

MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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SUMMARY.

SEVENTY-SIX SMALL-POX DEATHS occurred in London last week.

A FAILURE of the Delaware peach crop is expected owing to recent cold storms.

A LONDON COAL MERCHANT, Thomas Greener, has failed with \$200,000 liabilities.

HUDSON RIVER NAVIGATION has been fully opened.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ELECTION to the Rectorship is desired by the majority of the students of Glasgow University.

ALL RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK purchased by Russian railway companies must henceforth be made in Russia, by order of the Government.

AN APRIL FOOL invitation was received by the Cincinnati Board of Aldermen who had been invited to join in an excursion on the new Southern Railroad. The "sell" was complete.

A BAND OF HUNTERS has been attacked on a buffalo range by Indians, according to a St. Louis despatch, and fifteen of the party have been killed.

THE BREASTING OF THE RESERVOIR DAM of Stafford, Connecticut, has caused \$300,000 of damage to the town. The dam was considered safe, but the heavy rains of Monday filled the reservoir to overflowing.

NINE FISHING VESSELS of the Long Island fishing fleet, which sailed during November, have been so long overdue that their loss is regarded as certain. Their crews aggregated ninety-five men, and the value of the vessels was \$35,000.

THE EFFECT of the decided action taken by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in notifying the engineers that they must either leave the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers or the road's employ is stated to be that all but a dozen engineers preferred to leave the society and retain their positions.

THE BRITISH REVENUE RETURNS for the financial year ending with Saturday last, instead of being less than the Budget estimates, as was anticipated a week ago, is in excess of it by £153,036, and exceeds the previous year's revenue by nearly a million and a half. The total revenue for the year was £78,565,036.

AN ENCOUNTER between German soldiers—Hessian and Prussian—took place in Mayence on the Emperor's birthday. The Hessians got up a ball, and the Prussians tried to force themselves in, when a scuffle ensued and sabres were drawn, the conflict lasting till five o'clock in the morning. Forty soldiers of one regiment are in hospital as a result.

THE TROOPS are to be removed from the Columbia S. C., State House, an action which is considered to be equivalent to the success of Hampton's claim to the Governorship. It is stated that Chamberlain is likely to take the decision in good nature, and that Hampton has given satisfactory assurances that no injustice will accrue to the negroes from his government.

NOTWITHSTANDING the signing of the protocol, there is little certainty of a peaceful issue to the Eastern difficulty. Turkey's consent to the protocol has yet to be obtained, and then the great difficulty of the disarmament must be encountered. In both St. Petersburg and Constantinople there is a strong feeling against a peaceful conclusion, and the opinion prevails that a war is inevitable a little later on if not now.

THE SENSATIONAL TELEGRAM received Monday, that the roof of the Mont Cenis tunnel had fallen, overwhelming two passenger trains, has been declared to be without foundation. It is extraordinary that such a telegram should have been sent to London and Brussels if totally untrue. Perhaps some jealous Swiss is desirous of attracting a little attention to his country, and has taken the cheapest way of doing it.

CHICAGO having once suffered from fire is now suffering from too much water. The southwestern portion of the city to the extent of seven miles square is flooded owing to the heavy fall of rain, and the recent warm weather causing the snow to thaw rapidly. In some instances the water has risen into the first stories, and the inhabitants have been compelled to leave their dwellings, and some make their way about in boats. Much damage has been done.

ENGLISH IMPORTERS of goods from China are to be shown that they can receive goods more cheaply and expeditiously via San Francisco and New York than by any other route, and with this object twenty carloads of silks, teas, &c., left San Francisco on the 20th ult., arrived in New York on the 30th, and will be forwarded to England. If this experiment is a success the advocates of the Canada Pacific Railway will have a sharp eye to this business, for some date apparently far away in the future.

A WONDERFUL WORK in the temperance field in the United States is being prosecuted by Mr. Murphy. Once a tavern-keeper, he grew so fond of his own poison that he was unable to attend to business, and was forced to give it up, subsequently became a total abstainer, and has since exerted a tremendous influence in warning drinkers of their danger, and inducing them to change their course of action. The last accounts of his work came from Newark, and Crestline, Ohio, in both of which places the saloons have been closed, and the cause assisted by the saloon-keepers. In Newark alone over one thousand persons have signed the pledge.

OSNEY HALL has been found, and the detective was a member of the press who happened to be on the steamship "Victoria," in which the ex-Mayor took his flight to England. He is badly wanted at New York, where his old confederate Tweed is expected to make some revelations concerning him in a few days. He did not seem, when questioned by the ubiquitous "representative of the press," to feel much interested about the anxiety his friends had in his welfare, and in fact denied his identity. We are told that he was an old ulcer overcast, which, however, unfortunately for him, has not the distinguishing characteristic of a charity.

BISMARCK has tendered his resignation of the Imperial Chancellorship, on account, it is said, of a difference with General Van Sloot. The Emperor has declined to accept the resignation, but has given Prince Bismarck a year's leave of absence. Recent action by the Reichstag would seem to indicate that Bismarck's influence in the Empire is waning, and like Richelieu, he may desire to give the nation an opportunity for a time of being governed without his assistance. Bismarck is not the man to resign hard-earned power without some stronger motive than a difference with any of his fellow-subjects. However, as the resignation of Bismarck is called periodically, only to be denied the following day, the above report may prove no exception to the rule.

THE RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES are evidently determined to crush out all secret societies whose existence may prove inimical to the Government. Over one hundred and fifty persons of both sexes have been arrested and are on trial for belonging to a secret brotherhood and for circulating treasonable writings. An investigation by a special committee of the Senate into the matter evidences that the disaffection was widely spread, and that the plans of the society were well laid and based on the principles of the international Democrats. The interest taken in the trial by Prince Gortschakoff, who although ill and with the care of the present Eastern negotiations on his shoulders, twice attended the Court to watch the case, in itself shows that the matter is considered one of the greatest importance.

