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DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, April 28th, 1868.—The offender's apprehension and surrender bill, Parliamentary publishers' protection bill, oaths to witness by Parliament administration bill, and the department of justice bill, were severally advanced a stage.

The bill providing for Mrs. McGee's pension was read a second and third time and passed. The Senate adjourned at six o'clock.

OTTAWA, April 30.—The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

In reply to Mr. McCully, Mr. CAMPBELL said that Government would very shortly submit a bill providing that a legal rate of interest not yet determined upon would be made uniform throughout the Dominion.

The Bill providing for the arrest and surrender of offenders was read a third time and passed, as was also the bill protecting publishers of party proceedings and documents.

Hon. Mr. FERRIER then moved, supported by Hon. Mr. McCULLY, the second reading of the divorce bill for the relief of Julia Whiteaves, and the clerk proceeded to read the deposition of Rene Kimber, Esq., Usher of the Black Rod, deposing that he had duly served a copy of the said bill upon Julia Whiteaves at her residence.

After some discussion, in the course of which most of the Roman-Catholic members stated that they would oppose the second reading of the bill as a principle, and the suggestion was thrown out that a court should be established for the trial of these cases.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU moved that the said bill be not now read a second time, but that it be resolved,—that, in the opinion of this House, the divorce *a vinculo matrimonii* destroys in marriage those two characters of unity and indissolubility which Christian communities have always deemed to be essential safeguards of moral and family ties.

Lost on a division.

The second reading was then carried on a division of 34 to 18, after which

Hon. Mr. FERRIER further moved that the 79th rule of the Senate be dispensed with, in so far as regards this bill, and that the said bill be referred to a Select Committee, composed of Hon. Messrs. Allan, Campbell, Dickey, Hazen, McCrea, McCully, Rose, Sanborn, and the mover, to report thereon with all convenient speed, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and that the exemplification of proceedings to a final judgment of the Superior Court, Montreal, presented to the Senate on the reading of the petition of the said Jos. Fred. Whiteaves, be referred to the said Committee.

This was carried on a similar division, and the Senate then proceeded with the further consideration of the thirteenth report of the joint-Committee on printing, which was amended and passed, and the Senate then adjourned.

OTTAWA, May 1.—The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

The following Bills were read a second time: Organization of Inland Revenue Department. Bill to regulate the Civil Service and to organize a stationary office. Currency Bill. Bill respecting accessories and abettors of indictable offences was passed through Committee of the Whole, and read a third time and passed. The Senate adjourned at 4:30.

CORRECTION.—In yesterday's report of the Senate, the divorce bill should have been intitled "An Act for the Relief of Joseph Frederick Whiteaves;" that gentleman being the petitioner. The second reading was carried by 34 to 17.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, April 29.—In reply to Mr. Morris, Mr. McDougall said it was the intention of Government to cause the grounds in front of the Parliament Buildings to be fenced in and planted with trees or shrubs.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was not the present intention of Government to grant a bounty for a limited number of years for the construction of composite ships.

In reply to Mr. HUNTINGTON, Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was the intention of Government, with the consent of Parliament, to furnish statutes of present session to Justices of the Peace throughout the Dominion, there being such a mass of legislation affecting all the Provinces, but this was not intended as an indication of the future course in regard to distribution.

In reply to Mr. BICHARD, Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was not the intention of the Government during the present session to introduce any measure to remove the depreciated value of silver coin.

By permission of the House, E. M. McDONALD (Lunenburg) then moved his resolutions, which appeared in Monday's paper, on the subject of the state of the public feeling in Nova Scotia respecting the Union of the Provinces. He referred to the circumstances connected with Confederation, observing that the representatives from Nova Scotia were here only because they were compelled by law to be here, and they desired to place these resolutions on record. Instead of consolidating Union, sectional jealousies which previously existed had only been aggravated and perpetuated. It was very probable that the extravagant system already inaugurated would, ere long, involve the whole Confederation in ruin. The means resorted to by Government for raising money, must, sooner or later, lead to disaster, and, when pinching times come, Government would regret that they had not listened to the remonstrances of Nova Scotia. That Province disliked Confederation at first, and now more than ever. If it was true, as pretended by the Finance Minister, that Nova Scotia was only a burthen on the Dominion, why not let her go in peace? But this was not a mere question of tariff, but a question of human liberty, of political freedom, of right or wrong. It was not at all impossible that if, through any position of hostility taken by this House, the prayer now before the British Parliament should be denied, the feeling in Nova Scotia would be very difficult to control. He mentioned this merely by way of warning, not as a threat. It could never be preteated that the preservation of a distasteful Union was worth the shedding of blood. Such a disastrous occurrence could only lead to a result which must be deplored by every one. He therefore appealed to the House to give the resolution calm and careful consideration.

Mr. JOHNSON urged that it was useless to come here to undo what was done by the Imperial Parliament.

Mr. MORRIS thought it a matter of deep regret that these resolutions had been proposed. He moved an amendment that the House do not go into Committee to consider the resolutions, but that it be resolved that the interests of Great Britain as well as of the Dominion and the several provinces would be best promoted by consolidation of the Union.

Mr. CHAMBERLIN seconded the motion.

Mr. DORION suggested that this amendment would come better in committee, otherwise it would appear that this House refused to hear the grievances of N. S.

Sir J. A. MACDONALD hoped this suggestion would not be adopted—such a subject as this should be discussed with the Speaker in the chair. He did not believe the resolutions contained a single proposition on which the House should go into committee.

Mr. JONES (Halifax), who seconded Mr. MacDonald's resolutions, followed in their support.

Mr. HOLTON moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. DORION, that considering the discontent alleged to prevail in Nova Scotia since the passage of the British North America Bill, it is expedient that this House should resolve itself into a committee to consider the grievances, of which the people of that Province complain.

Mr. CARTIER followed in opposition to the resolutions till six o'clock.

After recess.

Mr. ABBOTT moved the first and second reading of a bill to incorporate the Lake Underwriters Association, and which will be taken up in Committee of the Whole to-morrow.

Sir G. E. CARTIER resumed the debate on the Repeal Resolutions,—arguing that they as well as Mr. Holton's amendment were untenable.

Mr. McDONALD (Antigonish) followed in favor of resolutions.

Mr. CAMPBELL opposed them, arguing that this House had no power to deal with the question, and that apart from this Nova Scotia had been fairly and liberally dealt with by the Dominion Government; also that nine-tenths of the intelligence of Nova Scotia are in favor of union, and that the people of his own country at least (Guysboro) were beginning to look upon the Repeal movement as a farce played upon them.

Mr. McLELLAN followed in support of the resolutions, and criticised *seriatim* the statements of the hon. member for Guysboro. He contended that the Legislature of Nova Scotia never adopted the British North America Act, and that the resolutions submitted to them did not contain the principles of that act. The Imperial Parliament had not altered in the least degree the act as submitted by the delegates; and if this Parliament were to represent to the Imperial authorities the grievances of Nova Scotia, that representation would be considered. At the same time, the action of the Nova-Scotia members in submitting these resolutions would not interfere with the action of the delegates in England.

Mr. MACKENZIE argued that the Legislature of Nova Scotia had adopted the resolutions upon which the Confederation Act was founded, and that with the manner in which that act was adopted this Parliament had nothing to do. Nova Scotia was, in this respect, precisely in the same condition as the other Provinces; however, he was willing to allow the resolutions to go to a committee, in order that, if there were grievances, Parliament might throw them.

Mr. DUNKIN supported the amendment of the member for Ladak, that the House do now go into Committee.

Mr. D. A. McDONALD opposed the motion to go into Committee.

Mr. FORBES supported the motion, and dwelt upon the points in the Confederation scheme injurious to Nova Scotia.

Mr. DORION said he had no doubt a majority in the Nova Scotia Legislature in favor of Confederation had been obtained by promises of the benefits of Confederation that had never been fulfilled. He argued at length in favor of submitting the resolutions to a Committee of the Whole, with a view to consider what steps could be taken to make the Union acceptable to Nova Scotia.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD denied the allegation that the Government were not disposed to allow the grievances of Nova Scotia to be discussed in Parliament. Nearly three weeks of the first Parliament of the session had been taken up in discussing those questions, and to-night there had been a full debate, with the Speaker in the chair; but, while a full debate was allowed, they could not agree to go into Committee to consider the dissolution of the Union, which was the sole thing aimed at by the resolutions.

Mr. HUNTINGTON and Mr. ANGLIN replied in support of the motion, and were followed by Mr. Gray in opposition to it.

The amendment to the amendment was then put, with the following result:—

YEAS—Anglin, Bodwell, Bowman, Cameron, Cheval, Coffin, Connell, Coupal, Croke, Dorion, Forbes, Fortier, Goden, Holton, Huntington, Jones (Halifax), Kerzkowski, McDonald (Glengary), McDonald (Antigonish), McDonald (Lunenburg), McKenzie, McKeagay, McLellan, McMonies, Mills, Oliver, Paquet, Parker, Power, Ray, Radford, Ross (Victoria), Rymal, Savary, Sirtout, Thompson (Haldimand), Wallace, Wells, and Young—39.

NAYS—Archambault, Ault, Beatty, Bellerose, Benoit, Bertrand, Blanchet, Brown, Brousseau, Bown, Barton, Caldwell, Cameron (Peel), Campbell, Caron, Cartier, Cartwright, Cayley, Chamberlin, Obsaveau, Cameron, Crawford (Brookville), Crawford (Leeds), Currier, Daoust, DeNiverville, Desaulniers, Doffie, Drew, Dufresne, Dunkin, Fisher, Fortin, Gaucher, Gaudet,

Gendion, Gibbs, Gray, Grover, Hagar, Huot, Jackson, Keeler, Kemp, Kirkpatrick, Langlois, Langevin, Lapum, Lawson, Little, Macdonald (Sir John), McDonald (Middlesex), Magill, Mason (Soulanges), Masson (Terrebonne), McConkey, McDougall, McMillan (Vaudreuil), Metcalfe, Morris, Morrison (Victoria), Morrison Niagara, Munro, Penny, Pinsonneault, Pope, Pouliot, Pozer, Rankin, Renaud, Robitaille, Rose, Ross (Dundas), Ross (P. Edward), Ryan, Scatecher, Shandy, Simard, Simpson, Snider, Sproatt, Stephenson, Sylvain, Tilley, Walsh, Webb, Whitehead, White, Wilson, Workman, and Wright—91.

Mr. Morris's amendment was then put, and carried on the following division:—

YEAS—Messrs. Archambault, Ault, Beatty, Bellerose, Benoit, Bertrand, Blanchet, Bodwell, Bowman, Bown, Brousseau, Brown, Burton, Caldwell, Cameron (Reed), Campbell, Caron, Cartier, Cartwright Cayley, Chamberlin, Chauveau, Cemon, Connell, Coupal, Crawford (Brookville), Crawford (Leeds), Carrier, Daoust, D-Niverville, Desaulniers, Doffie, Drew, Dufresne, Dunkin, Eisher, Fortin, Gaucher, Gaudet, Godin, Gibbs, Gray, Grover, Hagar, Holton, Huntington, Huot, Jackson, Keeler, Kemp, Kirkpatrick, Langlois, Langevin, Lapierre, Lawson, Little, McDonald (Glengary), Macdonald (Sir John A.), McDonald (Middlesex), Mackenzie, Magill, Masson, Masson, McConkey, McDougall, McMillan (Vaudreuil), McMonies, Metcalfe, Mills, Morris, Morrison (Victoria), Morrison (Niagara), Munro, Oliver, Parker, Perry, Pinsonneault, Pope, Pouliot, Pozer, Rankin, Redford, Renaud, Robitaille, Rose, Ross (Dundas), Ross (Prince Edward), Ryan, Rymal, Scatecher, Shandy, Simard, Simpson, Snider, Sproatt, Stephenson, Sirtout, Sylvain, Thompson (Haldimand), Tilley, Wallace, Walsh, Webb, Wells, White, Whitehead, Wilson, Workman, Wright, and Young—110.

NAYS—Cameron (Inverness), Cheval, Coffin Croke, Dorion, Forbes, Potter, Jones (Halifax), McDonald (Antigonish), McDonald (Lunenburg), McKeagay, McLellan, Power, Ray, Ross, (Victoria, N. S.), Savary—16.

The House adjourned at 2 o'clock.

OTTAWA, April 30.—The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

Mr. HUNTINGTON presented a petition of Louis Muir and others against the imposition of a duty on extracts manufactured from hemlock bark. He observed that there seemed to be an impression raised that the committee appointed on this subject contemplated some such measure as recommended. As a member of the committee, he took occasion to say that he had no such foregone conclusion, but was merely appointed for the purpose of inquiry.

The Joint Library Committee reported on applications from certain authors for the purchase of a number of copies of their works, and disapproving of the practice, which had obtained for several years, of the Committee being protector of literature, and suggesting that if considered desirable a certain sum of money for this purpose should be placed at the disposal of the Executive Government. They also reported against removal from the city of books out of the Library, or of removal of books of reference at all.

Several members expressed opposition to the first of the last two named recommendations which would prevent them taking out books during recess.

The General Committee on Elections reported the following as a Committee to try Bygot election: Messrs. T. Workman, Simard, Young, Robitaille, and Joly, chairman.

Mr. CURRIER moved that, to-morrow, the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, to consider resolutions to provide for a sum not exceeding £110,000 stg., to defray the expense of fortifications for the defence of Montreal and other cities. He said he should proceed with this as the first order to-morrow.

Mr. MACKENZIE intimated his intention of moving an amendment on the sense indicated by his remarks a night or two since. Motion carried.

Mr. ROSE moved the reception of the report of the Committee on Ways and Means, and the excise resolutions were concurred in with scarcely any opposition.

Mr. HOWLAND then moved a concurrence in the resolutions respecting duties of Customs.

Some exception was taken to the duty on cattle.

Mr. JONES objected to the remission of the duty on corn and of light dues, which he regarded as giving the Americans advantage over us.

Mr. OLIVER believed the most important thing was to make this as cheap a country as possible to live in.

Mr. DUNKIN strongly deprecated the idea of our adopting the principle of copying American taxes. We should do as we thought best without reference to their legislation. The imposition of specific duty on cattle, which, as against blood stock, was mere nothing, was the only way of dealing with that subject.

Mr. OLIVER moved that all stock imported by agricultural societies be admitted free.

Mr. HOLTON asked for a statement of the grounds of policy which took the duties off breadstuffs and put them on beef.

Mr. ROSE said the policy of the Government was to make as few changes as possible, except in reference to breadstuffs and articles in which the Maritime Provinces were interested.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the House was to understand, then, that this was a mere rewording with the view to satisfy certain dissatisfied parties, but this was not the broad ground on which the policy of the Government on such questions should be based.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the duty on breadstuffs was put on to assert our independence before our neighbors; but when the inconvenience of these duties to a certain section of the Dominion was shown, he thought it wise and proper for the Government to give that as a reason for the change. Great abuses and loss to the revenue had arisen from the exemption from duty of cattle for breeding purposes.

Mr. HOLTON would have been more thankful if Government had repealed the whole of their

policy of 1866 respecting duties on breadstuffs, which they now admitted to have been very stupid.

Mr. DONALD McDONALD did not consider such legislation stupid, and argued that the country required some such duties on American produce in our markets, as they imposed on our produce in their markets.

Mr. MILLS argued that, now that corn was free, farmers would have to give more attention to the raising of cattle, and the latter should, therefore, be admitted free.

Mr. GIBBS thought the Government acted wisely in its policy of 1866, and defended the duties on breadstuffs as a justifiable retaliatory measure.

AFTER RECESS,

Mr. POPE continued the discussion on the second resolution, contending that it would be inadvisable to attempt to protect all particular local interests to the detriment of the general welfare.

Mr. MAGILL made some remarks about the flag that braved, &c.

Mr. ROSS (Dundas) contended that the agricultural interests should be protected as well as manufactures.

The amendment was then lost.

On the item of starch, Mr. HOLTON said, in 1866, the duty of 2½ cents had been on starch, on account of the duty then placed on corn; now that duty was taken off corn, he thought it should also be taken off starch.

Mr. TILLEY said they had taken off half a cent per pound, which they considered sufficient.

After some irrelevant discussion, Mr. HOLTON reiterated his statement that 2½c. per pound on starch had previously been imposed, solely on account of the imposition of 10 cents on corn, and thought some further explanation of the change of policy in this respect should be given.

Mr. JONES (Leeds) rebuked the House for continually referring to the legislation of the past.

On the item of spirits, Mr. JONES (Halifax) moved that the resolution be referred back to committee, for the purpose of reducing the duty on rum to 63c. per gallon, same as excise duty on spirits. He agreed that this reduced duty would bring on an increased revenue, because, under the operation of the present duty, the revenue from that source had fallen off largely.

Mr. TILLEY said, he was disposed to give every consideration to the proposition of the hon. gentleman, but, if his amendment became law, a large portion of spirits consumed in the Dominion would be brought from the United States under the name of rum, and consequently a large amount of revenue would be lost.

After some remarks, the amendment was put and lost.

The remaining items in the second resolution, comprising goods paying specific duties, were passed.

Mr. TILLEY moved the adoption of the third resolution, providing for a duty on sugar and molasses. He explained that division of sugar into only two grades obviated difficulty hitherto experienced in distinguishing between the two grades. This difficulty was increased by the number of ports at which sugar might be entered, rendering it almost impossible to have the same standard and uniform system of appraisement at all the ports. It was now proposed to take only one standard (No. 9 of Dutch standard), all sugar above that would pay 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, and one cent per pound specific duty, while all below it would pay 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, and three quarter cents per pound specific; this would greatly simplify duty of custom officers, enabling them to give uniform decisions, and thus prevent frauds upon the revenue.

Mr. HUNTINGTON inquired upon what principle the Government had based the general duty, and why the *ad-valorem* principle would not answer as well as the mixed *ad valorem* and specific. He also asked whether, in this scheme, the Government had regard to the value of sugar as under the old scale, and why there was discrimination between molasses entered for consumption.

Mr. TILLEY again explained the difficulties which existed, to prevent the proper application of the graduated scale of duties, and also the difficulties which presented themselves by the demand of the importer on the one hand, and the refiner on the other. The best proof, in his opinion, that the Government had come to the proper conclusion, was, that neither party was satisfied, while the public would have the benefit of the competition which would be created between the importer and the refiner.

Mr. HOLTON thought, having in view the results of the International Commission at Boulogne, such a system of graduated duties might have been adopted as would have satisfied all interests; while it would, at the same time, have answered the revenue purposes.

Mr. ROSE admitted that the results of the International Commission had been satisfactory, so far as establishing the different grades of sugar was concerned. He contended, however, that it was impossible to adopt in this country the same system of specific duties as that Commission recommended, because in England there were only two ports where sugar was entered, where highly skilled officers were employed. In this country, there were nearly a hundred ports where sugar might be entered, and it became impossible to have the same standard of inspection and appraisement at each.

There were so many considerations to be taken into account, in deciding between the different grades, that it was a task requiring great delicacy and skill. This became still more complicated when *ad valorem* still were imposed, requiring the most extensive and careful calculations, and rendering it almost impossible to arrive at just conclusions. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Holton) would therefore see how difficult, if not hopeless, it was to fix a graduated scale, and, at the same time, properly protect the revenue. The Government, after several weeks of most mature consideration and intricate calculations, had, he thought, fixed upon the rates of duty which, while it would not destroy the refining interest, offered sufficient inducements to the importer to enter into a healthy competition with the refiner, and thus satisfy the consumer as well. As regarded the different duties on molasses, they were certainly somewhat of an anomaly, but could not be avoided. In certain parts of the Dominion molasses entered largely into the consumption of the people. It would have been a great hardship to them to have imposed a high duty upon molasses; but, if a low duty were made general, the refiners would have used molasses almost solely in the manufacture of sugar, and the revenue from sugar itself would have been largely reduced. It was for this reason the discrimination had been made.

Mr. HUNTINGTON feared that in the calculations that had been made by the Government, and in their efforts to satisfy both refiner and importer, in which they seemed to have failed altogether, they had overlooked the more important interests of the consumer. He himself was disposed to think that the interests of the consumer lay more with the refiner than the importer, because the former had only one profit to gain, while the importer had to recover the profit of the English refiner as well as his own.

Mr. HOWLAND contended that the scheme which the Government had adopted was that which best conduced to the interests of the refiner and importer, as well as the public.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) asked, with regard to molasses, whether the revenue would be collected on the quantity shipped or the quantity which was entered in port. It was known that there was a loss of from ten to fifteen per cent. on a voyage to the West Indies, and it would be a hardship to levy tax upon this loss.

Mr. TILLEY said the duty would be levied on the quantity gauged at the port of entry, not at the port of departure.

