October, we hear of the return, two days previously, of Colonel Merewether and his party from reconnoitering the country to the southward, after a severe march of 130 miles in the country they traversed—now for the first time visited by Europeans—they found but little water, and that in wells. In parts the thermometer ranged at 110. The passes were through beds of torrents, with huge masses of rock on every side. The landing pier at Zulla, 350 yards long, was finished, and a great portion of tramway had already been laid down. We may expect, therefore, to hear of it having been completed to the foot of the mountains very shortly. Troops were arriving daily, and Anseley Bay was rapidly assuming as busy an aspect as Bombay harbor. Of Theodore, there is no intelligence, but the rebels lie between Zulla and the King, and he is virtually sovereign over but a small portion of the country.—*Pall-Mall Gazette.*

Intelligence received from Massowah announces that more than one hundred villages have tendered their services to the British expeditionary force.

THE ANGOLA SLAUGHTER.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE ACCIDENT—SCENES AND INCIDENTS—THE INQUEST.

The Buffalo papers give the following details of the recent frightful railroad slaughter at Angola, 21 miles west of Buffalo, on the Lake Shore Railroad. The train to which the accident occurred was the New York express train, consisting of two first-class and one second-class coaches, coming east. The catastrophe occurred at the crossing of what is known as Big Sister Creek, about a quarter of a mile east of Angola station. The track of the railroad is carried over most of the flat upon an embankment of earth, from the termination of which a trestle bridge about 100 feet in length spans the creek. The height of the bridge above the ordinary level of the creek is some 30 feet.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the next to the last car of the train was thrown from the track on striking a frog at the switch just this side of Angola station, and was dragged over the ties nearly to the bridge before the car behind it became unseated from the rails. The time during which this plunging along the ties continued was sufficient to enable some, but not many, of the passengers sitting at the forward end of this car to make their escape from it into the car ahead.

Just as the train reached the bridge, the rear car was jerked from the track, and ran nearly across the bridge. An instant more and it would have reached the bank; but just at the edge it toppled over on the left side, and went, with a fearful crash, end foremost, down the ice-covered slope, forty feet at least, to the flat below.

It is easy to imagine the frightful wreck to which the car was reduced by the terrible descent. All, or nearly all, of its passengers, of course, were precipitated into a mingled struggling mass at the lower end of the car, buried under a heap of ruins; and even the slightly injured, if any there were, unable to extricate themselves. The horror of the situation was sufficient without that which instantly became added by the igniting of the splintered wreck from the overturned stoves. A moment, as one of the three sole survivors describes it, and the whole was wrapped in flames. The dry wood of the car burned like a heap of kindling, and it was little more.

How many the flames devoured in this car cannot be told with certainty. It was well filled with passengers, probably,—only one of the survivors, not less than fifty,—says one of the known to have escaped.

The train, which had run some distance before being stopped, was backed to the scene as speedily as possible, and those on board set to work with promptitude and energy. But the steep and ice-covered slope to the car, most horribly situated, was not easily descended, and when helping hands reached it, they were without weapons for fighting the flames, or for breaking into the wreck.

As soon, of course, as they could be summoned, the people of Angola, and nearer inhabitants, ran to the spot, and it was not long before many buckets were employed in pouring water upon the burning wreck; but a raging fire is not to be overcome with buckets, and those desperately laboring at the work had to suffer the unspeakable anguish of seeing their efforts made utterly in vain. The hideous, remorseless flames, cracked on; the shrieks died into moans, and moans into a silence more terrible, as the pall of death drew over the scene. Except one little fragment of the side of the car, nothing but a heap of smoking cinders was left for those gathered round to search into with sickened hearts.

As we have already stated, the car next the rear one was that with which the disaster originated, but its fate was less terrible than the fate of the car following. The headlong plunge of the latter threw it over, but not until the bridge had been passed, and it made its descent on the opposite or right side of the embankment, where the height was not more than twenty-five feet. The crash was only less awful than that already described. It was not followed, however, by the more frightful calamity of the fire. Twice the car was kindled by the coals from the broken stoves, but the passengers were in a less helpless situation, and the flames were extinguished.

One of the three persons who escaped from the rear car was Mr. I. Mayer, the travelling agent of Ristori, who is now at the Buffalo General Hospital under treatment for fever, but probably not serious, injuries in the back, head, and ankles. Mr. Mayer's statement to our reporter was as follows:—

"I had just stepped out at the closet when I felt the jerking of the car as it was thrown from the track. I sprang up instantly and caught hold of something in the roof of the car, supporting myself. This saved me, when the car went over the bank, from being pitched forward where every one was helplessly buried in the crash of the ruins. Exactly how I crawled out I do not know. I was one of only three who escaped. I saw an old gentleman and his wife get out of the wreck. I am sure that not another person escaped. The car was full—not less than fifty persons. I should think, within it. Those who were not killed outright were burned to death. The wreck was all in flames in a moment. I do not know how I and the two I have mentioned could have escaped."

At 5 o'clock, when the train from Buffalo containing the physicians, &c., arrived at the scene of the disaster it was about dark, and objects at a short distance were anything but distinct. The burned car was a mass of ruins, but the odor of burning human flesh permeated the atmosphere and gave convincing evidence that the catastrophe was a heart-rending and awful one. The second car which met with disaster was lying a perfect wreck, but all its inmates had been removed, and everything that medical skill and kindness could suggest was being done for them.

Justice Southwick's house presented the appearance of an army hospital. Every room in the house was filled with objects of pity, in the shape of injured passengers. In one corner could be seen a woman, insensible, her face bruised, and discolored with blood; and in another a man who had, a few hours previous, started from home in the full enjoyment of health, but now was hovering between life and death. Everywhere could be seen those angels

of mercy—kind and true-hearted women—administering to those thrown upon their hands, and who were sure from what we saw that the injured ones were kindly and tenderly cared for.

The news of the disaster was immediately telegraphed to this city, and at four o'clock a wrecking train of three coaches left for Angola. At ten minutes past five Angola was reached, and all that the physician's art could do was done to alleviate the horrible sufferings of the wounded. The midnight train last night bore additional aid, and a number of physicians have volunteered to leave the city this morning and aid in caring for the sick.

Meanwhile, reports which needed no exaggeration, in fact, were susceptible of none which would exceed the terrible reality, began to spread throughout the city, and in households whose members or friends were supposed to be on the train, the wildest alarm prevailed. The telegraph offices were besieged by people frantic with terror, and the wires were loaded throughout the evening with the messages of suffering and death.

The funeral services of the unrecognized bodies of the victims will be held in the Central Depot, Exchange street, Sunday afternoon, at two o'clock. The Revs. Drs. Lord and Hotchkiss will officiate. The bodies will be deposited in a vault at Forest-Lawn cemetery, subject to future inspection or order. A coroner's inquest will be held on Monday.

A correct list of the personal effects, &c., of the deceased will be kept by the Railroad Company.

The friends of L. B. Hubbard, of Port Dalhousie, Canada, recognized his remains in the dead-house this afternoon. He was a carpenter by trade, and was on his return from Westfield, New York, where he had been at work.

FENIANISM.

(From New York Nation.)

The Fenians seem to be copying the incidents for the late war as near as they know how. Their first idea was to avail themselves of the English precedent in the "Alabama" case, by conquering Canada, and making it a base for maritime operations against British commerce. The conquest of Canada proved, however, an impossibility, and then, a rising in Ireland was ventured on, but proved a pitiful failure. They are now copying the Confederates once more, and have taken to incendiary in the great cities, and detached outrages, such as those with which we were all familiar here in the winter of 1864. Their favorite exploit of late has been the assassination of police officers. They have now attempted to liberate a prisoner by blowing up a jail, and in the attempt have succeeded in killing and wounding some forty of the other prisoners and jail-officials. Blowing up the building with gunpowder is a thoroughly original, and let us add, thoroughly Fenian mode of getting a man out of prison. The savage atrocity of these exploits is, however, not their worst feature. They are rapidly rousing the tigerish spirit of the English, and drowning the voice of all those who are seeking, by calm and earnest discussion, the settlement of Irish grievances. The Irish are but a handful in the great towns in England, and if the English mob were let loose on them, we should witness scenes which would bring disgrace on Christianity and civilization. Moreover, if the Irish of all the rest of Ireland are a match for the Orangemen of Ulster and of the eastern coast, the characteristics of the two races must have changed more than we believe they have since the last civil war. The Celts are individually as brave as any men in the world, but they want cohesiveness, the power of organization, the grim, dour determination and persistence which for centuries have made them an easy prey to one-tenth of their number of Englishmen and Scotchmen. The English Government has had as much as it could do, for some years past, to keep the Orangemen quiet; it has only to withdraw its hand to produce in Ireland another religious war, as bloody and brutal as any of its predecessors, and ending, we fear, in the same way. In the meantime, Irish reform continues to be the great subject of discussion in England. The Liberals are rapidly coming to the conclusion that neither the abolition of the church establishment nor the grant of what has hitherto been called "tenant right"—that is, the payment of the tenant for the value of his improvements—will now be sufficient to lay the devil of Irish discontent; that something still more radical is needed; namely, the application to Ireland of the plan by which Stein reformed Prussia, and under which the tenant is made the real owner of the soil, subject to a rent-charge. There is danger that anything of this kind will be desperately resisted by the English and Scotch landowners, from the fear that if the change were once made in Ireland, it would not be very long before attempts would be made to introduce it to other parts of the country.

THE LAKE SHORE RAILROAD CALAMITY.

The following are additional facts relating to the frightful railroad disaster which occurred near Angola, on the Lake Shore Railroad, on Wednesday:

The loss will probably exceed sixty souls. Mary Freeman was found dead with a handkerchief by her side, bearing the name by which she is designated.

One of the passengers related that while the rear car was burning, several passengers who were endeavoring to break it to pieces were startled by the report of pistols, which were discharged within the car. One bullet came through a window, passing through the pants of a passenger. Some unfortunate man had the weapon in his pocket, and of course it was exploded by the heat.

J. W. Kennedy, one of the occupants of the second car, as soon as the thrumming commenced rushed for the door and jumped from the platform just as the carriage rolled down the bank.

A young man from St. Catherine's was taken from the rear car in a dreadful state. His legs were flayed and his breast and stomach were fairly roasted. He was alive at the last recovery, but there was little hope of his recovery.

The manner of the accident, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows: The next to the last car of the train was thrown from the track on striking a frog at the switch, just this side of Angola station, and was dragged over the ties nearly to the bridge before the car behind it became unseated from the rails. The train, which the cars were thus

plunged along the ties was sufficient to enable some, but not many, of the passengers sitting at the forward end of the car to make their escape from it into the car ahead. Just as the train reached the bridge the rear car was jerked from the track and ran nearly across the bridge. An instant more and it would have reached the bank, but just at the edge it toppled over on the left side, and went with a fearful crash end foremost down the ice-covered slope, forty feet at least to the flat below. All, or nearly all its passengers, of course, were precipitated into a mingled, struggling mass, at the lower end of the car, and were buried under a heap of ruins."

THE PEAT QUESTION.

(From the American Journal of Commerce.)

When a stranger settles in any of the Upper Canadian cities, one of his first surprises, if he has not previously been informed about the circumstances of the case, is the high price paid for fuel, and that too in a country where wood is so abundant as to be in many instances set fire to for the purpose of getting it out of the way. The explanation offered to him is, that wood is a very heavy article to haul long distances, and that the railway companies have an objection to bring it into the cities lest the increased demand should interfere with their own supply. This matter has attracted a good deal of comment of late, and it is not very surprising that, amongst other things, the attention of the public has been directed to the large and rich peat-beds lying in different parts of Canada, and that efforts are likely to be made in earnest to bring peat as an ordinary fuel into competition with coal and wood. The public, so far from feeling indifferent to such enterprises, should regard them with the utmost favor, as the saving during the winter season in Toronto alone, where hard wood now sells for \$7 a cord, and coal at \$7 or \$8 a ton, would form a considerable item, even if the cost were reduced by only a dollar.

We publish, in another column, the preliminary prospectus of a joint-stock company, now in process of formation, to be called the Anglo-American Peat Company, with a capital of \$200,000, to be subscribed in 8,000 shares of \$25 each; and, as the subject is one of peculiar public interest, we have no hesitation in directing attention to this movement as one of the favorable signs of the times. It is proposed by this company to purchase a large bed of peat in the County of Welland, situated in a high degree favorable to transportation and working, and to sell the manufactured peat on the spot at, say, \$3.50 per ton. This would enable it to be sold in Toronto for, say, \$5 per ton, and leave a good profit to the merchant. It has been satisfactorily demonstrated, we believe, that a ton of the peat is equal to a cord of the best hard wood, and that it can be advantageously used, with a little adaptation in stoves and furnaces, for domestic and manufacturing purposes and for steam locomotion. If the proposed company gets fairly underweigh, and there is no reason why it should not,—and should succeed in reducing the price of fuel even to half the extent indicated, it will confer an immense benefit on the population of this Dominion. We may have occasion to refer to the subject again.

RED-RIVER NEWS.

(From the Nor'-Wester, Nov. 30.)

The Lake Winnipeg fisheries turned out an almost complete failure, but we trust that the Manitoba fishermen have been more fortunate.

Captain Donaldson arrived early this week from St. Paul, and informs us there is a certainty of a line of stages being run between Georgetown and Pembina next year.

A large number of Sioux have come into Devil's Lake, requesting permission to reside about the Lake. This has been granted on condition that they keep away from the whites.

American immigrants still continue to come among us with a view of settling. Some are already located at White Horse Plains, and others find employment for the winter in the town and neighborhood.

We learn that the United States fort at Devil's Lake is likely to be a permanent institution. The commanding officer of the Department has sent up a competent person to inspect the clay in that vicinity with a view to the building of a brick fort at that point.

We hear from Portage la Prairie that the Indians are angrily discussing the right of the Hudson-Bay Company to sell their land to the Canadians or any one else.

It is rumored, now that the new running of the boundary line at Pembina shows the Hudson's-Bay Post there to be in American Territory, that the Company have been notified that hereafter they must pay the American impost duty on everything imported there.

Parliamentary—Assent to Bills.

(Special to Witness.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—This day at 11 o'clock, a.m., His Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in State to the Chamber of the Senate in the Parliament Building. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons; and that House being present, the following bills were assented to, in Her Majesty's name, by His Excellency the Governor-General, viz.:—

An act relating to the indemnity of members and the salaries of the Speakers of both Houses of Parliament. An act respecting the office of Speaker of the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada. An act to authorize the apprehension and detention of such persons as shall be suspected of committing acts of hostility or conspiracy against Her Majesty's person and government. An act to amend the act of incorporation of the Commercial Bank of Canada. To authorize its amalgamation with any other bank or banks, or for its winding up. An act to amend the Grand Trunk Arrangement Act of 1862, and for other purposes. An act to amend and consolidate the several acts incorporating and relating to the Canadian Inland Steam Navigation Company, and to change its corporate name to that of the Canadian Navigation Company, and for other purposes. An act to incorporate the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Co. An act for the settlement of the Affairs of the Bank of Upper Canada. An act respecting the Customs. An act respecting the Inland Revenue. An act respecting the public works of Canada.

An act respecting the collection and management of the revenue, the auditing of public accounts, the liability of public accountants. An act to protect the inhabitants of Canada against lawless aggressions from subjects of foreign countries at peace with Her Majesty. An act to prevent the unlawful training of persons to the use of arms and the practice of military evolutions, and to authorize justices of the peace to seize and detain arms collected or kept for purposes dangerous to the public peace. An act to impose duties on promissory notes and bills of exchange. An act for granting to Her Majesty a certain sum of money required for defraying the expenses of the public service not otherwise provided for, for the period therein mentioned, for certain purposes respecting the public debt, and for raising money on the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund. An act respecting the construction of "The Intercolonial Railway." An act imposing duties of customs, with the tariff of duties payable under it. An act for the regulation of the postal service.

The attendance of members was small; there being only eight of the Senate and 33 of the Commons. Most of these left by the 1.30 p.m. train.

The House was adjourned until the 12th March, 1868.

Discount on American invoices for next week, 25 per cent.

Province of Quebec, Secretary's office, 20th Dec. 1867.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments:—Thos. McCord, Esq., Barrister, to be Law Clerk of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec. His Excellency has also been pleased to appoint Thomas Etienne Roy, Esq., to be Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislative Council of the Province of Quebec; Saml. Staunton Hatt, Esq., to be Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. His Excellency has also been pleased to appoint Geo. Manly Muir, Esq., to be Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec; Charles Gorman, Esq., to be Sergeant-at-Arms of the said Legislative Assembly.

SUMMARY BY THE "HERMAN."

FRANCE.—The *Etendard* says, it is reported, in consequence of the amnesty promulgated at Florence, that Garibaldi has already left Caprera. The same journal says:—Our correspondent at Rome continues to believe that there is danger of a new attack against the Holy See.

La France says that there is dissension in the Ministry, in consequence of the declarations made by M. Rouher.

The speeches of Moustier and M. Rouher, in the French Senate, on the Roman question, have naturally aroused the susceptibilities of Italian legislators, and accordingly, both in Senate and Deputies, General Menabrea has been asked what attitude Government would assume on the Roman question, at the same time being informed that Parliament was ready to support Government in claiming Rome for Italy. General Menabrea explained to the Senate the policy of Government, and agreed to the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:—"The Senate, considering the declaration of the Ministry and of Government, that they will manfully maintain the rights and the dignity of the nation, and hasten it to its legitimate completion, passes to the order of the day."

FLORENCE, Dec. 8.—The rumor that Garibaldi has left Caprera is wholly unfounded.

Sales of ecclesiastical property from fifteenth August to sixth December have realized the sum of thirty million eight hundred and two thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight francs, or \$4,252,220 in excess of official valuation.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 7.—Intelligence published here announces that hostilities again broke out in Candia, on Nov. 22. Turkish reinforcements have been sent thither armed with breech-loaders. In consequence of representations made to the Russian Consul, Russian vessels had resumed taking away fugitive families from the Island.

It is also stated that the Viceroy of Egypt refused to pay the tribute due to the Porte, requiring that the latter should take into account the costs incurred by Egypt in sending troops to Crete.

DRESDEN, 7th, evening.—The semi-official Dresden Journal publishes intelligence from Vienna that, according to reports received there, the Porte has forbidden offensive operations against the insurgents. On the other hand, it is stated the insurgents resolved not to lay down their arms, and refuse to enter into negotiations with the Porte.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Herald's* Havana special says: Advice from Hayti to the 20th state an action had taken place between the Dominicans and Baezist revolutionists, in which Gen. Palanco, of the national army, was killed. The Baezists abandoned Port Platte, in consequence of this victory, and advanced further in the interior.