THE BRITISH ARMY on December 31st last numbered 183,745 men, of whom 115,257 were Infantry of the Line, 28,702 Royal Artillery, 16,112 Cavalry of the Line, 5,520 Horse Artillery and 5,647 Royal Engineers. The same return shows that the loss from desertion during the year was 2,429, or twenty-four per cent., or three per cent. less than the previous year. This would seem to indicate that while the efforts made to improve the condition of the men have met with some success, they have not made a British soldier's life a desirable one. It appears, however, that a large proportion of these desertions are of men who, having been given leave of absence from drunkenness or other cause, do not return within three days, and are counted as deserters, while others make a practice of deserting from one regiment to obtain the bounty and free "kit" on joining another. On the whole, it seems that the soldier's life is becoming more popular than some time ago, when the soldier's pay was not equal to that of the laborer, and not so much care was taken for his comfort as now.

CANADIAN SUMMARY.

THE NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE provokes about the 12th inst.

THE COD FISHERY on the western coast of Newfoundland is reported to be good.

RUMORS are current that Lord Dufferin will succeed Sir Edward Thornton as British Ambassador at Washington.

A NEW RESERVOIR at a cost of \$175,000 is proposed to be erected by the Toronto Water Works Commission.

GOOD FRIDAY was generally observed as a holiday throughout the Dominion, divine service being held in most of the churches.

A GAMBLER named Joseph Lafontaine was recently fined \$10 by the Recorder of Quebec for gambling in a River du Loup railway train.

THE BY-LAW granting \$15,000 to the Lake Champlain and St. Lawrence Junction Railway was carried by a majority of 123.

MUCH DAMAGE has been caused to farmers in the Quebec parishes by the flooding of their dwellings and stables during the recent rains.

THE HAMILTON SOUP KITCHEN closed on the 31st ult., after having been in operation three months; 577 meals were given and 136 families relieved.

TWO INCENDIARIES were recently arrested in Yarmouth, N.S., while setting fire to barns. They are charged with starting several fires there.

THE MEMBERS of the Young Men's Christian Association in Quebec have commenced visiting whiskey shops, endeavoring to reclaim the frequenters of these places.

THE QUEBEC HARBOR COMMISSIONERS are applying to the Government for an additional sum of \$250,000 which is required to ensure the carrying out of the harbor improvements.

THE MILD WEATHER in Manitoba is breaking up the roads, and the ice in the rivers is getting rotten. Hawks were seen on Sunday, two weeks earlier than migrating birds usually appear.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Reformed Episcopal Church in Toronto, the denomination was stated to be in a very flourishing condition, and a new church is to be erected shortly.

A MEDAL has been sent to Lieutenant Governor Archibald of Nova Scotia by the Royal Humane Society for presentation to Willie Francis, of Windsor, for saving another boy from drowning in October last.

A GREAT RELIGIOUS DEMONSTRATION will take place in Notre Dame Cathedral, Ottawa, in which all Catholics are invited to take part, on the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Pope's Episcopate.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND SEALING FLEET have left for the fishery, nineteen vessels, twelve of which are steamers, being sent by St. John's, and nineteen by Harbor Grace. Governor Glover visited the steamers before they left.

COPPER MINING OPERATIONS were carried on during the winter at Bett's Cove, Newfoundland, over six hundred men being employed. A railing is about being constructed to connect the mine with the wharf for loading vessels.

THE CHANCERY SUIT of Stewart v. Lees in Ottawa has been decided in favor of plaintiff. This case has been in suspense some years, and decides the title to four acres of valuable property in the vicinity of the city.

A FINE of \$100 has been imposed upon Mr. Lacerte, member for St. Maurice in the Quebec Legislature, by the Superior Court, Quebec, for treating electors on nomination day. This reverses the judgment of the Three Rivers Court.

A QUARREL took place lately between two Toronto Jews named Robert Levi and Meyer Rosenthal, when the former drew a knife and stabbed Rosenthal seriously in several places. Levi was arrested, and on examination was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

THE FIRST LIBEL SUIT it is stated, against a newspaper in the Eastern Townships has been taken against the Waterloo Advertiser by one Galway Kemp, an ex-collector of inland revenue, of Swetsburg, who considers himself aggrieved by remarks made in that paper in a recent issue.

SWIMMING is to be encouraged by Lord Dufferin, he having intimated his intention to present a silver and bronze medal to the Toronto Swimming Club for competition among the members this summer. His Worship the Mayor also intends to present the club with a medal.

FRESHETS in Annapolis, King's and Queen's Counties, N.S. have done much damage. Several bridges and mill dams, and large quantities of logs, were carried away. Roads and gardens suffered severely. At Gasperen the mill dam was carried away, and two men, James Caldwell



"BOS. AMERICANUS."

OR, YANKEE BEEF AND BRITISH BUTCHER.

and Ebenezer Morton, working in the mill, were drowned.

THE LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION of Toronto is an accomplished fact. It sets out with a membership of over 40, and the members anticipate considerable benefit to the lumbering interests from its establishment. A board of nine directors has been elected, and committees of arbitration and appeal. The Association has leased rooms on King street.

TWO STUDENTS of the Ottawa College, named Doherty and Burns, while walking out on Saturday afternoon last, got into a dispute with three roughs, Billy Williams (colored), Davis and Denmark. A fight ensued, when Williams drew a pocket knife, and stabbed Burns three times about the face. Williams carried out, and cannot be found.

THE STANDARD BANK of Toronto, whose teller, J. C. Small, recently absconded with about \$3,300, lost nothing by his defection, as the amount is covered by security from the Guarantee Company. He is said to have effected a misapplication of the money by forging cheques on other banks having deposits at the credit of the Standard Bank.

GAMBLERS on the Grand Trunk Railway, will be sharply looked after in future, Mr. Spicer, the Superintendent, having written to all the conductors, brakemen and agents of the line, stating that many gamblers and three-card-monte men are travelling on the line, and giving strict orders to have passengers warned, and the gamblers arrested and punished.