Mr. JONES went on at considerable length to oppose the mode of levying these duties as determined by Government. The scheme they had adopted satisfied no one, and for his part he declared that he preferred the old Canadian tariff to this one. No scheme would have been brought down to the House which would have given greater advantages to the refiner, who should be more than satisfied with concessions made by Government. He was amazed that the Government should have acted so directly in the face of the representations made by the Boards of Trade of the leading cities of the country. He then went into calculations to show that on low grades of sugar, which were used by the refiner, the duty had been reduced, while on higher grades which entered into consumption and in which the importer was interested, there had been an actual increase of duty. He concluded by moving, in amendment, that the proposed duty on grades of sugar at and above No. 9 Dutch standard, be reduced to 75 cents per 100 lbs., and 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, being the same as for grades below that standard.

Mr. ROSE said Government could not acquiesce in the hon. gentleman's proposition, and went on to argue at some length in support of the scale which Government had adopted.

Mr. JONES replied at some length, arguing that ministers had not answered his argument, and saying that for his part he would prefer the old tariff so far as it related to sugar duties.

Mr. TILLEY said that all through they had the interests of the direct trader in view and had shaped the measure for the purpose of encouraging the trade with the West Indies and at the same time giving a small protection to the refiner who would be forced to suspend operations entirely if the recommendations of some of the Boards of Trade were adopted.

Mr. ANGLIN heartily thanked Government on the part of the people of New Brunswick for removing the duty on breadstuffs, but objected to the tariff because it gave refiners on some grades of sugar a still larger amount of protection than they enjoyed before. He also contended that the reduction of the duty on molasses was so immaterial that it fell far short of the reasonable expectation they entertained on the subject in New Brunswick.

After some further discussion, Mr. Jones' amendment was put and lost.

Mr. HOLTON said that he voted against the amendment because it provided for a duty on all sugar without regard to the value, and that the scheme of the Government was partially open to some objection.

The resolution was then carried, as also the clause relating to the 15 and 10 per cent; both without discussion or amendment.

On the next clause, Mr. CHAUVEAU, seconded by Mr. INYIN, moved that the duty of 5 per cent. on books be struck out.

Lost—45 for, 65 against.

Mr. GIBB then moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. WORKMAN, that the resolution be not concurred in, but referred back, with the object of placing bar, rod, hoop, and sheet iron in the free list.

Mr. WORKMAN said that it was evident that a partial view had been taken of the matter, and that there were many other articles on the free list which should be put on the 5 per cent. list with just as much propriety as the articles mentioned in the amendment. He contended that it was unfair to allow machinery to come in free and tax the raw material from which other machinery was manufactured in this country.

Amendment lost on a division.

After a reply from Mr. ROSE, in which he defended the action of Government on the ground that these articles were manufactured in this country, and entitled to the small amount of protection extended to them.

Sir G. E. CARTIER followed in the same sense, stating that the Government wanted the \$100,000 which this duty would procure.

On clause relating to duties on teas, Mr. MCKENZIE and D. A. MCKENZIE complained of the difference in the duty of black and green teas.

Mr. ANGLIN defended the arrangement saying that the circumstances of the different parts of the Dominion should be considered.

D. A. McDONALD said that it was time to put a stop to this kind of thing, and that under the

present arrangement the Lower Provinces had all the benefit, and Ontario and Quebec all the disadvantages of Confederation.

Mr. Ross (Dundas) said that the duty was too high, and should be lowered, the loss to the revenue being made up on articles now on the free list.

Mr. RYMAL took objection to the tobacco duties, holding that by the present scale the poorer classes paid twice as much as the rich.

OTTAWA, 30th.—Mr. D. A. MACDONALD then moved, seconded by Mr. MACKENZIE,—That the duty of 7 cents a pound on green and Japan teas be reduced to 5 cents.

Lost—48 for, 58 against.

Mr. MASSON (Terrebonne) thought that the new scale of wine duties would act unfairly, inasmuch as the duty on higher qualities would be increased, while the import on the lower qualities would be increased.

Mr. ROSS denied this, and said that proportionately speaking all would be placed on an equal footing.

Sir G. E. CARTIER followed in the same sense, saying, so far as champagne was concerned, the old tariff had worked badly, as frauds had been committed on the revenue by the certificate system thereunder in vogue.

At this stage, Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the specific duty on green tea be reduced to six cents a pound.

Mr. MACDONALD said that this was a clap-net motion.

After a long discussion of a somewhat lively character, the amendment was lost.

The seventh resolution was then carried, as also the fifth.

The free-goods list also passed without amendment, it being understood that Mr. Colby would be allowed to move that hops be placed on the duty list, and that Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Brown should be allowed to make similar motions with regard to wool at the next stage of the bill.

Mr. ROSS, Dundas, moved that Indian corn and all grains, except wheat, be struck out of the free list, and allowed to remain on at present, but this met with the fate of all others and was lost on a division of 20 to 18.

Mr. MACKENZIE then moved that rice now on the 15 per cent. be returned to the free list. Lost.

The remaining clauses were then adopted down to the providing for the imposition of an export duty on saw-logs, which clause Mr. Mackenzie moved should be struck out. Lost.

Mr. LAWSON moved in amendment to the amendment that the export duty be reduced by about 40 to 50 per cent. on each separate item. Lost.

Mr. WALSH suggested that an *ad-valorem* duty be imposed instead of the specific export duty contemplated.

Mr. TILLEY moved that the duties do not go into effect until on and after the 1st October next.

Mr. HOWLAND asked leave to introduce a bill to increase the duty on spirits, said bill to be read for the second time to day.

The House adjourned at 4:10 a.m.

OTTAWA, May 1.—The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

The committee on ship building reported, recommending a drawback on all articles of iron used in the construction of composite ships.

Sir G. E. CARTIER moved the House into Committee of the Whole to consider the resolutions which appeared in Wednesday's paper, to provide £1,100,000 stg. to defray the expenses of constructing fortifications for the defence of Montreal and other cities, being those points stated in the explanation indicated by Colonel Powers in his report. The Imperial Government had undertaken the fortifications of Quebec, and would always see that Halifax was properly defended, being the principal naval station on this side of the Atlantic. He referred to the discussions on the subject of defence now before the conferences between the Imperial and Colonial authorities, and correspondence thereupon. The Imperial Government required us to fortify Montreal, and then it was not thought just that Ontario should be left defenceless, and the Imperial Government were pleased to hear that Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, and Paris or London, were to be fortified. There were many confidential communications on this subject, which it would not be wise to lay before the House; but he might state that the sum asked for would be sufficient for the purpose in view, and the Dominion would not be called upon for a further vote. The sum required for the fortifications at Montreal would not exceed £440,000, which would be ample to meet invasion from whatever quarter it came. From £190,000 to £200,000 would be spent at St. John, New Brunswick; so that about one-half of the whole sum would remain for Ontario. The greater part of this, of course, would be spent at Kingston, and the rest at other points. Though he had mentioned Paris or London, he might say that it was very likely works would be erected at the latter point. The putting of our country in a state of defence was a manifestation of the strongest kind that we desired to maintain our connection with England; and when the people there saw that we were determined to fence ourselves in against our enemies, our securities would improve in value, and additional facilities would be afforded for procuring accommodation. The Finance Minister had shown that, at the end of the fiscal year, there would be a surplus sufficient not only to meet the interest and sinking fund necessary for these fortifications, but also for the Intercolonial Railway. The fortifications would only proceed gradually, and not more than one-fifth of the whole amount would be required each year. For the first year, \$53,532 would be sufficient to meet the interest and requirements of the sinking fund; the second year, \$107,066; the third year, \$160,600; the fourth year, \$214,153; and when the whole sum had been spent, the total charge on the Consolidated Revenue Fund would be \$266,956, which, added to the expense of the militia organization, would make a yearly charge of only \$1,266,000, and perhaps when the fortifications were built, the militia expenditure might be cut down. Our severe climate was a source of defence to the Dominion, it being open to attack for only five months, those during navigation,—when the whole strength of Britain could be poured out to our assistance. Having fortified the points at which it is concentrated, we could easily stand a few months' siege; and he would like to see the enemy that would attack us when Jack Frost was on the ground. He referred to struggles in other countries in which small forces had successfully re-

sisted the invasion of larger forces. A war against Canada was a war against England; and if the Americans attacked us, their ports would become more vulnerable than Canada. But they had learned a lesson by their last war, and would not engage in it again if they could help themselves.

Some discussion ensued as to the conduct of the debate, the Government intimating their intention of adjourning the debate this evening until Tuesday, whether the House were ready for a division or not.

Mr. MACKENZIE thereupon declined to move his proposed amendment, merely giving it as a notice. He said it was better to adjourn the whole debate at once.

The Government then charged him with being afraid to proceed.

Mr. DORION thought the course of the Government in breaking up the debate showed they were not prepared to go on with this measure, but desired to throw it over to the end of the session.

Mr. HOLTON thought the course of the Government very extraordinary. Several members wished to go away next week, and Government seemed to desire to postpone the division till then.

Mr. JOHNSON thought it most unusual to ask for such a vote without detailed estimates.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD then moved the adjournment of the debate, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. ROSS moved that the House go into Committee of Supply on the Estimates.

Mr. HOLTON moved in amendment that it is expedient to provide from the 1st July next, for the reduction of the salary of the Governor-General to \$35,000; also for the reduction of the salaries of all officers and employes receiving more than \$800 by at least 12 1/2 per cent., and that no salaried officer of the Government shall receive payment for special services. He briefly supported the motion.

Mr. DUFFRESNE concurred in the amendment, but proposed \$32,000 instead of \$35,000. He moved this in amendment, but it was declared out of order.

Mr. DUNKIN raised a point that Mr. Holton's amendment was out of order, containing three propositions inadvisable and unamendable. He thought these propositions should be put and taken up separately.

Mr. HOLTON expressed his readiness to have three votes instead of one if the House desired that.

The discussion of the point occupied the House till six o'clock.

AFTER RECESS.

In absence of Mr. Abbott, on motion of Mr. HOLTON the House went into Committee on the bill to confirm the amalgamation of the Commercial and Merchants Bank, which was reported with some verbal amendments, the third reading ordered for Monday.

The SPEAKER reported the election of Mr. M. P. Ryan for Montreal West.

The SPEAKER, in regard to the point of order raised before recess, ruled that Mr. Holton's amendment was in order, and that though it contained three distinct propositions, it must be voted upon as a whole.

Mr. MACKENZIE then attacked the leader of the Government for charging gentlemen on his side of the House with desiring to impede business. The moment anything was done which interfered with the course the Government had laid out for themselves, gentlemen on his (Mr. Mackenzie's) side of the House were charged with factiousness. Tactics of that kind would not succeed, as they would not be deterred in this way from doing their duty. He asked those who had been elected as no party men, where they were now, when the member for Missisquoi and others declared that they voted not on principle, but in support of their party? We should now see whether the cry of our party in Ontario was sufficiently powerful to atone for the injury inflicted on public morality to-night.

Mr. CHAMBERLIN repudiated the charge of the member for Lambton, asserting that he had voted on principle, but with his party, which, however, had never been divided like the party of the hon. gentlemen opposite or reduced to the necessity of going round trying to pick up anti-Confederate votes.

Mr. HOLTON thought he might complain of the onslaught on himself, with which the Minister of Justice sought to close the debate, when his (Mr. Holton's) hands were tied, and he could not address the House; but the leader of the Government seemed to consider his case so bad, that, like a quack doctor, he tried to get his followers into fits. He deprecated the attempt to construe every motion from his side into one of want of confidence, and declared that he had no intention, and had not any time this session, of proposing a vote of want of confidence; but those on his side of the House had a duty to perform, and they had to choose their own way of doing it. With reference to the Governor's salary, he wished to impress on members that if it was not reduced this session, it would be permanently fixed, as his term of office was drawing to a close, and the salary of his successor could not be fixed without apparent breach of faith to the Imperial authorities.

Sir J. A. MACDONALD charged the member for Chateauguay with disregarding the rules of the House in reflecting on the vote of the House, &c.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and passed one item to aid the Nova-Scotia Railway.

The House adjourned at 2:30.

Contemporary Press.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ABYSSINIAN STRONGHOLD.

Stendner, in an account of his journey from Chankar to Magdala, in 1862, thus describes the scene of the stronghold of the Abyssinian King and its surroundings:—

"On the 14th of March we ascended a steep stony path to Magdala. A mere chance and the strength of my mule here saved me from a fall down the precipice. On reaching the lower terrace of the mountain, we found ourselves on a small plateau, above which rises perpendicularly on the highest terraces the fortress proper. We now rode in the midst of rocks. This is the advanced fortress, for the citadel, if I may be permitted to use that term, rises further south on the same plateau. On that part of the plateau which lies between the advanced fortress

and the Amba, serving as a citadel, there are a few houses called Islam-gie. This portion, however, also forms part of the fortress, and it can be defended easily, as it rises on most points perpendicularly from the valley to a height of six to eight hundred feet. The advanced northern Amba is not as high as the main fortress, which commands it as well as the plateau. The main fortress rises several hundred feet above the plateau of Islam-gie, and on that side there are some considerable works in masonry to fill up some gaps which might possibly be escaladed. A few other points are defended by *abatis*; but, for the rest, it is a fortress by nature. As we were permitted to pass the main Amba, we were not able to reach the principal road leading to Tanta. We descended a narrow, almost perpendicular, path on the eastern side of the Amba, for several hundred feet, to the spur of the mountain, and thence, by less steep paths, down to the bottom of the Woru-Haimanot valley, which is about 1,500 feet below the plateau of the fortress. I do not think a European mule could have got down this path, even without a burden. In the bottom of the valley, we found some water in a hole of the dry bed of the river, and there we rested for some time. The ascent to Tanta, on the other side of the valley, though fatiguing, owing to the stony path, was mere child's-play compared to the descent from Magdala.

Tanta is not a village, but a fortified plateau, forming part of the fortress, on which a number of huts have been erected for stores, &c. In front of us, beyond the valley of Woru-Haimanot, we had the entire fortress of Magdala, commanded by the guns of Tanta. It ascends precipitously from the valley, and a narrow rocky ridge connects it towards the south-west with the plateau of Tanta. The ridge bounds the Woru-Haimanot valley on the south, and the main road between the principal Amba of Magdala and Tantalala leads along it. Towards the north we saw the Amba Kuahit, beyond the Beshilo. Tanta is a plateau, which rises in several terraces. A few accessible spots are defended by masonry walls, with the exception of two, and these also can be rendered inaccessible in a short time. It forms part of the fortress of Magdala, and being several hundred feet higher it commands it. On the south it is connected with a large plateau, extending south and south-west, and a broad ditch separates this plateau from Tanta. This ditch is generally filled with earth; but in time of danger it is cleared out. At this spot the plateau is hardly two hundred paces wide. Short grass covers the plateau, and there are some shrubs on the hills rising on its edges. The rocky precipices consist of phonolite and trachyte; there are veins of pitch-stones, sometimes taken to be mineral coal. A large church has been excavated in the rocks of one of the hills. In its subterranean passages, there were kept at the time of our stay about one hundred cows. The magazines stand on the western edge of the plateau, opposite Magdala. They contained about 6,000 ardeh of corn, furnished in the course of this year by the tributary Gallas. East of Tanta the deep Ambel Sieda valley, with a broad, dry river-bed, extends north to the Beshilo.

LORD ARDMILLAN ON THE IRISH CHURCH QUESTION.

In connection with this subject, he recalled two meetings which took place some forty years ago, when the Catholic Emancipation Bill was going through Parliament—the one held at Edinburgh, the other at Oxford. The Oxford meeting professed to be intensely Protestant, and passed resolutions vehemently opposing the measure. The Edinburgh meeting was in favor of the measure, and was conducted by men of unquestionably uncompromising Protestantism—including Dr. Chalmers, Sir James, afterwards Lord Moncreiff, and Lord Jeffrey. So far as he had been able to ascertain not one of the men who were present at the Edinburgh meeting had joined the Roman Catholic Church, whilst of the men who were present at the Oxford meeting, he was speaking within bounds when he said that at least 100 had joined that Church. From this fact they should learn the lesson that the men who were most tolerant and most just were the truest Protestants. The Protestant who refused justice on political grounds to Roman Catholic subjects, but whose principles were as a web of gossamer against the advance of Roman Catholic doctrines, was not to be relied on, and they would soon have plenty of that kind of Protestantism on the platform and on the hustings. They would have men prating of Protestantism who did not know, who did not understand, or entertain, its doctrines; they would have men professing adherence to Protestantism who were members of an association for the union of what they called the three branches of the Catholic Church, the Anglican, the Greek, and the Romish Church, leaving us heretical Presbyterians out in the cold. There were men in Parliament who boasted of their exclusive Protestantism, yet who were ready to offer endowments to a Roman Catholic University,—who were willing to purchase the continuance of endowments for their own Church by endowing the Church of Rome. He counselled them, on the other hand, to hold fast by the Protestantism of the Reformation, which, while it demanded the right of private judgment, conceded the same right to others. In the course of some remarks on the importance of union among the Non-conforming Churches, his Lordship said he cherished the kindest feeling towards the Established Church, and he could not wish her better than that she might be preserved from the folly of putting herself into the same boat with the Irish Church. If she did so, she would not sink the boat, but she would endanger the cargo.—*Edinburgh paper.*

Mussulman power becomes appalling as we approach the shores where Africa and Asia meet Europe. Here one begins to realize the vast superiority of numbers under which Christianity staggers. There are, by the best authorities I have been able to consult, about 260,000,000 of Christians in the world, leaving nearly a thousand millions of heathen, among whom, in Africa and Asia, there may be at least 260,000,000 of Mussulmans. Of the 260,000,000 Christians only 95,000,000 are Protestant, 175,000,000 being Roman Catholic, and 90,000,000 Greek church. So far as superstition and ignorance are concerned, there is not so much to choose between the peasantry in the Roman and the Greek churches, and the common Mussulmans. Indeed, I should think in point of morality and

self-respect the Bedouins and Algerines superior to Spanish mendicants, Russian beggars, and Italian lazzaroni. What a task Protestantism has to balance and overcome the dead weight of ignorance, fanaticism, priestcraft, and servility, which now loads more than three-quarters of the globe.

Roman Catholicism, weak in every member, is prodigious in its total effectiveness, because it is a unit. It is quietly seizing America, piece by piece, State by State, city by city. In a new State like Wisconsin, for instance, it has the oldest college, the largest theological school, the best hospitals and charities, the finest churches; and what is true of Wisconsin is equally true of many other Western States. Protestantism, with a hundred times the wealth, intelligence, public spirit, and administrative ability, by reason of its sectarian jealousies and divisions, can have no parallel successes, and is losing rapidly its place in legislative grants and in public policy. The Irish Catholics spot the members of State Legislatures who vote against the appropriations they call for, and are able in our close elections to defeat their return. Representatives become servile and pliable, and Romanism flourishes. A Quaker gentleman of wealth in the West (the story is exactly true), married a Vermont girl, who had become Catholic in a nunnery where she was sent for her education. It was agreed that, if children were given them, the boys should be reared in the faith of their father, the girls in that of their mother. The Vermont mother gave her husband ten girls, but never a son! Eight of them grew up Catholics, married influential men, and brought up their children Catholics, and in some cases brought over their husbands; and so the Roman church was recruited with Protestant wealth and Quaker blood to a vast extent. So much for sending Protestant girls to Roman-Catholic seminaries, and then complaining that so many Protestants are lost to the superstitions of Romanism! There is an apathy about the Roman-Catholic advances in the United States among American Protestants, which will finally receive a terrible shock. There is no influence at work in America so hostile to our future peace as the Roman-Catholic church. The next American war will, I fear, be a religious war—of all kinds the worst. If we wish to avert it, we must take immediate steps to organize Protestants more efficiently and on less sectarian ground.—*Rev. Dr. Bellows.*

THE OPPOSING FORCES.

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ARREST OF A BRITISH VICE-CONSUL.

A DIFFICULTY WITH THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

(*Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*)

LIMA, April 24, 1868.—The British Vice-Consul at Curanipe has been arrested and imprisoned by the order of the Intendente of Maule, in whose jurisdiction the above port is comprised. This act of the Intendente will in all probability lead to serious difficulties between Great Britain and Chili, as it appears to be quite the fashion now to shove British consuls into prisons. It is reported that the Intendente received information that there would be an attempt made to smuggle a cargo of goods somewhere on the coast within his jurisdiction, and that the names of the vessel and owners were also included in the information. About the 10th inst., the brig "Gibraltar," owned by Messrs. Cornish & Co., arrived at Buchupuro from Valparaiso (Cornish is the British Vice-Consul). A military officer arrived with one of the employes of the custom-house, called upon Messrs. Cornish & Co., and demanded to be taken on board. Permission was given by Mr. Fernandez, one of the partners of the house, and they, with one or two other officers, proceeded on board in a lighter, and commenced a search, during which a heavy breeze set in, which compelled the lighter to remain alongside of the barge all night. The next day, Mr. Fernandez was arrested and thrown into jail, without any charge being made against him. On the 12th, Mr. Cornish, the Vice-Consul, who had left Buchupuro the day before, was arrested at Curanipe, the officers making the arrest refusing to show the warrant upon which he was detained, alleging that it contained secret instructions. The consul was conveyed to prison, and kept there until next day, when he was released.