Senor Pujol is to offer the lease of Samana for 99 years, at an annual rent of \$300,000. In the Legislative Chambers of St. Domingo, the 10,000,000f. loan, recently negotiated at Paris, was disapproved.

On the 10th and 11th inst., several shocks of earthquake were felt at St. Johns, Porto Rico.

The new Captain-General of Cuba had given a magnificent reception to the foreign consuls at Havana. Other receptions are to follow, and the festivities were to last three days.

Advices from the capital of Venezuela to the 6th inst. are received. The press were vehemently demanding explanations from government concerning the arrest of three citizens for alleged political offences at a time when tranquility reigned throughout the Republic.

Several shocks of earthquake were felt at Caracas on Nov. 19. The sea rose six feet above high-water mark at Lagayra.

Provisions, and \$10,000 in money, had been sent from Lagayra to St. Thomas for the relief of these sufferers.

The *Anglo-Brazilian Times* says the two great victories of the Brazilians before San Sano have ruined the Paraguayan force and rendered it impossible for Lopez longer to contest the possession of the open country with the powerful allied countries.

Small-pox had killed 3,168 persons in the Province of Matto Grosso up to September 26, of whom 2,200 died in the town of Cuyabá alone.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—Lincoln's autograph sells for ten dollars in Germany—ten times as much as in the United States.

—Dickens very seldom writes. He dictates, walking around the room. The volumes which he has written are all phonographically taken down by his secretary.

—Sir John Hesketh Lethbridge has withdrawn from the Reform League, on account of the recent manifestation at a council meeting favorable to Fenianism.

—A gold ring of Saxa workmanship, and believed to be twelve hundred years old, has been turned up by a ploughshare in England. It weighs an ounce and a quarter, and contains gold equal to five sovereigns.

—The Prince Imperial of France is by no means robust, and is often in the hands of the doctors. It now appears that a winter in Paris is too much for him, and it is probable that he will accompany his mother, the Empress Eugenie, to Nice.

—Prince Alfred has been guilty of a breach of naval etiquette, by flying the standard of England on the occasion of his entering Simon's Bay, in the presence of the senior officer, thus expecting from the latter a salute which in fact was due to the former. The matter has been brought before the notice of the Admiralty.

—Sir C. O'Loughlin has given a welcome surprise to the bankers' clerks in London by a bill he has just introduced on the subject of bank holidays. A letter, signed "Four Thousand Bankers' Clerks," appears in the metropolitan papers, urging that the banks should be opened at ten o'clock instead of nine.

—Unfavorable news as to the state of the Pope's health is confirmed by letters from Rome. It is said that during the last few days the condition of his Holiness has excited considerable anxiety, the energy and firmness which he displayed during the recent political events having been succeeded by a reaction which has occasioned great debility.

—Some years ago, a man was tried before a Dutch Justice for stealing sheep. Six witnesses were brought, who swore they saw the man steal the sheep; but twelve men of high standing were brought, who testified they did not see the man steal the sheep. Whereupon he was fully acquitted, as the evidence in his favor was two to one.

—The French Blue Book informs us that the convents of France supply a very large portion of the hair sold in market—the tresses cut off when the novice takes the veil being saved for sale.

—The Cairo (Egypt) supply of water comes from "Joseph's Well," it is fifteen feet in diameter and three hundred feet deep. Mules are at work hauling up water day and night.

—A shocking colliery accident is reported from Fifehire. A pit was inundated by an irruption of water from old workings, and four men lost their lives, many others owing their preservation to the fact that the pit has more than one shaft.

—Two failures in the Lancashire cotton trade for somewhat large amounts are reported. Mr. John Baynes, of Blackburn, has suspended payment, with liabilities of between £50,000 and £60,000; and Mr. S. Andrew, also a cotton-spinner, of Ashton-under-Lyne, has failed with liabilities stated at £10,000.

—Last week William Radcliffe, a butcher, of Cowcliffe, was summoned before the Huddersfield bench for cruelty to a gander. It appeared that he had made a bet of a sovereign with a farmer named Simeon as to the weight of their respective Ganders. Radcliffe's gander proving the heaviest, Simeon not only paid the sovereign, but purchased the bird, which died the next day. On opening it, it was discovered that Radcliffe had won his wager by administering to the wretched gander 2 lbs. of small shot.

—Mr. John Bright, M. P., still clings to his project for settling the Irish land question by a national purchase of landlords' rights and the sale of estates to the class who under the existing system cannot obtain anything better than a precarious tenure of their farms. The honorable gentleman, in a letter addressed to a correspondent in Dublin, reiterates his views on the subject, and contends that his scheme would within a few years entirely change the aspect of affairs in Ireland.

—Clerkenwell Prison, London, was erected in 1616, it was mostly rebuilt in 1820, but being ill planned, was taken down in 1846, and an enlarged gaol erected upon its site. In the old prison was confined Jack Sheppard, whose fetters, of double the usual weight, are shown. This prison is used for the detention of prisoners before trial, and was the first built upon that plan in England. There are 286 cells.

—Snow-storms.—The greatest snow-storm recorded in Russia occurred on the steppes of Kirgibeez, in Siberia, in 1627, destroying 285,000 horses, 30,400 cattle, 1,000,000 sheep, and 10,000 camels. The greatest recorded in England is that of 1814, in which, for forty-eight hours, the snow fell so furiously that drifts of sixteen, twenty, and even twenty-four feet were recorded in various places. In the south of Scotland, in 1820, there were thirteen drifts of days, which killed nine-tenths of all the sheep. On Eskdale Moor, out of 20,000 only 45 were left alive, and the shepherds everywhere built up huge semi-circular walls of the dead creatures, to afford shelter to the living till the gale should end. An inch an hour is thought to be the average rate of deposit, though four inches are said to have fallen during the severe storm in New York, January 3, 1859.

—A GLIMPSE OF VIENNA.—Carleton, in one of his Austrian letters to the Boston Journal, says: "There are no Sabbath-Schools in Vienna, no prayer-meetings, no gatherings for the study of the Bible. That is a sealed book to the multitude,—a dangerous book. There are numerous churches, priests by the thousand. There is much of religious observance, of high ritualism, the burning of candles, incense, processions, display of banners and crucifixes, excellent singing,—the very best music; there are numerous hospitals, and the people of Vienna and the church are not behind other cities in their charities; and yet this city has the reputation of being the most dissolute of any in Europe. Purity of public morals is not possible where Government compounds with crime and sets at naught the law of God. But there is no need

of remark. Your readers will draw their own conclusions from this statement of facts."

REMEDY FOR IRISH GUINNESS.—The Telegraph maintains that a royal visit to Ireland just now is a matter not of pleasure, but of duty. This is what it says:—The monarch of the realm is sovereign of Ireland as well as of Great Britain; and at this moment the place for our future king is in the Isle of Erin. There are many and obvious reasons why the presence of the Queen herself in Ireland might be attended with grave difficulties; but, so far as we can perceive, there is absolutely no reason why the Prince of Wales should not fulfil the duties of the Queen's representative. We ask no great sacrifice from his Royal Highness. We require only that he should make his home for some portion of the year amongst our Irish fellow-countrymen; that he should learn to know a brave, gallant, and generous people, whose country has been not inaptly called the brightest jewel in the Royal crown. We do not mean that such a step can be a panacea for the wrongs of Ireland. To remedy those wrongs must be the work of many long years of wise and patient statesmanship, of well-considered reforms, and earnest national endeavors. But we do say that one step towards commencing the Herculean enterprise is to show the Celtic nation, by the presence of the heir to the crown amongst them, that our sovereign is their sovereign also. No considerations of personal comfort to convenience should be allowed to stand in her way.

EDUCATION IN FRANCE.—The working-men of France are deriving great educational benefits from a system of night-schools in successful operation in that country. Over thirty thousand of these schools have been opened, and some forty thousand teachers furnish gratuitous instruction to 823,000 adult scholars. Fully one-third of these scholars had been entirely without educational advantages prior to the opening of these schools, and they would undoubtedly have lived and died in ignorance but for this means of getting knowledge of the rudiments of education. The interest which the people have taken in attending these schools bears witness to the strong desire for knowledge which characterizes humanity in all stations, and the improvement that has been made by attending upon these schools shows that it is "never too late to learn." At a late competitive examination in writing compositions, 5,168 adult laborers and mechanics entered the lists, and 1,408 of them prepared compositions that were perfectly correct in orthography, syntax, and general arrangement. Aside from the literary advantages of these schools, their moral effect is excellent, and the President of the French Corps Legislatif lately bore witness to the great falling-off in drunkenness and quarrelling among foundry and other workmen in consequence of the school influences.

No government can afford to have its subjects or citizens kept in ignorance. Men's minds have been given them for use and improvement; and a government does not answer one of the first purposes of a government until it provides for popular education. A good educational system is a better source of national strength, and a surer means of national defence, than a large standing army.—United Presbyterian.

AMERICAN NEWS.

—The street-cars in Cleveland are warmed by a convenient little stove.

—It is rumored that Harriet Beecher Stowe is thinking of editing a weekly journal in Boston, devoted to female suffrage.

—H. B. Claflin & Co., of New York, during 1866, sold \$73,000,000 worth of dry-goods, which beats any house in the world.

—The Chinese beggars of San Francisco are to be shipped to their native country by the See-Yup Co.

—The first load of "provisions" landed at Virginia City, Nevada, was 18 barrels of whiskey.

—There are fifteen tunnels, thus far, on the California Pacific Railroad. The summit tunnel is called "No. 6."

—In Louisiana, 3,009 whites and 4,000 blacks are reported at the point of starvation, and Congressional aid is asked.

—The Yale students propose a grand walking-match, between the different colleges next summer.

—Small boys are doing a good business at the wharves in Houston by deciphering the marks on boxes, etc., for ignorant draymen.

—A deaf-and-dumb man, named James Webb, has started shoemaking in Danbury, Conn., with five deaf-mute workmen.

—A practical joker at New London, Conn., has been selling the inhabitants lately by exhibiting a pair of old shoes as Weston's.

—Vermont prides herself upon the fact that she and Maine alone pay no internal tax on distilled spirits.

—Charles Dickens will deliver a lecture before the New York Press Club on the "Life of a Reporter."

—Fall River, Mass., manufactures 85,200 miles of print calico in a year,—enough to give three breadths of a skirt to old mother Earth.

—C. J. L. Meyer, of Fond du Lac, has the largest sash, door, and blind manufactory in the United States. It covers fifteen acres.

—An advertisement for a copyist, in a Boston paper, was responded to by four hundred and sixty applicants, three-fourths of whom were women.

—Milwaukee has officially decided the value of a man's beard. In a fight a villain pulled out a man's beard, and the court awarded the latter \$15 damages.

—Sacred drama has appeared at Nonak, Connecticut, in the shape of a Sunday evening theatrical performance at a church. Joseph and his brethren gave the plot.

—Vanderbilt carries the New York Central Railroad in his trousers pocket. The election, Tuesday, made him President, and not a single director lives on the line of the road.

—Recent statistics show that there are 3,800 Romanist churches in the United States, and 54,000 Protestant. Florida, once entirely Romanist, has now but one church of that denomination for every eighteen Protestant.

—It is believed that the farmers of Poweshick county, Iowa, have over one hundred thousand bushels of surplus wheat stored away, under the impression that higher prices will rule during the winter and spring.

—A "Bamford" paper records the death of an old lady, named Long, who resided in Pipe-office lane, Boston. She was the mother of 23 children (14 of whom lived to be married), the grandmother of 46, and the great-grandmother of 73.

—Arrangements have been made for the construction of the railroad from St. Paul, Minn., to the western end of Lake Superior, 150 miles. The road and equipment will cost \$5,000,000, and will be finished by 1870.

—A small house inside the west end of the Hoosac tunnel, was burned one day last week, and the flames were carried two hundred feet into the tunnel, nearly suffocating two or three workmen who were attempting to rush out.

—Mrs. Cunningham, notorious for her connection with the Dr. Burdell murder, married a man named W. C. Hyde, in San Francisco, where she has lived for some years, and is now trying to get a divorce from him.

—Charles Boysonette, pilot of the "Vanderbilt," has been, after investigation, declared responsible for the collision of the steamers "Vanderbilt" and "Dean Richmond," and his license has accordingly been suspended.

—In preparing a street in Detroit recently, for the Nicolson pavement, a large number of Indian skeletons and utensils were excavated. Some twenty-five or thirty complete skeletons had been unearthed, all of which were buried with their heads to the east.

—Mrs. E. Cady Stanton and Miss Susan B. Anthony propose starting a newspaper devoted to the cause of woman, especially those who earn a living by doing a man's work for half a man's pay. The new journal is to be called *The Revolution*.

—The Winthrop Bulletin states that on Monday a farmer went into his woods and left an axe for a hired man expected to work felling trees. The axe had been used to cut some meat, and when found a mouse lay near its tongue drawn out by the roots, still sticking to the axe.

—Greeley lectured at Brooklyn on Sunday evening to a crowded audience, and, in the course of his remarks, made an eloquent appeal to his lady hearers to a old tempting young men with liquor when making New-Year's calls. The appeal was received with manifestations of assent.

—At Burning Springs, West Virginia, they use gas for cooking, heating dwelling and business houses, lighting the streets, running engines, &c. For several years, this gas was allowed to escape from the wells, no one thinking it worth while to attempt turning it to any use.

—It is stated that there is a movement on foot among prominent Democrats in New York to induce the National Committee to call the Democratic Convention to meet in advance of the Republican Convention, with the hope of getting Gen. Grant to accept a nomination from that side.

—Washington specials state that the ratification of the treaty with the Queen of Madagascar has been reported. This treaty will secure for American vessels a safe and hospitable reception in the various ports of the island, and in course of time it is expected, will open up the country to commerce.

—Pedestrianism is approaching its last stages. Mr. O. N. Wood proposes, through the columns of the Chicago Tribune, to crawl on his hands and knees from Chicago to Portland in two hundred days for \$30,000,000. Another man proposes to walk the same route on his hands alone for half the money, and the editor of the Tribune says he is in daily expectation of a proposition to roll to Portland.

—As a train was approaching Peoria, Illinois, the other night, the prairie was discovered to be on fire for miles around. The flames leaped up to the height of 30 ft., and spread for seven or eight miles apparently. The train ran directly through the belt of the flame, which extended across the track. The heat was intense, but the current of air caused by the motion of the train prevented the cars from being in the least blistered. The passengers on the train say it was a splendid sight.

A CHILD CHARMED BY A SNAKE.—A woman named Somers residing in Worcester, Pa., went into the orchard to gather some fruit, and left her little babe, less than a year old, sitting upon the ground. She soon moved out of sight of the child, but hearing his voice crying and laughing, she gave herself no uneasiness. Suddenly the sounds ceased, and she stepped around to him, supposing him asleep. But to her horror, she saw him perfectly motionless, his lips parted, and his eyes fixed upon an enormous rattlesnake that was approaching him by almost imperceptible motions. She looked in vain for some stick or stone to kill the monstrous reptile, then quick as thought sprang toward it, overturned the pan which she had in her hand, so as to effectually cover its body, got upon it, and screamed for help. The covering of the snake broke the spell upon the child, its little body swayed to and fro, and it quickly crept toward the heroic mother. In a few minutes friends came to her relief, and the cause of her terror was despatched.

RAILWAY TO LAKE SUPERIOR.—Arrangements have been made which promise an early construction of the projected railroad from St. Paul to the western extremity of Lake Superior, distant 150 miles in a nearly direct line. According to present calculations, 75 miles will be completed next year, and the whole by the end of 1869. The people of Minnesota reasonably attach much importance to this enterprise, as tending to complete the railway system of the State, by connecting the great channels of trade which follow the direction of the St. Lawrence River and the Mississippi. The entire cost of constructing and equipping the line is estimated at \$5,000,000, or a sum less than the anticipated saving of a single year in the transportation of wheat, should the yield of Minnesota increase in the future as rapidly as the past. Compared with existing routes, the distance travelled in reaching lake navigation will be shortened about 300 miles. The Lake Superior region competes with Pennsylvania in the production of iron ore. The supply from the mines back of Marquette, as we learn from the Marquette Journal, amounted in the last year to 450,000 tons, exceeding by 50 per cent the yield of any former year. Of this total little remains on hand for export, the demand having continued good up to the close of navigation. In regard to the extent of the ore deposits, there is apparently no limit. The Journal says the introduction of machinery, and the system of deep mining in

the older mines, will enable the various companies to maintain without exhaustion a large production from year to year, although the costs are somewhat increased, compared with mere surface operations of former years. Generally speaking, the deposits of ore in these mines enlarge as they are worked downward, giving promise of an unfailing supply.—New York Tribune.

CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

—The Presbytery of London have rejected a motion to introduce instrumental music into their places of worship by a vote of 19 to 10.

—The assemblage in the reporters' gallery at Ottawa, by general assent, is hereafter to be dignified as the 3rd House. By mental capacity it would rank higher.

—The licensed victuallers at Guelph have advanced the price of drinks to ten cents, in consequence of which rise in "victuals" much suffering must be experienced in that locality.

—The Ottawa News says that the Dunkin Act, which is now in force in Cumberland, has been repealed by the Council. The question will come before the people for decision.

—The Lenox farmers have lost fifteen hundred bushels of potatoes by not digging them before they were frozen up. The editor of the Taunton Gazette knows of a farmer in that vicinity who harvested a portion of his crop by the aid of crows.

—The son of the late Antoine L'Esperance, who, in company with his father and mother, was run into by the night-mail on Saturday night, a week ago, has since died of his injuries. This makes the third person killed by that unfortunate occurrence.

—The Globe says: The member for Montreal Centre has been sick from cold, which settled in the ear, and produced an abscess in that organ. He has been unable to leave his lodgings for about ten days; but is now in a fair way of recovery.

—The Hamilton Times says, physicians report typhoid fever prevailing to an alarming extent in that city at present, and many patients are prostrated thereby. A careful avoidance by the rules of health is therefore enjoined upon all at this season.

—Rev. L. Chambers, pastor of the Rebecca street Church, Hamilton, and other prominent colored residents of the city, are making great preparations for the celebration of the anniversary of American Emancipation, on the evening of the 1st January.

—Mayor Thomas of St. Louis inspects the city officials, personally. He went out on a midnight tour of inspection the other night, travelled eleven miles and a half, and saw only four policemen. Another night he rambled four miles and four-fifths of a mile before he saw a policeman.

—The Governor-General has been pleased to remit the remaining portion of the sentence of George McHardie, who was convicted at the Spring Assizes for the manslaughter of John Montgomery, about ten years ago, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the County Jail. The prisoner has been liberated.

—The Aylmer Times says:—The steady improvement of the valley of the Guelphine, has been a subject of remark. Though that district has a rather rough appearance at first sight, and is believed by some enlightened people to be beyond the confines of civilization, those who know the country and those who have made it their home, hold very different opinions on the subject. The macadamized road, now in process of construction, has given an impetus to the business of the different localities along the river; and the business men generally can foot up annual balances quite equal to those of the more pretentious establishments in Ottawa city.