LUMBER OPERATORS in New Brunswick report that on the St. John and Woodstock rivers nine to ten thousand feet of birch timber have been cut this season, only half as much as last year; one-third to a half as much spruce has been cut out, the quantity being estimated at one hundred and sixty million feet. Unless a heavy freshet occurs a large quantity of this lumber will be hung up, most of the creeks being low.

FOUR MEN in Toronto, named James Norman, Wm. Graver, Robert McMurray and Robt. Tilling, charged with murdering assaulting Constable Soanes, who was so long hovering between life and death, were acquitted on the ground that the constable was acting in excess of his duty in proceeding to arrest them for singing on the public streets without first warning them. McMurray, who appears to have been the least offender of all, was brought back from Ireland on purpose to answer to this charge by the High Constable.

IT SEEMS as if there could not be too many warnings given of the danger of playing with firearms. The last is from St. Catharines, where two boys who were looking at a loaded pistol were shot, the ball passing through the hand of one and into the stomach of the other. But unfortunately in regard to the use of firearms there appears to prevail the same impression as those who tamper with the whiskey bottle, or who begin any vicious habit, have: no matter how many suffer, are injured or fall through them, I am safe.

THE FIRST GRAND LODGE in Canada of the Independent Order of Good Templars was instituted in Toronto on the 30th ult. After the election of officers it adjourned to meet in Hamilton in November. It appears to be an entirely independent order, and is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the World. It seems to have had its origin out of the recent dispute amongst Good Templars as to the right to membership of colored citizens. The cardinal principle of the present organization is equal rights to all members, irrespective of color or race. A congratulatory telegram was read at the meeting from 6,000 Templars of Nova Scotia, and a similar message returned.

IF THE DEPRESSION IN TRADE is caused by too much importation, or by too much being bought and too little earned, there can be but little hope of better times obtained from the records furnished by the Customs authorities. The imports into Canada exceed those of last year, and there does not appear to be any increase in the country's ability to buy. In Halifax alone the receipts for the past month were \$30,160 in excess of the corresponding period of last year, and for the quarter just ended \$219,639, or \$32,771 in excess of the imports of the first quarter of 1876. Over-importation must continue to have the result it always has had: pressure on retail merchants to buy, the overstocking of stores, the possibility of everyone to obtain credit, inability to meet payments, and insolvency.

ELECTIONEERING ARGUMENTS are supposed to be carefully chosen to suit the taste and charac-

ters of those whose votes are to be influenced by them, and from them may be inferred the character the people addressed bear in the speaker's mind, if not that which they really possess. The Quebec Telegraph has jotted down a number of the arguments which it states were used by Hon. David Price, Senator, in favor of Mr. Langevin in Charlevoix, and which must prove almost as interesting reading as the famous circular concerning the "priestesters." He gravely asserts that "Mr. Tremblay is Antichrist" that "The judges of the Supreme Court are not 'water drinkers.' They did not take the trouble of examining the records before rendering 'their judgment,' that 'our duty is to support 'the bishops and the Pope,' that 'Mr. Langevin was condemned by a Protestant judge 'through hatred of the Catholic religion,' and again, notwithstanding the last statement, that 'The Anglican Church is as Catholic as 'the Church of Rome. All Christians are 'Catholic. By the judgment of the Supreme Court my religion is as much in 'danger as yours.' That any people could suffer themselves to be crammed with such nonsense as this, even from a Senator, evidences the very low state of intelligence that the electors of Charlevoix are credited with, and judging from the result of the late vote justly so. It should also wake up all supporters of equal civil rights to the style of combat which is being carried on in Quebec, by which the elements of progress and success are being continually hindered and opposed by ignorance and superstition. When in the Senate Chamber, the Hon. David Price would do well to use these arguments once more, just to hear how they would sound there. He can hardly understand the deep interest that would be taken in them.

THE CLEGGY ARE PUT ON THEIR DEFENSE by the *Minerve*, which claims that because they don't like bad Catholics it does not follow that they are encroaching on other denominations. It cites the loyalty of the priesthood in 1775 and 1812 and 1837, and quotes as instances of liberality their support of Mr. Price against Mr. Tremblay and their friendliness towards Mr. Joly. Is it this that Mr. Tremblay who is anti-Christ, and is this that Mr. Price who called him anti-Christ, whose wickedness in opposing the clergy he as a Protestant Catholic condemned? Is it this that Mr. Joly, who, notwithstanding his extreme liberality to the Roman Church, might now be the leader of the Quebec Legislature had he not been a Protestant? The *Minerve* and the *Gazette* both say the WITNESS denounced Judge Ramo when his decision did not suit it, and make this an excuse for the Charlevoix circular. Certainly the WITNESS did publish that able jurist's decisions, spread broadcast his learned charges, and particularly described the rendering of the verdict on the part of an intelligent jury. The truthful publication of any one's words and acts, is, or should be, an honor to him. Senator Price likewise, and Mr. Israel-Bate and others, should, for this reason, be thankful to the WITNESS for making known their excellence by the wide publication of their sayings which their own more immediate friends have failed to do for them. Another defence comes from the *Gazette* in the form of an attack on the Parti National, and a certain green card used to influence votes in Ontario. We join with the *Gazette* in condemning all boisterous clerical influence on the part of so-called Liberals, and beg to be allowed to include so-called Conservatives. The *Gazette* denounces the attack upon the judges in the *Minerve* as a foolish and unjustifiable proceeding, more likely to injure those who made it than those against whom it was directed, while the rest of the circular, it says, was simply one of those wretched appeals to religious feeling which have become too familiar in our election contests, and which are confined by no means to one side of politics. With this knowledge we expect the *Gazette*, if this expression of opinion is honest, to agree with us for once and use its great influence with the Liberal Conservative party and boldly condemn such disreputable transactions and refuse to acknowledge those as Liberal Conservatives whose elections have been gained thereby.