A protest is reported to have been received from the Argentine Republic against the colonization of the Straits of Magellan by Chilians, whose title is now questioned by the Argentines.

A Protestant Church is being built in Santiago.

One of the regiments of the line came very near carrying out a revolt the other day. Their plan was to murder all their officers, divide the military chest, rob the towns, steal the women, and then make for the mountains. Fortunately the plot was discovered, and the ringleaders arrested.

THE POSITION OF BISHOP POTTER.

Bishop Potter can put on his robes and stand before a crowded congregation and administer a solemn rebuke to a brother-clergyman for presuming to preach Christ crucified to dying men in a pulpit that does not belong to his own communion. Yet he puts on no robes, he utters no admonitions, when the mummeries of his papalistic priests are carried forward in his own chapel with a passionate eagerness that craves as well as deserves rebuke. What this silence of the Bishop supports and increases, these descriptions of the Easter and Good-Friday ceremonies at the church of St. Albans, in New York, will indicate. *The Tribune* thus describes the events of Good-Friday:—

The chancel railings were draped in black, as were also the pulpit and lectern. The altar was covered with sable, and running around the upper edge of it was a silver fringe. In front on this dark ground was a representation of the crown of thorns, having in the centre three nails typical of those with which our Redeemer was fastened to the wood of the cross. The chandeliers were entirely enveloped in black cloth. Over the large chancel window, back of the altar, was a covering of sable, and on this a large cross made of purple stuff extending its entire length and breadth. The morning service was commenced at 9 o'clock, the Rev. Fathers Morrill and Noyes officiating. The former had on a black chasuble fringed with silver. At 12 1/2 o'clock a service entitled the "Three Hours' Agony" was celebrated here (for the first time in any Episcopal Church in America.) This is very similar to a service bearing the same title that is usually celebrated in Catholic countries on Good-Friday. The Rev. Fathers

Morrill and Noyes, preceded by acolytes and chorists, entered the chancel from the vestry in procession. The clergymen were vested in surplice and "stole," the latter being of sable color, and like those worn by the Catholic ecclesiastics, had a cross of silver lace on either end. Each of the clergymen wore on his head the *bereta*, or small black cap usually worn by Catholic priests. The Rev. Father Morrill ascended the pulpit, and, after making the sign of the cross, as did also each of the worshippers, he commenced the service. It was noticeable that whenever the Virgin Mary was alluded to by the officiating clergyman she was always spoken of as the "Blessed Virgin," or as the "Holy Mother of God." Whenever the name of our Saviour was pronounced, all reverently inclined their heads, and, on passing before the front of the altar, either by clergymen, chorists, or laymen, the same mark of reverence was shown.

On Easter Sunday, their devotions were yet more extraordinary. The New York *Herald* thus describes them:—

The black cloth of Good Friday had been withdrawn, and was replaced with festal decorations of more joyous *ensemble*, in which freshly plucked flowers bore an important part. The blossom and bloom of life were, in fact, everywhere. They hung in grand festoons upon altar and lectern; they peeped out from every nook and cranny available for the purpose; they typified the resurrection at every point where relentless sable had but the Friday before typified the Roman death by crucifixion.

The tapers at the altar, so disposed as to stand in pyramids on either side, had been re-lighted, and stood in the spectral darkness of the interior like so many tall white fingers, each tipped with a blaze, and each emitting, of its own constitution, a sort of golden-yellow light, which kept up a continuous flaring flicker on either side of the antique altar, not sufficient, indeed, to bring out plainly the oriental lettering upon the wall above it, but just sufficient to make every letter seem a creeping nondescript, moving with every motion of the light that made it visible.

It was rather a relief than otherwise, therefore, to the spectator with an imaginative inclination, when the organ, huge hundred-horned monster, broke forth in a low moaning *diminuendo* which, breaking, gradually rose into the bellowing bass of a *crescendo* that seemed absolutely to thrill the building and the strange letterings on the wall, and the very tapers themselves, with a sort of nervous ague, as if some way or other music and motion had gotten so confounded or tangled the one with the other, that the latter stirred with every pulsation of the former. It was relief also when, with the opening of a side-door, a procession of priests and boys in surplice and *soutane* tramped in and took their places at the altar, just as if the music had evoked them, and just as if, in fact, they had been but spectral creations of the same great wave of sound which had filled the building but an instant before.

The musical programme for the day was one of peculiar complication. Beginning with the introt (Gregorian), a succession of anthems and cantillations occupied nearly the entire service, interrupted here and there by the drowsy intonations of the officiating priests, who kept up simply a sort of intermitting undertone in the midst of the mazes of organ and cantillated responses. The introt was succeeded by the "Kyrie;" the "Kyrie" by the mass (Mozart's Twelfth); the mass by the "Gloria in Excelsis;" and the "Credo;" the "Credo" by the "Sanctus;" the "Sanctus" by the "Benedictus;" the "Benedictus" by the "Agnus Dei;" "Agnus Dei" by Mozart's Twelfth Mass; the mass by the Offertory; the Offertory by the "Gloria in Excelsis," and the "Gloria in Excelsis" by Mozart's Twelfth Mass, which concluded the services,—the priest delivering *ad interim* a brief discourse on the resurrection.

All this mass of music, robes, flowers, and candles to set forth the simple story of the Resurrection;—Christ in the quietude of the morning and the garden appearing to his bereaved ones;—Christ bringing salvation to every sorrowing believing heart.—*Am. Paper.*

SENATE BAR.

(*From the Peterborough Examiner.*)

There is incongruity with the late sad event, and the career of those who have been engaged in it, a something that leads beyond Fenianism as the immediate cause of the assassination as well as the progress of Fenianism, and that is whiskey. A very intelligent Catholic once said, in speaking of the religious strife of Protestants and Catholics, that if there were fewer grogeries there would be less bigotry, for the greater part, if not all, the bitterness of religious strife originated in shebeens. All the parties connected with the late tragedy were frequenters of the saloons of Montreal and Ottawa, and armed themselves for their fiendish work by the accursed bowl. But what do we think of those in high places who still retain their Bar in the Senate of the Dominion? We were led to believe that this relic of the devil was removed from our legislative halls, but now we learn only removed to another and perhaps more secret corner, whither honorable members can withdraw and enjoy their potations without let or hindrance and with less chances of detection than heretofore. Whelan, too, could gain access to this unholy spot; he, too, could go and get his maddened fury increased at the bar of the Senate of Canada. There, too, he could enter, and alongside of honorable members, imbibe that fire that could deprive him of reason, remove fear, and fit him for the awful deed of murder for which he is now being tried. But then we are told it is to be closed to such men in future. Can our worthy senators and members of the Commons of Canada so easily satisfy their consciences in this? Is that nuisance still to be retained for the use of legislators? Is law-making such a foul, fiendish work that law-makers must nerve themselves with the fire of hell to prepare themselves for it? If so, the sooner we know this the better, that we may try to find out some new way of fitting our worthy senators and commoners for their terrible duties. Is it not a sad reflection that those men who, above all others, should be a terror to evildoers and a praise to those who do well, are the great aiders and abettors of crime, by refusing to remove from the reach of would-be murderers that vile stuff, and by setting the example of drunkenness in high places. Let us console ourselves, however, with the reflection that, in future, only honorable members and their intimate friends will be permitted to as-

semble in the great bar-room of the Dominion of Canada! Perhaps they will remove it when two or three more of their number have fallen by the shot of the assassin, maddened by their forty-rod-dead-shot whiskey, obtained at their own bar. Much as we might bewail their loss, if such would drive the workshop of Satan out of the Parliament buildings, the boon would not be purchased at too dear a rate.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

The Methodist Conference in Maine had before it on Monday, a resolution censuring Gov. Chamberlain for refusing to preside at a Temperance meeting in Augusta. It was rejected by a vote of 42 to 38.

A copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, a work which no living man can read, was sold at auction in this city, yesterday, for the extraordinary sum of \$1,130, the highest price ever paid for a printed book in this country.—Tribune.

DANISH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—It is stated in the Bulletin du Monde Chrétien, for February, 1868, that the Danish Missionary Society has in Greenland eight stations, ten missionaries, forty native catechists, and two normal schools. The largest congregation consists of three thousand persons, and the smallest, seven hundred. This Society was formed in 1706.

THE PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON AND THE ORGAN QUESTION.—This Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian Church met at Belleville on the 14th of April. Among other matters the overture from Knox's Church, Montreal, concerning the use of instrumental music in the worship of God was considered. Several members were absent whose views on this point are very decided. Great care was taken to keep the Presbytery from discussing the main question. Accordingly, in taking the vote, the point to be decided was, to grant or not to grant liberty to employ instrumental aid in conducting Divine worship as asked for in the overture. All but one voted in the affirmative, so that the numbers stood 7 for and 1 against granting the permission sought.—Com.

THE DECLINE OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM.—It has so often been affirmed that Roman Catholicism is gaining strength and influence, and that Protestantism is declining, that many suppose it to be true. But the facts in the case point the other way. Let a few figures give their testimony. Twenty years ago, the Protestants of the world were given at 84,000,000, and the Roman Catholics at 167,000,000. Not quite two Protestants to five Roman Catholics. The most reliable statistics now give the Protestants of the world at 93,000,000; and the Roman Catholics at 185,000,000. Not two Roman Catholics to one Protestant. At the same rates of relative growth, Protestants will outnumber Roman Catholics before the close of the present century, as they now excel them in all the elements of science, literature, philosophy, and progressive life. Consider, too, the contrasted life and progress of Papal and Protestant nations. Among the leading Papal powers, as Austria, Spain, and Mexico, there is a steady decline, while the leading Protestant powers are manifestly enjoying increased prosperity. The Spirit of life and light is working the downfall of the "man of sin."

CHINESE AT THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Mr. Coan, writing from Hilo, in January last, says: "We have, in Hilo, five stores owned and kept by Chinamen. These owners and keepers are all pleasant, polite, and honorable men in their commercial and social relations. We also have several active and intelligent Chinamen as owners and managers of sugar plantations; and some who have made a competence, and are now living easy lives among us. These have married (most of them) native wives, and are rearing up large families of children. Nearly all of these children come into our schools and Sabbath-schools, and attend our Sabbath services. Some of them are married, and have children of their own, so that the third generation is growing up around us. All these the Papists made strenuous efforts to secure, and with some success at first; but for two or three years past, they have nearly all come over to the Protestant side. Most of them speak English well, and all adopt foreign manners and dress. Besides these, we have from 100 to 200 Coolies on our Hilo plantations. These are ignorant, and much inclined to turbulence and vice. We are doing what we can to civilize and Christianize them all; but it is a slow and difficult work. Chinamen are increasing all over these islands, and they are forming an element in our population so large and important as to awaken much prayerful solicitude on our part."

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

The English are trying twenty-inch smooth bores with one hundred-pound charges, and have fired one gun over one thousand times. They say that armor for ships is played out, and talk of building swift vessels with little or no armor.

A letter from Rome states that upward of two thousand persons left their cards at the residence of Count Crivelli, Austrian Minister to the Papal Government, on the occasion of the adoption of the civil-marriage bill in the Vienna Chamber of Nobles.

It is said to be in contemplation by the English War Department to call in and utilize all the guns taken in the Crimean war, at present scattered about the metropolitan parks and other parts of the country. These guns have, for a long time, been considered obnoxious to Russians visiting the country.

The Crimean war is calculated to have cost 3,328 millions of francs to Russia, 1,348 millions to France, 1,320 millions to England, 1,060 millions to Turkey, and 470 millions to Italy. We suppose there are many ways in which so much treasure might have been spent more usefully.

Two bank notes, each for £1,000, were recently dropped into Mr. Spurgeon's letter-box by "A. B.," an anonymous donor, who has before given £1,000 in like manner,—one for the Pastor's College, and the other for the Stockwell Orphanage.

Over twelve thousand persons died last year in the public institutions of London,—almshouse, hospitals, &c. This is a sixth part of all the deaths in the city, and corroborates another statement frequently made, that a sixth part of the inhabitants of England are paupers.

The church of St. Bartholomew the Great,

in Smithfield, London, was erected 750 years ago, and is thought to be the oldest church in the city. During the last four years workmen have been engaged in restoring it to its primitive grandeur.

The project for compulsory education gains favor in England. At a meeting of ragged school superintendents and teachers, held in Manchester on Wednesday, a resolution was passed declaring that no measure for extending education would be complete unless it gave power to compel the attendance of children. A Liverpool meeting has declared itself in favor of the measure; and amongst the supporters of the resolution were some Roman Catholic priests, who said that, though their bishop was opposed to a compulsory system, the experience of the priests proves that no other system would be effectual in dealing with the lowest class of the population.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Chicago builds, every year, six large school houses.

St. Albans, Vermont, claims to be the butter metropolis of the United States. It furnished near 3,000,000 lbs. last year.

A prominent pork-packer in St. Louis is reported to have made \$1,000,000 this season by packing and speculation.

That spot of rebel torment and disgrace, Libby Prison, has been sold at auction. Like Sumter, it is being stripped to pieces by relic-hunters.

A flock of pigeons, covering a space of twelve and a half miles in length, and fifty feet in breadth, passed over Wellville, Tioga county, Pa., one day last week.

Mr. Bridgman's trout-ponds, at Bellows Falls, Vermont, are a complete success. The eggs or spawns are now rapidly hatching, and Mr. Bridgman can show his thousands of trout.

A recent writer gives the secret by which any one can become as rich as Wm. B. Astor, of New York. It is this: Inherit 20 millions, do as he has done, and you will soon have 80 millions of dollars.

A Western paper cruelly says: "Our member in Congress has made a great speech—one of his very best. It was written for him by a graduate of this office, and the matter and delivery do credit to both parties."

Mr. C. W. Warren, of Hartland, Vt., has seventy-five maple-trees, from which he has received sixty barrels of sap, and made therefrom five hundred pounds of very nice sugar the past four weeks.

Two gentlemen had a smoking match, in this city, on Monday morning. One human chimney consumed twelve cigars and a quarter, from 8 to 12 p. m. The less enterprising only got through ten and a half.—N. Y. Tribune.

Philadelphia has followed the example of New York and Boston, and has procured a charter for a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. It was formally organized April 15.

It is estimated that the income for the Dickens readings in this country has been \$400,000; and rumor says that the great novelist had contracted with a London book-selling firm to give the readings for \$100,000 in gold and his expenses.

Dr. Beebe, of Chicago, was called to testify in a case before the United States Circuit Court, at Chicago, one day last week, as a medical expert. He refused to testify unless he received fees as an expert to the amount of \$25. The judge decided he was right, and the fees were paid.

There is a young man attending college in Albion, Mich., whose heart is on his right side. He has been examined by several of the most noted physicians of New York and Washington, who all agree that such is the case. This is the second case on record of the kind.

There are nine different writers engaged upon the life of Gen. Grant. They cannot all expect the reward which Hawthorne received at the hands of President Pierce, who was so astonished at his own life that he gave the Liverpool consularship to his imaginative author.

The largest income in New Hampshire is that of the proprietor of a Hair Restorer. A half dozen years ago this Restorer was unknown, and to-day it would have been worthless but for advertising. This income is from printer's ink.

The St. Louis Repudiator is dead. Started with the expectation of support from national dishonor, it found out that an honest payment of the public obligations was still the desire of the public, and, after languishing a few weeks, has at last died a merited death.

The millionaires in New York are struggling for the mastery. Vanderbilt and Drew contend for the control of the railroads; and Stewart and Claflin are having no less a fight, though less is said of it, because the stock is all their own, in the dry-goods line. In real estate, Astor is undisputed master of the field.

The Rev. S. M. Merrill, formerly of North Adams, whose escapade in connection with a young lady of that place, was the subject of so much comment a year ago, was formally expelled, at the recent session of the Troy Methodist Conference, from its membership and from the church.

The Atlanta correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, who claims to have opportunities for acquiring correct information, telegraphs that the Georgia Constitution is probably ratified by at least 7,000 majority, and Bullock, Republican, elected Governor by 5,000. It is supposed the Legislature will have a majority of Democrats.

The church choirs in Rochester, N. Y., are completely demoralized by a sharp competition between the churches for the best singers, to whom extravagant salaries are paid. In a good many churches, now-a-days, more attention is paid to the singing than to preaching the gospel, and one feels as if sitting in a concert-room instead of the house of God.

Gen. Beauregard writes a note to a New Orleans paper indignantly protesting against the misrepresentation, that while visiting the national cemetery at Arlington Heights he scoffed at the words inscribed on the memorial vault. Remarking that a true-hearted soldier feels the same respect for the grave of a gallant enemy as for that of a brother-in-arms, he says that he is yet to learn that a single Federal grave has ever been desecrated by a true Confederate soldier.

Mrs. GAINES.—One of the most remarkable cases, for length, certainly in American Courts, has reached its end, the suit of Mrs. Myra Clarke Gaines, widow of late Gen. Gaines. The father of Mrs. Gaines, was Daniel Clarke, who was born in Ireland. In 1802, Mr. Clarke contracted a private marriage with Zuleima Carrier, and Myra Clarke was born of this marriage. In 1807, they separated, and Mrs. Clarke married again. In 1813, Daniel Clarke made a will wherein he recognized the legitimacy of Myra, and devised to her his immense property. Yet of this will his daughter was kept in ignorance. She was reared by a Mr. Davis, and knew nothing of her parents or her rights. In 1832, she married Maj. Gen. Gaines. In examining some old papers, by mere accident, he obtained an intimation of his wife's parentage and claims, and a suit was at once commenced against Mr. Clarke's executors. After a long and weary struggle, Mrs. Gaines has succeeded in establishing her legitimacy, and her claim to the estate, which is valued at \$20,000,000.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1868.—The Court of Impeachment was opened this morning in due form. Notwithstanding the inclement weather the galleries were well filled.

Senator Sumner offered an order that whereas Mr. Nelson, one of the counsel for the President, in addressing the Senate has used disorderly words as follows: "So far as any question the gentleman desires to make with me this is not the place to make it;" and, whereas, such language besides being discreditable to the Senate, is calculated to bring on a duel or intimate a desire or willingness to fight one; therefore, ordered that Mr. Nelson, one of the counsel for the President, has justly deserved the disapprobation of the Senate.

Mr. Nelson said he only desired now to say that he would like to read the letters in the Alta Vela case.

Mr. Manager Butler hoped that so far as he was concerned there would be no further action taken in the matter, but he objected to the reading of the letter.

Mr. Nelson rose, when the Chief Justice said he could only proceed by unanimous consent. Senator Sumner objected unless for the purpose of explanation.

Mr. Nelson hoped he would be allowed to say one word. He had intended no offence by what he had said, but if anything was to be done with the resolution he hoped he would have an opportunity to explain. So far as he was concerned he was willing to let the matter drop.

Senator Sherman objected to the present consideration of the resolution.

CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

The water in Lake Ontario is two feet lower than at this time last year.

Four car loads of Canadian barley sold in Buffalo on Thursday, at \$2.33 per bushel.

The congregation of Trinity church, Toronto, recently presented their pastor, the Rev. A. Sanson, with a purse containing \$184 (collected by Mrs. H. Gooderham and Miss Worts), as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his ministerial labors.

THE MINING ACT.—The inhabitants of the district of Algona have addressed the Governor in a remonstrance against imposing royalties on the product of mines.

ROBBERY.—Last Friday night, at Hamilton, Mr. N. S. Whipple of Detroit, was knocked down by a couple of rascals, gagged, bound and robbed of all his money, \$72, watch and other articles.

THE FREE-GRANT LANDS.—The Commissioner of Crown Lands has given notice that the lands in a block of townships in the Muskoka district are open for location, under the provisions of the Free Grants and Homesteads Act of 1868.

JUDGE OF NORFOLK.—The Spectator learns that Col. Wilson has been appointed Judge of Norfolk county, and that Mr. Tisdale takes the appointments of Clerk of the Peace and County-Attorney, heretofore held by Col. Wilson.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—At Nilestown, near London, on the 28th ult., an insane man, named Gorley, attempted suicide by plunging a steel instrument into his breast a number of times. The unfortunate man appeared to be greatly depressed in spirits, in consequence of drinking.