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.—A meeting of delegates from nine of the different Temperance Lodges of this city was held last night, in the basement of the Temperance Hall, to divide the city into sections for the purpose of canvassing the signatures of the friends of temperance to a petition to the Legislature intended to counteract the recent action of the saloon-keepers and licensed victuallers. The printed forms of the petition will be sent throughout the country, and it is their expectation that Temperance Lodges every where will imitate the example of their Toronto brethren in this matter.—Globe, 26th.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday, in North Elmley, as some parties were dressing a beef, the fastening of the windlass by some means slipped, and ran down with fearful rapidity. A handspike happened to be sticking in the windlass at the time, and, not to relate, it struck Mr. Henry Collins on the head, inflicting injuries which caused his death two or three hours afterwards.—Smile's Falls Review.

DEATH OF A LOVING MOTHER.—A poor, insane woman, named Ann Walker, having died at the Goderich gaol yesterday (Monday) morning, Coroner McDougall summoned a jury, and held an inquest,—the verdict of which was that deceased came to her death through natural causes. It seems that the poor creature, who was about 65 years of age, was sent to gaol on the representations of unmerciful relations (who live in a back township), in October, 1866, and that they have never made the least inquiry about her since. They will now have the satisfaction of learning that she is no more, and that the close of her blighted existence was softened by the kind-hearted attentions of Mr. and Mrs. Compaine, in the absence of those who should have felt towards her the yearnings of natural affection.—Huron Signal.

MARRIAGE ECONOMY.—Speaking of a too common desire to obtain cheap teachers without sufficient regard for their qualifications, the Carleton Place Herald says:—Trustees will learn that a low salary paid to a teacher is not economy, but extravagance. It is a wonder that they will not perceive this. There is scarcely any one who would buy a piece of rotten cloth to make a coat, merely because he would get it for half the cost of cloth which would wear three times as long, and yet in the vital matter of the education of their own children, people will sometimes haggle about a paltry \$20, which, when spread over a whole section is a mere trifle, because, furthermore, some fellow who cannot spell, in order to make an easy living, will persuade them that he can give their children as sound training as a man who has honestly earned a decent certificate from a respectable

board of examiners, who, from their experience in educational matters, are competent to judge of the qualifications of teachers.

ORGANIZATION OF THE OTTAWA YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting, called for the purpose of organizing a Young Men's Christian Association in this city, was held on the 19th in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. It was very well attended, and the proceedings were interesting and attentively listened to. Ministers of the various denominations occupied the platform, and, during the course of the evening, delivered some eloquent addresses. After singing and praying, the preliminary report of the committee was read by Rev. Mr. Gavin; after which the Rev. Mr. Wardrope moved the first resolution, "that a Young Men's Christian Association be formed in Ottawa." He was followed by Mr. Johnston, late Auditor-General, for the Province of New Brunswick, who referred to some results and efforts of the Montreal Y. M. C. A., of which he chanced to be an eye-witness on his way to the capital. The Revs. Messrs. Harper, Gordon, Stone, Elliott, McPhail, and Gourlay supported the resolution. The constitution and by-laws which had been formed were then read and moved and seconded by Messrs. Wilson and Lamb, and adopted. At the close, some sixty members were enrolled.

QUEBEC.

—St. Francis College closed its Autumn term on Wednesday last by a Winter Exhibition.

—The ladies of the Wesleyan Church, Melbourne, have held a bazaar, at which they realized the sum of \$232.

—At the Montmorency election, Mr. Langlois was elected over Mr. Lafontaine by the unprecedented majority of 766 to 3.

—The steamer "Margaretta Stevenson" has been extricated from the ice and taken to Bic, chiefly by the exertions of Mr. W. M. Molson, after her crew had abandoned her.

—The Literary and Historical Society of Quebec has presented an address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, congratulating him on his appointment, and requesting that His Excellency would become the Patron of the society, to which His Excellency consented.

—Mr. Pierce Baldwin, of Barnston, was driving a pair of horses across his pond on Friday last, when the ice broke, letting in the team. Both horses were drowned. Aaron Magoon lost a pair drawing a load of lime to Newport on the previous day in the same manner.

—The Quebec News of the 19th says: "Yesterday several hundred people paraded St. Roch, having in their midst a sleigh on which was placed a frozen porker. The animal was gorgeously decked with chaplets of evergreens around his neck, and to its tail was tied a piece of grape. A recent number of *Le Journal de Quebec* was displayed in front of the unclean animal's carriage, whilst the occupant seemed, whether dead or not, to look complacently on all the arrangements." [The French for pig is "Cochon" which is pronounced like Cauchon, the name of the defeated candidate for Mayor and who is editor of the above journal.]

ANOTHER MARITIME DISASTER.—A schooner, owned by Captain L. Bolly, sailed from the river St. Charles on the 3rd instant, bound for St. Paul's Bay, with a full cargo and not less than eleven passengers on board. A letter, received in this city, dated the 7th instant, states that the schooner had not yet arrived at the Bay. Great apprehensions are entertained for the fate of the vessel and passengers.—Quebec paper, 18th.

MAJESTY ARRIVES.—The Hon. Mr. Justice Si-cotte was presented with a pair of white kid gloves at St. John's, at the criminal term for the District of St. John's, there not being a single case for trial. His Honor congratulated Sheriff Desrivieres on the occasion, the credit being mainly due to him for having used the powers conferred on him as Recorder, and disposed of the petty cases that would otherwise have detained the jurors and witnesses to the great loss of their time, and at a great expense to the country.—Herald.

LOWER PROVINCES.

—A barn at Biltown, Cornwallis, N. S., was lately destroyed by fire, in which eight head of cattle perished.

—The St. John Freeman records the death of Rev. F. X. LaFrance, at his residence, Barachois, on Tuesday, 26th ult.

—An old woman, named McLaughlin, died from the effect of injuries received from a fall on the ice, in St. John (N. B.), on Monday last.

—The fishing licenses paid for by Americans in Nova Scotia, during the present year, amounted to \$13,000.

—The new Temperance Hall at Sydney, N. B., was opened on the 3rd, and a public meeting, at which about four hundred persons were present, was held to celebrate its completion.

—The Mayor of Halifax has offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension and conviction of the party or parties who set fire to a school-house at Richmond recently.

—The Stipendiary Magistrate of Halifax has committed a Dr. Sutherland for trial in the Supreme Court for dispensing medicines to a child, which caused its death.

—Free night schools are doing well in Halifax. Men and boys who are much engaged during the day are gladly availing themselves of the means of study thus provided.

—S. Watts, Esq., editor of the Carleton Sentinel, has been appointed Secretary to the Emigration and Colonization Committee at Ottawa.

—A new school-house which was in the course of construction and nearly completed at Richmond, N. S., was destroyed by fire on the morning of Tuesday last.

—A man named Thomas Collins, who was on his way home to Brookfield, Nova Scotia, took his passage for Halifax at Portland on Saturday, and afterward got drunk and fell into the harbor and was drowned.

—Moose are reported to be unusually plentiful in the counties of Halifax and Guysboro this year. A few days ago, four of these majestic animals were shot in the vicinity of Sherbrooke gold diggings.

—A correspondent of the Colonist says that the schooner "Progress," Capt. Robert Nickerson, of Yarmouth, while lying at Tatamagouche, loading copper ore from the Balfour Mines, took fire on the night of the 5th inst., and burned to the water's edge.

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

THE WITNESS.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1867.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE "WITNESS."—Subscribers to the various publications issued from the Witness office who receive the Dominion Almanac with this number will observe that it requires re-folding, it having been done upon a newspaper folding-machine instead of by hand.

ATL, ONTARIO.—We have received a remittance from the above office, without signature. Will the sender please communicate with us again?

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

Owing to anonymous information received by the authorities that certain persons residing in the city, along with others from the States, were to set on fire warehouses and churches in the city,—the fire-stations, and also the wheel-house, were guarded by the police on Christmas night. A number of military were also held in readiness. We have little or no doubt that the rumor was without any solid foundation.—On Thursday evening, a soldier of the 100th Regiment, stationed in the Victoria barracks, without any apparent cause, shot a comrade through the body, killing him instantly.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

—A guard of honor of one hundred men was present, and a salute of thirteen guns was fired, on the opening of the Quebec Legislature, on Friday, and also at the opening of the Ontario Legislature.

—We have received a very neat annual, entitled the Colonial Almanac for 1868, issued by the Standard Life Assurance Company of Britain; W. M. Ramsay, Esq., manager for Canada.

—It is stated that only ten of the eighty-two members of the Ontario Legislature have ever sat in Parliament. All the members of the Ontario Executive are in Toronto, awaiting the meeting of their Legislature next week.

—The local legislative-councillors and ministers are, seemingly, not entitled to be called honorable. The London Gazette publishes the appointment of the Nova-Scotia Council, and the gentlemen are there called simply esquires, and not honorables.

—Don Hippolyte de Uriarte has been appointed Spanish Consul-General of British North America, to reside at Quebec.

—Mr. Smith, of St. John, N. B., has been appointed to the office of Secretary of the Marine and Fisheries Department.

—The regular police-force in London has been much strengthened.

—Timothy Desmond and Jerry Allen, the alleged Clerkenwell conspirators, have undergone a preliminary examination, at the close of which they were remanded to jail.

—France, it is said, fears the formation of a hostile ministry in Italy, and considerable uneasiness prevails.

—The Italian Parliament, by a recent vote refused to pay the interest on the debt of those States of the Church which have been annexed to the kingdom of Italy. France protests against this action.

—France and Italy have commenced negotiations for the abrogation of the September Convention; the result to be submitted to the other great powers for approval.

—The Italian ministry has again resigned, in consequence of an adverse vote of the House of Deputies.

—The Jews have been emancipated in Austria.

—The eruption of Vesuvius is increasing in magnitude and grandeur, and the present is said to be the most important disturbance that has occurred for centuries.

—The news from the Abyssinian expedition is still favorable. The army is still advancing into the interior, and, as yet, has met with no opposition. The natives have proved to be very friendly.

—In the Corps Legislatif of France, the other day, in the debate on the reorganization of the army, M. Olivier said that the introduction of the bill at this time proved that the Government anticipated an early war.

—The Observer states that the British Government is fully aware of the secret plans of the Fenians, and much of the alarm is consequently subsiding. The papers are also discussing the desirability of some amelioration of the condition of the Irish as the surest safeguard against Fenianism.

—According to a table recently published by the Bologna Independent, since the year 734, when the first instance occurred, the Popes have required and obtained foreign intervention for the maintenance of their power upwards of forty times. The French have helped them sixteen times, Austrians seventeen, Spaniards three times, English twice, and the Greeks, Normans, Hungarians, and Turks once respectively.

CHRISTMAS-DAY.—So far as our own observation extended, Christmas-day (Wednesday) was observed with general decorum, and an absence of drunkenness on the streets, comparing favorably with what we have sometimes seen on that day. There was a fair amount of sleigh-riding, and there was also a good deal of skating on the rinks upon the wharves. The weather was favorable to both of these amusements.

VICIOUS CIRCULAR.—The remarkable diligence of the emissaries of Satan ought to stir up to activity our Young Men's Associations and others, whose aim is to counteract such machinations. Every few days, we have brought to our notice, advertisements addressed chiefly to young people, and very frequently to those whose names are not in the directory, of counterfeit money to be put into circulation, and of abominations of the most infamous kind. Who knows how many thousands are being fatally poisoned by these secret weapons?

WHOLESALE SABBATH-BREAKING.—We have had occasion to compare favorably the Grand Trunk Railway with most of other railways, for the regard for the Sabbath manifested by its managers. There were certainly infringements of the general rule of Sunday rest, which were very painful to the good portion of the community; but those were understood to be only on occasional or special cases, which were deemed works of necessity,—such as a train being thrown late, or a cabinet minister travelling. It was well understood that no train either started on the Lord's-day or ran steadily upon it. It is, therefore, with profound grief that those who have a regard for the Divine commandment, to keep holy the Sabbath-day by resting from ordinary occupations, have seen an advertisement of a train to start at 1.30 on the Lord's-day, in time, and doubtless often much later. Thus, at one stroke, thirteen and a half hours, out of the twenty-four of the Sabbath, are devoted to secular labor by the managers of this national institution, to the perilling of the moral character of their own employees and the deterioration of public morals along the whole line. Is there not sufficient influence for good connected with the road to alter this disastrous arrangement?

THE PAPAL ARMY IN CANADA.

The Bishop of Montreal, in his recent pastoral letter, sounds the war-trumpet as vigorously as any recruiting officer. He gives a history of the Pope's wrongs, describes in pathetic terms his danger, and calls upon the faithful to come forth for his defence, as the warlike Maccabees of old defended their holy things. The Bishop says the want of money appears to be the great difficulty, and suggests that, to overcome that difficulty, each of the 400,000 Catholics in his diocese should give a quarter dollar, thus making up \$100,000; and, for as many as are too poor to give this amount, there will be plenty of rich people to give more. In this way each parish could, he says, furnish a soldier for the Pope, and the cities could do more. There might then be an organization by counties, &c. This expedition would have an excellent effect, he says, even on our colonial army; for the soldiers who come back to their country loaded with laurels would be a great aid in organizing a Canadian army. He therefore praises and blesses, with all his heart, this movement among the Canadian laity to espouse the cause of "the immortal Pius IX."

With respect to this fervent appeal to Canadians to devote their money and young men to the war in Italy, we would just remind them that the Bishops were equally urgent with them to subscribe to the Kankakee lottery; and that the present advice will, in some respects, prove worse than the former, for that only requires them to lose their money, whilst this requires them to part with their sons and brothers also.

We wonder what our Dominion Government, and especially our Minister of Militia, have to say to this open organization of bodies of men for the service of a foreign power; and we are almost tempted to ask: Is there any *arrière pensée* in raising up a crusading French-Canadian army, and having at the same time a devoted son of the Church in the position of Minister of Militia? We can scarcely suppose that there is any intention of renewing the times and doings of the Guises; but this national movement is of such an extraordinary character that we cannot tell what to make of it.

MILITIA CENSURE.

The army, and even its adjunct, the militia, form a sort of *imperium in imperio*, into which we feel a diffidence at intruding, except when attracted by something more than usually loud within. For these reasons we have hitherto refrained from comment on the censure recently passed on Lt.-Col. Hill by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. The grounds of this censure are briefly as follows:—

At a concert lately given in the City Hall by the Band of the 1st Prince of Wales Regiment of Volunteers, of which Lt.-Col. Hill is the commanding-officer, he, whilst in the chair, called upon Mr. H. J. Clarke, Q. C., to deliver an address. Most of our city readers will be aware that Mr. Clarke was some time back dismissed from the regiment for having used

his pen too freely in animadverting on the management of the Militia Department. On the late occasion in the City Hall, his tone and observations in reference to this same department were such that Lt.-Col. David, who was on the platform, rose to interrupt him. Subsequently, the matter came before the heads of the department, who complain that Mr. Clarke's remarks were such as to lower the authority of the Commander-in-Chief and his staff in the eyes of the officers and men of the regiment, there present in uniform; and also that, instead of Lt.-Col. Hill at once rising and putting a stop to Mr. Clarke's animadversions, he allowed Lt.-Colonel David to forestall him. It seems, however, Lt.-Col. David felt afterwards that he had been a little hasty; as, at the close of Mr. Clarke's speech, he came forward and apologized for his interruption; stating that, if he had waited to have heard him to the conclusion, there would have been no room for complaint or interference. Lt.-Col. Hill expressed, at the moment, to gentlemen on the platform, his regret and mortification at Mr. Clarke's remarks, and rose to stop him; but was, as already stated, forestalled by the indignant zeal of Lt.-Col. David.

This being the sum of the affair, it might have been thought that no more would be said about it. But, in compliance with the Brigade-Major's request, Lt.-Col. David, in a letter, laid the whole before the Commandant, Col. Dyde. This led to its being brought before the Adj.-Gen. of Militia; and the result was a general order, wherein the Adj.-Gen. stated that Lt.-Col. Hill's conduct on the occasion herein referred to, merited the disapproval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and showed an absence of perception on his part of the duties and obligations attaching to the position of a Lt.-Col. commanding a regiment, in respect to the maintenance of proper subordination and discipline.

From these facts the public will draw their own inferences. It might show neither tact nor taste to call for an address on such an occasion from one who had been dismissed from the force, though since elevated to a Q. C.-ship; but if Lt.-Col. David found that he had risen at the meeting under a misapprehension, and without necessity, why, it may be asked, all this putting of the militia mountain into parturient throes, only to bring forth this mouse of disapproval of Lt.-Col. Hill's want of judgment and promptitude. The militia authorities look upon the meeting as having been a military one; and, under that aspect, both the speaker and his remarks might be out of place, and Lt.-Col. Hill may have laid himself open to just rebuke. Others may look upon the gathering as having been simply a charitable one, and the right of free speech is so dear, it is to be feared that, sooner than consent to any serious curtailment of it, many would prefer to resign their places amongst the ranks of the volunteers.

UNITED STATES STOCKS AND THE PREMIUM ON GOLD.

American bonds are rising, as a necessary consequence of the fall in gold, and this rise is occasioned by foreign rather than home demand for them. The reason is obvious. Let us suppose American 6 per cent bonds to be worth 100 in greenbacks in New York, and they will, as a matter of course, be only worth the equivalent of that amount in gold in London or Frankfurt. With gold at 50 per cent premium, that equivalent would be 66½; and, with gold at 33½ premium, that equivalent would be 75. If gold were to fall to 25, the equivalent would be 80, and at par it would be 100. Thus, whilst the price remains unaltered nominally in New York, it would fluctuate in all foreign countries with the fluctuations in gold. It was by this fluctuation that Mr. Peabody made a large portion of his immense fortune in the last years of the war. The premium on gold was from 150 to 180, or, in popular phrase, gold was at 250 to 280; i. e., a dollar in gold was equal to \$2.50 to \$2.80 in greenbacks. This made the stock that was worth \$100 in the States only worth from \$36 to \$50 in Europe. Mr. Peabody, from his position as an experienced London and American banker, saw that the Germans, owing to their papers publishing American correspondence which stated facts correctly, were profiting by this extraordinary opportunity, whilst the English papers and especially the *Times*, by publishing letters which took a strongly Southern view of matters in the States, were leading the people of Britain to neglect the golden opportunity. He was rather Southern in his own views, but not sufficiently so to blind him to the strong probability that the North would prevail and the Union be preserved; and he invested heavily in American securities, which rose in a short time, say from 36 to 72. This was an easy and speedy way of doubling his already great fortune. Now, a similar process is likely to take place in what remains between the present value of American stocks in Europe and New York, whenever specie payments are resumed; but, as that process may be the result of a gradual fall of gold, the rise in those securities abroad is likely to be gradual also.