FATALITIES.—A boy named Fortin was so dreadfully burned by falling into a boiling water tank in Parc's match factory, Quebec, on the 25th ult., that he died shortly after.—Mr. Cotton, chief clerk of the Governor-General's office, Ottawa, fell dead in his drawing room on the 30th ult., from heart disease.—During a heavy storm a huge mass of snow detached from the summit of a hill near the copper mine at Bett's Cove, Newfoundland, and

swept down and completely buried two houses; on man and five children were taken out dead from the ruins, but most of the inmates escaped, thirty-five being in the houses when the avalanche commenced.—Richard Cottle, a resident of Goderich, Ont., while engaged chopping in the woods, on the 29th ult., was instantly killed by a falling limb fracturing his skull.—Thomas Norman, of Toronto, died suddenly on the 31st ult.—Mrs. Paradise, aged 84, and Miss Stokes, aged 21, both died suddenly on the 31st ult., in Quebec, from congestion of the lungs.—A tramp, supposed to be Jean Bte. Francois, from Montreal, was found dead on the 1st inst., in a yard in St. Roch, Quebec.—Charles A. Cleveland, of Cartwright, Ont., accidentally fell on the 3rd inst., while carrying a railway tie, receiving injuries which caused his death a few hours later.

FIRE.—A serious fire broke out in Indian town, N.B., on the 27th ult., damaging a large amount of property, including the New Brunswick Paper Company's Leather Board Mill, to the extent of \$800; covered by policies in Canadian offices. George H. White and H. C. Stubbs' hay barn, with a hundred tons of hay, Bester hay press, waggons, sleds, scales, &c., burned to the ground; partial insurance. Two firemen were injured by the falling of a chimney. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a lamp.—About four o'clock on the 27th ult., a fire broke out in Mr. Dorewood's establishment on King street, Hamilton, opposite the Wesleyan Female College. The loss is heavy, the whole stock of human hair work being totally destroyed. He was insured for \$3,300 on stock and fixtures in the Victoria Mutual. Mrs. Roberts' fancy store was also damaged, the block being badly injured by fire and smoke; insured for \$2,000 in the Victoria Mutual.—A fire broke out about midnight of the 28th ult., in Fisher's Building, corner of Queen and York streets, Fredericton, N.B., occupied by Davis & Dibble, jewellers; M. S. Hall, stationery; John Babbitt, jeweller. The second story by Fisher & Fisher, barbers; Dr. G. F. Coulthard, W. Wilson, barrister; and the Young Men's Christian Association. The third story was occupied by several temperance societies and by the Fredericton Neck-tie Factory. Nearly all the goods were removed from the stores. The following insurance offices are interested in the building:—Queen, \$2,300, and Central, \$2,400; on stocks, M. S. Hall, New Brunswick and Mercantile, \$5,000; the Royal Canadian Ins. Co., Imperial, Etna, Stadacona and Provincial are also interested considerably.

On the 29th ult., the store belonging to M. Ferris, and occupied by W. Johnson, general merchant, in Brighton, Ont., was destroyed by fire, together with the whole stock. Origin of fire unknown.—A. C. Davis & Bros., dry goods store, Napanee, was discovered to be on fire about 8.15 of the 30th ult., in the second flat. The second and third flats were destroyed, but after hard work the fire was finally subdued. The goods were considerably destroyed by fire and water. Loss on stock and building will be heavy, but is insured in the Royal, Queen's and Imperial Insurance Companies. The building is insured for \$5,000, and stock for \$10,000.—A fire in St. Johns, Que., on the 31st ult., destroyed a large brick building in which was stored a large quantity of Canadian newspaper printing company. A. Bertrand, hay dealer, and L. Bertrand, tailor, lost \$8,000; partly insured.—A fire at Berwick, N.S., on the 1st inst., destroyed the Post-office, John Strong's store and Halliday's house and barn. The post-office effects and mails were saved. The fire originated in Strong's store.—A fire broke out in Hanover, O., on the morning of the 1st of April between three and four o'clock, by which three buildings were totally consumed, and one badly damaged. Two of the buildings were owned by Wm. Small, and occupied by E. D. Ayers and Nathan Lines. The other two buildings belonged to R. G. Peers, one occupied by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and one by Peers & Hopkins for a tin shop. The fire is supposed to have started from a defect in Mr. Hutton's bake-oven, which was adjoining to the building occupied by Nathan Lines. All insured in the Waterloo Company.—On the 2nd inst., St. Johns, Que., was visited by a second fire, originating in stables rear of Durand's hotel and Trahan's livery stable, but owing to the endeavors of the firemen little damage was done.—A fire was discovered in the *Revue* printing office at Amherst, O., at 2 a.m. on Tuesday. Before the engines could be brought to work the building and contents were totally destroyed. The flames rapidly spread to the building occupied by George M. Black, boat builder, and owned by Dr. Cranston, which was totally destroyed; also, the outbuildings. The fire then communicated to the brick building formerly occupied by the Bank of British North America, the roof of which was burned off when the fire was arrested. Insurance on the *Revue* building, \$200; *Revue* office, \$2,000; brick block, \$1,000; no insurance on Dr. Cranston's building.—Glick's Hall, Hespeler, Ont., took fire at half past twelve o'clock Tuesday morning. It was totally destroyed: loss on Thos. Glick's Hall and stores \$4,000, insured for \$1500. Chas. Glick's stock of groceries, &c., partly saved, insured for \$1500; Philip Allendorf, stock of hardware, stoves, &c., lost \$1200, insured for \$800; N. P. Pabst & Bolduebochers, stock saved.