ACCIDENT.—At the Rockland slate quarry, Melbourne, P. Q., on the 29th ult., Mr. John McLean, of Brompton Gore, was very severely injured by a mass of falling rock, and little hope is entertained of his recovery. He is a younger brother of the person who was killed recently at the Granby slate quarry.

MAN MISSING.—The Belleville Intelligencer says John Waterhouse, a well-known resident near Roslin, left for Montreal on last Wednesday with a considerable amount of money in his possession. He remained in Belleville during the day, made some purchases, and finally left his lodging-house at 1 1/2 p. m., since which period nothing has been heard of him. His brother telegraphed to Montreal and Kingston, but he has not been seen in either of these cities.

OFF TO THE FRONT.—The Guelph Mercury says, on Saturday, Rev. Peter Campbell, of Rockwood, starts, as a Wesleyan missionary, to the Red-River Territory, to take up his field among the Blackfoot Indians. His family goes with him. Mr. Campbell is a young, sociable, and energetic minister, deeply beloved by his congregation. His thorough acquaintance with Indian language and habits will render him one of the most efficient and successful preachers on those remote frontiers.

BURNING A CHURCH.—The old Episcopal Church was burnt, in Chatham, on Friday night, the 24th ultimo. There are many pleasant memories connected with the "Old Church," which was one of the oldest buildings in the town, having been built in the year 1818. It was a wooden structure, but well served its purpose for forty-six years, till its gradual decay rendered it wholly unsuitable for the proper administration of divine worship.

IS HE A FENIAN?—To-day, when the news of the attempted assassination of Prince Alfred was made known in the market, by means of an extra from this office, an Irish farmer who lives in Westminster, a few miles from this city, was heard to exclaim, boldly, "It served the whelp right!" and make other scandalous remarks. A man who could utter such sentiments should be watched.—London Advertiser.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.—On Friday night or Saturday morning last, two prisoners—one named Labrashe, awaiting trial for highway robbery; and another named Blake, undergoing four months' imprisonment for an aggravated assault on an old woman—made their escape from jail, by picking the locks of their cells and using their sheets for ropes to escape. Several boxes and benches, carelessly lying in the yard, were used for ladders, and the sheets let them safely down on the outside.—Hastings Chronicle.

MOURNFUL OCCURRENCE.—A Child Lost in the Woods.—At the village of Quio, last week, it seems that a family, named Hearn, had just moved to a house there, from a farm some three miles distant; and that, while fixing up their future home, their boy, of about four years, strayed out into the village, and was heard by other children to say that he was going home. It is supposed that the child tried to retrace his way to the late home of the family, but lost his way. Mr. Smith, we learn, stopped both his mills, and allowed his men, some sixty in number, to search the woods day and night for two days; but, although generously assisted by all the villagers, they were, at last accounts, without success.—Aylmer Times.

MOAR OF RUM'S DOINGS.—Andrew Buckman, of Stanstead, was found dead, in the pasture of Mr. Jonathan Field, on the afternoon of Monday last, the 23rd instant. It seems he was on his way to his son-in-law, and, when last seen, Friday evening, about six o'clock, he was in a state of intoxication, and was drawing a hand-sled. He had left his sled, and was trying to make his way home without it. The jury found that he came by his death from drunkenness, old age, and exposure to cold.—Sherbrooke Gazette.

ROBBERY.—The London Free Press says one of the banks of that city lost a large sum of money by some expert thief. On the 21st inst. the bank sent to its correspondent in New York, by the American Express Company, a package containing \$1,387.86 in greenbacks, and \$447 in 5-20 coupons, gold value, due 1st May. Upon the arrival of the package at its destination, it was duly opened, when it was found that the money had been abstracted, and a copy of the Globe substituted. No present clue exists as to the perpetrators of the fraud, but the presence of the newspaper seems to point to Canada.

A GROSS CASE OF KIDNAPING.—The forcible extradition of the men, Smith, Starnes, Belmont, and Macdonnell, charged with breaking into and stealing from Mr. Mattice's store, was a high-handed and imprudent act. The Mayor of Cornwall admits that, while he pretended to coronate his party with a warrant from a United-States officer with a warrant from a United-States magistrate, he himself made the arrests and directed the prisoners to be carried away out of the United States by virtue of the principle that might was right. The mayor further states that the United-States officer made no arrests, that the United-States warrant was not used, but was held in reserve in case it should be required! We are at a loss how to account for this grossly unlawful proceeding.—Cornwall Freeholder.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—A young girl, servant at Dr. Campbell's, Bay street, attempted to commit suicide, yesterday afternoon, by cutting her throat with a table-knife. The girl was found, shortly after committing the deed, with a deep gash in her throat, which partly severed the windpipe. Dr. Lizars was shortly afterwards called in, and sewed up the wound, and the girl is now recovering. On the day previous, she threw herself down a well; but was recovered without sustaining much injury. This attempt on her life led Dr. Campbell to apply for her admission into the lunatic asylum; but, before he succeeded, she made the second effort at self-destruction, which also proved unsuccessful. The young girl has been, for some time past, attending revival meetings, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Gaughey; and, when able to speak after her throat was sewn up yesterday, inquired if she was "still in the flames." Her case seems to be one produced by over religious excitement.—Toronto Globe, 30th ult.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A DOCTOR.—A county constable arrived in this city yesterday morning with a warrant for the arrest of Dr. Williams; Queen street west, on a charge of aiding to procure abortion. The doctor is the same on whom suspicion of similar practice rested in connection with the death of a young girl at his house about a month ago. At the inquest then held, charges of malpractice were hinted at in connection with the death of a Mrs. Braithwaite, near Richmond Hill, in the previous December. An inquest was held a few days ago, and Dr. Williams, the husband, and a female relative of the deceased, ordered by the Coroner to be arrested. The two latter were committed to gaol yesterday, but when the doctor came to be wanted he was not to be had, and the efforts of the police failed to secure him yesterday. It is alleged that the failure to arrest him was owing to some defect in the warrant, and, while this was being remedied, that he was apprised of the proximity of the officer, and evaded capture.—Toronto Globe, 30th.

LARCENY BY A BANK TELLER.—The teller of the British North American bank in this city, Mr. Stinson, was arrested yesterday afternoon at the instance of Mr. Menzies, on a charge of defrauding the Bank by making up a bogus package for remittance to New York and appropriating the greenbacks which should have formed its contents. On the 21st inst., a package, purporting to contain over \$1,300 in American money and a number of 5-20 coupons, was sent from the agency of the Bank here, by American Express, to the agency at New York, and on being opened there was found to contain a couple of Globe newspapers. Steps were at once taken to discover where the fraud had been committed, and the result is that suspicion has fallen upon Mr. Stinson, whose duty it was to count out the money, enclose it in an envelope, and prepare it for transmission to its destination. The fact that Mr. Stinson had recently made a very heavy payment in greenbacks to a gentleman in Bradford first caused suspicion to rest upon him, and having failed, when questioned, to give a satisfactory explanation concerning the money, he was arrested on suspicion of having perpetrated the theft. The case came up for examination this afternoon before the Police Magistrate, but as the witnesses from New York and the gentleman from Bradford, Mr. Crouch, were not present, no evidence was taken. A remand for eight days was granted. Messrs. Moncrieff and Meredith appeared for the prisoner; Mr. Wm. Elliot for the Bank.—London Advertiser, 28th.

VICTORIA COLLEGE.—Yesterday closed the examinations at the Medical Department of Victoria College, Yorkville. The examinations were both written and oral, and extended over a period of three weeks. The following gentlemen successfully competed for the degree of Doctor of Medicine:—Thomas Adams, Tweed; Robert Peel Aikman, Ancaster; Charles H. Brereton, Bradford; Thomas Brunskill, Bond Head; John S. Diamond, Toronto; James Fielding, Orono; Perry D. Goldsmith, Dundonald; Wm. A. Hughson, Delaware, Ontario; Samuel M. Henry, Sandhill; Frank King, Port Robinson; Ralph E. Lloyd, Stouffville; G. D. Lougheed, Ballymote; Calvin Lutz, Galt; Alfred N. O'Brien, Newtonville; Arch. McEay, Fingal; Lachlan McAllister, Duntroon; Daniel Newkirk, Walsingham; Miles O'Reilly, Jr., Hamilton; Jabez Oliver, Ragles; Francis H. Pope, Bothwell; Thos. S. Spreull, Maxwell; C. S. Stokes, Toronto; Benjamin Walden, Elginfield; Chas. Williams, Glen Williams. Thirty candidates presented themselves for examination.—Globe, 24th.

RITUALISM IN TORONTO.—The Toronto Telegraph gives long details of ritualism in St. John's Church, Toronto. Hanging over the altar-table is a white cloth, in the middle of which is a large cross formed of roses and other flowers. The cloth is bound with green. The prayers are intoned. On Sunday last when the hour of service arrived, a door opened, and in marched fourteen boys, dressed in gowns reaching to their feet. They were followed by ten men (officers of the garrison), also arrayed in white gowns. Every time the name "Jesus Christ" was said or sung, the officiating clergyman bowed his head, while the choir sang the amen at the end of each prayer. The psalms for the day were sung, the clergyman intoning the first paragraph of each. As soon as the creed was come to, the choristers and most of those present wheeled to the east as if they were all on pivots. When the creed was through, all wheeled into position again. After a twelve-minute sermon, the white robed men and boys marched off to the vestry in regular order followed by the clergyman, and then the rather slim congregation melted away.

QUEBEC.

In the Superior Court at Quebec last week, Mr. William Dunn, formerly cashier of the Quebec Bank, recovered a verdict of \$500 damages from Mr. E. H. Routh, acting as agent for W. H. Anderson, for the seizure of his effects upon an unwarrantable affidavit of intent to defraud.

A little girl, of St. Hyacinthe, about eight years of age, had been amusing herself by running rapidly round a stick she held in her hand, and, on stopping and entering the house, she fell down and almost immediately expired.

Two little boys, of St. Barnabe, aged respectively six and four years, died, on Wednesday, 22nd, from the effects of eating poison-hemlock, of which they and four other children had partaken.

PROPOSED RAILROAD.—A Mr. Vaughan, of Bury, is agitating the feasibility of a freight railroad line from Lennoxville to the lumber district of Lake Megantic, and estimates the cost at \$4,000 per mile.

INTERCOLONIAL.—Mr. Sanford Fleming, it is understood, reports some progress by the surveying parties. One has reached from Rivière du Loup to Lake Temiscouata, and have found the route tolerably favorable. They have discovered, it is said, an easy route to Fredericton, about 15 or 20 miles from the frontier, involving a somewhat longer line than the direct one.—Quebec Chronicle.

NOVA SCOTIA.

WANT.—We hear with the deepest regret that hundreds of families in the Counties of Inverness and Victoria are suffering for lack of the necessities of life. They have tried to save their cattle by feeding them with their potatoes and oats, and now even that resource is gone, and the cattle have either died or been killed. Some have had to kill the last cow to feed themselves; and there are instances of horses being killed and eaten. The winter has been long and severe and the snow very deep. Those who were for a time able to lend to their neighbors are now reduced to the same dead level of penury. The tale of distress is dismal in the extreme. And now when spring opens, there will be want of cattle, want of food, want of seed. The outlook is very dark for scores, for hundreds of families. They will struggle through the winter, but their resources will be fearfully crippled for beginning the year's work. These people are not "distressed fishermen," but distressed farmers, industrious and sober people, who in ordinary years would be in comfortable circumstances. Now, in the day of need, if other sources of help fail, we are sure that the Churches would readily give collections to aid their brethren. We hope, however, the Government will be able to devise ways and means for providing seed oats and seed potatoes. This should be done at once, as the future existence of the people must largely depend upon what they sow and plant. We hear of want at Whycomoh, Baddeck, and places usually far removed from penury. The distressed farmers of Inverness and Victoria are now in much worse case than the fishermen along our shores. They are never forward to proclaim their necessities, and when they complain we may be sure that there is occasion for complaint. The Rev. P. G. McGregor has received a letter from Rev. K. McKenzie, Clerk of the Victoria and Richmond Presbytery, which corroborates many of the foregoing statements, and appeals earnestly for aid. We hope that collections will be made by our flourishing churches in the city and country. Any collections or subscriptions sent to John S. Maclean, Esq., of this city, will be promptly forwarded.—Halifax Presbyterian Witness.

THE SEALING CATCH.—The Cape Breton News says it has been favored with the annexed list of vessels returning from the ice to ports in Newfoundland, up to a recent date,—which exhibits most encouraging results. The number of seals taken is large, every vessel having a full load:—Steamer "Bloodhound," Baine, Johnston, & Co., 10,200; steamer "Mastiff," Ridley & Sons, 19,200; steamer "Lion," W. Grieve & Co., 16,000; steamer "Nimrod," Job Bros. & Co., 10,000; steamer "Hawk," Bowring Bros., 12,000; brig, "Iona," Panton & Munn, 7,000; brig, "Fanny Bloomer," Bowring Bros., 6,000; brig, "Aurora," J. W. Stewart, 6,000; brig, "Ospray" recently arrived at St. John's, with only 400 seals on board.

AGENTS WANTED FOR PUBLICATIONS OF THE WITNESS OFFICE.

Agents wanted in every city and county of the Dominion of Canada, to canvass for
 The Daily Witness.....\$3.00 per an.
 Montreal Witness, (semi-weekly) 2.00 "
 Weekly Witness.....1.00 "
 Canadian Messenger, twice a month.....25 "
 New Dominion Monthly.....1.00 "

THE WITNESS.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1868.

— We cannot longer receive the old five and ten cent postage-stamps in payment of subscriptions.

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

Two fires have occurred within the last few days in connection with the Grand Trunk Works. The first was a fire within the Victoria Bridge, at its centre. It is supposed to have originated with a spark from a passing engine, which had settled amongst some workmen's tool chests, causing a fire, which at length communicated itself to the woodwork within the bridge itself. Fortunately it was discovered and put out before any serious damage was done. During Saturday night, a fire also broke out in one of the engine-houses of the Grand Trunk Works at Point St. Charles. Damage to the amount of \$2,000 was the result, but the works were not stopped thereby.—Last week, a number of children, on their way to one of the city schools, ate a quantity of the poisonous wild parsnips, which they had found. Five of them have died.—The office of Fire-Marshal is still unfilled up, owing to its having been refused by two persons to whom it was offered. One of these was Mr. Alfred Perry, so widely known in Fire and Insurance circles.—The convocation of McGill College has just taken place. The proceedings were well attended, and highly interesting.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

— Nothing specially interesting has transpired in connection with the McGee assassination case within the last few days.
 — The government steamer "Advance" is offered for sale by auction at Quebec, on the nineteenth day of May.
 — The keeper of Spencer Wood, the former residence of Governors, near Quebec, has received orders to prepare for the immediate reception of guests.
 — The steamships "Hibernian" and "St. Andrew" have both arrived. The former passed Father Point on Saturday morning, the latter on Saturday evening.
 — The chairman of a masonic committee writes us that the committee appropriates, this year, \$1,200 for benevolent purposes,—a fact which is highly creditable to them; but, would these masons have given less had they been free from the trammels of secret oaths? If so, the masonic association has more power over them than the commands of Christ, and they acknowledge a higher law than his.
 — The portrait of the Hon. Mr. McGee which appears in the present number of the *New Dominion*, was,—like, we believe, all the other portraits that were published in this town—taken from a good likeness by Mr. Alex. Henderson, of Phillips square, copies of which were, we believe, used by many of the photographers in multiplying likenesses by the thousand, during the week of the excitement which followed the assassination.
 — A correspondent, referring to the remark that Government knows nothing of the enlistments for foreign service, or of persons leaving the military school for such service, states that it is notorious that M. DeCazes, military-school cadet, military-drill instructor, and officer of a Sherbrooke volunteer company, is absent on leave as a Canadian Zouave at Rome.
 — The Laval University have procured, from Europe, a reflecting telescope, the mirror of which is of silvered glass, beautifully cut and polished, and 16½ inches in diameter. Its magnifying power is 840, and focal length about 10 feet. It is to be placed upon a platform, above the roof of the institution. We question the stability of such a place for correct observation.
 — We learn with deep regret that Richard O'Brien, Esq., of Lyn, formerly an extensive vanner in that place, committed suicide on Wednesday morning. He was a very public-spirited gentleman, and had one of the finest homesteads in Canada. Depression of spirits, on account of business reverses, is supposed to be the cause of this unhappy termination of a valuable life.
 — The *Minerve* gives as a reason for voting the necessary sums for the militia and fortifications, that England cannot abandon us, for we owe her or her capitalists \$60,000,000; that in private speculation capitalists have invested in Canada over forty millions; the Grand Trunk stockholders about eighty millions, and the British Government have lately indorsed for us a further sum of fifteen millions. England, therefore, says the editor, could never think of giving us independence before having recovered these sums, and we could never pay them, even if we had half a century's notice!
 — The *Minerve*, like the *Nouveau Monde*, is much vexed because we republished part of a letter from a Canadian Zouave, who stated that they dared not promenade alone the streets of Rome, and makes a parallel between the Fenians and Garibaldians, whom it accuses us of

approving. We deprecate, as much as anybody else, the illegal action of parties, whoever they may be, and our *confre'es* know that; but we hold that, as a general principle, bad subjects are created by bad governments. The British Parliament is taking steps to mend matters in Ireland, thereby confessing that something wrong was existing there. Why do not the friends and supporters of the temporal power admit the same for Rome, and seek for a remedy? We fear that the same ignorance which prevailed in Rome, in Ireland, in Mexico, will continue to produce the same results as long as it lasts.
 — The Prince Edward Islanders are in great straits for want of seed grain for spring sowing. They have had to use their seed for food, during the long and inclement winter.
 — The *Court Journal* says that Major-General Doyle, Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, is to receive the honor of knighthood.
 — A number of Fenians have been released from custody at Cork.
 — It does not appear to be the intention of the British Ministry to resign on account of the crisis occasioned by the Irish State-Church question.
 — The Fenians Burke and Shaw have received their sentences in London. The former is to be imprisoned for fifteen and the latter for seventeen years. Casey has been discharged.
 — The French vessels which went to Civita Vecchia to take home the Poitier Brigade were, it is said, loaded with cannon and ammunition, sent as a present from the Emperor to the Pope.
 — An Englishman in Paris is reported to have applied to the post-master to ascertain the cost of sending him by mail to London. He was weighed, and the cost found to be 8,648 francs which sum he offered to pay in advance. The post-master mailed him to the insane asylum.
 — The Paris *Constitutionnel* says that, in spite of the peaceful declarations of the government, so often renewed, several newspapers continue to consider war as unavoidable; and the reason they give is, that we have taken all the necessary measures for carrying it on successfully.
 — A Florence letter states that Ricciotti Garibaldi, who had been in that city for some time, has left for Leghorn, where he would join his brother Menotti, and then embark with him for England. The rumor, current a few days ago, that General Garibaldi had left his island of Capraia for Rome, is now contradicted.
 — The Emperor Napoleon III completed his 60th year on the 20th of April. Great preparations are made for the first communion of his son. Some suppose that in order to secure the succession for his only heir he will abdicate, appoint the empress regent, and watch himself the beginning of the new reign.
 — Much curiosity is felt in the intellectual world of Paris about the reception of M. Favre to the French Academy of Science. It is customary for the newly-elected member to make a speech; and, as M. Favre belongs to the Liberal school of French politicians, of which he is the most gifted speaker, a very interesting ceremony is expected. The member who is to answer his oration being M. de Remusat, whose opinions in political and religious matters are nearly identical with those of his colleague, it is supposed that both the Imperial and Pontifical Governments will be very roughly handled.
 — A French Regiment, the 71st, quartered at Bayonne, has adopted a very good and charitable method of relieving the wants of the poor of that city. Each officer gives half a day's pay per month, and every soldier two rations of soup; thus two daily distributions of soup are made in the barracks to families deprived of work. Lieut-General the Marquis of Caradoc, an English gentleman residing in the above city, has added 200 francs to the charitable fund. A newspaper of that locality relating the fact adds:—Englishmen and Frenchmen look pretty generally upon one another like dogs and cats, but when the occasion offers of fighting for or helping each other, or for doing a good action, as at Inkermann and Bayonne, they forget their old feuds, which have taken their origin we don't know exactly where.
 — In the insane hospital of Indiana, there are forty-seven women, crazed by the brutal conduct of drunken husbands.
 — There are now four papers published in French in California. They are, the *National*, *Courrier*, *Journal*, and *International*. Since 1851, twenty-eight have been established and abandoned.
 — We have received the prospectus of an immense asylum for inebriates, which is about to be erected on 4th avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., under the auspices of a highly respectable committee. The building, by the picture given, is to be a very elegant one. The funds in hand for its erection, after paying for the ground, amount to about \$20,000.
 — DUTY ON BOOKS.—The Government has placed a duty on books, periodicals, Bibles, and all other printed matter which has hitherto come into the Dominion free. This duty places a heavy burden on importers of periodicals, who for the next eight months must pay the duty out of their own pockets, as it will be impossible to collect it from their subscribers.
 — BAD TIMES FOR ABORTIONISTS.—The recent verdict and sentence in Montreal have struck wholesome terror to the hearts of those miserable abortionists of the medical profession who live