Of course we would not be understood as having given the precise figures of the market at any of the times to which we have referred, but only a sufficient approximation to show

clearly the principle that is at work, which may be briefly recapitulated thus:—If bonds be relatively higher or lower in Europe than in America, they will at once rush to the highest market till the rates are equalized. The rate in New York, less the premium on gold, will, therefore, be about the rate in Europe; and the rate in Europe, with the premium in gold added, will be about the rate in the United States. If capitalists in Europe believe that the United States will shortly resume specie payments, they will invest freely. If they fear a prolongation or expansion of a depreciated paper currency, they will be cautious.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS EXTRACTED FROM THE STATISTICS OF CANADA FOR 1866:—

GENERAL AND CITY HOSPITALS IN CANADA.		PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATURE.	
Assets	London.	Ottawa.	Hamilton.
Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Expenditure	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
Number of In-patients	1,000	1,000	1,000
Number of Out-patients	1,000	1,000	1,000
The Government Grant	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Average Cost of each Patient	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Average number of days each patient in Hospital	20	20	20

THE "NEW DOMINION MONTHLY" FOR JANUARY.—The illustrations of this number are:—1st, "New Year's-Morning in England"; the subject being a chubby child, looking through a rustic window, with birds flocking to it in the expectation of being fed with crumbs. 2nd, a portrait of Father Mathew in his prime, taken when he was in the act of administering the pledge. The contents are as follows:—

Father Mathew and His Work. By Hon. Thos. D'Arcy McGee, M. P. (Concluded.) Original.
The Faithful Lamp. By John Oxenford.
The Study of Languages. By John Stuart Mill.
Under the Boughs. Second Paper. By Wm. Wye Smith. Original.
Connor.
The Difference. From the "Round Table."
The Capture of Louisbourg. By James Woodrow, St. John, N. B. Original.
Garibaldi. By J. M. W. Original.
Christmas Eve in Brazil. By Mrs. A. Campbell. Original.
Jezebel. By the Author of "Saul." Original.
How I Dreamed the Old Year Out and the New Year In. By E. O. L. O. Original.
The Holidays Forty Years Ago. Original.
YOUNG FOLKS.
Alice's New-Year's Present. By E. O. L. O. Original.
Olderb. By Mrs. A. Campbell. Original.
Little Ravages. (Concluded.)
The Wreath of Mallow. From the "People's Magazine."
A New Dog Story. From "Le Petit Journal."
MUSIC.
Hurrah for Canada. By G. W. Johnson. Original.
New-Year's Song. By J. R. Thomas, in "Our Young Folks."
New-Year's Day Morning. By E. O. L. O. Original.
DOMESTIC ECONOMY.
Home Comforts.
Selected Recipes.
EDITORIAL.
Magnificent Scenes.

It will be seen that nearly the whole of the above articles are original, and a perusal of them will show that they are well deserving of the space they occupy. The Hon. Mr. McGee's Father Mathew, and Mr. Heavyside's Jezebel, will attract special attention.

The original song, "Hurrah for Canada," will be found very spirited; and Mrs. Emily Huntington Miller's New-Year's song will probably become a favorite,—that lady being, we think, the best song-writer of the present day on this Continent.

The demand for this magazine has quite exhausted the October and November numbers, and nearly exhausted the December number, although 6,000 copies of each were printed; and, as almost every new subscriber wishes to have the volume from the beginning, these numbers will have to be reprinted at great expense, neither of the two last having been stereotyped.

We are printing 9,000 copies of the January number, so as to make sure of having enough of it. Advertisers will consequently have a wider circulation for their advertisements than we or they anticipated.

Summary per S.S. "City of Antwerp."

New York, 26th.—The steamer "City of Antwerp," with European dates to the 12th, arrived last night.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Globe* says the resolution of the Emperor to pronounce for the Pope must have been taken very suddenly. In the speeches delivered by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. de Moustier, there was nothing to indicate any likelihood of its being adopted. The conciliation of Rome and Italy being the theme dwelt on, Italy will, of course, become the fierce enemy of France, and the three great powers, England, Prussia, and Russia, will, to some extent at least, be estranged.

The London *Globe*, speaking of Napoleon's policy toward Italy, says: It will be productive of evil. It will increase the unpopularity of the Emperor, as Her Majesty is known to take an active part in political affairs, and, like most women of her nation, she is a very ardent Papist. She will be held responsible for what has been done. Already in the Corps Legislatif has the new diplomacy of the Emperor been characterized as Spanish; and, in truth, it is more Spanish than French, it is not surprising that the people should ascribe it to the *Espagnole* who sits on the throne.

THE SILVER NUISANCE.—That silver taken at par has been emphatically a nuisance, no business man in the community will deny. Yet it is possible to conceive of a greater nuisance; and that is, not to have the silver at any price. Now that is precisely what we fear will be the effect of the Government scheme, if it does what it is expected to do by its authors. It is very probable that it will fail to do it, or will do it only partially, because there are few things more easily smuggled than coin, and though the inducement will not be the whole fifteen per cent of duty, but only the amount of discount, say from three to five per cent, we should not be surprised if even this should not be found sufficient to out-balance the risk of seizure. We assume, however, that the law will have the intended effect—what will be the next thing that will happen? Of course the measure in its present state is only partial, since the currency is saturated with American silver. A supplementary law must be added to provide for the pumping out of the "nuisance," which we have, after we have erected a barrier to prevent more from flowing into the vacuum which we shall thus create. In other words, the silver now in the country, in order to complement the measure which Parliament has adopted, must be withdrawn from circulation and exported. This, it is evident, must cost money, and the expense can only fall upon the public.—*Herald*.

DROWNED IN A WELL.—A melancholy accident occurred on Monday at Petite Cote. Mrs. King, a most industrious woman, aged 50 years, on going to a well about six o'clock in the evening to draw water, slipped, and falling headlong into the well, was drowned. She leaves a husband and several children to mourn her untimely end.—*Gazette*.

DICKENS.—From a paragraph in the *Gazette* it appears that in May, 1842, more than 25 years ago, Mr. Charles Dickens visited Montreal, and played with the garrison amateurs of that day.

A whole family was burned to death in Middlewith, Cheshire County, Eng., on the 25th ult. It consisted of a farmer, his wife, four children, and a servant girl. Their house—an old-fashioned wooden farm dwelling—caught fire when they were in bed, and before they could escape they were all suffocated.

A SAD CASE.—A sad case of destitution has been made public in New York. An English lady, the widow of Mr. Boone, an actor of considerable ability, being reduced to the lowest depths of poverty and misery, poisoned herself and three children on Sunday last. It appears that the unfortunate lady lived in some poorly furnished apartment at 29 Amity street, and here she and her three children were found, apparently in the agonies of death. They were conveyed to the hospital, and are still alive, though their recovery is doubtful. On being asked what had led her to commit such a dreadful crime, Mrs. Boone replied that she had been entirely deserted by her friends and was entirely destitute, and not being able to support herself and family, preferred that they should all terminate their existence by poison than starve, which seemed the only alternative.

It is stated that after Jan. 1st, 1868, when present contracts will expire, the Boston & Lowell and Nashua & Lowell railroads will decline any renewal of express contracts, and thereafter conduct, in their corporate capacity, all express business between points on their roads.

New York, Dec. 23rd.—Rio Janeiro dates to Nov. 25th, are received.

The war on the Parana continues. On the 21st of October, 2,000 Paraguayan cavalry sallied out from Humaita to pasture horses and were attacked by 4,000 Brazilians, and, though they fought desperately, were routed with a loss of 600 dead and 150 prisoners. The victors lost 125 killed and wounded. On the 28th, Lopez' cattle depot at Rivon de Los was stormed by the Brazilians with a loss of 370 men. The defenders lost 250 men and 1,500 cattle.

On the 1st November, the Paraguayan works at Tejaen were assaulted, and the garrison, 800 strong, routed with a loss of 500 killed and 60 prisoners. Of the three Paraguayan steamers that took part in the defence, one was sunk and one burned by the allied fire.

On the 3rd, the Paraguayans, in return, made a dash on the allied line at Tuyuti, with 6,000 men, and captured three redoubts. They followed this up by an attack on the Polygon, a strong fortification. Baron Alayre gathered 20,000 men together and disputed the Paraguayan advance, which was gallantly made, and finally repulsed the enemy. The arrival of some cavalry, which charged the Paraguayans, caused them to abandon the captured redoubts, and two guns taken therein and retreat to their own lines. Loss of the allies, 6 guns, 1,100 killed and wounded; loss of the Paraguayans 2,400 killed and wounded.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE,
Friday, 27th Dec., 1867.

The weather has been very changeable since last week, hail, rain, and snow having fallen. The roads are now in better order, though a heavy thaw this morning threatens to make them bare again. Therm. at 7 a.m., 25 ab. zero.

Greenbacks bought at 25½ discount, and sold at 25 to 25½ dis. Silver bought at 4½ to 4½ dis., and sold at 4½ discount. 5-20's sold at 105½ to 106, and 7-30's sold at 105½.

In Toronto, Greenbacks are buying at 74½ and selling at 75. For Bills of the Bank of Upper Canada brokers are paying 61c., and for Commercial Bank Bills, 95c.

Owing to the glut of dressed fowl in the American markets, there have been few transactions by American buyers in this market, and as a consequence many of the Commission-houses here have large quantities on hand. This, together with the usual supply by farmers on the markets, must tend to a large reduction this week in the price of dressed fowl.

COURSE OF THE COTTON TRADE.

The price of the kind of cotton-wool chiefly used, namely, Uplands, was 29d. at the highest, 13d. a year ago, and, by last advices, 7½d. in Liverpool, or within about a farthing of the average price for six years before the American war. In other words, cotton is worth about a fourth of what it was at the highest; not much more than a half of what it was a year ago; and, relatively, as compared with the prices of other things and the value of gold, actually less than it was before the American war. This is a revolution in the value of one of the greatest staples of commerce, which can, we presume, find no parallel in history, save the equally sudden and enormous rise which took place in the same article during the American war. That rise caused great gain to all who traded either in cotton or cotton manufactures, and the fall has in like manner caused them great loss; but as the gain came first it has enabled most of them to bear the loss. Whilst, however, the fall in raw cotton has been nearly a half within the year, the fall in manufactured goods has not been so great, as the cost of manufacture has remained nearly the same. Still a fall of 25 to 33½ per cent. on manufactured goods is a very serious matter to holders of stocks. It is to be remarked, however, that the great fall in price has tended to a corresponding increase of consumption, so that goods manufactured at the lowest rates of cotton-wool are in very great demand, and yield a handsome profit all round. It is also to be remembered that transactions may now be entered into freely, as prices must have touched bottom. Indeed, considering the greater cost of producing cotton by free than slave labor, it is probable that the tendency will be rather upward than downward for some time, cotton, at present prices, not being a remunerative crop.

LA BANQUE JACQUES-CARTIER.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of this institution was held at its office, on the 19th inst., Hon. J. L. Beaudry, President of the Bank, in the chair.

The profits of the year ending 30th Nov. last, after deducting expenses of management and providing for losses, amounted to—

	\$101,006 21
From which deducting	
a dividend of 4 p. c.	
1st June.....	\$37,269 81
Do, 1st Dec.....	38,430 15
Leaves a balance of profit for the	
year of.....	25,306 25
Adding balance at credit of Profit	
and Loss account on 30th Nov.,	
1866.....	64,607 69

Gives a total of..... \$39,914 24

From this amount the Directors have taken, to form a Reserve Fund (equal to 8½ p. c. on subscribed capital)..... 85,000 00

Leaving at the credit of the Profit and Loss account..... \$4,914 24

The sum of \$1,000 was voted to the President, in acknowledgment of his services during the year; and Messrs. J. L. Beaudry, R. Trudeau, and P. M. Galarneau were re-elected Directors of the Bank.

LUMBER TRADE OF THE ST. MAURICE, SEASON OF 1866-67.

LOGS MANUFACTURED.

	Pine.	Spruce.
Geo. Baptist.....	87,636 std.	350 pcs.
J. K. Ward.....	57,549 pcs.	
G. B. Hall.....	41,231 "	
Geo. A. Gouin.....	38,536 std.	
Ed. Quina.....	20,628 pcs.	
Huntertown Lumber		
Company.....	18,212 "	4,736 "
John Broster.....	13,566 std.	
Quiggin & Graves.....	1,590 pcs.	8,856 "
H. Atkinson.....	942 "	19,000 "
P. H. Grandbois.....	700 "	26,401 "
J. O. Methot.....	560 "	5,030 "
Price, Brothers, & Co.....	173 "	3,983 "

289,329 pcs. 62,383 pcs

SAWED LUMBER SHIPPED FROM THE PORT OF THREE RIVERS, 1867.

Geo. Baptist..... (no return)

J. K. Ward, 116 cargoes..... 11,500,000 feet.

" local deliveries..... 750,000 "

12,250,000 feet.

STOCK OF SAWED LUMBER ON HAND.

Geo. Baptist..... (estimated 9,500,000 feet.)

J. K. Ward..... 2,750,000 "

Geo. Baptist and J. K. Ward are the only parties who saw lumber at Three Rivers; most of the logs made by the other above-mentioned persons, are sawed at Quebec. Of the 116 cargoes shipped by J. K. Ward, eleven were by sea-going vessels, bound, principally, for South America, and the remainder went to the United States, and to Quebec. As was anticipated, there has been an overproduction of common lumber; and the stocks wintering at the mills throughout Canada generally, are larger than last year. Stocks at the lumber-yards in the United States are, however, light, while prices rule firm; and, should the manufacturers in that country, and in Canada, curtail their operations this winter to the extent of 20 or 25 per cent., a healthy trade may be looked for next summer.

In connection with the lumber-trade of the St. Maurice, may be mentioned the sale of Mr. Gouine's "limits" to an American company from Williamsport, and the sale of the St. Maurice steam-mills and limits to another company from Philadelphia. The Williamsport company do not operate this winter; but the parties who have purchased the St. Maurice steam-mills intend getting out stock to manufacture twenty million feet, so that the quantity of logs to be made this winter on the St. Maurice will fully equal the quantity made last winter.

The lumber-trade of the St. Maurice is capable of vast increase; but the policy of the Crown Lands Department tends rather to cripple than to develop it. There has not been a sale of limits for the last three years, and the Government is opposed to granting limits to applicants, except such applicants are mill-owners. This policy is producing monopolies, so much so that one individual now holds two thousand two hundred square miles of timber limits under license. The area of timber-lands under license the present year is six thousand two hundred square miles, and there are still vacant one hundred limits, or over four thousand square miles of territory. The revenue of the Crown Timber Office, at Three Rivers, amounts this year to over forty thousand dollars.

Winter has set in early, and everything promises fair for successful logging operations.

Three Rivers, Dec. 13, 1867.

PORK PACKING AT CHICAGO.—The Chicago Tribune of Monday has the following in regard to the prospects of the present pork packing season:

"The pork packing is progressing vigorously, and many operators have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that the season will terminate about the new year. They aver that the hogs are not in such abundance as was generally supposed at the beginning of the season, and many who believed that the packing would not close before the 1st of February, are now strong advocates of the 'short season.' At this stage it is, however, impossible to foretell how long it will continue, but we are still of the opinion—entertained by us in the beginning—that it will stretch out until February 1. The receipts of hogs for the week ending Saturday, December 7, were 133,881 live and 7,168 dressed, making a total of 141,049. This is the largest number that was ever received in this market in any one week. The nearest approach to it was for the week ending December 3, 1863, when there were received 122,825 live and 17,776 dressed—making a total of 140,601, a difference of 448 in favor of the week just closed. The packing for the season of '63 and '64 was in the neighborhood of 1,000,000 head. At present it is impossible to predict the number that will be packed in '67 and '68, though the opinion obtains universally that there will be as many packed, both here and at the other large cities, as there were in 1866-67. It is generally conceded that the yield of pork and lard will be lighter, while there will be an increase in the pounds of bulk meats. The hogs now being marketed are very uneven in quality, embracing everything from 'extra heavy' down to a 'roaster'; the light weights largely predominating—and this has been the case since the beginning of the season. With a crop equal in numbers to that of last year, there must be a falling off in the pounds of product, as the average 'run' is considerably lighter. The number of operators, impressed with this idea, is daily growing and such has given birth to a considerable speculative movement in mess pork and lard. The business in bulk meats is slow."

INSOLVENTS.—The following is the new list of insolvents published in the Canada Gazette of the 21st inst.:

A. R. Haeslip, Dunville.
Henry C. Voigt, Kingston.
William Cowan, Merrickville.
Zephirin Pilon, Montreal.
John O. Moffatt, Montreal.
William Palen, Ottawa.
Alexander Wallace, Barrie.
Edward Papin, L'Assomption.
G. Crépeau, St. Norbert d'Arthabaska.
Narcisse Palin, St. Oyprien.
John C. Fox, Kingston.
Louis Gorth, Galt.
Andrew H. Reed, Belleville.
John A. Taylor, Belleville.
W. E. Phelps (write of attachment), Brantford.
George Scroggie, Galt.
Jules Leger, Montreal.
William Earl, North Gwillimbury.
Francis M. Woolcock, Barrie.
Richard C. McDonagh, Quebec.
Hugh Jefferson, Toronto.
O. A. Crépeau, St. Norbert d'Arthabaska.

The pianoforte firm of John C. Fox & Co., of Kingston has failed for \$66,000. A large number of mechanics are consequently thrown out of employment.

The farmers of the Township of Godmanchester and Elgin, in the County of Huntingdon, recently held a meeting for the purpose of establishing a cheese manufactory.

A western paper says that it is reported that the Marmora Iron works, including 22,000 acres of land and the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway, have been sold to a Philadelphia company.

FINANCIAL.—The money market is without any notable feature. Stocks are in good demand at full prices, but there is less disposition to sell, which has, in bank shares especially, caused an upward tendency. Sterling Exchange is nominally without change.—Herald.

Notice is also given that application will be made to the Quebec Legislature, at its next

session, for an Act to incorporate the Canada Marine Insurance Company, most of the proprietors of which reside in this city.

FINANCIAL.—The money market is without change, and stocks are about as quoted yesterday, a very limited business being done. Sterling Exchange nominal at 10½ to 10½. Discount rate, 11 to 11½.—Herald.

The saw-mills of St. Anthony, Minnesota, have stopped, and hundreds of men are consequently thrown out of employment, and unsuccessfully offer to work in the pineries at ten dollars a month. But the lumbermen of that vicinity cut one hundred million feet of logs last winter, overstocked the market, and consequently do not need the services of the men this season.

PRICES CURRENT OF LEATHER.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26, 1867.

Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 1 (b.b.) per lb.	23 to 24
Do do No. 2 (ordinary) do	21 to 22
Do do No. 3 do	19 to 20
Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1, do	00 to 00
Do do No. 2, do	00 to 00
Waxed Upper, light and medium, do	44 to 46
Do do heavy, do	40 to 43
Grained do large, do	32 to 35
Split do small, do	18 to 21
Kips, City Slaughter (whole), do	50 to 55
do ordinary, do	50 to 55
Cal-Skin (27 to 30 lbs per doz.), do	75 to 80
Do (18 to 20 lbs per doz.), do	65 to 70
Sheep-Skin linings, do	30 to 35
Harness, do	32 to 34
Skirting, do	32 to 36
Butted Cow, per foot, do	15 to 16½
Enamelled Cow, do	17 to 18
Patent Cow, do	18 to 19
Rough, do	28 to 32
English butts oak Sole, do	30 to 32
English Kips, do	43 to 57

REMARKS.

Business is very dull for this season. Quotations are nominal in the absence of wholesale transactions.

JOHN DOUGALL & Co.,
Commission Merchants.

NEW YORK HIDE MARKET.—There is only a moderate call for hides, but at this season of the year, this is to be expected, as inland navigation has closed. The tanners see little inducement to put in hides at the present low rates for leather, and many look for still lower prices. The stock is now a little less than a hundred thousand hides, but prospective receipts are quite large, as considerable quantities are afloat, destined for this port and Boston. Prices of upper leather hides (of which considerable sales have been made to Eastern tanners) are firmer than for heavy hides, suitable for sole leather. We are glad to notice that slaughter hides come into this market much more free from cuts than has usually been the case. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that some of our leading dealers have given a premium for hides taken off without cuts, in some cases paying as much as fifty cents per hide. We hope more care will be taken in this matter, as it will be to the advantage of all who deal in leather or hides. Receipts for the week, 1,573. The following are prices (in gold):—6,200 Rio Grande, 2½ lbs. 18½c; 600 Buenos Ayres, 26 lbs. 19c; 1,000 Montevideo, 22 lbs. 19c; 5,000 Montevideo, 22 lbs. 19c; California, 23 lbs. 18½c; Entre Rios, 23½ lbs. 19c.—Shoe and Leather Reporter.

BOSTON HIDE MARKET.—In the hide market there has been slight improvement for a few days past over the feeble movements of this market as reported for the last few weeks, although transactions are, as yet, neither numerous nor active. Prices continue fairly sustained, though somewhat easier, and quotations are changed to meet currency rates; for Western hides prices exhibit more firmness. Receipts are slow, and do not give an increase of stock in the market desirable for buyers to select from. Upper leather stock continues in good request, and any desirable parcels are readily taken up at fair prices, which has a tendency to check a decline. We quote Buenos Ayres hides sales at 19c. gold, and 27c. currency; Rio Grande cows 26½c. currency; Montevideo cows 19c. gold; wet salted Rio Grande 10½c. gold. The receipts of the week have been from domestic ports and by rail only, and comprise 4,358 loose, 783 bbls, and 276 bales hides.—Ibid.

NEW-YORK WOOL-MARKET.—The demand for wool the past week has been moderately active, but no very large amounts have been disposed of. The inquiry is still for the medium and low grades of fleeces and for super and 1 pulled, which are taken freely at going rates, and are becoming very scarce. There has been some movement in foreign, mostly carpet wools. Sales of fleece foot up about 300,000 lbs., at a range of 38c. to 60c.—Ibid.

BOSTON BOOT AND SHOE MARKET.—In the wholesale trade there is nothing of special interest to note for the week; the market is now experiencing the quiet season, and the demand is only for small parcels of thick work. Prices of goods, except to order, are depressed and nominal. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which the trade has labored during the past season in buying goods made up from stock at extreme high prices, and selling on a depressed market, making little or no profit on the past season's business, the feeling is buoyant, and they are actively prospecting for the spring demand. The wholesale dealers of the city at the present time are holding but comparatively light stocks, and have their resources well in hand for either contraction or expansion, as the prospects for trade may demand. The manufacturers have suffered considerably during the last season's trade from the depression of prices; and quite a large number, doing only a moderate business, have been obliged to suspend operations; those who have held on have made as few goods as possible, but are preparing to execute orders at short notice, in the event of an active demand.—Ibid.

WHOLESALE BOOT AND SHOE MARKET.

Season pretty much passed, and what few sales are being made are chiefly for the cold weather, being made of cloth and warm material. In view of anticipated decline in prices of some kinds of stock, holders are disposed to sell heavy goods at a reduction in former rates.

Men's Thick Boots.....	\$2.25 to \$2.50
Boys' do.....	1.75 to 1.90
Youths' do.....	1.40 to 1.50
Women's Heavy Boots.....	1.00 to 1.25
Misses' do.....	0.75 to 0.90
Child's do.....	0.50 to 0.60
Beef Boot or Shoe Packs, per doz.	11.00 to 13.00
Men's Felt Overshoes.....	1.30 to 0.00
Women's do.....	1.15 to 0.00

THE IRON-TRADE IN WEST CUMBERLAND.—All the four furnaces of the Whitehaven Hematite Iron Company, at Cleator Moor, are at present in blast, and two additional furnaces, which are in construction, will be ready for lighting in a short time. At Workington, the Hematite Iron Company (Limited) have two of their four furnaces in operation; while, at Harrington, Messrs. Bain, Blair, and Paterson have the whole of their four in blast. The West Cumberland Iron Company have two furnaces idle and three in blast. The current prices of iron in the district are quoted as follows:—Hematites: Workingtons, No. 1, £5 6s; 2, £4 16s; 3, £4 8s. 6d.—long weight, delivered. West Cumberland: Foundry, No. 1, £4; 3, £3 15s; 5, £3 11s. 3d. Bessemer No. 1, £4 15; 2, £4 10s.—long weight, delivered. West Cumberland puddled bars, 2½, 4, 12, and 16, £6 7s. 6d.—Whitehaven Herald.

BUTTER IN BOSTON.—The butter market continues to rule very firm for choice grades, which are wanted by the mass of consumers, and sold close up. The proportion of good butter arriving is very small, and the early fall crop is supposed to be nearly exhausted. The receipts of all grades are now quite light, but the supply of ordinary butter is fully equal to the demand, and prices for all inferior lots are relatively depressed. Good Vermont and New York butter is very firm and quick of sale in straight lots at 41c. to 43c.; grocery lots are in good demand at 44c. to 45c. and extra family tubs are selling at 46c. to 48c. per lb. The common grades are quiet, and selling at 36c. to 38c. for ordinary to fair lots. Canada butter is in moderate supply, with sales at a range of 30c. to 33c. as to quality.—Boston Journal.

SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—The movers in the construction of this railway are zealously engaged in the project. The Managing Director of the Railway, Samuel W. Foster, Esq., is canvassing the country and enlisting capital in its favor. The townships of Brome and Pottion have come forward nobly and subscribed to the road. If the other townships along the proposed road do as well, the road will surely go on. We wish them success.—Waterloo Advertiser.

PORK-PACKING IN THE U. S.—We have been favored with some valuable information with regard to the business of the packing-points of the West. The returns show that about 1,200,000 have already been packed, which, it is computed, will be increased to 2,100,000. The points not heard from packed last year 300,000, and it is believed that the market this season is about the same. The probable conclusion arrived at, through the returns, is that the grand aggregate will be about the same as last year in number, with an estimated shortage in weight thus far of 12 to 15 per cent.; although there will be no increase in number in the aggregate, Chicago will gain largely. This year that city will pack fully 800,000 against 635,000 last year, and 501,000 the year before.—Detroit Post.

THE SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES' JUNCTION.—The prospects for this line being carried on to completion, by which the counties of Missisquoi and Brome will be opened up and developed, are very encouraging. The municipal councils have come forward liberally, that of Pottion having passed a by-law authorizing the issue of debentures for \$25,000 worth of stock; Brome, \$50,000; and East Farnham, \$20,000; and other municipalities have intimated their intention of doing the same to a greater or lesser amount. The promoters have every confidence that the undertaking will be successfully accomplished.

It appears that the cargoes in the Erie Canal are in great danger of destruction. Several cargoes of grain have already been lost by the ice cutting through the boats. Besides the damage already done, there is danger says the Detroit Post—"That the most of the cargoes will be lost, because the water is leaking out of the canal, and that it is very evident that the perils of the high seas and stormy lakes are no more than those of low canals and ice-bound ditches. The passage around the Horn will soon have less perils than a voyage on 'the raging canal' from Buffalo to Albany. Insurance rates would undoubtedly fall were a ship-canal to be dug, and vessels were permitted to take the comparatively smooth and safe passage of Lake Ontario and the rapids of the St. Lawrence. The Erie Canal is a sort of prolonged Hell-gate, like the giraffe's yard of sore throat."

LIVE STOCK STATISTICS.—From an official statement proceeding from the Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics, we find that the number of animals in the Province of Ontario to be: Cattle, 923,832; sheep, 1,760,618; horses, 358,519; hogs, 621,488; dogs 97,841; Bitches, 4,286. From a comparative statement it seems that between 1861 and 1867 there has been a decrease of 91,496 in cattle; an increase of 591,393 in sheep; a decrease of 19,162 in horses; and 154,513 in hogs. The exports and imports for Ontario and Quebec of animals from the year 1861 to 1866-7 are—cattle exported, 317,846; imported, 26,079; sheep exported, 423,652; imported, 25,281; horses exported, 101,105; imported, 8,578; swine exported, 174,069; imported, 45,263. Deduct imports from exports and the results are:—Cattle exported, 291,767; sheep, 398,371; horses, 92,527; swine, 128,796.

The following is a statement of the value of the amounts returned on the Assessor's Roll, 1867, for Ontario:—Cattle, at \$25 per head, \$23,095,800; sheep, at \$3, \$5,285,154; horses, at \$70, \$25,096,330; swine, at \$10, \$6,214,880. Total value of animals in the Province of Ontario, 1867, \$59,692,164.

Mr. Sherman's new financial bill provides for the issue of a six per cent. stock, redeemable in not less than 10 or more than 40 years, one per cent. to be reserved in lieu of all taxation, and of that one-half to be distributed pro rata among the States, the other half to remain in the Treasury. There is also to be a 4½ per cent. sterling stock, the interest payable in Frankfurt or London. Another provision makes \$400,000,000 convertible from bonds into greenbacks, or from greenbacks into bonds, at any time.—Tribune.

Chicago, Dec. 23rd, 1867.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull at \$1.90 for No. 1 and \$1.82½ at \$1.83 for No. 1. Corn dull; old declined ½c. to 1c. sales at 82½c. to 83c. for old, and 81½c. to 82c. for new. Oats dull at 54c. 1½c. declined 2c. to 3c.; sales at \$1.53 to \$1.55. Barley dull, but steady at \$1.70 for No. 2. Provisions quiet and steady; receipts

25,000 bbls. flour; 19,000 bu. wheat; 49,000 bu. corn; 6,000 bu. oats. Shipments 4,000 bbls. flour; 1,000 bu. wheat; 12,000 bu. corn.

TORONTO MARKETS.

There was the usual attendance on 'Change to-day. The produce market remains without material change. A firmer feeling continues to be manifested in both flour and grain. No. 1 superfine is firmly held at \$6.75, and favorite brands at even higher figures. With the exception, however, of a sale at an outside point, for shipment to Halifax, no lots changed hands. Spring wheat is in good demand at \$1.50. Millers were freely offering that price to supply their mills. Some holders were asking higher prices; a couple of car lots, however, sold at \$1.50. The barley market is still excited and higher. Yesterday, after 'Change, a car sold at the extraordinary high price of \$1.05, and today another car sold at the same high price. Brewers have bid light stocks, and the present demand is almost entirely to supply their wants. In oats and peas there is nothing doing. Dressed hogs remain unchanged. The demand from packers has slightly fallen off.—Globe, 25th.

MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES FOR MARKET DAY, December 27, 1867.

Flour, country, per 100 lbs.....	19 0 to 19 6
Oatmeal, " " " " " " " "	13 0 to 13 6
Indian Meal (Ohio) " " " "	13 0 to 13 6
Barley, per minot (36 lbs).....	3 0 to 3 6
Peas, do.....	4 6 to 5 0
Oats, do.....	2 3 to 2 6
Buckwheat, do.....	2 9 to 3 0
Indian Corn (Canada).....	4 6 to 5 0
Timothy (old), per couple.....	8 6 to 9 0
Turkeys (old), per couple.....	8 0 to 9 0
Pigeons (tame), per pair.....	1 0 to 1 3
Beef, per lb.....	0 4 to 0 8
Pork, per lb.....	0 5 to 0 6
Mutton, per lb.....	0 4 to 0 5
Lamb, per quarter.....	4 0 to 5 0
Veal, per lb.....	0 6 to 0 7
Butter, fresh, per lb.....	1 3 to 1 4
Do, salt per lb.....	0 9 to 0 11
Potatoes, per bag.....	3 9 to 4 0
Sugar, Maple, per lb.....	0 5 to 0 6
Lard, per lb.....	0 8 to 0 9
Eggs, fresh, per dozen.....	1 0 to 1 3
Haddock, per lb.....	0 3 to 0 4
Beef, per 100 lbs.....	\$4.00 to \$6.00
Pork, fresh, per 100 lbs.....	\$6.00 to \$6.75
Apples, per bbl.....	\$3.00 to \$3.50
Hay.....	\$2.00 to \$2.00
Straw.....	\$1.00 to \$2.00

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—Dec. 27.

Cattle, Extra, \$9 to \$10; First Quality, \$7.50 to \$8; Second and Third, \$6.50 to \$5.50; Milch Cows, \$25 to \$30; Extra, \$40.00 to \$45.00; Sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; Extra, \$7.00 to \$8.00; Lambs, \$1.75 to \$2.75; Hogs, live-weight, \$4.37½ to \$4.75; dressed, \$5.75 to \$6.50; Hides, inspected, 9c.; Pelts, 60c. to 75c.; Tallow, 5½c. to 6c.

Corn Exchange Daily Reports.

(Furnished exclusively to the "Daily Witness.")

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES.

CORN EXCHANGE, DEC. 26.

Flour, per barrel of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$8 to \$8.25, nominal; Extra, \$7.60 to \$7.80; Fancy, \$7.35 to \$7.45; Superior, from Canada Wheat, \$7.15 to \$7.25; Strong Superior, from Canada Wheat, \$7.25 to \$7.40; Super-fine from Western Wheat, nominal; City brands of Super, nominal; Super No. 2, \$6.75 to \$6.90; Fine, \$6.25 to \$6.40; Middlings, \$5.50 to \$6; Pollards, \$4.50 to \$4.75; Bag-Flour, \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 100 lbs. Market quiet,—sales during the past day or two of ordinary brands of Canada Super, and Strong Bakers' Flour in 100-barrel lots within the range of quotations;—not much Flour offering.

OATMEAL, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—The range is \$5.90 to \$6.

WHEAT, per bush. of 60 lbs.—U. C. Spring may be quoted at \$1.62 to \$1.65, with sales ex cars at outside rate;—Milwaukee and Chicago Spring, nominal.

FRABE, per 60 lbs.—Dull and nominal, at 82c. to 83c.

OATS, per bush. of 32 lbs.—Firm, and may be quoted at 40c. to 42c. in store.

CORN, per bush. of 56 lbs.—Sales of two lots (in bond) at 96c. to 97½c.

BARLEY, per 48 lbs.—Very firm; may be quoted at 80c. for ordinary L. C. samples.

MALT, per bush. of 36 lbs.—Latest sale at \$1.10.

BUTTER, per lb.—Some sales of medium to choice dairy, at 15c. to 20c.,—in some instances 20c. and 21c. are paid for strictly choice.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—Market quiet; First Pots, \$5.45 to \$5.50; Seconds, \$4.85; Thirds, \$4.55 to \$4.65. Pearls steady; Firsts, \$6.

DRESSED HOGS, per 100 lbs.—Receipts liberal; rates are \$5.75 to \$6.12½, according to quality.

Family Reading.

THE NEW SONG.

Ten thousand times ten thousand sung
Loud anthems round the throne,
When lo, one solitary tongue
Began a song unknown—
A song unknown to angel's ears,
A song that told of banished fears,
Of pardoned sins and dried up tears.

Not one of all the heavenly host
Could those high notes attain;
But spirits from a distant coast
Soon joined him in the strain,
Till he who first began the song,
To sing alone no longer long,
Was mingled with a countless throng.

And still, as hours are fleeting by,
The angels ever bear
Some newly-ransomed soul on high,
To join the chorus there;
And so the song will louder grow,
Till all redeemed by Christ below
To that fair land of rapture go.

NORWOOD: OR, VILLAGE LIFE IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.
THE ELM-TREE.—(CONTINUED.)

It was evening twilight. They sat alone in the porch. A few late blossoms of the Chinese honeysuckle shed down a trace of perfume through the air. There were no locusts singing, nor katydids, nor gurgling crickets, and yet some soft sounds I certainly heard? Not birds, surely! I think it must have been the plash of one honeysuckle blown against another. Yet there is no wind to them! I hear it again! Listen! It is like the falling of a drop of dew in the silver lake from some birchen leaf! No, that is rude. It is as if two dreams floating in the night had clashed; or like the joining of two prayers of love on their way upward; or—nay, it was a kiss!—pure, sacred, holy! It is the soul's symbol, when words fail it. It is the heart's sigh, or interjection, when it has a feeling for which there is no expression!

A soft cloud had hid the moon. It began to move away. The light shone out again.

"Barton, I do believe you mean not to tell me after all. What is that shame-faced secret?"

"You will smile, I know. But I feel it. I want every one that has been with me in danger and trouble to be present in my great joy to-morrow. Colonel Stanton, who befriended me when I was a prisoner after Bull Run, has come. By the way, the war has well-nigh ruined his property, and I have been of help to him in saving a part. The Hetheringtons are all in your house. Rose, my horse, that carries a man's heart in him, that never flinched under fire, that was wounded as well as I, that carried me along the hardest journeys unflinching, and saved me several times from captivity—I want him near me when I am married. I know that it would to many sound foolish. But no one but a soldier can know a soldier's feeling for a faithful horse!"

"No one but a soldier and a soldier's wife," replied Rose. "You ought to be ashamed of being ashamed of such a feeling. He shall stand in golden shoes, and eat the plumpest oats out of a china vase, if it will please you, Barton!"

"It is only a feeling, but it is as strong as superstition. Of course it is not for his sake, but my own. I shall feel better if he stand in front of the yard where I can see him."

It was time to separate.

"Come early, Barton. I shall take my favorite walk in the morning for the last time, and I would not be alone."

The day broke over the hills, bent evidently on being present at the wedding. It came in golden tresses, and in vapors, and infinite jewellery of dew, and it lit up all the world with joy as it came; but Rose and Barton forgot, as they stood in the arbor, that there was anybody happy but themselves. Could it be possible that there was any joy left?