DECLARATION BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS ON THE CHARLEVOIX JUDGMENT.—When judgment was pronounced on the 28th of February last by the Supreme Court of Canada in the Charlevoix election case, the undersigned Archbishop and bishops felt a deep sorrow which all true Catholics will not fail to share with them. It is not for us to consider the legal worth of the arguments upon which the honorable members of the highest tribunal of our country relied to interpret with so much severity laws which in their own minds we believe to have been added to our own to preserve for the faithful

of consulting with their pastors and of receiving from the latter the advice of which their conscience might stand in need in the performance of so important a duty. But when the inconveniences of the wording of a law show themselves in its daily application, the Legislature, if it cannot remedy the past, has always before it the resource of providing for the future. Witness the amendments which have been made each year to laws drawn up at first with the greatest care and with the best possible intentions.

In our pastoral of the 22nd September, 1875, (section viii.) we say,

DEPLORE THE CONFLICT

which this judgment establishes between the law thus interpreted and the impracticable rights of the faithful.

THE FINAL EXAMINATIONS for the diplomas requested as follows:—Jas. R. McLaughlin, Waterston, Mass.; C. C. Lyford, Roscoe, Ill.; D. S. Brown, Genoa, Ill.; J. F. Ryan, Montreal; William B. Hall, Leeds, Megantic, P.Q.; and Louis, Naperville, P.Q.; J. A. William H. Murphy, Boston, Mass.

The competition for prizes was by written examinations and resulted as follows:—

First prize—A silver medal, the gift of the Council of Agriculture, won by James R. McLaughlin, Waterston, Mass. Second prize—C. C. Lyford, Roscoe, Ill. U.S.; J. A. William H. Murphy, Boston, Mass.

Second year students.—First prize—Malcolm C. Baker, Dunham, P.Q. Second prize—F. W. McLaughlin, Bridgeport, Conn.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.—The distribution of the prizes was witnessed by a number of friends of the College, including Mr. Browning, President, and Mr. Leclerc, Secretary of the Provincial Agricultural Society. Mr. Waddell, of Quebec, bestowed the diplomas.

MEASURES, SUMMERVILLE and Bryden, and Drs. Tetu, Pelletier and McEachran delivered interesting addresses, in which allusion was made to the excellence of the work done by the students. Mr. Going, veterinary editor of *Wilder's Spirit of the Times*, impressed upon the students the fact that their work was only beginning.

Mr. McEachran entertained the examiners, the successful students and the professors to supper in the evening, when a very pleasant time was spent in the pleasantest of ways. In the complimentary address, accompanied by a purse of \$100, from the students,

TOUCHING A JUDGMENT

rendered in a celebrated case (Jesús Christ, says the apostle, loved His Church, and gave Himself for it. (Eph. v. 25.) With such an example from our Divine Master and model, nothing ought to be dearer in this world to us than this same Church of which we are the members, under the same chief, who is Jesús Christ. She is our mother; since she brought us into the life of grace we should love her with a faithful love, we should rejoice at her triumphs, share her sorrows, and, when necessary, raise our voices to defend her. When, then, we see her liberty and dignity disregarded, her children, and her pastors even less, cannot be allowed to keep a silence which would be equivalent to treachery. The Holy Catholic Church, faithful to the precepts of her Divine Master, teaches her children to "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things which are God's" (Matthew xii. 21). She repeats to them with the great Apostle: "Render to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor" (Rom. xiii. 7). She more than any other has the right to expect the duty of justice and respect, which she does not cease to proclaim, to be fulfilled towards her, and the things which belong to the Church to be rendered to the Church of God. In the case which came up then, and which regarded a disciplinary rule of the Church, we saw, with happiness, the Legislature of Quebec hasten to

SET THE CIVIL LAW

in accord with the ecclesiastical law upon this important question of discipline in order to prevent all conflict between the two authorities and to secure for the Church the protection which our constitution guarantees her. We are confident that the same duty of justice and justice will be shown towards Catholics in the present case. If the construction, so strict and absolute, put on the electoral law be pushed to its logical consequence it will go as far as to deprive the Catholic Church of a sacred right, of a right which nature itself has bestowed upon all society, and even upon each individual of a right in short which the codes of all nations regard as indispensable; this right is that of LEGITIMATE DEFENCE.

Let us suppose the case of a candidate or a party which openly publishes its intention of destroying the Catholic Church; is it not evident that no Catholic, without committing a crime, could vote in favor of such a candidate, or such a party. And in this case, which we take here as an example only to make our meaning clearer, in this case, we say, is it in conformity with the most elementary ideas of justice and reason, that the priest should be condemned to keep silence, or only to utter timid advice, warnings, recommendations, exhortations, and without saying directly what is the duty of a citizen, or of a child of the Catholic Church? This seems to us to be the consequence which is to be deduced from the following passage of the judgment in question: "I admit without the least hesitation and the sincerest conviction, the right of a Catholic priest to preach, to treat of religious dogmas and all questions of ecclesiastical discipline. I deny that he has, in the present case as in all similar ones, the right to point out an individual or a political party, and to mark out for the people, to public indignation, one or the other, by the accusation of Catholicism, and of all other religious errors. And more especially I deny that he has the right to say that the person who would assist in the election of such and such a candidate would commit a crime." Thus, in the one hand, there is absolute liberty to attack the Catholic Church; on the other the impossibility for the latter to defend herself, "or rather to defend the spiritual interests of the souls with which she is entrusted." But the Church speaks, acts and fights through her clergy, and she has these rights to the clergy to refuse them to the Church. (Pastoral of the 21st September, 1875, section v.) Is this just? In thus claiming for the Church the right of

RAISING OUR VOICES

to protect a sacred and necessary right of the Catholic Church and to ask that our law-makers should take heed to the duty of justice, might, might employ, in this state of matters, a suitable remedy.

MONTREAL VETERINARY COLLEGE.

RESULT OF THE EXAMINATIONS.—The annual examinations of the Montreal Veterinary College were concluded on Thursday evening last, and the results have been ascertained.