by feticide. We see that Williams, of Toronto, whose infamous pamphlets we noticed some months ago, has a warrant out against him, but is supposed to have absconded. May all others of the same class (if such there be) follow him.
 — EAGLES.—Mr. J. M. Lemoine, of Quebec, the Canadian ornithologist, has purchased a pair of live eagles from an *habitant* of Malbaie, who, annoyed at the depredations of these two aerial pirates, whose nests were on the summit of a neighboring mountain, set a rat-trap, baited with chickens, and caught them both. They had carried away several geese, hens, &c., from his farm-yard. An egg had been laid by one of these imperial birds during the passage from Malbaie; but this zoological curiosity, so seldom seen by man, was accidentally destroyed. Mr. Lemoine, as he possesses the mated couple, hopes to be able to study the character and habits of his feathery prisoners.
 — THE PAY OF COMMONERS AND SENATORS.—Several fruitless attempts have been made to reduce the indemnity voted to members by themselves. There is certainly some contradiction in the political arrangement which provides for the property qualification of members of our Parliament and leaves the power to them to give themselves salaries. We should think that the property qualification, if any be necessary, ought to be confined to electors; or, if members must be chosen among men who are supposed to represent the wealthy portion of the community, their indemnity should be limited to actual indispensable expenses. This is much more evident in the case of members of the Senate of the Legislative Council, who, being appointed for life, and being supposed to be comparatively rich, yet receive a sort of pension for, sometimes, very doubtful services.
 — NATIONAL TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.—The officers of the several temperance societies, and of the different churches in the United States, have issued a call for a National Temperance Convention, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 29th of June next. The objects of the convention are: To compare views, discuss foundation principles, and secure, so far as practicable concert of action. To this end, papers prepared by the best writers in the country will be presented, bearing upon the various aspects of the temperance work, such as the duties of the pulpit, the press, and the platform,—the relation of temperance to the Sabbath, the Sabbath-school, and Church,—to colleges and institutions of learning,—to statistics and political economy,—the Scriptural, scientific, medical, and legal phases of temperance,—the necessity of organization,—and the ballot, &c.
 — NAPOLEON'S POLICY.—The Emperor Napoleon is certainly brewing some new stroke of European policy. This is surmised by observers from the pains he is taking to secure the goodwill of all parties. After having had an interview with the chiefs of the conservatives, he called around him lately several of the deputies of the opposition, to whom he not only expressed a wish to know their views upon the present general state of affairs, but testified his sincere desire to effect a reconciliation if possible. It is stated that he has given instructions to the heads of tribunals not to take any further action against the press, except in cases involving crime. As to the question of peace or war persons most in the confidence of the Emperor do not agree. M. Rouher desires peace, in order to secure good elections, and M. Niel is reported to have said that it would be safer to risk elections after victory.
 — POLITICAL REWARDS.—It is said by parliamentary correspondents that two members of the Federal Commons are to receive appointments now at the disposal of our Local Government. Messrs. DeNiverville, member for Three Rivers, is to be probonotary of that city, and Dr. Desaulniers, the present member for St. Maurice, is to be sheriff of the same locality. Some see a very dangerous feature in that faculty left to local administrations of giving situations to representatives in the Federal Parliament, and vice versa, as in cases of very close divisions, the fate of a measure may be decided by influences outside of the government which has proposed it. Some provisions ought to be made to secure constituencies more efficiently against the temptations to which their representatives may be exposed. We little expect such an improvement in our constitution, as those who are to profit by the defect alone can remedy it.
 — PRESIDENT JOHNSON.—The impeachment trial is approaching its end, and the expectation is general that the President will be found guilty,—a verdict on the part of the Senate which will of itself depose him and render him ineligible to any office in the Federal Government. Many men get one and only one opportunity of accomplishing something great, and his was a splendid one. Most men miss their one opportunity, and he more than most. If he had made treason odious, and been the Moses (or rather the Joshua) of the negro race, as he promised, his name and fame would have stood in the very first rank of patriots and statesmen. But he miserably failed to meet the requirements of his wonderful opportunity, and preferred sensual gratifications and pro-slavery flatteries to the high calling of humanity and patriotism. He set himself against the will of the nation, or ra-

ther, if we may judge from the whole previous course of the American civil war, against the order of Divine Providence, and he has gone under like a chip before a steamboat.
 — FRENCH-CANADIAN MISSION AT KANKAKEE.—The *Northwestern Presbyterian*, an organ of the Old School body, has the following item in the report of a meeting of the presbytery of Chicago, at Kankakee, on the 14th of April:—
 "Our French missions, both in St. Anne and Kankakee, report encouraging progress. A call from the French Church of Kankakee, for the pastoral services of Mr. Wm. Groulx, having been put into his hands, and by him accepted, Presbytery proceeded to examine him preparatory to ordination. His examination being sustained, Presbytery adjourned to meet in the First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee, on the first Sabbath of May next ensuing, to ordain and install this brother."
 We believe the synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada sustains father Chiniquy on the same field.
 — CONDITION OF THE CITY OF ROME.—The *Nouveau Monde* finds very great fault with us for having translated, from an Italian paper, an article upon the Canadian Zouaves. This is in accordance with the order of things which our Montreal contemporary upholds; namely, to show but one side of a question, and to keep people in as profound darkness as possible upon passing events which may clash with the interests or notions of ecclesiastics here. We will not follow him upon the old trodden ground of the temporal power; but as he accuses us of attributing to it the fact stated by one of the Zouaves, that "it is dangerous to go out in the evening in Rome, unless accompanied by a tried friend," we may observe that we said no such thing, but merely translated the passage without comment. The inference belongs to the *Nouveau Monde* himself, who may be right on that point. There must, however, be something radically wrong in the administration of a city where such a state of things prevails, or in the system which produces it. Who would have thought of looking for it under the Government which is incessantly proclaimed to the world as the model of perfection?
 — INSANITY.—The ancients discovered, from observation, for it could hardly have been the result of reason, that evil things, after running a certain course with various success, generally rush into a mad career which soon leads to their own destruction. They said, Whom God wishes to destroy, He first makes mad. Slavery had a long and successful course; but when the time came for it to perish in its last great stronghold, there was no one found to slay it but itself. It would not only exist in its present bounds, but claimed the right to exist in new States, and that not in a given number—conceded by its weak opponents—but in all. This monstrous demand not being conceded, it must rend the nation. In this, it had immense sympathy all over the world, to get rid of which it was necessary for it to commit atrocity after atrocity; and thus it persevered until it had few to sorrow for its fall. There are some left, however, that long to see it re-established in the hands of its former upholders; and these upholders have become assassins and fiends, that their wicked system may not fail of the execration of all. Surely this blindness is of God! The evil one is too knowing to act so foolishly.
 An exactly parallel case seems to be exhibiting itself in the history of Fenianism. The time was when this movement had a show of patriotism and a nation of admirers, although it never was much more than a foreign sedition. Day after day, however, brings us reports of new wounds it has received from its most earnest votaries. We are unwilling to credit some of the latest stories, until they are better confirmed. What insanity, what malice could go so far as to seek the destruction of the most universally loved household in the world,—a widow with her children; and what grudge could be had against a merry and thoughtless prince with no hopes of the throne? The Fenians have done enough already to get the blame of all this; but the motive is positively inexplicable.
 — THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT.
 When a bill was introduced a number of years ago into the Canadian Parliament, by the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, to permit and enable the Church of England in this country to manage its own affairs by means of synods, &c., we pointed out,—first, that the measure was superfluous, inasmuch as no one would dream of hindering that church to hold synods and manage its own affairs in any way it liked; and, second, that such a measure would be liable to be misunderstood as giving a special establishment by law to one denomination which others did not possess. Whilst the bill was before Parliament, the most earnest protestations were made that its object was merely to relieve Episcopalians from certain disabilities which they conceived the laws of Britain imposed on them, and to give them the same freedom of church government that Methodists, Presbyterians, and others enjoyed here, and that the measure concerned only themselves; but, after it became law, it was made a matter not only of congratulation, but boasting, both in Canada and Britain, that the Church of England stood on a very different and much higher footing in Canada,—on account of its courts being estab-

lished by law,—from the unrecognized sects around it; and the power to compel not only its own members, but the members of other denominations, to testify before its ecclesiastical courts, was afterwards sought. This, however, elicited such a storm of indignation that the demand was withdrawn.
 We have never seen any argument or statement of facts to prove that the Church of England needs any special legislation in this country, any more than other denominations; and we think such acts are, to say the least, very liable to be misunderstood as conferring special powers and privileges. It is therefore with regret that we perceive the notice of another similar bill brought into the Dominion Parliament, to permit the members of the United Church of England & Ireland, in the Maritime Provinces, to be represented in the Synod of that Church in Canada. This, it appears to us, is a matter for Episcopalians to settle among themselves as they choose; and in which no one else has any right to interfere. It is, therefore, superfluous to bring it before Parliament,—a body which should have nothing to do with special ecclesiastical legislation,—and we earnestly warn our public men against the danger of entering at all upon such legislation in our Dominion Parliament.
 — THE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY'S RAILROAD.
 Imagine a series of a dozen fine coal-mines, on the very edge of a high coast-line, thirty miles long, with no natural harbors, and you understand the position of affairs in that corner of the Dominion farthest removed from us. There is, first, the old Sydney mine at the mouth of the inlet leading to Sydney harbor, the basin of which is seven or eight miles off, the mine being a mile or two outside of the bar, with which it is connected by a narrow tramway. Sydney Basin is not directly behind the inlet, but behind the more southern mines yet to be mentioned; and upon its placid waters, and so far free from all the coaliness of the numerous mushroom villages around it, stands the old town of Sydney once the residence of governors and magnates and still retaining a feeling of superiority over the other settlements of the Hebridean Island of Cape Breton. Returning to the coast, we find, some distance from the south side of the inlet to Sydney harbor, the Langan mine, in which the Cunards are chiefly interested; the International mine, owned chiefly by Americans; the Little Glace Bay mines; the Big Glace Bay mines; and the Block-House and Gowrie mines, on Cow Bay. All of these, with the exception of the International, are near to possible harbors, on most of which very large sums have been already spent. Some think, however, that the cheapest course, after all, would be to connect them all by a railway with one of the two magnificent harbors in the vicinity; viz., Sydney Basin or Louisburg, the site of the old French capital. Sydney is much the nearest to the mines. Louisburg is practically much nearer to the market to which the mines have hitherto looked. Sydney is a town as well as a harbor, which Louisburg is not—that ancient stronghold of the Bourbons being represented by three fishermen's huts, and Sydney is perhaps nearest to Montreal. The people of Sydney strongly approve of the railway idea, and also of Sydney being the terminus, in which case it would soon, instead of being the decaying seat of greatness, rapidly develop into a prosperous city, either the second or third in Nova Scotia. The International Company naturally takes the lead in this movement; but, we suppose, were it carried out, the other mines would gradually come to connect themselves with it.
 Recent telegrams say that the assistance of this effort will involve the refusal of assistance to the St. Peter's Canal. The connection is hard to see, as the latter work is at the opposite end of the island. Cape Breton, as every one knows, is hollow, being all water inside, and the narrow mouth of the jug is at the far end. It is now a wilderness, but is rapidly developing vast mineral resources. The canal is meant to tap the bottom of the jug, which is about two miles thick, involving a cutting of that length and two or three hundred feet deep. The work has been many years in progress. Most Nova-Scotians call it a Canadian job, and say it will be nothing but a curiosity when finished. The scattered inhabitants of the Great Bras D'Or lake believe in it, and on their possible numbers and commerce depends the propriety of carrying out the work, although it would also be the shortest and most quiet route for steamers, in many cases.
 — THE ULTRAMONTANE PARTY IN FRANCE.
 It is well known that the Ultramontane Party, when in a minority anywhere, vehemently appeals to liberty for the exercise or expression of their particular dogmas; but when in a majority, have no words sufficiently strong to warn people against the dangers of freedom. Nothing exemplifies this more than the fact that open Protestant worship is prohibited in Rome, and very severely restricted in other Catholic countries, though Catholic authorities would consider similar action taken against them as very tyrannical and unjust. The *Opinion Nationale*, of Paris, writes, on the subject of the petitions presented to the French Senate under the pretext of liberty of education, as follows:—
 "We know of nothing so sad, so debasing,

better calculated to excite indignation, than the kind of intimidation which the members of the ultramontane party, or those who pretend to be so, try to exercise upon those who do not entertain their ideas; and, above all, the incredible docility with which government lends itself to such exactions.

In this happy country, Catholics alone enjoy the right of meeting and of association. And they abuse their position to insult their adversaries in every possible manner. A bishop of Orleans has the right to interfere with the acts of the Minister of Public Instruction, to ask, or to cause people to ask, for his dismissal. A bishop of Poitiers publicly compares the Emperor Napoleon III. to Pontius Pilate, and he is only the better welcome for it at the Tuileries.

"These gentlemen possess the full right to insult others; their adversaries are corrupt men, perverted souls deputed by Satan. It is the mild and holy Pius IX. who has brought debate to that evangelical pitch. But, after all this great liberty of insult which they possess, and which we do not envy them, cannot suffice them. Not only can they speak loud; but their adversaries must keep silent. This is their capital point, and we must confess they are right in it."

"It is not enough for them to possess in their churches the right of attacking our laws and constitution; to be shown by the administration of justice the fullest indulgence, to be allowed to offer for sale all sorts of miraculous goods and drugs, such as amulets and the very productive Salette water, or the celebrated medal to commemorate the apparition of the Virgin, to which the Archbishop of Paris himself has had honesty and common sense enough to refuse his approbation. They are not satisfied with the liberty of preaching all these trades, no less profitable than pious, and which are in reality but barefaced swindling, but they must prevent every one from reflecting upon these things, or refusing to respect them."

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE CANADIAN FRUIT-CULTURIST. By James Douglass, of Windsor Nurseries. Third edition. Montreal: J. Douglass & Son. Price, 25 cents.

This work, which has obtained the praise of the Dominion press, and of many of the first gardeners and fruit-growers in the country, has reached a third edition. This is just the season when such a book (and it is the only one published in Canada, or for Canada) should be scattered over the whole country, to enable farmers and others, who have not studied the subject, to enter upon fruit-culture with understanding. The Fruit-Culturist makes matters plain to beginners. For 25 cents, prepaid in stamps, it will be sent, post-paid, to any part of the Dominion. For two dollars, prepaid, a dozen will be sent, post-paid, to any bookseller or news-agent in the Dominion.

LECONS DE LITTÉRATURE FRANÇAISE CLASSIQUE; Précédés de leçons de littérature Française depuis ses origines. Tirées des "Matinées Littéraires" d'Edouard Mennechet, à l'usage des maisons d'éducation Américaines. New York: Leypoldt and Holt.

LA LITTÉRATURE FRANÇAISE CONTEMPORAINE. Recueil en Prose et en Vers de Morceaux Empruntés aux Écrivains les plus Remarquables du XIXe. Siècle, avec des Notices Biographiques et Littéraires. New York: Leypoldt & Holt.

Advanced classes in the study of the French language will find the first of these volumes a valuable guide to the beauties of French literature. It gives a most interesting history of the progress of letters in France, from the time of the Troubadours down to the time of Voltaire and Rousseau. The student is here introduced to each great writer individually, to his home and to his friends; is told of the circumstances under which each of his works was produced, of its distinguishing peculiarities, and of the reception that it met with from the public,—so that he is able afterwards to take a much more intelligent interest in the masterpieces of the language than if each production had been presented to him separately and examined on its own merits as a work of art.

In the second volume, we have, in about 400 pages, selections from the works of over 100 French writers of the last two centuries, accompanied by a biographical notice of each. Of course, in so limited a space, there is not room for more than three or four pages of selections from each author, which is often far too little to give a correct idea of his works and style; still, though laboring under this disadvantage, the work is a good one, and the extracts seem to be well chosen, and calculated to instruct, as well as to interest, the reader.

"DANIEL IN BABYLON."—LECTURE BY REV. W. MORLEY PUNSHON.

Last night, in the W. Methodist Church, Great St. James street, the Rev. Mr. Punshon, of London, delivered his lecture, "Daniel in Babylon." The large church was filled by an audience who listened with intense interest and evident admiration, as was shown by their frequent outbursts of applause. The Hon. James Ferrier occupied the chair, and upon the platform were also a number of prominent ministers of Montreal. After brief opening religious services, the chairman introduced the speaker, who was greeted with applause.

Mr. Punshon commenced by explaining that the lecture was originally prepared for delivery before young men, though its matter was applicable to all classes. He then vividly portrayed the character of the class of the Hebrew prophets, of which class was Daniel. Perhaps there was no one among the brotherhood of prophets who so thoroughly came home to us as one of ourselves. He was inspired, but he had a life apart from his inspiration. All the circumstances which we meet with in his experience we have felt in our own. He comes to us, therefore, not in any strange guise, but robed in our own humanity. He is not a meteoric vision fleeting across our path, but comes eating and drinking, doing common things, possessed of common feelings, though they prompt him to heroic action. Daniel's life was a holy life within a practical, busy life. Some thought that religion was to be cultivated in favorable

places, on the banks of some quiet river, and not in the roaring city. But Heaven is as near to the great city as to the breezy down, and as close fellowship could be maintained with God, in any modern Babylon, as ever Daniel held with him in the Babylon of old.

In the first place, the lecturer would mention Daniel's earnest and consistent piety. His religion was not a mere surface sentiment, but it influenced the heart, and had largely to do with his success. It was of the brave sort which no disaster could frighten. He was lonely, he was tempted, he was imperilled, yet his piety failed not. It has been a favorite saying with some, that Christians are only Christians when their religion accords with policy. But what and where are the circumstances that can frighten a true man when his heart is set within him to do the right thing? You may send him from the tropics to the pole, and his religion will not catch cold. Banish him into the dreariest Patmos you can find, and he will have grown stronger in the soul's life amidst its barren crags. Is religion a hot-house plant which must be enclosed in a frame and guarded very carefully, lest March, that rough young fellow, should destroy it; or is it a hardy plant adapted for all climes, and able to stand all changes? It is worthy of notice that Daniel resisted bravely upon the earliest approach of encroachment upon conscience, and would not defile himself with the king's meat, nor with the portion of the wine which he drank. You may say, "And what worse would he have been if he had not been so singular? How foolish to stand about such trifles as this!" Trifles! yes. Are not trifles sometimes among the mightiest forces of the universe? But there are no trifles in the universe of God. Speak but a word and it shall go on ringing through the ages. Sin in your heedless youth, and I will show you the characters long years afterwards graven upon the walls of the temple of the body. It is against the beginning of the evil, the first breach upon the sacredness of conscience, that you must take your stand. It is the one false step that hurls the traveller into the deep gulf of the *erevasse* from whence he can scarcely catch a glimpse of day. Yield to that temptation which invites you, and it may be that you are lost for ever. Go to that scene of dissipation, enter that gambling hell, follow that strange woman to her house, engage in that doubtful speculation, make light of that Sabbath; and you have weakened your moral nature, you have sharpened the dagger for the assassin that waits to stab you, and you yourself are accessory to the murder of your own soul.