Dr. Wentworth was as calm, outwardly, as if only the usual business was going on. His face shone. His voice was lower and richer than usual. His eye carried in it a perpetual benediction.

The great mansion was vocal in every room. Guests were present from the east and west and south. The town swarmed with friends come to the wedding. "Bliss Cathcart renewed his youth, and Rachel's face shone with unexpressed thanksgiving. Hiram Beers was glorious. Why not? As he had gone to Dr. Wentworth's to live, in a neat cottage built expressly for him, and to have full charge of the doctor's stables, barn, and place, why should he not consider this occasion as a family matter?"

Pete Sawmill was triumphant. Great was the honor and glory that came back with him to Norwood! The story of his simple affection and fidelity was known to all and all agreed with Deacon Trowbridge, "that Pete aint much in the intellects, but he's got a heart as big as an ox." And nobody was surprised to learn that Pete was to live with Barton Cathcart for life; nor that he appeared on this morning with a bran new suit of broadcloth, and that he wore military buttons on his coat and vest. Pete hankered after these vanities, and it was not believed that, if he was pleased, anybody else would be hurt.

Rose had labored long and often with Pete about his besetting sin with slight amendment of it. His army life had not developed his temperance principles. He was always penitent on such occasions; always promised to do so no more; and he never did, until the temptation came. But one day Pete fairly got it into his head, or heart rather, that his conduct was a grief to Rose—a real sorrow. Instead of expostulating and reasoning with him, as heretofore, Rose on the last occasion had burst into tears.

"Oh, Pete, you behave as if you cared for none of your friends. I am ashamed and grieved to the heart. You have been so long with us, and served the country so nobly, and saved Barton's life, and kept a great grief from us all, and now you have come back to disgrace us. I can't bear it, Pete; I can't bear it!" and Rose's tears fell fast.

Poor Pete was never before conscious of being an object of such special regard that any human being would cry for him. He was very awkwardly distressed for himself. He shuffled his feet and fumbled with his hands, and felt deeply in his pockets for something that was not there,—a good resolution, probably,—and blubbered and sputtered in the most distressing manner, till the whole contrast was too inexpressibly ludicrous for Rose, who covered her face with her handkerchief, and bit her lips to keep from audible laughter. But to Pete this covering of Rose's face was the last affliction. He thought that he had done some great damage to her, and he exploded in a most extraordinary mixture of crying, confession, and howling, and promises which astounded Rose. The poor fellow shook all over, and wrangled his hands and arms about in the air in the most aimless and awkward manner possible, and finally bolted for the door and disappeared. He brought up at Parson Buell's, and stumbled headlong into his study, just as the doctor was writing out his *fiftieth* in the coming sermon.

"I dew wish you'd giv' me somethin'. Dew! if you please! I want to take somethin'."

The doctor thought that he must have taken something too much already. But, after some questioning, Pete broke out in a medley of grief again,—quite like that in Rose's presence, but not so excessive.

"I aint goin' to have no more rum; it's making her cry; and I aint goin' to drink any more rum; and I want you to give me somethin'."

It was evident that Pete was inquiring after the temperance pledge, and the doctor at length became satisfied of the fact. Accordingly, he drew up a pledge, on the largest sheet of paper that he had in his study; and, thinking that it might be more striking to Pete's simple eyes, he ruled a band of red ink about the whole, upon which Pete looked, much as the Israelites did upon the Red Sea, when they first reached it. But it answered no purpose. Pete made his mark, and was faithful to his new promise. A few tears did more for him than much exhortation.

Throughout the great wedding-day, Pete carried himself most becomingly, dividing his attention during the ceremony between Barton and Barton's war-horse. He was much disappointed when Barton, after the ceremony, did not mount and repeat some of the brilliant feats of horsemanship which he had seen him perform. But supposing that, for some good reason, Barton had changed his mind, he led the scarred horse back to the oats.

At noon, when all the company were assembled, and everybody was merry, chatting and chattering all at once the church-bell broke out into the most musical of invitations. To be sure, its duty was to ring at twelve, every day. But any one could tell that there was more than that in it to-day. Its paternal soul had a wedding thought in it. It was no measured, doctrinal ring, fit for Sunday. It was no fearful, funeral ring, thick and heavy. It was a real, out-springing, merry ring, as of a bell that would like to kick up its heels, and dance on the green with the best of them.

Before the bell had done ringing, a movement was seen about Dr. Wentworth's mansion. From the front door issued first Dr. Buell and a brother-clergyman, then came Dr. and Mrs. Wentworth, and then came Rose and Barton; (while the boys that were peeping into the gate nodded to each other, and said, "Ah, boy, jest look at that! aint they bun-kum?") and then came Agate Bissell, and all the other members of the family; and after them flocks and crowds of friends. They moved down to the great elm-tree, which hung down its paternal arms about them, and filled all its top with blessings! There, at length, stood Rose and her husband under the very flickering shadows and checkering golden light that had adorned her when a babe. While Parson Buell prayed, all the birds in the tree-top made responses and said amen! Then there was a moment's pause. There stood the noble pair. By Barton's side stood Will Belden, on one leg and a crutch. On Rose's side stood Rose Hetherington, "too pretty for anything," said several young gentlemen near by. Then, in the simple forms of the good old times, the ceremony proceeded; and Parson Buell, at its close, laid his hands upon their heads, bowed to his touch, and blessed them! And they were blessed!

No salutation of mere ceremony followed. Barton turned to Rose with an embrace that seemed like to have merged her into himself. Rose put her arms with full love about her husband. For a second they stood folded, some words they whispered, and there were few dry eyes that looked on them. Even Judge Bacon wiped his eyes, and declared that "it was remarkably good, positively affecting, and so unexpected, too."

(To be Continued.)

DRINKING IN THE OLDEN TIME IN NEW ENGLAND.

Another scene, illustrating the ignorance of those times on the subject of temperance, I well remember. A very godly minister, who lived in an adjoining town, had occasion to pass by my father's door several times a year, and one day when the good man called, our family physician happened in. Very soon, before the door of the house, where I was sitting, I heard him consult the physician on the following very difficult case. It should here be premised that both the physician and the minister were above reproach, neither the one nor the other having ever given occasion to be suspected of a too free use of the glass. The minister said he had to be around

among the people every day, visiting the sick and dying, directing inquiring minds to Christ, and comforting mourners; praying with the aged and infirm, and explaining to the simple-minded those things that were difficult to be understood, etc., etc.; that wherever he went, liquor, under some form or name, was offered him to drink, which, in order not to give offence, or be considered guilty of a breach of good manners, he felt bound to take. Moreover, that after calling at a number of places, his head invariably became affected, and he felt himself in danger of saying or doing some foolish thing. Would the good doctor, therefore, prescribe something for him to take, or give him suitable advice as to what he should do in this emergency?

I remember just where the good minister stood, and how he looked. I remember also just where the good doctor stood, and how he looked. He had in his hand a cane, with the end of which he kept digging in the ground; and the more earnestly he was questioned, the more earnestly and the deeper he dug. At length he straightened himself up, and, standing before the questioner, with his arms crossed, he uttered the following advice; viz., that after he had called at several places, and had begun to feel the effects of the liquor taken, he should go straight home, while he was yet able to walk, and, entering at once into the study, should sit there, in silence and solitude, till the dizziness should pass away, and then, taking some food with a cup of tea, he could go out without fearing to finish his pastoral visits. The idea of total abstinence from all intoxicating beverages seems not to have entered the mind of either the one or the other. That he must drink was taken for granted, if he would not be guilty of an unpardonable offence. The only thing was to drink without feeling the effects of it; and on this point the good physician was sadly perplexed.

In these days everybody cranks, old and young, rich and poor, male and female; and our whole country seemed rapidly descending on the steep and slippery side of the hill towards rum. But New England at length arose in the greatness of her strength, and, in the firmness of her principles, signed the temperance pledge, "and the land had rest for forty years."

SUNSHINE.—What a God we have to do with, pardoning almost before we ask Him! scattering blessings all along the pathway of life. Sunshine predominates in our experience. When we love, we *love* with our whole heart. We know little or nothing of partial eclipses. Shadows may and oftentimes do come gradually, but they spread from horizon to horizon; so with sunshines. If there are times when one drop would overbalance our cup of woe, so there are times when we drink draughts from the fountain of life that throw sunshine into every crevice of our hearts, and cause even our dull, dreary, monotonous round of cares and trials to appear as so many blessings in disguise. Oh, how we envy those happy, even-tempered people who can always fold their hands with easy complaisance and say, "It is the Lord, let Him do as seemeth to Him good." With them it is always sunshine: their sun never sets.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN MUSIC.—You will stare at a strange notion of mine; if it appears even a mad one, do not wonder. Had I children, my utmost endeavor would be to make them musicians. Considering I have no ear, nor even thought of music, the preference seems odd, and yet it is embraced on frequent reflection. In short, as my aim would be to make them happy, I think it the most probable method. It is a resource which will last them their lives, unless they grow deaf; it depends upon themselves, not on others; always amuses and soothes, if not consoles; and of all fashionable pleasures, is the cheapest. It is capable of fame, without the danger of criticism; is susceptible of enthusiasm, without being priest-ridden; and, unlike other mortal passions, is sure of being gratified in Heaven.—*Horace Walpole.*

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

WILLIAM HENRY'S LETTERS TO HIS GRANDMOTHER.

My dear Grandmother,—I think the school that I have come to is a very good school. We have dummies. I've tied up the pills that you gave me in case of feeling bad in the toe of my cotton stocking that's lost the mate of it. The mince pies they have here are baked without any plums being put into them. So, please, need I say, No, I thank you, ma'am, to 'em when they come round? If they don't agree, shall I take the pills or the drops? Or was it the hot flannels,—and how many?

I've forgot about being shivery. Was it to eat roast onions? No, I guess not. I guess it was a wet band tied round my head. Please write it down, because you told me so many things I can't remember. How can anybody tell when anybody is sick enough to take things? You can't think what a great, tall man the schoolmaster is. He has got something very long to flog us with, that bends easy and hurts.—Q. S. So Dorry says. Q. S. is in the abbreviations, and stands for a sufficient quantity. Dorry says the master keeps a paint-pot in his room, and has his whiskers painted black every morning, and his hair too, to make himself look scareful. Dorry is one of the great boys. But Tom Cush is bigger. I don't like Tom Cush.

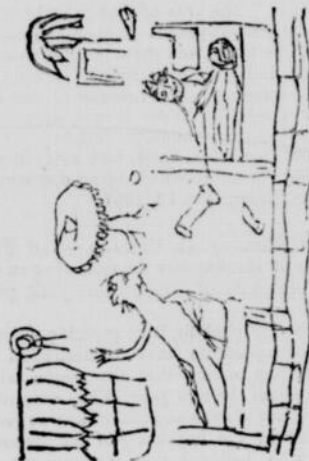
I have a good many to play with; but I miss you and Towser and all of them very much. How does my sister do? Are the peach-trees bearing? Dorry Baker he says that peaches don't grow here; but he says the cherries have peach-stones in them. In nine weeks my birthday will be here. How funny 't will seem to be eleven, when I've been ten so long. I don't skip over any button-holes in the morning now; so my jacket comes out even.

Why did n't you tell me I had a red head? But I can run faster than any of them that are no bigger than I am, and some that are. One of the spokes of my umbrella broke itself in two yesterday, the wind blew so when it rained.

We learn to sing. He says I've a good deal of voice; but I've forgot what the matter is with it. We go up and down the scale, and beat time. The last is the best fun. The other is hard to do. But if I could only get up, I guess 't would be easy to come down. He thinks something ails my ear. I thought he said I had n't got any at all. What have a fellow's ears to do with singing, or with sealing up and down?

Your affectionate grandchild,
WILLIAM HENRY.

My dear Grandmother,—I've got thirty-two cents left of my spending-money. When shall I begin to wear my new shoes every day? The soap they have here is pink. Has father sold the bossy calf yet? There's a boy here they call Bossy Calf, because he cried for his mother. He sleeps with me, and after he has laid his head down on the pillow, and the lights are blown out, I begin to sing, and to seal up and down, so the boys can't hear him cry. Dorry Baker and three more boys sleep in the same room that we two sleep in. When they begin to throw bootjacks at me, to make me stop my noise, it scares him, and he leaves off crying. This is a picture of it.



I want a pair of new boots dreadfully, with red on the tops of them, that I can tuck my trousers into and keep the mud off.

One thing more the boys plague me for besides my head. Freckles. Dorry held up an orange yesterday. "Can you see it?" says he. "To be sure," says I. "Did n't know as you could see through 'em," says he, meaning freckles. Dear grandmother, I have cried once. But not in bed. For fear of their laughing. And of the bootjacks. But away in a good place under the trees. A shaggy dog came along and licked my face. But oh! he did make me remember Towser, and cry all over again. But don't tell. I should be ashamed. I wish the boys would like me. Freckles come thicker in summer than they do in winter.

Your affectionate grandchild,
WILLIAM HENRY.

P. S. Here's a conundrum Dorry Baker made; In a race, why would the singing-master win? Because "Time flies," and he beats time.

I want to see Aunt Phebe, and Aunt Phebe's little Tommy, dreadfully.

My dear Grandmother,—I do what you told me. You told me to bite my lips and count ten, before I spoke, when the boys plague me, because I'm a spunky boy. But doing it so much makes my lips sore. So now I go head over heels sometimes, till I'm out of breath. Then I can't say anything.

This is the account you asked me for, of all I've bought this week:

Slippery elm	1 cent.
Corn ball	1 cent.
Gum	1 cent.

And I swapped a whip-lash I found for an orange that only had one suck sucked out of it. The "Two Betseys," they keep very good things to sell. They are two old women that live in a little hut with two rooms to it, and a ladder to go up stairs by, through a hole in the wall. One Betsey she is lame and keeps still, and sells the things to us sitting down. The other Betsey, she can run, and keeps a yard-stick to drive away boys with. For they have



apple-trees in their garden. But she never touches a boy, if she does catch him. They have hens and sell eggs.

The boys that sleep in the same room that we do wanted Benjie and me to join together with them to buy a great confecturer's frosted cake, and other things. And when the lamps had been blown out, to keep awake and light them up again, and so

have a supper late at night, with the curtains all down and the blinds shut up, when people were in bed, and not let anybody know.

But Benjie had n't any money. Because his father works hard for his living,—and his uncle pays for his schooling,—and the would n't if he had. And I said I would n't do anything so deceitful. And the more they said you must and you shall, the more I said I would n't and I should n't, and the money should blow up first.

So they called me "Old Stingy" and "Pepper-corn" and "Speckled Potatoes." Said they'd pull my hair if 't were n't for burning their fingers. Dorry was the maddest one. Said he guessed my hair was tired of standing up, and wanted to lie down to rest.

I wish you would please send me a new comb, for the large end of mine has got all but five of the teeth broken out, and the small end can't get through. I can't get it out because the barber has raised his price. Send quite a stout one.

I have lost two more pocket-handkerchiefs, and another one went up on Dorry's kite, and blew away.

Your affectionate grandchild,
WILLIAM HENRY.

My dear Grandmother,—I did what you told me, when I got wet. I hung my clothes round the kitchen stove on three chairs, but the cooking girl she flung them under the table. So now I go wrinkled, and the boys chase me to smooth out the wrinkles. I've got a good many hard rubs. But I laugh too. That's the best way. Some of the boys play with me now, and ask me to go round with them. Dorry has n't yet. Tom Cush plagues the most.

Sometimes the schoolmaster comes out to see us when we are playing ball, or jumping. To-day, when we clapped Dorry, the schoolmaster clapped too. Somebody told me that he likes boys. Do you believe it?

A cat ran up the spout this morning, and jumped in the window. Dorry was going to choke her, or down her, for the working-girl said she licked out the inside of a custard-pie. I asked Dorry what he'd take to let her go, and he said five cents. So I paid. For she

was just like my sister's cat. And just as likely as that somebody's little sister would have cried about it. For she had a ribbon tied round her neck.

The woman that I go to have my buttons sewed on to, is a very good woman. She gave me a cookie with a hole in the middle, and told me to mind and not eat the hole.

Coming back, I met Benjie, and he looked so sober, I offered it to him as quick as I could. But it almost made him cry; because, he said, his mother made her cookies with a hole in the middle. But when he gets acquainted, he won't be so bashful, and he'll feel better then.

We walked away to a good place under the trees, and he talked about his folks, and his grandmother, and his Aunt Polly, and the two little twins. They've got two cradles just like each other, and just as old. They creep round on the floor, and when one p's up anything, the other pulls it away. I wish we had some twins.

Kiss yourself for me.

Your affectionate grandchild,
WILLIAM HENRY.

P. S. If you send a cake, send quite a large one. I like the kind that Uncle Jacob does. Aunt Phebe knows.—*Mrs. A. M. Diaz, in "Young Folks."*

RIDDLES.
No. 244.

SCRIPTURE ENIGMA.

I am composed of 52 letters.—
My 9, 34, 21, 5, 8 was translated.
My 6, 16, 19, 32, 3, 28 was King of Edom.
My 4, 30, 16 was the son of Peleg.
My 31, 40, 42 is a person spoken of in the Bible.
My 7, 38, 36, 39, 3, 50, 45, 47 is one of the seven churches which were in Asia.
My 11, 21, 12, 24, 2, 49, 33, 16, 1 was a centurion.
My 10, 43, 18, 14, 26, 42, 46 was the first Christian martyr.
My 15, 27, 17, 39, 38, was Abram's father.
My 35, 21, 22, 47, 38 was the son of Sagar.
My 13, 1, 47, 23, 3, 26 was a prophet.
My 20, 21, 21, 25, 10, 7, 21, 48 was made of gold and belonged to Solomon's temple.
My 51, 48, 29 was an insect that infested the houses of the Egyptians.
My 46, 41, 38, 44, 28, 1, 47, 26 is a book of the Bible.
My 52 is a letter of the alphabet.
My whole is a command of Christ.

No. 245.

Beer in my first is drawn and sold,
A vowel then place next;
A part of man's support then find,
And add unto the text:
A vegetable then you'll view,
Which must indeed be known to you.

No. 246.

Why is a blacksmith the most dissatisfied of mechanics?

PROBLEM.

The head of a fish is four feet long; the tail as long as the head, and one-half the length of the body; the body as long as the head and tail. What is the length of the fish?

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES.

No. 240.—Farthingale.
No. 241.—Farewell.
No. 242.—Enigma.—Arno, Chili, Iron, Lima, Como, Blanc, Romania; Abraham Lincoln.
No. 243.—Because they write about fate.

The Miscellany.

GREATNESS IN LITTLE THINGS.

BY ARY SHEPHERD.