The Board of Examiners who were appointed by the Council of Agriculture, consisted of the following:—Jas. R. McLaughlin, Waterston, Mass.; M. R. C. V. S., Quebec; James Going, V. S., Edin., New York; William Bryden, V. S., Boston, Mass.; F. O. Coleman, V. S., Ottawa; Arch. McCormick, V. S., Beaumont; Charles Levesque, V. S., Berthier, P.Q.; J. A. Contour, V. S., Montreal; C. T. Alloway, V. S., Montreal.

Several representatives of the Council of Agriculture, and other leading gentlemen interested in the progress of veterinary science in this country, were present at the examination, the students were unable to present themselves at the examinations, but those who did so passed as follows:—

Zoology.—J. W. Dawson, L.L.D., Professor; Isaac J. Miles, Chateaugay, Ontario; Vincent Waddell, M.R.C.V.S., Quebec; James Going, V. S., Edin., New York; William Bryden, V. S., Boston, Mass.; F. O. Coleman, V. S., Ottawa; Arch. McCormick, V. S., Beaumont; Charles Levesque, V. S., Berthier, P.Q.; J. A. Contour, V. S., Montreal; C. T. Alloway, V. S., Montreal.

Chemistry.—R. Craik, M.D., Professor; M. C. Baker, Dunham, P.Q.; F. W. McLaughlin, Bridgeport, Conn.; D. S. Brown, Genoa, Ill., and M. L. Kannon, Montreal.

Physiology.—William Oser, M.D., Professor; M. C. Baker, Dunham, P.Q.; F. W. McLaughlin, Bridgeport, Conn.; D. S. Brown, Genoa, Ill., U.S.; C. C. Lyford, Roscoe, Ill., U.S.; M. L. Kannon, Montreal.

Veterinary Materia Medica.—O. Bruneau, V.S., lecturer; M. C. Baker and F. W. McLaughlin.

The final examinations for the diplomas requested as follows:—Jas. R. McLaughlin, Waterston, Mass.; C. C. Lyford, Roscoe, Ill.; D. S. Brown, Genoa, Ill.; J. F. Ryan, Montreal; William B. Hall, Leeds, Megantic, P.Q.; and Louis, Naperville, P.Q.; J. A. William H. Murphy, Boston, Mass.

The competition for prizes was by written examinations and resulted as follows:—

First prize—A silver medal, the gift of the Council of Agriculture, won by James R. McLaughlin, Waterston, Mass. Second prize—C. C. Lyford, Roscoe, Ill. U.S.; J. A. William H. Murphy, Boston, Mass.

Second year students.—First prize—Malcolm C. Baker, Dunham, P.Q. Second prize—F. W. McLaughlin, Bridgeport, Conn.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.—The distribution of the prizes was witnessed by a number of friends of the College, including Mr. Browning, President, and Mr. Leclerc, Secretary of the Provincial Agricultural Society. Mr. Waddell, of Quebec, bestowed the diplomas.

MEASURES, SUMMERVILLE and Bryden, and Drs. Tetu, Pelletier and McEachran delivered interesting addresses, in which allusion was made to the excellence of the work done by the students. Mr. Going, veterinary editor of *Wilder's Spirit of the Times*, impressed upon the students the fact that their work was only beginning.

Mr. McEachran entertained the examiners, the successful students and the professors to supper in the evening, when a very pleasant time was spent in the pleasantest of ways. In the complimentary address, accompanied by a purse of \$100, from the students,

A PECULIAR LIBEL SUIT.

At the Court of Queen's Bench on the 29th ult., the case of Andrew Wm. Hood, against James Akin, on an indictment for libel upon James Akin, formerly of the firm of Akin & Armstrong

AGRICULTURE.

FARMERS REVIEW.

The American *Agriculturist* for April says:—Farm work, nearly everywhere, begins now. In some of the Middle and Western States, much of the spring work is done, and corn and root planting only remains. But in the more Northern States, summer follows winter with but a short respite, and the farmer who is not well prepared, finds his work "all of a heap" and pushing him, instead of his pushing the work. To hurry over work is to throw away labor. No hurry is needed when work is well laid out, and every job is foreseen and planned for. More thought must go into our farming than the times are meeting and, as farmers have felt but little of the general distress that business men have experienced yet, we may confess that times are still hard. Prices are low and profits are small. Hard times quicken invention, and when men are pressed, their intellects are wonderfully brightened. Most of the great inventions that have revolutionized labor, have been found in times of adversity, or pressure of unfavorable circumstances. The alternative has frequently been "a new and cheap method or ruin." Just now we seem to be on the eve of some needed discovery for cheapening farm labor, or making it more effective. When the time was ripe for some great innovation, it has always come, the mother "necessity" never yet failed to find the child. No grain, or seed, or staple can long be produced, at a loss, or even at less than a living profit, and now that we see clearly the dawning of a promising day in business, there is a certainty that the farmer's labor will be as well recompensed as it deserves. But we shall have to work for it, and much more with our hands than with our brains.

HINTS ABOUT WORK.

Plowing.—None but a fertile soil should be turned over very deeply. At this season, this should be well remembered, because there is no time for the weather to mellow the fresh soil. For spring crops, the soil should be turned over in the fall, and the seed may be pushed into active growth at once.

Fertilizers.—For the reasons just mentioned, fertilizers for use on spring crops should be such as are quickly soluble, and readily taken up by the plant.

Live Stock.—One of the most encouraging events of late, has been the opening of an export trade of beef and mutton to England. If this succeeds, and grows, as now seems probable, it will provide a way out of our heretofore greatest difficulties. Instead of growing and exporting raw wool, we may grow and export ourselves, and export the produce. This will leave our farms in much better plight. To meet this new demand, our stock must be improved in quality, by these pure-bred lambs and rams, and increased in quantity, by sparing the heifer calves and ewe lambs from slaughter.