The lecturer here alluded to the contentment, and to the active, useful life of Daniel, amidst all that would lead him to sorrow and despondency. From relating Daniel's promotion to honor, the lecturer was led to speak of ambition. He could think of nothing more paralyzing to success than indulgence in the delirious and unprofitable reveries of ambition. Some indignant youth may exclaim:—"Are we always to remain as we are? Are we never to rise in the sphere of society in which we are found to-day?" Oh, yes! some of you may; and, if the elements of greatness are in you, they will come out. But it is no use blinking the truth that ninety out of every hundred of young men will be what they are. Some time ago, in England, a youth attempted to commit suicide; but, before doing so, wrote a slip of paper as follows: "God made me to be a man; man made me a grocer." And what if man had made him a grocer? Better follow contentedly an honest occupation than to be a successful rascal, whirling through the streets on other people's money. The lecturer here repeated the poem beginning—

"Clean has a thousand acres,
Ne'er a one have I."
God has placed you, he then said, in a position where you can be honest and useful. Do your duty in the present: God will take care of you in the future. Don't aim at any of these impossible heroisms, but try to be quiet heroes in your own sphere. Don't live up in the cloud-land of some transcendental heaven, but do your best to bring the glory of Heaven down. Daniel was not only contented, but courteous to all those with whom he was surrounded. He was never insolent in his contempt for idolatry, yet he never swerved in his loyalty to conscience and in fidelity to God. True politeness springs from the heart. The true Christian is bold and fearless in rebuke of error, but humane and gentle and loving and brotherly; looks kindly upon even the vilest, for he is a man like himself. Both are royal, though one is wearing and the other has pawned his crown. Daniel was also conscientious in the discharge of his duties. He secured the confidence of four successive monarchs who sat upon the throne of Babylon. As he grew in honor, and the whole management of a vast empire devolved upon him, his duties must have been very onerous and responsible; yet, with all these cares, never man before wore more of heaven on his brow. See him as he comes out of the chambers of state, and goes to his closet and engages in prayer. In prayer he finds his safety and his strength. Some would wonder at his powers, and others admire his diplomacy, his astuteness, his sagacity, and, above all, his success. Surely, such would say, if ever man worshipped his work it was Daniel. Alas for you, my friend, that you are not in the secret! That prayer is the explanation of everything there is in the man. That prayer has filled his heart so full that there is no room for anything else to get in. Another man may say, "What, he a statesman! that man of psalms and prayer, all the time canting about religion and duty! I hate these saints. Watch him narrowly. Some day there will be a grand exposure of his injustice, rapacity, and wrong." Well, don't you think that if Daniel is as bad as you paint him to be, those who rejoice in it are a great deal worse? But enemies can find nothing against Daniel. Fling him into the seven-fold heated furnace, and, when he comes out, you cannot find the smell of fire upon his garments. Learn from his life, moreover, to be dauntless with reprobation that hypocrite who is too dainty to work, and that worldling who is too busy to pray. You will learn how hollow is the plea of the procrastinator who says that he has no time for religion, when the man who was, at the same time, Lord Chancellor, Lord Chief Justice, Home and Foreign Secretary, and also Prime Minister over 120 provinces, could retire for prayer three times a day.

Again: we learn that when the interests of two worlds came into collision, Daniel dared the danger from the one rather than prove faithless

to his God. When the edict went forth that, for a period of thirty days, no one should pray to his God, Daniel dared to disobey it because it was contrary to the line of duty. Some persons may say, He could yet pray in the spirit. The essence of prayer is the spirit; it does not matter if the body does not bow, nor even the lips move. Why put himself in danger when he could pray in the spirit just as well as before? But that was not Daniel's course of reasoning. He did exactly as he had been accustomed to do. He loved life well, but he loved God better; and, while others would have inquired if it safe, is it politic? he seemed only to inquire, is it right? With a quickened pulse,—for I should not like to think that his pulse beat as calmly as ever, for if so, then he was not human, and if he was not human, then he is no example for me,—with a quickened pulse he proceeded to his devotions as usual. At length the room is filled with the envious ones, and they accuse him fiercely of a violation of the king's law. But he does not falter. Rather than betray his conscience he goes calmly down to the danger of death, and finds that God will deliver those who put their trust in him. Preserve a whole conscience before God and a loving purpose toward your fellow-men, and you need fear nothing. I trust there are many here who are emulous of Daniel's heroism. Though the old persecutions have passed away, there is yet room enough in the most uneventful life for exemplary religious decision. The exigencies of the present time are great and pressing, and summon you to the noblest efforts. Brothers, I have never despaired of the future of the world in which we live. I leave that for infidelity, with its sad scorn of the immortal life. Humanity has been at once ransomed and glorified by Christ. Though this dear earth which Jesus trod is wet with tears and blood, there is something in the heart of every man responsive to the gospel of peace. Blessings shall yet hush the voices of earth's many wailings and speak of a resurrection amid the silence of its many tombs. I look at the past, and I see a dark and gloomy forest where the thick and tangled bush grows in rank luxuriance among the massive trees. But as I look there is a stir in the forest, for the feller has come up against it. All that is prescriptive, all that is venerable he cuts away. Affection says, "Woodman, spare that tree." But as I look I see that the woodman has no pity. Anon the mists that formerly enveloped the forest have rolled away. Upspringing from the ruins of the old I see the new. It was only the *bad* that was destroyed; whatever of good the *old* had in living still. The woodman is there yet, but he has thrown aside his axe and now drives the plough. Close behind him are the planter and the sower, and soon upon the clear earth there is the hum of industry. The sun shines out bright and glorious upon a scene of peace and prosperity. The land has been bountiful, the seed has been blessed, and a golden harvest awaits the reapers. The woodman and his co-laborers are gone, but the work is there still. I look again, and lo! a paradise tenanted by men, loving and happy, and into which angels do wander as of old, and where the voice of the Lord may be heard speaking in the cool of the day.

The foregoing is the merest *résumé* of a lecture that occupied nearly an hour and a half in the delivery. It would be impossible to find space for the many beautiful illustrations, the graphic descriptions, the shrewd observations, showing a deep practical knowledge of human nature and of human life; the pathos, the humor, the art,—felt rather than seen,—both in composition and delivery, with which it abounded. We say, it would be impossible to give these; and it might perhaps be added, to do so would be also unjust. The lecture must have cost great labor, and is really literary property, although not protected as such by copyright. Those who heard it last night will not wonder at Mr. Punshon's popularity in his own land, and will certainly augur for him an equal reputation and prestige in this, when, by the hearing of the ear, it shall have satisfied itself of the foundations of his fame.

CONVOCATION OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

The annual Convocation of McGill University was held on Friday in the Wm. Molson Hall, which was nearly filled on the occasion. William Molson, Esq., Governor, presided. The Ven. Archdeacon LEACH, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, then announced the honors, prizes, and standing awarded to students. The DEAN then presented:—

William De M. Marler, for the Ann Molson gold medal; Robert Laing, for the Prince of Wales gold medal; and Charles H. Brooks, for the Logan medal. These awards were duly made.

The DEAN announced that neither the Chapman nor the Shakespeare medal had been awarded; there having been no competition in classics, nor in English literature. Principal DAWSON conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts on Charles H. Brooks, George F. Kennedy, Robert Laing, William De M. Marler, William J. Dart, Francis X. Moore, John Hindley, George Slack, and Elbert G. Fowler.

Mr. ROBERT LAING, B.A., of Buckingham, now delivered a valedictory, marked with wise views of the aims, as well as the advantages, of a University course. The PRINCIPAL then conferred the degree of M.A. upon the following candidates:—John H. Bothwell, B.A., B.C.L.; John R. McLaren, B.A., B.C.L.; Sampson P. Robins, B.A.; James McGregor, B.A.; and James D. Morrison, B.A.

SECOND DAY. The adjourned meeting of Convocation was held on Saturday last, in the William Molson Hall, which was crowded to its uttermost. The Hon. Charles D. Day, LL.D., Chancellor of the University, presided.

From the proceedings, it appeared that during the

following are the names of Students presented for the Degree of M.D., C.M., their residences, and the subjects of their Theses:—Ault, Edwin D., Aultsville, O., Thysteria; Bain, D. S. E., Staff Surgeon-Major, Quebec, Q., Yellow-Fever; Burgess, John A., Chatsworth, O., Empyema; Chipman, Clarence J. H., B. A., Montreal, Q., Infantile Cholera; Daly, Guy D. F., St. Paul, Minn., U.S., Aneurism; DeGrosbois, T. B., Chambly, Q., Cataract; Farewell, Wm. G., Oshawa, O., Induction of Premature Labor; Fraser, Donald, Montreal, Q., Small-pox; Gilmour, Angus, Granby, Quebec, Physiological Chemistry of Urin; Gordon, Robert, Osnabruck, Ontario, Pythogenic Fever; Hagarty, Dan. M. J., Bornholm, O., Scariatina; Hamilton, Chas. S., Roslin, O., Pneumonia; Harding, F. W., Windsor, N.S., Tobacco; Hollwell, John, Quebec, Q., Gunshot Wounds; King, Reginald, A. D., St. Silvestre, Q., Physiological relations of the Blood; Law, D. W. C., Newton Robinson, O., Amenorrhœa; Legault, Daniel, Isle Perault, Q., Dyspepsia; Moffatt, Walter, Hickory, Pennsylvania, Jaundice; Mondelet, Wm. H., Montreal, Q., Principal causes of the Mortality of Montreal, and Modes of Prevention; Nesbitt, James A., Hemmingford, Q., Pneumonia; Padfield, Chas. Wm., Burford, O., Physiology and Pathology of the Blood; Perrier, John, Halifax, N.S., Dysentery; Proudfoot, John S., Chatsworth, O., Acute Pneumonia; Quarry, James J., Lucan, O., Dysentery; Rinfret, Ferdinand, Q., Quebec, Q., Scariatina; Roddick, Thomas G., Harbor Grace, Nfld., Fractures of the Femur; Smallwood, John R., Montreal, Q., Traumatic Tetanus; Smith, Daniel D., Cornwall, O., Disease of the Valves of the Heart; Stanton, George, Simcoe, O., Acute Peritonitis; Stimpson, Alfred O., St. Pie, Q., Relations of Chemistry to Medicine; Wilcox, Marshall B. Whitey, O., Stricture of the Urethra; Wye, John A., Brantford, Rubcola.

Dr. Campbell, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, read the awards of prizes and honors to students in medicine.

PRIZES. The Medical Faculty Prizes consist, first, of the Holmes Gold Medal, founded by the Faculty in honor of their late Dean, and two prizes in books for the best Primary and best Final Graduation Examination.

The Holmes Medal was gained by Thomas George Roddick of Newfoundland, after a close competition with Guy D. F. Daly of St. Paul's, Minnesota, and Clarence Chipman, B.A., of Montreal.

The Prize for the best examination in the Final Branches was awarded to Thomas George Roddick; and in the Primary Branch to Andrew Harkness of Matilda, O.

The gentlemen whose Theses and Examinations were considered sufficiently meritorious to entitle them to compete for the medal, were Messrs. Daly, Wilcox, Chipman, Burgess, Ault, Stanton, Quarry, Perrier, and Gilmour.

The gentlemen who deserve Honorable Mention in the Primary examinations were Messrs. Lucas, Cherry, Reid, Stewart, Bull, MacLaren, and Kittson; the names in the above list are arranged in the order of merit.

The Prizes in Natural History were awarded as follows:—Botany.—Austin T. Pegg, Prize; G. H. DeWolfe, F. W. Faulkner, W. Youker, Certificate of very creditable answering. Zoology.—T. M. Clunn, Prize; Sidney P. Cook, Prize for Collection of Shells.

Mr. Thomas G. Roddick, M.D., C.M., delivered a brief but excellent valedictory on behalf of the students in medicine. Prof. WRIGHT then delivered an address to the graduates in medicine.

Prof. TORRANCE, M.A., B.C.L., read the following award of honors, and standing of students in law.

The following students having passed and performed all the exercises required by the regulations of this Faculty during the Session of 1867-8, are therefore entitled to the degree of B.C.L.; viz., in alphabetical order, as follows:—DAREY, Pierre Jacques, M.A., Doherty, Thos. James, Fisk, John Jeffrey, Gibb, James Robertson, MacLaren, John James, McIntosh, John, Lynch, William Warren, Messier, Joseph Solyme, Picbé, Aristide, Power, Alex. Walter Augustus, Richard, Edouard Emery, Wicksteed, Richard John, Wight, James Henry.

The prizes and honors having been awarded, and degrees conferred, Mr. POWER delivered the valedictory on behalf of the students in law.

Prof. CARTER, B.C.L., then addressed the students of law. Vice-Chancellor (Prin. Dawson) announced that the Corporation had granted the degree of M.D. *ad eundem* to Edward Worthington, of Sherbrooke, M.D. of St. Andrews, Scotland. He also announced that, by a recent act of the Corporation, the Presbyterian College of Montreal, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, had been admitted as an affiliated Theological College, being the second Theological College affiliated to the University. He trusted that the time would come when the colleges of all Protestant religious bodies would be affiliated with this University.

The CHANCELLOR (the Hon. C. D. Day) then said, he had been desired to add a little to what the Vice-Chancellor had yesterday said respecting three individuals formerly connected with this University. He wished to refer, he said, to what Sir Edmund Head, formerly Governor-General of Canada, had done for the University. He was a friend of learning, and interested himself in the welfare of this University at a critical period of its history, giving it the benefit of his influence, and the wisdom of his counsel. It was to him that the Chancellor (the present speaker) applied when the University was in want of a Principal; and it was due to his recommendation that Dr. Dawson was selected,—a man who had done more than any other towards the bringing up of this University to its present proud position. The interest of Sir Edmund Head in the institution lasted to the end of his days, and it was to be wished that he could have left a portion of his spirit behind him, so as to induce the commercial class to give some portion of the early life of their sons to higher education, and not to send them to business too soon. It was a grievous mistake to send boys too early amidst the hardening effects of business and trade, before mental culture had been bestowed upon them, to enable them in after life to intelligently enjoy nature, art, and literature. These young men were destined to play an important part in the future of this Dominion; but until their parents realized this truth, and caused them to be prepared by academical training, this Uni-

versity would not flourish as it ought. He was led to these remarks from the fact that this year the classes had not increased. This should not be the case. It was the duty of the wealthy to assist in raising the standard of education, and thus more fully to fit their own sons, and the sons of others, for the refined enjoyment of life, as well as the highest performance of its duties. He could not speak from personal knowledge of the amiable young student, now deceased, of the son of Mr. C. J. Brydges; but he would now add one word in connection with another name that ought not to be passed over lightly,—that of the late lamented Mr. McGee, a graduate of the Faculty of Law in that University, and who, had he been living, would have asked to address them that day. The loud wail of lamentation that had gone into distant lands, on the news of his death, showed how his character was appreciated, and his end deplored. He owed this extraordinary tribute alike to his talents and to his kindness of heart. He was a representative man. He controlled and persuaded his countrymen amongst us for a salutary and beneficial purpose. He was always found on the side of order, and declared himself so with unflinching courage. He was wise in counsel, just in view, bold in action, and we should not see another to take up the mantle that had fallen from this lamented statesman. He had his failings and his follies; he had also his triumphs; and the greatest of these was his last, when he overcame the habit that had grieved his friends and pleased his enemies. It was the turning point in his career, from which he would have started renewed and shown all his rare qualities in a higher and riper, and yet rarer, degree. He had at length learned to control himself; and it was written, "He that ruleth himself is greater than he that taketh a city." He died by the hand of the assassin in the greatness of his strength, in the fullness of his fame; he died as heroes love to die, amidst the scene of their labors and the prosecution of their great works. The bullet which, in his case, had brought these to an end, had sent a shudder through the land; it had turned all eyes, even the most distant, upon him, yet more to admire his abilities, while they bemoaned his loss. The characteristics of his genius found its favorite expression in an oratory, which was at once brilliant and profound; in listening to which the hearer, while admiring its poetic imagery, was fed with its instructive thought. His endowments were as manifold as they were rich; and, moreover, these sparkling jewels were set in the golden circle of an honest manhood. Peace be with him! The spectacle which had been lately exhibited in this city and elsewhere, when all ranks had been bound by, and given public expression to, a common sorrow, showed his labor had not been in vain. But the sweet persuasiveness of his tongue was hushed; the spirit that poured oil on the troubled waters was gone; and, in conclusion, might each student in that University benefit by the example, and strive to rival the attainments and later virtues of this distinguished graduate of McGill University, the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee.

The Rev. Mr. CORNISH having pronounced the benediction, the convocation was declared to be closed.

MEMORIAL.—Chief Bertram, of the Fire Department, has received a very tasteful memorial to the memory of the late firemen, Hugh W. Scott and Edward Douglas Thompson, who were killed at the fire on the 21st March in St. Paul street. The memorial is in ornamental penmanship; in the centre is a card taken from the body of Edward D. Thompson. On one end of the card, it reads "In life respected," and on the other "In death regretted;" above and below the card the words "In memory of a brave young citizen, E. D. Thompson, who fell a victim to an explosion on 21st March, 1868," the whole being enclosed in a handsome gilt frame. Accompanying it is a letter from a Fire "Captain of 1830." It is intended to frame this letter, together with the sermon preached on the occasion, and enclose the whole in a glass case with the hose-key found on the body of fireman Scott.

MCGEE'S ABSTRACTION.—The Newburyport (Mass.) Herald has the following reminiscence of Mr. McGee:—"In addition to the volume of brain, McGee had a singular power of abstraction, that was of great advantage to him. When he was thinking upon any subject an army might have been marched by him unobserved. It is about seventeen years since he delivered an address in our Market Hall. He wrote the lecture in the office of a young lawyer, who had occasion to leave him alone. Some hours afterwards, when a number of persons had been in and out the office, McGee having finished his writing, the lawyer inquired if a certain person whom he had expected had been in, when McGee quietly replied that there had been no person in since he left. He had not noticed a person during his writing, and forgot even his dinner. We heard his address, which was really a fine effort. He was then young, less than thirty,—a warm, generous, noble-hearted man, of good personal appearance, and full of love of country."

CORRECTION.—Our contemporary, the Witness, confounds Earl Kimberly with Lord Amberley. The former nobleman, as Lord Wodehouse, held the post of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and has the reputation of being an accomplished and liberal politician. So far as we know, nepotism has never been laid to the charge of his family, and, as an old Whig institution, we fancy it has all but died out.—News.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

—F. Gross's Chest-Expanding Steel Shoulder Braces, manufactured at the Canada Truss Factory, 36 Victoria square, Montreal.—This is an entirely new and superior article for ladies and gentlemen who have acquired a habit of stooping. This brace is certain to answer the purpose of keeping the chest expanded and the body upright, and will also prove conducive to health and gracefulness. For gentlemen, this Chest-Expander will enable them to do away with the common suspenders. Caution to Parents.—Parents, look to your children! Gross's newly-invented Steel Shoulder Braces are almost indispensable for children, as they are liable to contract the habit of stooping and shrugging their shoulders at school, causing them to grow narrow-chested, and laying the foundation for consumption and lung diseases. Parents should bear this in mind, as wearing our Braces will counteract this bad habit.

—The total number of students was 150. Of these, there were from Quebec, 64; Ontario, 74; Newfoundland, 2; Nova Scotia, 3; New Brunswick, 2; Prince Edward Island 1; Bermuda, 1; United States, 3.

The number of students who passed their Primary Examination, which includes Anatomy, Chemistry, Materia Medica, Institutes of Medicine, and Botany or Zoology was 39.

Family Reading.

A GERMAN TRUST SONG.

Just as God leads me, I would go; I would not ask to choose my way; Content with what he will bestow, Assured he will not let me stray.

Just as God leads I am content; I rest me calmly in his hands; That which he has decreed and sent, That which his will for me commands,— I would that he should all fulfil; That I should do his gracious will In living or in dying.

Just as God leads, I all resign; I trust me to my Father's will; When reason's rays deceptive shine, His counsel would I yet fulfil; That which his love ordained as right, Before he brought me to the light, My all to him resigning.

Just as God leads me, I abide: In faith, in hope, in suffering true; His strength is ever by my side: Can aught my hold on him undo? I hold me firm in patience, knowing That God my life is still bestowing,— The best in kindness sending.

Just as God leads, I onward go, Oft amid thorns and briars seen; God does not yet his guidance show: But in the end it shall be seen How, by a loving Father's will, Faithful and true, he leads me still.

—Lampertus, 1625.

OFF THE TRACK.

The train came thundering along; but the switchman was not prompt to turn the track. If the switch had been moved only an inch, and just at the right moment, all would have been well; but it was not, and the cars were thrown off the track, and confusion and death followed.

Oh how many sad events in life come from little neglects! Characters are ruined, influence is lost, Christ is dishonored, and hopes of eternal happiness blighted, all for want of right doing at some of the many turning-points in life. A very little fault may throw a man off the track if he is not watchful.

I spent several weeks, at one time, in Shoreland, where Mr. Cook lived, and while there, attended the same church. I was talking one day with the minister about some of his people.

"There is one man," said I,—"Farmer Cook,—who seems to be always at meeting; but he never speaks or prays. Is he not a Christian?"

"He's a member of the church," replied the minister slowly, as if he didn't like to tell the whole truth; "but, the fact is, he's off the track."

"How is that?" said I. "What's the matter? Does he drink?"

"Oh, no! he is a strong temperance man, very strong. He can talk fast enough on that subject, I can tell you; and he never uses tobacco in any shape either. He is thoroughly right on these points. I can tell you a great deal that is good about Charles Cook. He is a truly loyal man, and has been a staunch Republican always. The very first time he voted, thirty years ago, he voted the abolition ticket, when there were only six Republican votes cast in the whole town; and it took moral courage to do a thing like that. Then he went to work to revolutionize the town. He talked and labored, and has lived to see the tables completely turned; for now Shoreland is the strongest Republican town in the State."