That is not greatness, calmness, strength of soul,
When, once for all, thou dost experience
Some sudden, terrible calamity,
Some last, decisive, heavy blow of fate,
The loss of reputation, of estate,
Of those thou lov'st, of health, of happiness,
And still remainest patient and composed:
That is necessity laid on thy soul;
But if thou bearest all the lesser cares,
Burdens, and torments of each passing day,
Nor feel'st them bitter; if, serene and strong,
Thou bearest little trials, blessing God,—
That, only that, dear soul, is greatness, strength,
Collectedness of spirit, godly walk.
For little griefs thou mightest not endure,
But scorn them; prove thyself inferior
Ev'n to thy destiny. Then use, O heart,
Courage and strength, mildness and cheerfulness,
Where only thou canst do it,—in little things.

THE SON OF MY FRIEND.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "TEN NIGHTS IN A BAR-ROOM."
(Continue.)

With what a loving care and wise discretion did she set herself to work to withdraw her son from the dangerous path in which his feet were walking; and she would have been successful, but for one thing. The customs of society were against her. She could not keep him away from the parties and evening entertainments of her friends, and here all the good resolutions she had led him to make were as flax fibres in the flame of a candle. He had no strength to resist when wine sparkled and flashed all around him, and bright eyes and ruby lips invited him to drink. It takes more than ordinary firmness of principle to abstain in a fashionable company of ladies and gentlemen, where wine and brandy flow as water. In the case of Albert Martindale, two things were against him. He was not strong enough to set himself against any tide of custom, in the first place; and in the second, he had the allurements of appetite.

I knew all this, when with my own hand, I wrote on one of our cards of invitation, "Mr. and Mrs. Martindale and family;" but did not think of it, until the card was written. As I laid it aside with the rest, the truth flashed on me and sent a thrill of pain along every nerve. My heart grew sick and my head faint, as thoughts of the evil that might come to the son of my friend in consequence of the temptation I was about to throw in his way rushed through my mind. My first idea was to recall the card, and I lifted it from the table with a half-formed resolution to destroy it. But a moment's reflection changed this purpose. I could not give a large entertainment and leave out my nearest friend and her family.

The pain and wild agitation of that moment were dreadful. I think all good spirits and angels that could get near my conscious life strove with me, for the sake of a soul in peril, to hold me back from taking another step in the way I was going; for it was not too late to abandon the party.

When, after a long struggle with right convictions, I resumed my work of filling up the cards of invitation, I had such a blinding headache that I could scarcely see the letters my pen was forming; and when the task was done, I went to bed, unable to bear up against the double burden of intense bodily and mental anguish.

The cards went on, and the question of the party was settled beyond recall. But that did not soothe the disquietude of my spirit. I felt the perpetual burden of a great and troubling responsibility. Do what I would, there was for me no ease of mind. Waking or sleeping, the thought of Alfred Martindale and his mother haunted me continually.

At last the evening came, and our guests began to arrive, in party dresses and party faces, richly attired, smiling and gracious. Among the earliest were Mr. and Mrs. Martindale, their son and daughter. The light in my friend's eyes, as we clasped hands and looked into each other's faces, did not conceal the shadows of anxious fear that rested on them. As I held Alfred's hand, and gazed at him for a moment, a pang shot through my heart. Would he go out as pure and manly as he had come in? Alas, no! for I had made provision for his fall.

The company was large and fashionable. I shall not attempt a description of the dresses, nor venture an estimate touching the value of diamonds. I have no heart for this. No doubt the guests enjoyed themselves to the degree usual on such occasions. I cannot say as much for at least one of the hosts. In the supper-room stood a table, the sight of which had smitten my eyes with pain. Its image was perpetually before me. All the evening, while my outward eyes looked into happy faces, my inward gaze rested gloomily on decanters of brandy and bottles of wine crowding the supper-table, to which I was soon to invite young men—mere boys, some of them—and maidens, whose glad voices filled the air of my drawing-rooms.

I tried to console myself by the argument that I was only doing as the rest did,—following a social custom; and that society was responsible,—not the individual. But this did not lift the weight of concern and self-condemnation that so heavily oppressed me.

At last word came that all was ready in the supper-room. The hour was eleven. Our guests passed in to where smoking viands, rich confectionery, and exhilarating draughts awaited them. We had prepared a liberal entertainment, a costly feast of all available delicacies. Almost the first sound that greeted my ears after entering the supper-room, was the "pop" of a champagne cork. I looked in the direction from whence it came, and saw a bottle in the hands of Albert Martindale. A little back from the young man stood his mother. Our eyes met. Oh, the pain and reproach in the glance of my friend! I could not bear it, but turned my face away.

I neither ate nor drank anything. The most tempting dish had no allurements for my palate, and I shivered at the thought of tasting wine. I was strangely and unnaturally disturbed; yet forced to command myself and be affable and smiling to our guests.

"Observe Mrs. Gordon," I heard a lady near me say in a low voice to her companion.

"What of her?" was returned.

"Follow the direction of her eyes."

I did so, as well as the ladies near me, and saw that Mrs. Gordon was looking anxiously at one of her sons, who was filling his glass for it, might be, the second or third time.

"It is no place for that young man," one of them remarked. "I pity his mother. Tom is a fine fellow at heart, and has a bright mind; but he is falling into habits that will, I fear, destroy him. I think he has too much self-respect to visit bar-rooms frequently; but an occasion like this gives him a liberty that is freely used to his hurt. It is all very respectable; and the best people set an example he is too ready to follow."

I heard no more, but that was quite enough to give my nerves a new shock, and fill my heart with a new disquietude. A few minutes afterwards, I found myself at the side of Mrs. Gordon. To a remark that I made, she answered in an absent kind of way, as though the meaning of what I said did not reach her thought. She looked past me; I followed her eyes with mine, and saw her youngest boy, not yet eighteen, with a glass of champagne to his lips. He was drinking with a too apparent sense of enjoyment. The sigh that passed the mother's lips, smote my ears with accusation.

"Mrs. Carleton!" A frank, cheery voice dropped into my ear. It was that of Albert Martindale, the son of my friend. He was handsome; and had a free, winning manner. I saw by the flush in his cheeks, and the gleam in his eyes, that wine had already quickened the flow of blood in his veins.

"You are enjoying yourself," I said.

"Oh, splendidly!" then bending to my ear he added—"You've given the finest entertainment of the season."

"Hush!" I whispered, raising my finger. Then added, in a warning tone—"Enjoy it in moderation, Albert."

His brows knitted slightly. The crowd parted us, and we did not meet again during the evening.

By twelve o'clock, most of the ladies had withdrawn from the supper room; but the excitement of wine held too many of the men there—young and old. Bursts of coarse laughter, loud exclamations, and snatches of song, rang out from the company in strange confusion. It was difficult to realize that the actors in this scene of revelry were gentlemen, and gentlemen's sons, so called, and not coarse frequenters of a corner-tavern.

Guests now began to withdraw quietly. It was about half past twelve when Mrs. Martindale came down from the dressing-room, with her daughter, and joined Mr. Martindale in the hall, where he had been waiting for them.

"Where is Albert?" I heard the mother ask.

"In the supper room, I presume; I've looked for him in the parlors," Mr. Martindale answered.

"I will call him for you," I said, coming forward.

"Oh, do if you please," my friend replied. There was a husky tremor in her voice.

I went to the supper-room. All the ladies had retired, and the door was shut. What a scene for a gentleman's house presented itself! Cigars had been lighted, and the air was thick with smoke. As I pushed open the door, my ear was fairly stunned by the confusion of sounds. There was a hush of voices, and I saw bottles from many hands set quickly upon the table, and glasses removed from lips already too deeply stained with wine. With three or four exceptions, all of this company were young men and boys. Near the door was the person I sought.

"Albert!" I called; and the young man came forward. His face was darkly flushed, and his eyes red and glittering.

"Albert, your mother is going," I said.

"Give her my compliments," he answered, with an air of mock courtesy, "and tell her that she has my gracious permission."

"Come!" I urged. "She is waiting for you."

He shook his head resolutely. "I'm not going for an hour, Mrs. Carleton. Tell mother not to trouble herself. I'll be home in good time."

I urged him, but in vain.

"Tell him that he must come!" Mrs. Martindale turned on her husband an appealing look of distress, when I gave her Albert's reply.

But the father did not care to assert an authority which might not be heeded, and answered,—"Let him enjoy himself with the rest. Young blood beats quicker than old."

(To be Continued.)

[For the MONTREAL WITNESS.]
RECOLLECTIONS OF A CHECKERED LIFE.

CHAPTER III.

DOWNHILL.

I must here request the reader to banish from his mind the idea that vanity, or any equally unworthy motive, has led me into mentioning the transactions narrated in the last chapter, or those to which I am about to refer in the present. As I said before, those references are made solely for the purpose of showing by contrast the position which a person may occupy when temperate or moderately so, and that to which intemperance will bring him. As we progress, scenes of the most degrading character will be described; but, before descending into what may be called those subterranean horrors, let me once for all describe in plain language the position which I held about this time. It will be seen from what has already been said that

it was no pettifoggish business in which I was engaged. I had a large correspondence with different parts of the world, and have had at one time as many as thirteen vessels loading or discharging in New York harbor, whole or part of their cargoes on my account. I conducted all the correspondence, did the buying and selling, and managed the finance of this large business myself. I had a reputation for honor and integrity which I believe was deserved. I was at my business early and late; and, though constantly tripping, could not be said ever to have been put *hors de combat* by drink. But a crisis was coming both in my affairs and in my habits. After having allowed large sums to get "locked up," as it is called; and, having made heavy bad debts, I was obliged to stop payment; or, in plain language, to fail. I thought I had enough to pay every one; and, making an assignment for the benefit of my creditors, commenced business as a broker, without a penny of capital, or before I was discharged from my old debts. I had a large acquaintance, and, being well liked, my friends (among others, my former creditors) stuck to me and patronized me in my new business, in spite of my drinking habits, which were now beginning to attract attention. In less than a year, I was well up hill in business again, but far down hill in a moral sense. The mortification of having failed led me to drink deeper, and it was no uncommon thing for me to tipple all day while at business; and, after heavy libations during the evening, to go to bed in an almost insensible state. I became known as one ever willing to treat the crowd,—in fact to treat anybody who seemed willing to drink.

A rather curious, and what might have proved a serious, adventure grew out of this peculiarity. I was in the habit of patronizing a hair-dresser, a very decent man, who had his pole displayed in the business part of the town. One evening, having been late at business, I happened to pass his shop just as he was locking up, and I requested him to cross the street and take a "drink," which is the invariable appellation bestowed upon any choice you may make of the contents of a bar in the United States. Before we left the bar, we imbibed several times; and I found myself too late to catch the boat which should take me to Island. There was then no hurry, so I set myself to the laudable occupation of making Mr. Irons, as Punch would call the hair-dresser, drunk. I succeeded tolerably well, but had little sobriety to boast of myself. Finally, I accompanied him to his house, where I was introduced to more than I bargained for. In the first place, I was made acquainted with the dining-room, which was well furnished, and upon the table of which was a handsomely set dinner for four people. It had the appearance of having been hot when set, perhaps three hours before, and had not been touched. In the second place, I was introduced to Mrs. Irons, who soon made her appearance and convinced me in a brief space that my poor friend had a second edition of Xantippe for a spouse. Her figure was of the bean-stalk pattern, being tall and slender. Her nose somewhat resembled a three-day-old moon, her eyes of a wicked gray, her color was of the livid persuasion, and her hair was of a most energetic red. After giving Mr. Irons a round of her artillery with considerable effect, she faced about and gave me a discharge of grape and canister in the most approved style. Before her husband or I could say anything, she had exhausted all the opprobrious epithets imaginable, accusing me of keeping her husband from home and family every night; and, to crown all, of having had the audacity to show myself before her injured innocence, in her own house. I stammered out an apology for the intrusion, and ventured to hint that there must be some mistake, as this was the first occasion on which I had had the honor of being social with her lord and master. Mr. Irons also came to the rescue, by assuring her that I was not the young man that she took me for. She, in turn, apologized, and left the room; I fear only for the purpose of "nursing her wrath to keep it warm," until she should get poor Irons by himself.

In the meantime, he fortified himself by producing a bottle of excellent sherry, which we discussed between us, and I took my leave. I remember getting on the street, and then a blank occurs. When I came to myself, I was lying on the floor of what seemed to be a large room, with a stool for a pillow. Daylight was peeping through the shutters, and, on my getting up, a figure which the uncertain light and surprise magnified into a colossus, approached me from a corner of the room. Before I had time to build many theories as to my position, the shutters were opened, and the bright sunshine reduced my colossus to a man of usual dimensions, dressed in shabby black clothes, with bleared eyes and a decidedly rabid nose. Evidently he was a toper, but he proved to be a good-hearted and an honest man. I inquired where I was, and, before he had time to answer, asked for something to drink; for my throat felt as if I had swallowed all the Egyptian mummies from the original Pharaoh downwards. He informed me that I was in his house in Brooklyn (a suburb of New York), and that, if I would furnish the needful cash, he would endeavor to procure something to drink. This led me to feel my usual depositories, and all was safe. A bottle of rum having been produced, and almost half of it drunk between us in silence, I at last learned that he was porter in a respectable hatter's in New York; that this was his house, which was situated in a lane off—street; and that, on coming home late the night before, he found me, lying in the lane in a motionless condition, with three or four young fellows round me "admirer" my watch. He carried me into his house and laid me on the floor, where I had remained motionless till a short time before. He had evidently found me in time to save me from being robbed, perhaps murdered, for it was not a very respectable locality. How I had come there, or how I had become insensible, I never learned; but on getting a shower bath, after returning home, I was as well as ever. Of course I did not forget my

friend who had sheltered me so opportunely. But, poor fellow, I soon found that if he had a great heart, he had, like myself, a weak head; or had got a strong one weakened by the infallible recipe for such a transaction,—that of strong drink; for I soon had a call from his wife in great distress, her husband having been dismissed from his employment after repeated warnings.

About this time, this fearful vice came near bringing my career to a tragic conclusion. Many of my readers are aware that New York city is built on an island, Manhattan by name. This island, and consequently the city, is almost surrounded by piers for shipping. Those piers are of a very simple construction, being formed by piles driven into the mud and planked over by heavy timber. Of course the tide ebbs and flows underneath. One evening, in the beginning of winter, I started off for a pier up town, where I expected a friend to land by a steamer from Europe. On the way up, I had met several friends, and had imbibed freely. The gas was lit along the streets before I got to my destination; so that going out of the light on to the pier which was not lighted, and not being very luminous myself, I walked clean over into the Hudson River. I am a poor swimmer, the tide was low, and there was no vessel in the neighborhood. Such a plunge soon sobered me, and I had need of all my senses. The tide carried me under the pier, but the piles on which it was built were wet and slippery, so that I could neither climb up nor hold on. Add to my other difficulties, it was freezing, and the wind was blowing hard. At last I thought my time was come, but a merciful Providence had decreed that I should not perish in this miserable manner. Almost exhausted, I got on my back and floated, and with every remaining energy shouted for help. Fortunately I was heard, and before long two men came in a small boat and rescued me. One of them, who was captain of a small vessel at the nearest pier, proved indeed to be a good Samaritan. He took me on board his vessel, gave some brandy, and put me to bed. When I awoke in the morning, my clothes were dried and cleaned, my silk hat had been fished out, taken to the hatter's, and blocked; my watch was wound up and set to the correct time, and the paper money which I had in my pocket was dried and fit for using. I had about £4 or £5 of money, yet would not this excellent man take a fraction of it or hear of any reward whatever. He had a little son with him, however, to whom I managed to convey a small token of my gratitude. Shortly after, he left with his vessel, and I never saw him again.

Let those who are in the habit of associating Yankees with meanness and inordinate love of money modify their opinions and remember that, in more senses than one, "he is not a gem that is one outwardly," for this was a Yankee and to the manner born, being a native of Massachusetts. In my intercourse with men of different nations, I have observed that though certain characteristics may predominate in a race, yet the several virtues and vices are to be found in individuals irrespective of climate or nationality.

(To be Continued.)

AGRICULTURAL.

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PRUNING.

In former efforts to explain the principles which should guide the operator in the practice of pruning, we have endeavored to show that the result which is to follow amputation depends more upon the time at which the pruning knife or chisel is applied than upon the number of branches removed; that if the operation be performed after the inception of the period of rest in autumn, and before the commencement of rapid growth in spring, the more buds we remove the greater vigor we shall impart to the growth of the remaining ones, because these latter luxuriate upon the whole supply of gums or sugar stored for the family of buds, including the amputated ones as well as themselves.

Whilst if the operation be performed in mid-summer or later, while the system of leaves is in vigor, and the leaves themselves are actively at work in the digestion and assimilation of that plant-food which is to be converted into gum and sugar, supplies for the buds of a succeeding year, then the buds of that succeeding year will be enfeebled, because, by lessening the system of leaves, we lessen the power of assimilation, and consequently the stores of bud food laid up.

If these principles be true, which we believe, then pruning in September is not allowable in the apple and pear orchard, unless with a view to weaken the force of the wood system of buds for next year and encourage the development of the fruit-bearing force; but in our experience there are some apples and quite a number of pears which, under good tillage, seem too little inclined to fruitfulness. Among pears of acknowledged merit we may mention: Tyson, Beurre Bosc, Doyenne, Boussock, Columbia, Beurre Easter, and perhaps a few others. Among apples, there are fewer varieties which persistently refuse to bear, but Rome Beauty and Northern Spy are examples of that class. Even as late as September, something may be done to check this too great tendency to wood growth. Any removal of branches with their leaves, thereby affording free ventilation, will be serviceable; but the operator should abstain from the removal of branches which would let in the rays of the hot sun to the main upright branches. During the age of puberty, the apple and pear have their branches covered with an epidermis, which is elastic and in texture very like India-rubber. In spring, this material softens and expands with the growing branches, and in stretching sometimes forms openings which are filled and made whole by exudations from the medullary matter in the green substance or parenchyma under this elastic covering. It is bad policy to let in the rays of the sun to such branches, because, when exposed too directly the epidermis may harden and become incapable of expansion under pressure of the

animal growth, ending in a disease known to orchardists as "bark-bound." But when a tree presents to the eye the appearance of a solid globe or cone of leaves and branches, all the branches with their leaves that can now be removed will have a tendency to encourage the development of fruit-buds. In cases where such restricted pruning seems inadequate, the operator may resort to root pruning which should be done by laying bare the horizontal stratum of root tops, digging for this purpose a circular ditch around the body of the tree, the circumference of the ditch removed from the body a distance conforming somewhat with the horizontal length of the branches. In this ditch, some ten inches wide, as the spade or shovel operated with shall be larger or smaller, the surface roots may be cut with a suitable instrument, shortening to the inner or outer margin of the ditch at the discretion of the operator.