Raising Horses.—As has always been the case in the past, the increasing use of steam-engines makes more and more horses, and horses of the working kind are scarce. It is a question worth considering if it would not be better to keep mares upon the farms for breeding, instead of selling them to work in the cities, where their productive powers are not used. We have found mares equally serviceable with horses for farm work, and an annual colt will nearly pay for a mare's feed.

Breed-Mares. If rightly managed, may come in after the spring work is over, and may raise a colt before the fall-work comes on. If the colts come in June, the mare will be able to plow and harrow until the middle of May, and will be ready for work again by the time having begins. But at this season a broad-mare's work should be steady, although it may be hard. Violent jerky, and long continued work is not injurious her.

Tough Stock.—As the change of feed comes on, care must be exercised in regard to young animals. It is best to turn them out to grass for an hour or two daily, before the pasture becomes full. Well-conditioned yearlings are in more danger than poorer ones, and with them greater care should be taken.

Plaster.—A bushel of ground gypsum per acre will be found a very useful application for young clover, or for oats, when they are a little above ground. Gypsum is useful for its own constituents, without depending upon its absorption of ammonia from the air. All the ammonia we get that way will be a very poor help. At 50 cents a bushel, plaster is a cheap fertilizer for clover, oats, or corn.

Root Crops.—Plowing should be done this month for mangels. No root crop pays better than this. Choose a piece of clean corn-stubble, plow it up, and then, in each row, sow a bushel of mangels, or ten to twelve per acre, cover with the plow, level with a light harrow lengthwise of the drills, so as not to obliterate them; then sow the seed over the manure with a hand or horse-plaster, and scatter a little guano, or blood fertilizer along the row. Four pounds of seed for an acre is enough. We prefer Yellow Globe. Don't aim to get big roots, but full crop of small-sized ones. We are satisfied with 30 tons, or 1,000 bushels, per acre. At this rate a bushel costs 5 cts., or less. So as soon as possible.

Potatoes.—Early potatoes may be kept lightly covered with the hoe or a light one-horse plow. Watch the manure of the potato beetle, and when it begins work, pick the insects from the leaves, and use a good remedy. Paris green need not be used, until the leaves are small-sized ones. We are satisfied with 30 tons, or 1,000 bushels, per acre. At this rate a bushel costs 5 cts., or less. So as soon as possible.

Cows and Calves.—Incoming cows need careful feeding. Moderate feed will be found preventive of trouble after calving. With high-bred cows there is danger of milk-fever or garget. Prevent these by light feeding, a moderate purgative just after the calf appears.

Garget is now a very prevalent trouble. It comes through the higher feeding and greater milk production now so common. It is an inflammatory and swollen condition of the udder. When it appears, bathe the udder frequently with warm water, working it well with the hand. If it is infected, dissolve 1 oz. of carbonate of soda in a pint of water, inject with a syringe into the teats, and milk it out in a few minutes. Leave the calf with the cow.

Calves.—Spare the heifer calves of the best cows. A very good heifer may be raised on skim milk; the cream may be replaced by a little oil-meal. To feed a calf for the butcher 4 weeks, on new milk, does not pay, even if it brings \$10 or \$12. Our cows are not so good as they might be, but we keep and generously raise the best heifer calves.

Manure.—Cart to the ground intended for corn. If it is too ground, all the better, the soil will be made richer and more valuable as a fertilizer.

Plowing for Corn may be delayed until the season admits of planting. We are satisfied that it is a good plan to plant on the mellow, freshly-turned soil before it dries, or has been trampled by the hoofs of the horses. Time is often lost with this error, by planting too early, and before the soil is warm.

Cleaning Up.—This should no longer be neglected. Warm, damp weather causes active decomposition of all rubbish, and the grass given off by this is unwholesome. Clean out and whitewash the cellar; if the floors of earth, scrape it thoroughly and remove the top, replacing it with clean sand; then at the first opportunity, with a shovel, turn up the lime and gravel. Take up the yards, burn all the rubbish, and save the ashes. Clean up the manure heaps, and let off all surface water.

Rainy Days may be employed in cleaning tools, implements, and machines, and putting them in good order for work when they will be wanted; in making coops for chickens, or any of the handy contrivances for saving labor, that are so frequently described.

Poultry.—With a grassy run for fowls, the grain may be reduced somewhat. Whatever grain is fed, may be given only in the morning.

and at night, thus obliging the hens to forage in the middle of the day for their food. Ducks should be kept shut up in the morning, until they have laid, as they are very careless about their eggs. Geese may be set now, and should not be disturbed on their nests. The less fussing there is over sitting fowls the better. Keep water and food near the nests. Young fowls of whatever kind need a little feed often, but overfeeding is unwholesome.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Let us first give a few hints to those who will set trees this spring, whether a few or many. It is not worth while to plant out trees on any land that will not yield a good crop of corn. If it needs manure for the corn-crop, then it equally needs it for a tree-crop. Primarily, then, the land, if not prepared last fall, should be put in order now. If it needs draining before it will yield good farm-crops, it needs it just as much for trees. Still, we would not off planting because the land cannot be drained now. Set the trees, and solemnly promise them and yourself, that drains shall be laid between the rows before autumn spring.