"He knows how to talk, then?" I very well knew he did.

"Yes, indeed. I have often thought if he would throw himself into the service of Christ with the energy he gives to politics and temperance, how much good he might do! He is one of our richest men too; and that gives him influence."

"How strange!" I said. "What can be the matter?"

"When he joined the church, twenty years ago," continued the minister, "before I came here, I was told he was very active in meeting and Sunday-school; but, as I told you, he has got off the track. I was as much puzzled as you are at first; but I was bound to find out the truth. I couldn't get at it by talking with him; so I made up my mind to get better acquainted with him, and see for myself. He lives down by the mill yonder, owns the mill and three hundred acres of land there. Then he has another farm as large, and two smaller ones, in different parts of the town. Of course, he employs a great many people; but I soon found that he hadn't a very good name among them. Once I visited at his house for two or three days; and there I learned that he never had family worship, or asked a blessing at the table. Of course, while I was there, I was invited to perform these duties; but I saw that his family were unaccustomed to it. One morning, when we were out in the orchard together, I spoke to him about it."

"Brother Cook," said I, "don't you pray in your family?"—"No," he answered.—"Did you never?"—"Yes; I used to."—"But why did you leave off?"—"I asked. He was silent for a little, as though loth to make the confession; and then he came out with the truth. 'The fact is,' said he, 'I have got an awful ugly temper; and, after I have been scolding the folks, it isn't so easy to call 'em to-

gether, and pray with 'em.' There was the secret. A hasty temper had thrown him off the track. A little care and watchfulness, turning the switch when the engine was coming, would have kept all things straight; but he was thrown off, and then everything went wrong. He lost his self-respect, and he felt that he could not consistently pray with them, or get up in prayer-meeting to exhort them."

Yes, that was the secret: I saw the whole. "But he didn't do right to neglect these duties," I said.

"No, indeed! two wrongs never make a right. I told him, that, after every offence, he should have called his people together, confessed his sin, and asked forgiveness of them and of God. That would have helped him in watching against this easily-betting sin, and it would have given him a great influence over his men. But alas for Farmer Cook! he has now no longer more than the name of a Christian. What a very little thing will sometimes turn a man out of the right way!"

I thought so too. How careful we ought to be of our temper, our tongue, our thoughts, our daily habits, lest, in an evil hour, we should be thrown off the track, and keep going farther and farther from the right road until we are utterly ruined!—Freedman.

PICTURE OF A LOWLAND SCOTCH ELDER.

The original of the following portrait, which is all correct but the name, was grandfather of a prosperous merchant, now and for many years past residing in Canada West. The two daughters were married, and now live in Boston:—

Ever since I could remember him, William Paterson had been a widower, and his house was kept by two daughters, a third having been married for some time. He was one of what was called "the broad-bonneted elders," that is, a class of men who almost always wore broad Kilmarnock bonnets, Sunday and Saturday. The other parts of their costume were nearly equally invariable. There was the long blue coat with broad sweeping skirts, the waistcoat with large flaps over the pockets, the knee breeches, and the coarse gray stockings, giving a picturesque and patriarchal, Conventer-like aspect to the wearer. William was professionally a tailor; but no man had ever seen him sitting in that position which, according to some, best suits the exigencies of the trade. He always sat upright at his work, and consequently never had that shuffling, rolling sort of gait so common among men in that craft. But William had more strings than one to his bow. He kept a depot for the sale of coals, had several cows whose produce he sold, and a shop for the sale of groceries and other small articles. From these various sources, he and his family derived a comfortable livelihood. They dressed well and lived well for their rank in life, and the characters of the whole were without stain or reproach. It was his lot to live in a part of the village near which, perhaps, the most respectable section of the community was congregated, and yet it was seldom known that William's property was invaded or injured, or any disrespect shown to his person. His house was his own; and for a man in his station he had a large and excellent garden, in which was a rustic summer-house, built with his own hands, where William was regularly accustomed to rest and sun himself as the evening declined. His collection of fruit-trees was varied and select; yet, great as the temptation was, it was seldom known that his garden had been robbed, even when others suffered. Upon a certain occasion, a boy, whose connections were not of the most respectable sort, had been detected with some stolen fruit which he acknowledged to have purloined from William's garden, and his parents took him and the fruit together to William, in order that condign punishment might be inflicted on the offender; but all that he got was a calm reproof, and an assurance that if he had only taken the trouble to ask, he would have got as many apples for nothing, without the necessity of stealing them. Such was the respect and reverence which the man's amiable and benevolent character inspired, for he was eminently a lover of peace, who always sought after whatsoever was lovely and of good report. An unflinching practice with William was to have his door shut at a certain hour, morning and evening, for devotional exercises. Nothing could have prevailed upon him to depart from this practice. It was universally known throughout the village that such was the case, and care was taken not to disturb the family at such seasons. No customers were lost in consequence, and it might probably be safe to say that some were attracted who might not otherwise have come. William's temper was peculiarly placid, even, and gentle. No man had ever seen him in a passion or heard a harsh word proceeding from his lips. These serene and benevolent shades of character often manifested themselves even in the most trivial and ordinary occurrences, and in circumstances when one would have hardly expected anything characteristic to be developed.

On a dewy morning, William might sometimes be seen going round his garden with a flower-pot filled with slack lime in his hand, dusting its contents upon the snails and other vermin that would climb upon the plants during the night; but even in this you fancied you could detect something of the man's humane and kind disposition, for he seemed to do it gently, "as if he loved them,"—as Isaac Walton says of the worms which he empaled upon his fish-hooks,—and wished they might recover from the dose. William, as has been mentioned, had one or two cows in his byre; and even between these dumb animals and their master there seemed to exist a sympathetic bond of attachment, as if they were conscious of the kindly glow of benevolence that pervaded his whole character. The decree had gone forth upon a certain time that one of them was to be fattened for the slaughter,

and when the day, fatal for crummie, had arrived, he was requested to assist in the bloody work; and the reply he gave I could never help thinking was eminently characteristic of the man. "Haud her halter till she's killed!" said William; "deed an' I will no. I wud rather gie her a wisp o' hay. I've haen her for three years now, an' I will no stand an' see her killed." It was a picture worthy the study of an artist to observe William, on his way to the church on Sunday; venerable in his whole aspect and appearance; sedate and slow, but erect, firm, and steady, in his gait, with his white locks streaming out from beneath the massive broad bonnet, and his black staff with its ivory-mounted head in his hand, you could almost have fancied that an apostle had returned to tread the earth, or that one of the old Reformers or Covenanters was yet wandering about in the flesh. There was nothing sour or forbidding about his religion. You saw the same happy face on Sunday as on other days, and were sure of the same kindly nod and smile.

THE FULNESS IN CHRIST.

Dr. Guthrie presents in a very striking and compact form the fulness in the Saviour to all human wants. He says:—

How difficult it would be to name a noble figure, a sweet smile, a tender or attractive relationship, in which Jesus is not set forth to woo a reluctant sinner and cheer a desponding saint! Am I wounded? He is balm. Am I sick? He is medicine. Am I naked? He is clothing. Am I poor? He is wealth. Am I hungry? He is bread. Am I thirsty? He is water. Am I in debt? He is a surety. Am I in darkness? He is a sun. Have I a house to build? He is a rock. Must I face that black and gathering storm? He is an anchor sure and steadfast. Am I to be tried? He is an advocate. Is sentence passed, and am I to be condemned? He is pardon.

To deck Him out and set Him forth, nature culls her finest flowers, brings her choicest ornaments, and lays these treasures at His feet. The skies contribute their stars. The sea gives up its pearls. From fields, and rivers, and mountains earth brings the tribute of her gold, and gems, and myrrh, and frankincense; the lily of the valley, the clustered vine, and the fragrant rose of Sharon. He is "the chiefest among ten thousand, and altogether lovely." "In Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." I offer Him to you—make a free offer of Him, and doing so will challenge you to name a want for which I shall not find a full supply in Christ, something that fits your wants as accurately as the works of a key the wards of its lock.

"A Way He is to lost ones that have strayed; A Robe He is to such as naked be; Is any hungry, to all such He's Bread; Is any weak, in Him how strong is he! To him that's dead He's Life; to sick men, Health; Eyes to the blind, and to the poor man, Wealth."

CHRISTIAN TREASURY.

(Green Pastures for the Lord's Flock, by the Rev. James Smith)

"Rejoicing in hope."—Rom. xii. 12.

The believer cannot always rejoice in possession, for he appears stripped of everything; but he may rejoice in hope even then. He is warranted to hope for eternal life; for righteousness by faith; that God may be magnified in his body, by life or by death; for the resurrection of the body, and its reunion with the soul; for the appearing of his beloved Saviour, and complete salvation through Him. The hope which is laid up for him in heaven, of which the gospel now informs him,—a weight of glory, a crown of righteousness, and an eternal inheritance, are in reserve for him, and in hope of these he may rejoice. They are set before him to excite desire, produce courage, prevent despondency, and fill with joy. They are freely given, plainly promised, and carefully preserved; therefore we shall never be ashamed of our hope. Let us not yield to our gloomy feelings or to distressing forebodings; but let us lift our heads, rejoicing that we shall soon be made partakers of our hope. Let us hope in God, and daily praise Him more and more; making use of hope as the anchor of the soul, sure and steadfast.

Come, Lord, and help me to rejoice, In hope that I shall hear Thy voice, Shall one day see my God; Shall cease from all my painful strife, Handle and taste the word of life, And feel the sprinkled blood.

WANTED!

Wanted.—A strong combination in the city of Halifax to counteract the efforts of the Grocer and Liquor Dealers' Association, the object of that Society being the perpetuation of the Liquor Traffic, regardless of the loss their business entails on the citizens in the shape of a larger expenditure in maintaining the Police force than would be otherwise required, increased taxes,—a large portion of which is necessary in consequence of the existence of so many rumshops,—loss of character, health, and souls of many persons, young and old.

Wanted.—The clergymen of all denominations to denounce the traffic, intemperance, and drunkenness in more determined language than they do;—to make more special reference to it. The church is suffering in consequence of the existence of the traffic and the patronage and countenance the liquor business receives from religious men.

Wanted.—The press to take hold of the subject and present to the people the vast evils that are produced by the traffic in this city.

Wanted.—Religious men to be consistent in their professions, in order that, while they denounce all other evils, they will not forget that of intemperance,—the prolific source of most all the others.

Wanted.—Persons in high positions to be really temperate in their habits, in order that the young and the weak, and others who look to them for example, may not be influenced in the wrong direction, by the mistaken idea

that the moderate drinking of intoxicants is not dangerous.

Wanted.—The men and women, heads of families, to set their faces against the drinking customs of society, if not for their own sakes, for those of their children, on whose future habits will depend the state of society when they become the principal actors on the stage of life after the present generation shall have passed away.

Wanted.—Some fifteen thousand recruits to fill up the ranks of the various temperance organizations in Halifax, in order that our army may be enabled to fight successfully against the legions of the devil, whose strongholds are to be found in the shape of rumshops—wholesale and retail; including also the large importers' warehouses and vessels.

Wanted.—A more determined spirit on the part of temperance men in opposing the liquor business, and preventing its extension.

Wanted.—A meeting of the best men in the city to consult on the best means of greatly abating the evils consequent on the existence of the traffic, if they cannot be entirely abolished; and to decide as to the best course to be adopted in reference to securing legislative enactment on the subject.

Wanted.—Immediate, energetic action in the matter.

Who will help us?—Halifax Abstinence.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The time is near at hand when the great joy of the week to the children of the United States will be the hour and a half of the Sunday-school. Often, when hearing Mr. Dickens read, the thought occurred to us, What a splendid exercise some such reading as this for a Sunday-school! Among a dozen teachers, surely there would always be one with a little natural aptitude for reading and personating, who would consent to go into training for a year or two, and then give all the children, every Sunday, half an hour of rapture, and an endless benefit, by reading something suitable.—Atlantic Monthly, for April.

"COME QUICKLY."—This is the church's hearty echo to Christ's promise: "Behold, I come quickly." Come, Lord Jesus! thus beats the pulse of the church, thus the mystical body of Christ; and we should never be satisfied till we find such a spirit breathing in us, and causing us to look for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearance of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ. What comes from heaven in a promise, should be sent back to heaven in a prayer. Come, Lord Jesus, put an end to this state of sin and sorrow and temptation, and gather thy people out of this present evil world.—Matthew Henry.

THE UNDIVIDED CHURCH.—Take a mass of quicksilver, let it fall to the floor, and it will split itself into a vast number of distinct globules. Gather them up, and put them together again, and they will coalesce into one body as before. Thus God's elect below are sometimes crumbled and distinguished into various parties, though they are in fact members of one and the same mystic body. But when taken up from the world and put together of heaven, they will constitute one glorious undivided church for ever and ever.—Toplady.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

SELFISHNESS.

"Do tell me a story, auntie," said little Eva Evans, one glowing winter's evening, as she nestled closer to her Aunt Lucy's side, and then glanced at her brother as though she wished him to join in the request.

"Perhaps auntie does not feel like talking," remarked the more thoughtful Walter, in reply to his sister's expression of entreaty.

"Talking ought not to tire any one, I think," observed Eva with an air that plainly told her readiness to pout at her brother's speech.

"You believe so just now because you wish to be amused Eva, yet I heard you say the other day that you did not care to talk after having walked any distance, because it tired you to use your voice. Now as this might be the case with aunt Lucy after her walk to-day, you ought not to let your selfishness urge you to ask her to talk."

"Am I selfish, auntie?" asked the little girl as she gazed angrily at her brother.

"We are all apt to be more or less so, Eva, nor could I acquit you at all times from the charge; still, in this instance, I think Walter has been rather hasty in accusing you of being selfish, for I had neither expressed myself as fatigued, nor yet unwilling to comply with your request."

"Is it not selfishness, Aunt Lucy, to be always thinking of what will amuse and gratify one's self?" asked Walter.

"Yes, dear, but Eva does not often manifest such a spirit, nor did she this evening, for I believe she was anxious to have you entertained as well as herself, at least I judge so from a look I saw her direct toward you."

Walter reddened at Aunt Lucy's rebuke, for he knew he had been hasty in condemning his little sister. He was a kind and affectionate brother, though he sometimes showed signs of impatience at Eva's childlike wants and expressions. Eva was but seven years old, and Walter twelve, consequently he felt himself entitled, on account of his age, to decide for her in many matters, and to pass his opinions very freely in regard to what she said and did. Being an only daughter, the little girl was a great favorite with the entire household, and owing to this was very much indulged; yet Aunt Lucy was watchful and careful that a selfish disposition should not arise out of this indulgence, and the obsequiousness with Eva's happiness and that of her friends. Although she had reproved Walter for finding fault with his sister, she was not sorry that an opportunity had been afforded her of impressing on the children's minds what selfishness truly meant. Turning to her little niece, she remarked, "I will tell you a story, Eva, but before I commence I will ask

Walter what the meaning of the word selfishness is?"

"It means self-denial, does it not, auntie?"

"In one sense it does, my child, yet I have known instances where people were not selfish, and still did not practise a deal of self-denial. It means that we should have a regard for the comfort and happiness of others as well as that of ourselves. We can have this feeling for others without denying ourselves, and, therefore, not be selfish."

"But, auntie, is not Eva too young to understand this feeling properly," said Walter, trying to wipe out a remembrance of the hasty remark he had made about his sister a few moments before.

"No, Walter, she is neither too young to understand it, nor yet to cultivate it, and I am going to relate a story in which a little boy, even younger than she is, tried to be unselfish, and even practised self-denial while trying to be so."

"How old was he, auntie?" inquired Eva, very much interested.

"Have patience, children, and you shall hear in good season. You, Walter, must remember when I went to visit your grandma, two years ago last Christmas. Grandma, as you are aware, lives on a farm, and in a quiet country place. Many things which happen here very often, are not of such common occurrence there, and therefore create a greater stir and more talk than they would do with us. While I was staying with your grandma, there came to the village a clergyman who had been a missionary in foreign lands among the heathen. His object in coming to our village was to preach about the heathen, and to try and raise money for the missionary fund which you subscribe to, Walter. Of course almost all the people in that part of the country went to hear him, and gave what they were able to. Among those who were much interested in this visit was a little boy, six years old, named Willie Miller, whose parents are your grandma's nearest neighbors. Willie had heard a great deal about the heathen, and the missionary fund, and was finally led to question his mother as to the meaning of it all. She told him, just as you and Eva have heard your Sabbath-school teacher explain it to you from time to time; and when she had made it clear enough for him to understand, Willie thought he would like to give something to the heathen too. But when he studied over it, he remembered that he had no money, and no clothes to spare. So he went to his mother in great trouble, and asked her if there was not something he could do without, so that he might send it to the heathen. Willie liked nice things to eat, being very fond of butter, cake, and pie; so his mother told him to think of what he could do without best. He looked serious for a while, and then replied, 'I know now, mamma! I can do without butter for a month, and won't eat any, so we can send it to the heathen!' Mrs. Miller said it would be no easy matter to send a few pounds of butter all the way to Africa, but if Willie wanted to deprive himself of butter for a month, she would give him a cent a day for each day he did without it. The little boy seemed delighted with the proposal, and for two weeks did not taste butter at home or abroad. During the third week he visited your grandma, and took dinner with us. He had a nice apple-pie for dessert, but grandma was very much surprised that Willie could not be persuaded to taste it. At last she asked the reason why he no longer liked apple-pie. 'I like it,' he said, 'but must not eat it, because there is butter in the paste, and if I do without it, I get a cent for the heathen.'

We thought Willie an honest little boy, in acting thus, as well as a very unselfish one, so we did not either laugh or smile at the strange way he had taken to earn his cent daily. Before the end of the month his mother wished to free him from his agreement, and offered to let him have butter and the cent also, but Willie bravely refused to accept the proposal, and continued his self-denial until the month was out, when he had thirty cents to donate to the missionary fund, and when it was forwarded for this purpose, I think a happier little boy could not be found.

Now my children, in Willie's act you have an example of unselfishness and self-denial; and, if you could often think of it, you would not forget the happiness of others while studying your own."

"Thank you, Aunt Lucy, for telling us such a nice story," said Eva; "and now that I know what unselfishness is, when I feel selfish I shall think of Willie Miller and the butter."

"He was a queer little fellow, Auntie," remarked Walter, "but a very noble one; and as your story is a true one, I do not see why Eva and I could not do something as self-denying in a good cause."

"Where there is a will there is a way, children, so you can but try," observed Aunt Lucy, as she stooped to kiss her niece and nephew ere bidding them good night.—Standard.

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- No. 512. Who came to prove Solomon with hard questions? No. 513. Who erected a pillar, because he had no son or daughter to keep him in remembrance? No. 514. What young man went in search of asses and found a crown? No. 515. What captive was appointed ruler over all that his master had? No. 516. Who was it that was visited by all his friends, each one bringing a piece of gold and an ear-ring?

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- No. 507.—Joi. 1:5. No. 508.—Prov 25:25. No. 509.—1 Cor. 12:31. No. 510.—Psa. 63:6; 119:148. No. 511.—Gen. 21:16.

The Miscellany.

THE EXILE'S DEVOTION.

The following stanzas, headed "The Exile's Devotion," which were written, we believe, after Mr. McGee's first arrival on this continent, may be taken as a key to the spirit that characterizes all his patriotic songs:—

If I forswear the art divine
Which defies the dead,—
What comfort then can I call mine,
What solace seek instead?
For from my birth our country's fame
Was life to me and love,
And for each loyal Irish name,
Some ground still I wish.

I'd rather be the bird that sings
Above the martyr's grave,
Than fold in fortune's cage my wings
And feel my soul a slave;
I'd rather turn one simple verse
True to the Gaelic ear,
Than Sapphic odes I might rehearse
With Senates listening near.

O native land, dost ever mark
When the world's din is drowned,
Betwixt the daylight and the dark,
A wandering, solemn sound,
That on the western wind is borne
Across thy dewy breast?
It is the voice of those who mourn
For thee, far in the West!

For them and theirs I oft essay
Your ancient art of song,
And often sadly turn away
Deeming my rashness wrong;
For well I ween, a loving will
Is all the art I own,
Ah me! could love suffice for skill,
What triumphs I had known!

My native land, my native land,
Live in my memory still!
Break on my brain, ye surges grand,
Stand up, mist-covered hill!
Still in the mirror of the mind
The land I love I see,
Would I could fly on the western wind,
My native land, to thee!

CHRISTIANS IN THE NILE VALLEY.

The Copt of the present day is down-trodden by his fellow-countrymen. The faithful Mussulman thinks it a virtue to treat him as a dog. Thus, in whatever place or city his brethren may congregate, they form societies, and inhabit quarters of their own, so that in any sudden fanatical outbreak they may be the more protected, and able to organize a defence. Nor is this an idle precaution, for in some places these outbreaks are, so to speak, chronic, and in most cases the Copt has the worst of the encounter.