In pear-culture it is practicable, by bending the branches to a horizontal position (it being the general habit of the pear to throw up its branches in a perpendicular position and conical shape), or even bending over the points where the branches start out in a whirl, to aid very considerably in superinducing a state of fruitfulness.

AGAINST SHOEING HORSES.

I drive and work a span of 1000 lb. horses, which have not had shoes on their feet for five years, and never on their hind feet, and I always regretted the mistake of putting shoes on their fore feet, even in one winter. I avoid all heavy hauling while ice prevails, but drive them even up and down hills, and as fast as the best shod horses. They were made lame by shoeing, but never since, and their hoofs are almost as hard as iron itself. So, I say, keep shoes off colts as long as possible. If their feet become tender, let nature have a little time to increase her power of resistance, then go on again. It is amazing to all inveterate horse-shoers to see what substantial work nature will do for the feet of our horses, if we only give permission. Against the practice of early, constant, and indiscriminate shoeing, I urge the following considerations; viz.,—the time, trouble and cost; the breaking of a hoof—by shoeing and becoming tender—if a shoe comes off unawares or at a distance from a blacksmith; the liability to distressing limps and constant lameness from interfering corks; the habitual caking of themselves, causing lameness, and often split-hoof for life; the serious consequences that attend the kicking of sharp-shod horses; the putting of iron weights upon those extremities that God intended to be as light as possible. My young span, Lightfoot and Fleeting, that easily go three and a half miles to the post-office and return in from forty to sixty minutes, are not likely very soon to exchange the elastic step of the light-shod Yankee for the dead tramp of the English peasant, whose double soled, iron-spiked, or planted clogs are well nigh inhuman. I have known very heavy horses, unshod when young, attain an elastic, light step that lasted all their lives, even though shod at a later period.

"But do your horses never fall upon the ice?"

I answer yes, about as often as the shod ones, and with this difference: they have thereby damaged themselves with their ever-dangerous corks, while mine are unharmed, and soon learn better than to fall if ever so icy. I speak not of heavy draft horses on macadamized streets and levees, or of roadsters in a rock-bound country, but of prairie farm-horses, and thousands of others, too, which are so very needlessly shod. I say begin right with the next colt, and keep the horse-shoeing shop off the farm.—Letter in Farmer.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SLEEPING-ROOMS.—Sleeping-rooms should always face the South, so as to secure all that is possible of the drying, life-giving, and purifying influences of the sun's rays. In modern Rome this is perfectly understood by the citizens, and just double is asked for a room, or a parlor, or lodging-place which faces the sun, that is asked for one of a northern exposure, into which a sun's ray never enters. With us, many a man builds a house so that the halls or passages are between the sun and their chambers.

THE WILLOW WHISTLE.—Who does not love to make a willow whistle, or to see one made? Can you not recall your first lesson in the art,—the cutting of the flexible bough, the choosing a smooth part, passing the knife round it, above and below, pounding it judiciously, wringing it earnestly, and feeling the hollow cylinder of bark at last slipping on the sappy, ivory-white, fragrant wood? That little plaything grew, with the growth of art and civilization, to be the great organ which thunders at Haarlem or in Boston. Respect the willow whistle.

A CHINESE GOD-SPEED.—A strange scene occurred at San Francisco a few days ago, when the steamer "Great Republic" sailed from that port, on her first trip to China and Japan. At the moment of departure, the Chinese, who crowded the wharf in their holiday attire, flung after the steamer into the Bay of San Francisco, thousands on thousands of long slips of bright enamelled yellow and red papers, inscribed with prayers to unknown gods for the vessel, that "the great depths of the sea should spare her and all on board, and gentle waves and propitious winds wait her swiftly to her haven in the Central Flowery Land."

A GOOD SUGGESTION.—Weston, the noted pedestrian, recently walked from Portland, Me., to Chicago, Ill., over 1,200 miles, in twenty-six days. Alluding to this feat, the N. Y. Tribune proposes that the next job of the kind shall be a trial between two or more men to decide which can saw the most wood for poor families,—the timber to be contributed by those enthusiastic admirers of muscle who have been venturing their spare stamps upon the endurance of the renowned pedestrian. A good suggestion, surely. Physical energy ought to be turned to a better account than in walking and prize-fighting.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(BY ATLANTIC CABLE.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, noon.—The Fenians are still active. The new sensation is the effort made last evening to destroy the gas-works at Glasgow. Three attempts had been made, the night before, to destroy the gas-works at Warrington, near Liverpool. In both cases, the efforts were unsuccessful. The authorities in those cities are doubly watchful, and no further trouble is apprehended. Despatches from various parts of the Kingdom report everything quiet to-day.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Government is still taking precautionary measures to guard against the expected movements of the Fenians. The troops which were yesterday despatched for Portsmouth, were to-day sent to Osborne, Isle of Wight.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 21.—Information has been received here that the ship "Paragon," from Quebec, and reported lost, has put into Milford in distress. The "Paragon" had experienced a heavy gale, and suffered considerable damage; she also lost her deck load.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The London Observer says:—The British Government, in all the extraordinary precautions which it is now taking against the Fenians, is acting with a full knowledge of their secret plans. The alarm caused by the Fenians in the city is subsiding.

Advices from Japan announce that, in accordance with the treaty concluded with the Commissioners of the foreign powers, the ports of Yeddo and Osaka, will be thrown open to foreigners for settlement and commerce on the 29th of January next.

VIENNA, Dec. 22.—The new Constitution of Austria, which recently passed the Reichsrath, has been officially promulgated throughout the Empire by Imperial decree.

PARIS, 22nd.—The bill for the reorganization of the army, which has been under discussion for the past week in the Senate, was introduced in the Corps Legislatif by M. Gressier, and was debated during the sitting of yesterday. M. Gressier, on reporting the bill, made a speech, explaining the features and defending the character of the measure. He denied that it was a preparation for early war, because in reality it would operate to reduce the present effective force of the army. He insisted that the measure was intended only as a wise provision for the necessities of the future. M. Rouher, the Minister of State, also spoke in support of the bill. He strongly protested against the opinion which had been expressed that the introduction of the bill looked to war with a foreign power; and declared that the bill was not proposed by the government as a temporary expedient to meet an immediate contingency, but as a permanent measure to improve the organization and promote the general efficiency of the military forces of the empire. M. Jules Favre made a powerful speech in opposition to the bill. Toward the close of the sitting, a vote was taken, and the Ministry was sustained by a majority of two. The result was received by the opposition with loud cheering.

FLORENCE, Dec. 22.—The long and angry debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the policy of the Government on the Roman question, terminated yesterday. A final vote was taken, and the Ministry was defeated by a majority of two. The result was received by the opposition with loud cheering.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Fenianism still engrosses a fair share of public attention, though the excitement caused by the recent outrages has pretty much died out. There is a wide-spread and ever increasing feeling favorable to the amelioration of the condition of the Irish, as the most effective means of suppressing Fenianism. The Times this morning strongly favors this idea, and hopes and believes that the next session of the Parliament will be occupied with the consideration of Irish affairs.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—The Governments of France and Italy have commenced negotiations for the abrogation of the September Convention, with the understanding that any agreement they may arrive at in the matter shall be submitted to the approval of the other Powers of Europe.

The Italian Parliament, by a recent vote, refused to pay the interest on the debt of the Provinces formerly belonging to the States of the Church, which debt was assumed by Italy when those provinces were annexed to the Kingdom. The French Government has sent a despatch to Florence protesting against this action of the Legislature.

FLORENCE, Dec. 23.—The National Parliament will, at an early day, vote to re-affirm, in a solemn manner, its declaration that the city of Rome belongs to Italy as the capital of the nation.

In consequence of the adverse vote at the conclusion of the House of Deputies last week, the members of the Cabinet have tendered their resignations to the King, but await the judgment of his Majesty on their acts. The new Ministry, it is reported, will probably be organized under Marshal Darand.

LONDON, Dec. 23, evening.—The regular police force of this metropolis has been largely increased. Timothy Desmond and Jerry Allen, the alleged perpetrators of the Clerkenwell explosion, were brought before a magistrate to-day, and underwent a preliminary examination, at the close of which they were remanded to jail.

ROME, Dec. 23.—The Holy Father, in an Allocution, congratulated his hearers on the defeat of Garibaldi and the preservation of the Holy See from a great danger.

PARIS, Dec. 23, evening.—It is rumored that Ratazzi will resume the premiership of Italy, and will form a new Cabinet hostile to France. The French Government is seriously considering the necessity of ordering the troops of the French expedition remaining at Civita Vecchia to return to Rome, and members of a secret political society which has held its meetings in this city have been sentenced to imprisonment.

Message of the Duke of Wellington to the President of the United States:—"LONDON, Dec. 21, 1867.—The Duke of Wellington, the directors, and scientific guests now at the Royal Polytechnic, London, England, send their most respectful greeting to the President of the United States, their apology being that to the discoveries of science the intercourse between the two great nations is indebted."

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1867.—To the Duke of Wellington, London.—I reciprocate the friendly salutation of the banqueting party at the Royal Polytechnic, and cordially agree with them in the sentiment that free and quick communication between the nations is an important agent in preserving peace and good understanding throughout the world, and advancing the interests of civilization."

(Signed,) "ANDREW JOHNSON." The reply occupied twenty-nine minutes in actual transmission. On the same evening, a message of twenty-two words was started from the Polytechnic for Heart's Content at exactly 9 p. m., and at 10 minutes past nine the reply of 24 words was delivered.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The accounts received at Massowah of the condition and progress of the British expedition in Abyssinia are all favorable. The army was steadily advancing into the interior. Up to date of the latest despatches, they had met with no opposition, but on the contrary, they had been received in a friendly manner by the natives everywhere along the line of march.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—The debate on the bill for the reorganization of the army was continued in the Corps Legislatif yesterday. Marshal Niel made a speech, in which he defended the bill on the ground that such a measure would have the tendency to prevent war and would effect a guarantee of peace. M. Jules Favre spoke for the second time against the bill, denouncing it in strong terms as a dangerous instrument. M. Ollivier said the introduction of the bill at this time proved that the Government anticipated an early war. He thought France would be much stronger and better prepared for hostile contingencies should a constitutional system of Government be granted to the nation. This he most ardently wished the country would eventually have.

PARIS, Dec. 24th, evening.—The unsettled condition of affairs in Florence causes much anxiety here. The changes impending in the Italian Government, it is feared, will place Italy in a menacing attitude towards France. The feeling on the Bourze is uneasy, and rentes have been flat and nominal all day.

FLORENCE, Dec. 24th.—The existing Cabinet is not to be dissolved. Some changes in its composition will be made, but Gen. Menabrea will remain at the head of the Government, and, under his directions, the reorganization of the ministry will proceed.

LONDON, Dec. 24th.—Despatches from China state that, owing to the urgent remonstrances and formidable demonstrations made by the foreign powers, the Firmans have promised to treat shipwrecked sailors with humanity hereafter. The Chinese government has guaranteed that the promise shall be kept.

VIENNA, Dec. 24th.—The bill for the emancipation of the Jews has passed the Reichsrath.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The precautions of the Government against the Fenians continue. Very extensive and unusual preparations have been made to-day, which indicate that the authorities are in possession of information that a general attempt is to be made by the Fenians to rescue the prisoners confined in various parts of the United Kingdom for complicity in the late outrages, both in England and Ireland. In addition to the regular police-force, special constables are everywhere on duty, and other precautionary measures have been adopted by the Government, which, it is hoped, will result in the preservation of order.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Times, in an editorial on the Abyssinian war, says that it fears the war will be protracted until next year. It blames Sir Wm. Napier, the commander of the British forces, for the delays which the expedition has encountered, and says that nothing of consequence can be done during the present season.

The Russian Government has addressed a note to the Government of France, protesting earnestly against the shifting policy of the latter upon the Eastern question.

Advices from China, by the Overland mail and telegraph, report that the rebels are meeting with success in their operations against the Imperial Government.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24th.—The Tribune's St. Thomas correspondence says that up to the 2nd inst., there had been five hundred shocks of earthquake felt there.

The New York Times understands that the United States, American, and Adams Express Companies have entered into an understanding with the Merchants' Union Company, mutually advantageous for the transaction of their business.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Washington's special despatch says, prominent Senators now here say the Senate will disagree by a very large majority to consent to the purchase of the Island of St. Thomas.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The news received from the West Indies by telegraph and otherwise is regarded in diplomatic circles as indicating a readiness and eagerness throughout all the islands for immediate annexation to the United States.

Boston, 24th.—A terrible gale swept over Pittsfield, in Berkshire Co., yesterday, doing serious damage.

CHICAGO, 24th.—A fire occurred in Stevens' lumber-yard to-day; loss, \$15,000. The steamer "Cambra," from Southampton, has arrived.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Considerable excitement exists in the town of Grenville, on account of an outrage committed by a negro, on the person of a married white woman, named Mrs. Brown. The negro fled and has not been arrested.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The Herald's Havana telegram says, the losses sustained by the earthquake at Antigua amounted to £10,000 sterling.

Intelligence has been received from Melbourne, dated Nov. 1. A gold nugget, weighing 500 ounces, had been found in Sandhurst. The abolition of the constitution was possible. The Government asks for five hundred thousand pounds sterling, and will then dissolve. The Chambers miners were flocking to the new diggings, near Nearysborough.

The U. S. gunboat "Shawmut" is at Aspinwall, about 150 miles north of Carthage. The steamer "Shawmut" lost her foremast and three men.

Advices from Panama to the 12th state that President Prado had gained a victory at Are-

quipa, and the city was completely surrounded by his division on the west and Gen. Bustamante on the east. Prado demanded the surrender of the city within three days. If refused, he would take decisive measures. The revolution in the north had been checked. The Chilean minister to Peru had asked to be relieved. Gen. Mosquera arrived at Panama on the 7th, en route for Peru, accompanied by Gen. Estrada and 100 men. In Bogota, in the Supreme Court, judges were suspected of complicity in Mosquera's treason. The Senate, however, acquitted them. Mosquera's banishment has been commuted to three years. The circulation of Imperial coin in Mexico is prohibited after September next.

Intelligence from Tortola to the 13th represents the people suffering greater privation than those of St. Thomas. The dead lie unburied, and a pestilence was threatened which could only be avoided by burning the corpses. The inhabitants are almost entirely without food. The Tortugas are washed away.

The news from Hayti is to the 4th. President Salnave had repulsed the Cacos. The black General Ulysses was causing general alarm by measures of conscription. A reign of terror was inaugurated, and the people were concealing themselves. The despotism of Salnave causes much opposition in the House of Representatives. The British Consul had asked for protection.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A long-conceived plan to rob the Merchants' Union Express Co. of three hundred thousand dollars was brought to light in Providence on Friday night, and the would-be robbers, J. Engley, nominal agent of the Co. at Providence, and C. A. Dean, were arrested.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Cuba specials contain news from San Domingo and Jamaica. An envoy had been sent to the U. S. Government by the Dominican authorities, probably in relation to the sale or lease of Samana. It is reported that Port au Prince, the capital of Hayti, had surrendered to Cabral.

The finances of Jamaica were much depressed. A deficiency of £50,000 was to be made up by additional duties.

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

BIRTHS.

LINTON.—At 35 King street, on the 25th inst., Mrs. Wm. Linton, of a daughter.

JACK.—On the 25th inst., Mrs. James Jack, of a daughter.

DUCLOS.—On the 22nd inst., at Montreal, the wife of E. A. Duclos, Chemist, of a daughter.

NIMMO.—In this city, on the 20th inst., Mrs. Chas. L. Nimmo, of a son.

SMARDON.—In this city, on the 20th inst., Mrs. John Smardon, of a daughter.

REES.—On the 22nd inst., at No. 2 Burnside Terrace, University street, the wife of D. J. Rees, Esq., of a son.

MARRIED.

RANDOLPH, HOLMAN.—On Tuesday evening, the 24th inst., at St. George's Church, by the Rev. Canon Bond, Henry William Randolph, of Sarah Hannah, the second eldest daughter of the late Capt. Geo. Holman, of Burtonville. No cards.

DRAKE, TAYLOR.—On the 21st inst., at Christ Church Cathedral, by the Rev. George Slack, M.A., Rural Dean, assisted by the Rev. Canon Loosmore, M.A., J. Morley Drake, Esq., M.D., to Mary A. Taylor, widow of the late Alex. Auld, Esq.

DIED.

MCCURDY.—At the St. Andrew's Home, in this city, on the 23rd inst., Mrs. Ann McCurdy, of Arran, Scotland, aged 88 years.

MULDON.—In this city, on the 22nd inst., after a protracted illness, Elizabeth Muldoon, aged 73 years.

DOUGLAS.—At Cincinnati, Ohio, on Monday morning, Dec. 16th, of scarlatina, Willie John, eldest son of Thos. S. and Catherine A. Douglas, late of this city.

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INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864, and

AMENDMENTS THERETO.—In the matter of SAMUEL POULON, of Montreal, an Insolvent.

—The creditors of the Insolvent are notified to meet at the office of the undersigned, Merchants' Exchange, St. Sacrament street, in the city of Montreal, on TUESDAY the 14th day of January next, at the hour of three o'clock p.m., for the public examination of the Insolvent, and for the ordering of the affairs of the estate generally. The Insolvent is hereby notified to attend.

A. B. STEWART, Assignee.

Montreal, Dec. 27th, 1867.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864, and

AMENDMENTS THERETO.—In the matter of DAME SOPHIE HERBERT, of Montreal, an Insolvent.

—The creditors of the Insolvent are notified to meet at the office of the undersigned, Merchants' Exchange, St. Sacrament street, in the city of Montreal, on TUESDAY the 14th day of January next, at the hour of four o'clock p.m., for the public examination of the Insolvent, and for the ordering of the affairs of the estate generally. The Insolvent is hereby notified to attend.

A. B. STEWART, Assignee.

Montreal, 27th Dec, 1867.

RAISINS, Layer and M. R.

boxes, halves, and quarters,

VALENCIAS, 4-boxes,

FIGS, small boxes,

CURRENTS, barrels,

CANDIED PEELS, 7 lb. boxes,

LIQUORICE, cases,

PEARL SALT, cases,

MIXED PICKLES, cases,

TABLE SALT, in glass jars and cases.

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BIBLE SOCIETY MEETINGS.

1867.—The Anniversary Meetings of the

Branch Bible Societies in connection with the

Montreal Auxiliary, will (D. V.) be held as fol-

lows:—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.

Papineauville, Saturday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m.

N. Nation Mills, Sunday, Jan. 5, 11 a.m.

Thurso, Sunday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m.

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anchester, Globe Parcels Express, 127 Market

Street.

Glasgow, Globe Parcels Express, 17 Renfield

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Street.

Birmingham, Globe Parcels Express, 5 Eden Quay.

Dublin, Globe Parcels Express, 2 Bull

Street.

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