The relative proportion of the Coptic element in Egypt is difficult to determine; but, according to good authority, it was lately about one hundred and sixty thousand in a population of two millions and a half.

The patriarch is elected by the great body of the clergy, and is everywhere implicitly obeyed, while the bishops are chosen from the order of monks, who are bound to celibacy. The officiating ministers are supported by voluntary contributions, and no person can be ordained minister who is unmarried, while no minister is allowed to marry a second time.

Physically, the Copt has the advantage over the Mussulman. He belongs to a purer race; his features are finer, and the look more intelligent, though it is not free from a servile air, which is also to be noticed in the expression and manner,—a look as of one long kept in subjection.

In dress there is not much difference between him and the Mussulman, save that the Copt's turban is black, except in the case of his being employed under government, when he is permitted to use white about the head. Red and green are totally forbidden, being the colors adopted by "the faithful." The women, I believe, differ in no respect in dress from their sisters the Moslems, only they may not deck themselves in green, the color sacred to the prophet.

The superior intelligence of the native Christians accounts for the fact that many of the minor offices under government, and most of the municipal clerkships, are held by Copts, the more respectable of whom are generally educated for the profession of scribe from childhood. These are to be distinguished by their black robe, and inkhorn stuck in the girdle; their seat is in the public places of the streets and bazaars, where they write letters or other documents for those who are incapable themselves, or otherwise desire to save their own labor. The inkhorn is a contrivance of very ancient date, and consists of a flat brass tube, capable of holding two or three reed pens, and a small square receptacle of the same metal attached to it, for the purpose of receiving a sponge saturated with ink. This affair is stuck in the girdle, pistol-fashion, and gives him who carries it a literary air. (Ez. ix. 3-11.)

In passing through the Coptic quarters of any large town, there may be observed here and there a courtyard or large chamber, as the case may be, from which, as you pass on your way, your ears are greeted with the hum of children's voices, and, looking in, you perceive the place full of boys of early age hard at work learning to read and write. The little people have no forms to sit on, but squat about in rows, Eastern fashion, and use square sheets of tin or zinc, instead of slates, writing on them with a reed pen and ink.

From what I could learn in Egypt, there seems to be a growing desire among the native Christians to gather more life and soul into their religion. Few of them have, or had till lately, the Scriptures in their own tongue; even the priests and monks of the convents, who read parts of it every day in their services, read it in the Coptic language, which they themselves rarely understand.

Some of the American missionaries in Cairo, two or three years ago, took a supply of Arabic Bibles up the Nile to sell, and it was found they were bought up eagerly by the

Christians scattered along the river bank. When the missionaries stayed near a town or village, they communicated with the priest, or head man of the sect, who spread the news that a Frank's boat was moored to the bank, having on board Christians who brought the word of God, and who had come to speak to them, and preach the religion of Christ. Usually people flocked to meet them, and received them with every demonstration of respect and esteem, inviting them to preach in their churches, and seriousness. In several villages along their passage, Christians, knowing who they were, and the purpose of their journey, supplied them gratuitously with fresh food, sending down to their floating-house eggs, chickens, and bread, in such quantities as materially to lighten the expense of their journey, thus exhibiting a degree of Christian hospitality marvellous among a nation whose ordinary character is intense selfishness.

I shall always remember with pleasure the delight with which an old Copt at Girgeh, a town not far from Thebes, received a Bible that was given to him.

OBSCENE PAPERS.

No artist has ever ventured to illustrate those books of Swedenborg which may best be described as his "Walks and Talks in Hell" and even the daring pencil of Gustav Doré has recoiled before some of the hints of horrors in the Inferno of Dante. But as fools rush in where angels fear to tread, so the ghastly crimes which genius passes by, furnish the daintiest food for the diabolic spirit which has lately infested certain publishers of Boston and New York. In both cities there are illustrated papers published, and openly exposed for sale, which exceed in coarseness and vileness the most lecherous issues of the Parisian press. And no wonder. For, it is a fact, that not long ago the keeper of several houses of ill fame whose business was broken up by the authorities, at once commenced the publication of two illustrated papers, both in perfect harmony with his previous career, and is now rapidly amassing a colossal fortune from their amazing profits. We trust that our readers have no personal knowledge of this class of publications; and it is only recently that, having had our attention called to them, we have become aware of their utterly infamous character. We do not choose to name them, but we regret to say that they are distributed by thousands in New England, and that the Mayor of Boston disgraces his high calling as a Christian magistrate by neglecting to suppress their open sale in this city.

These papers are of large size and profusely illustrated; and one stands aghast at their boldness. The female form is depicted in every stage of nudity; picture after picture suggests the foulest thoughts; even in one case, the ghost of a mother is introduced to give piquancy to a vile situation. When the subject of the illustration does not indicate the original calling of the typical publisher to whom we have referred, it invariably describes murder, outrage, or the grosser forms of crime. All our illustrated papers profess to be pictorial histories of the week; but this class of publications are only chronicles of the bar-room, the brothel, and the worst dens of the Five Points. One would think, after reading them, that these United States were thirty-four districts of Pandemonium, instead of being, as they are, with all their shortcomings, the centres of the highest Christian civilization that the world has yet seen. These carrion journals have an eye for the festering spots and the putrid carcasses only.

Let us illustrate these statements by selecting the history of the week ending March 21st as given by the best of all the illustrated journals,—Harper's Weekly,—and by one of the most decent of the pictorial recorders of crime and lust. Harper contains twenty-seven illustrations, seven portraits of the managers of the impeachment trial; three caricatures of President Johnson; three views in Congress taken during the discussion on the executive usurpations; a large drawing of Johnson's levee, and another of the burning of Barnum's Museum; pictures of prison life in New York, and illustrations of Wilkie Collins' new novel. There is not a line in the number, and there is not a cut, which any father need fear to place under his daughters' eyes. How is it with the carrion sheet? It has fourteen illustrations,—one of a fight between relatives; five portraying murders and murderous assaults; one showing how six young women beset an intoxicated shoemaker and burnt him to death with a red-hot iron; two others describing horrible accidents; four displaying the partly nude female figure; one openly and badly lascivious. Yet this is one of the cleanest issues of the kind that we have ever seen. What the illustrations lack in filthiness, the reading amply atones for; it is one festering mass of pollution from beginning to end. Its letters from New Orleans, Philadelphia, New York,—every extract from other journals,—are all exclusively occupied with accounts of rapes, adultery, drunkenness, murders, vices without names, and all manner of abominations. These sheets are eagerly bought and stealthily read by thousands upon thousands of our young men and even by boys in every city. It is time that the press, with entire unanimity, should demand the suppression of these foul birds of prey that hover over us. The evil is becoming too great to be ignored. It is as great a pestilence to our street as the Black Crook is to the theatre.

Let those who doubt the evil influence of these papers, or the extent of it, stand near any of our popular newsdealers' windows and watch the crowds who so eagerly press around them. They will speedily be convinced.

We know of no better method of teaching our children to turn away from impure pictures than by cultivating their taste for true art. An illustrated newspaper is one of the most efficient and beneficent educational agencies that can be brought to bear on the youthful mind. Take Harper's Weekly, for example,—always pure in character, always

eminent in artistic skill, always loyal, always courteous, always written in the most scholarly English, always a supporter of Christian ethics, not only in their relation to private life, but to the national life,—and we do not hesitate to say that its silent visits to the household are as salutary from a purely evangelical or purely patriotic point of view, as they are charming from their purely artistic and literary excellences. Its fiction is not masterly only, but clean as well; its pictures are not only good, but irreproachable; its humor is not simply excellent, but always innocent, also; its essays are not merely able, but conscientious and temperate; there is nothing maudlin, sensational, or weak in any department, and every page bears proof of a healthy, robust, and manly management. We examine almost every week about a dozen illustrated papers; and among them all,—we say with regret,—Harper's Weekly is the only one which we would be willing to hand over to a girl or boy without first looking over it. It is very seldom that we go out of our way to bestow such praise on any publication; but it seems to us that in view of the increasing licentiousness of the illustrated press it is the duty of religious journals to pay honor where honor is due to such an ally, and thereby, in some measure, if we cannot suppress the evils we have reprobated, give our sanction and moral influence to the strengthening of the hands of those who do well. Our eulogisms are unsought, but they are not undeserved.—Boston Watchman and Reflector.

BULL-FIGHTS IN SPAIN.

BY IRENEUS.

Bulls do not fight well except when the weather is hot. The "season," which is even more distinctly marked than that of the opera in Paris or New York, begins the first Sunday after Lent, and a performance takes place every Sunday afterwards, if the weather permits, till the height of summer suspends it for a few weeks when the heat is excessive. It is resumed from the latter part of August until the first of October. Then the fall and winter are made dull by its absence, and the Spaniards long for the return of hot weather and the beasts.

There is a great deal of exaggeration in the descriptions given by those who enjoy the sport. The horses selected for the sacrifice are miserable jades, that are fit for nothing else but to be killed, and the bulls are rarely so fierce as to be dangerous, unless goaded or provoked into phrensy by the tricks of the combatants. The men who go into the fight are all hired butchers or fighters, who are paid regular salaries, like actors in a theatre, and they make a business of it. And so universal is the rage of the people to see this, the national sport and pastime, that the ring must furnish seats for ten, fifteen, or twenty thousand people, and the price of admission for such a multitude, readily supplies the means to meet the great expenses of the entertainment.

One of the most curious facts developed by the bull-fight, is the fondness that women have for such scenes as these contests must present. It is no fiction; it is true that ladies, whose refinement cannot be called in question, are in raptures when the fight is the most savage and bloody. It always was so. In the amphitheatres of Italy, when martyr-Christians were compelled to fight with wild beasts, the fairest and proudest women were among the spectators who looked on with delight when their fellow-creatures were torn limb from limb. I do not like to say it, but I have often heard it said, here and elsewhere, that women are more fond of these bloody spectacles than men are. We know they are more sympathetic with suffering, and, in the hospital and chamber of sickness and anguish, they minister with a long-suffering patience and fortitude from which the sterner stuff that men are supposed to be made of, revolts at once, or soon shrinks worn out, "used up," as we say. You must study the philosophy of it yourself, and the physiology, if there is any in it, and draw your own conclusion.

What is the effect of these scenes of blood and butchery on the national character? In the streets I see the boys playing bull-fight: one holds up a red handkerchief and shakes it in the face of another boy who makes a lunge at him with his head, and then pursues him, and another sets off after him, and so the bull-ring is enacted in the highway. As all the large towns have bull-rings, and the poorest classes of people manage to get money enough to see the show, and the country boy can give his girl no greater treat than to take her to a bull-fight, the thing is in the widest sense national, and its influence reaches down to the lowest ranks, while it is the pet of the nobility and gentry. And its effect must be degrading, brutifying, and demoralizing. If there were anything in the Spanish character to work upon, for good or evil, the influence of such a decided national pastime would be more distinctly pronounced. But the senseless pride of the Spaniard,—pride with nothing to be proud of; pride with idleness, ignorance, and poverty; pride of the meanest and most contemptible sort, is the warp and woof of Spanish character, and there is hardly anything more in them than there would be in a nation of peacocks. There is one vice that does not prevail among the Spaniards, as it does not among the Italians, nor in those parts of France where the grape is cultivated for wine; and that is the vice of intemperance. The climate does not encourage the intemperate use of liquors, as it does in the North. But when you have exceeded this, and a great exception it is, you have said all that can be said in favor of the moral habits of the Spanish people. They do not steal from one another, that I know of, any more than other people do. But they certainly commit murders more frequently than other nations do, unless the slayer is maddened by drink. In estimating the comparative morality of peoples, this matter of intemperance holds the balance. It is the prolific parent of the greater part of the crimes of a people where it is the prevailing vice, yet very few moralists are

disposed to reckon it the crime of crimes. In Spain the women are said to be almost universally corrupt. As a matter of course, the men must be just as bad. I have been assured here in Granada, by those who ought to know, having long resided here and become thoroughly acquainted with the state of things, that there is no social morality among men and women in Spain; that from the highest to the lowest they have all gone out of the way.

AGRICULTURAL.

ABOUT APPLE TREES.

PRUNING.

The objects to be sought in pruning young trees are, to give shape to the head, and to keep it properly thinned by cutting away all crooked and superfluous branches; thus producing a vigorous and healthy growth, by admitting a free circulation of air and sunlight, and also, in the case of bearing trees, securing the production of fair, high-colored, fine-flavored fruit. No particular rules can be given for pruning, as circumstances vary so much that no two trees can be treated exactly alike. By keeping in view the object to be gained, good judgment will dictate the proper course to be pursued. Young orchards should be gone over at least once a year, cutting away sprouts, and all unnecessary branches. Such a course obviates the necessity of lopping off much at a time. In pruning large, bearing trees, avoid cutting away too much at a time; also the cutting off of large branches, the stumps of which are liable to decay before the wounds heal, thus forming holes in which the water lodges, causing the rotting of the whole inner portion of the trunk, and, finally, the death of the tree. The best practice in the management of bearing orchards, perhaps, is to prune moderately once in two years. If such a course is pursued, it will obviate the necessity of cutting off large limbs, or heavy pruning in the future. [If it be wished to diminish the growth and increase the fruitfulness of trees, pruning should be done in July.—Ed. Wit.]

SEASON FOR PRUNING.

The early part of summer is a good time to prune young trees. Such trees being in a growing state, it is then easy to determine which branches to retain and which to cut off, in forming the head. Also, by removing unnecessary branches, at this season, there is a saving in the growth by turning the forces into the other parts of the tree. The thinning out of the heads of bearing trees may be done in autumn or winter. But of all seasons the spring is the worst for pruning, especially when the sap is rising; as wounds made at this season do not heal readily. The sap, oozing from the wounds, ferments, turning the parts black; decay soon begins, and in large trees the wood rots before the wound can heal over. It sometimes happens, however, that pruning must be done in the spring, or go undone. In such instances as little should be lopped off as will answer the purpose, and all wounds of any considerable size should receive a covering of varnish made of gum-shellac dissolved in alcohol.

CAUSE OF UNFRUITFULNESS.

It is sometimes observable that fruit trees—even those varieties having well-established habits of productiveness—are a long time in coming into bearing, or bear sparingly. This is an indication that the tree is receiving too high cultivation, in which case the forces are expended in rapid growth, and in the formation of leaf-buds instead of fruit-buds. Consequently the remedy lies in whatever course tends to retard the circulation of the sap, inducing the production of flower, instead of leaf-buds. Cessation of manuring, and the neglect of cultivation, will bring the tree into bearing. Other measures are sometimes resorted to, such as root pruning, pruning in mid-summer, bending down the branches, etc. The two latter we have tried with good effect.

THE COTTAGE SYSTEM.

In his recent address on retiring from the Presidency of the New York State Agricultural Society, Gen. M. R. Patrick, after alluding to the difficulty in obtaining skilled labor on the farm, made the following remarks, well worthy the attention of the Western farmers:—

The "Cottage system" appears to present the most favorable solution of the problem for both the farmer and the laborer, as well as for the best interests of society generally. By the erection of snug cottages, at convenient distances for attending to farm work, and the employment of married men as permanent farm laborers, not only boarding themselves but such other occasional help as may be required from time to time, the farmer's wife is relieved from the burden of caring for a household of hired men, and will, in all probability, secure, from the wife and daughters of the cottager, such female help as may be needed in her own kitchen or dairy.

Wherever this system has been introduced, it has given the best satisfaction to all parties concerned, especially to the laborer, inasmuch as it gives him a home,—a castle of his own; making him realize that he too is a citizen. His self-respect is increased; his manhood is developed; he acts more considerately. Your interests and his become more and more identified; and your influence in moulding and Americanizing the ideas of his growing family is as potent, quite, as his own. Hitherto only the wealthier classes of our agriculturists have adopted this system; but there seems, now, to be a necessity for the adoption of such a system by farmers of the middle class and those who own smaller farms.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—What is the best time for setting strawberry plants, and the mode of cultivation? The best time to set out strawberry plants is in the spring, last of April or first of May; it depends somewhat on the season and the nature of the land; should not be set until the ground is in tolerable condition to work. Some advise setting

in the autumn; but it is not a good plan, certainly so far north as Vermont. The mode of cultivation is briefly this: select a good piece of ground, moderately moist; plough in a good stout dressing of stable manure, well decomposed if you have it, about as much as you can cover with the plough, then set your plants in rows four feet apart, and the plants from four to six inches apart in the row; it depends somewhat on the variety. If Hovey's Seedling, the former distance is not too near; keep free of weeds through the first season, and on the approach of winter cover the bed with very coarse stable manure, coarse fresh meadow hay, straw evergreen boughs, to protect them from the freezing and thawing of the winter and early spring. Be sure and keep them free of weeds; after they have given fruit one year, plough them under, as it will be necessary to plant a new bed every year. If you plant in hills,—and some varieties do much better when planted in this way, such as *Triomphe de Gand*,—put the rows two and a half or three feet apart, and the plants ten inches to a foot apart in the row. They will continue to give good results for several years if properly cared for. It is just as easy to raise strawberries as many other crops.

SODA SALTS IN AGRICULTURE.—In an article in the "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society," Dr. Voelcker says, in relation to the functions of salt in agriculture:—"All we know is, that salt is taken up by plants, and, under certain conditions, which require yet to be more clearly defined, has a remarkably good effect upon vegetation. My own experience leads me to admit that salt is a cheap and useful manure, which, judiciously applied, frequently yields a large increase of corn, roots, or hay, and seldom does any harm. The chief modes in which common salt is considered to act, are first in prolonging the season of growth, an effect invariably found to attend the use of salt, and, secondly, in liberating inorganic plant food from the soil. In a series of experiments with the recently discovered potash salts of Germany, it was found that common salt was but very slightly inferior to them in efficiency.—Country Gentleman.

HOGS IN ORCHARDS.—We have in mind a New-England orchard that was used for a hog pasture for more than twenty years, and, for aught we know, had been used in like manner for many years previous. The trees were giants in their line, and a crop of fruit annually a sure thing. From that orchard a worm-eaten apple was a rarity. The hog is the best cultivator and the best insect remedy that can be put into an apple orchard. We know it from more than twenty years' observation. After the stems of the trees have attained a size of three or four inches in diameter, hogs will do the trees no injury. The domestic fowl—hens, chickens, &c., will also do good service in the orchard, whether apple, cherry, or plum, for they are always on the alert for insects, without indulging in the thieving propensities of the robin and other birds.

VALUE OF TREES.—In Southern France, the railways are seriously embarrassed every winter by snow-drifts filling the deep cuttings; but the past season a section of the line of railway, from Saint Etienne to Annoway, has been kept open by the judicious planting, along the banks on either side of the track, of pine-trees,—a system of treatment previously adopted in arresting the dunes, or inroads of sea sands, which in many parts of France used to annually cause great damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Of every thousand francs expended by the French Government, two hundred and ninety-five francs are appropriated to the army and navy, and only eleven francs to public education.

Auber, the French composer, who is eighty-seven years of age, has written forty pieces for the lyric stage. He thinks he shall live to see his fiftieth opera produced. The wits of Paris call him Ninus de Lenocis.

Gambling in the fashionable Paris clubs is becoming more "fast and furious" than ever. Lately it appears that in one club a member lost not less than a million of francs—that is £40,000; while in another a sum of £39,760 was won, but the winner desiring to make his gain a round £40,000, played on, and lost all except £3720.

Rev. L. D. Davis was, a couple of years since, the popular pastor of the Methodist church in Newport, R. I., and is one of the talented men of his conference. He likes a good story; and, among others, tells of a Sabbath-evening prayer-meeting held during his pastorate of that church. A good brother, feeling called upon to exercise his "gift," prayed the Lord to "bless the word which had been spoken to them in such great feebleness this day!" The "amens" were hearty.

DOCTORS' CANES.—It was formerly the practice among physicians to carry a cane having a hollow head, the top of which was gold, pierced with holes like a pepper-box. The top contained a small quantity of aromatic powder, or of snuff; and on entering a house or room where a disease supposed to be infectious prevailed, the doctor would strike his cane on the floor to agitate the powder, and then apply it to his nose. Hence all the old prints of physicians represent them with canes to their noses.

KITE FLYING.—The India correspondent of the London News, speaking of the town of Patna, says:—"Patna is famous for kites. Anybody desirous of making his fortune quickly should naturalize the Patna kite in England. Every tenth shop in the bazaar is a kite shop, and you would think that the whole population fly kites. With them it is a scientific amusement. The kite is diamond shaped and light as a feather. It has no tail, and is flown to an almost incredible height with the lightest possible silk cord or thread.