When the trees arrive, and there is reason to think they are frozen (such things happen even in April), put the box or cabbage in the barn, throw a lot of hay or straw over it, and leave all to thaw very gradually. Otherwise, open the parcel, and examine the trees. See that each variety or each bundle of the same sort is properly labelled. If a label is missing, look for it; if it cannot be found, see by reference to the bill or order what it should be, and replace. If long on the way, and the weather warm and dry, the trees may have

A *shredded bark*.—In that case, open a trench in sandy soil is best, lay in the trees carefully, and cover them with earth, not thrown in heaps, but gradually shaken in from the shovel so that it will fall in among, and come in contact with, all the branches and twigs. Cover completely, root and branch, placing stakes as to know just where to dig for them, and leave them for a week or so. When taken up, they will be as plump as ever, unless absolutely dead. If the trees are all right, and there are more than can be set at once, they should be

Heeled-in, a nurseryman and gardener's term that bothers many persons. It means simply a temporary planting, and is done, in this case, to keep the roots from injury, until they can be planted. Trees received now may remain heeled-in for two or three weeks, and be as well off, or better, than if planted. If the roots are to be out of the ground for an hour, they should be heeled-in, and then not only are they taking no harm, but are really recovering from the effects of removal. It is the simplest of operations. With a few trees, a rude way is to lay them flat on the ground, and throw enough earth over the roots to cover them. The proper way is to open a trench, and place the trees at an angle of 45°, a few at a time, throw in earth to well cover the roots, and fill all hollow spaces, add more trees, more earth, and so on. The trees are now safe, and if a long storm or other cause should prevent planting, they are just as well off. In this, and every other step, look out for labels.

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February 16th, the Agricultural department contained an article on *Ayrshire cattle*, which was credited by you to the *American Agriculturist*. As I have been engaged in the breeding and raising of this class of cattle for a number of years, as a matter of course I naturally feel an interest in anything that is said respecting them, and somewhat jealous, also, when anything comes out that may have a tendency to affect their reputation.

I have nothing to say, Mr. Editor, against the general description given of the Ayrshires in that article. It is well written and fully coincides with my ideas, and sets forth in a fair and truthful manner their many good qualities as far as my experience has gone. What I wish to find fault with, and take exception to, are the portraits that accompany the article as illustrations. Perhaps it should not be expected that editors like yourself and your contemporary of the *Agriculturist* should be supposed to be able to define correctly the outline and general contour of the many different breeds of cattle you may be called on, in your editorial capacity, to give a description of, and therefore we should not feel surprised if any discrepancies and errors that may be made in that way. But what surprises me is, that any owner or breeder of pure Ayrshire cattle should allow such figures as those that accompany the article in question, to be issued from the press, unless they had no chance of seeing the proofs before they were published.

I am giving a very fair description of the breed and their good qualities for dairy purposes, &c., the writer goes on to state what method of breeding the Ayrshire men resorted to in order to reach the desired end and produce such "model dairy cows." He says the style of "bull chosen was one of somewhat feminine characteristics with fine head and neck, broad hips and full flanks, &c., and then comes this statement: "The bull of which we give a portrait will serve as a fair representative of this breed. He took first prize at the Burlington County Agricultural Society's exhibition in 1875 and 1876."

Before I proceed further, Mr. Editor, I would wish to qualify my remarks a little by saying that all this may be true. The description given may be a correct one, and the bull "Casper" may be worthy of the prizes he has won. But if so he has been sadly libelled by the parties who have attempted to draw his portrait; and if it does not belie and misrepresent him it certainly does the breed of which he is said to be a representative: for judging from the likeness, a plainer and more ungainly-looking animal it would I think be difficult to find, even among the native scrubs of the country, that do not claim the least particle of scientific breeding; and as a breeder, I advocate of the Ayrshires I consider it becomes me to enter a protest against such illustrations being distributed and shown off to the public as fair representations of this famed and useful breed.

I shall not be so severe on the other engraving given as a likeness of "Maggie Stewart," though there are many defects in that also, that should not characterize a well-bred Ayrshire. I am sure that the artist who could merit the high commendation of being the "handsomest Ayrshire to be found." It is an easy matter to point out many defects in this picture also:

The increased use of the sewing-machine is noticeable on the handsomest Paris dresses. French modistes were slow to adopt this great saving of labor, but they now appreciate it, and use it in conspicuous parts of the dress, for hemming, and occasionally for stitching on, and in various places where American ladies prohibit it.

The newest princess dresses for spring are of light Algonquian or Knickerbocker woolsens in shades of blue, green, or brown on white, with silk of another color for sleeves and for flounces. Such blue and white soft Algonquian wool princess dresses have silk gowns, such as shawls, pockets, collars, and such ends of shawls, of roses grain. The drapery is unequalled, being massed in horizontal pleats on one side while the opposite edge is of plain silk, on which square bows of silk are laid. The foot of the dress is cut out in squares, and silk knife-pleatings border the skirt. The inevitable patent buttons appear on each dress. These beautiful dresses will be copied by thrifty ladies who wish to modernize partly worn dresses, as one good dress may be made of two old ones, or the best parts of a half-worn silk dress may be combined with one of the new woolsens thus described.

For evening dresses the dress style prevails, and for the gray dress is largely in vogue, but has a square neck and a Médicis collar, and a separate square train without a particle of drapery, and suggesting a regular court train. The richest dresses of this kind have one of the gorges of light gray grain and other gorges of the new chenille gauze of gray colors. —*Harper's Bazar.*

In *planting*, first settle where the varieties are to go, putting all of a kind near together. Mark out the land, and put a stake in indicating where each tree is to stand. Where there are but few varieties and even rows, it is not of so much importance; but in a mixed collection, a map should be made and the position of each variety set down, and in planting, follow the map; with this, each tree may be identified if labels (as they surely will) get lost.

Cutting Back.—If one could spend an hour or more in taking up each tree with a ball of earth, he might plant it in the orchard as it stood. But even in the best nursery digging a share, and often a large one, of the roots must be lost. This is not of so much consequence if met by a corresponding loss of top. The nurseryman knows that 99 in 100 would grumble, should he cut back the trees properly, so he scuds all the top, and as much root as he can. It is safe to cut back from one-half to two-thirds of every branch upon a young tree as received from the nursery, to give a proper balance to root and top. Open, not a post-hole, but a broad, shallow hollow, to receive the roots, spread evenly in all directions; fill in the top soil by sprinkling it from the shovel, and fill another work the soil in among the roots, leaving neither deep nor shallow hollow, nor hollow places under and between the large roots. It will take time, but it will be

Time well spent, to plant each tree carefully. Allow no heavy boots to stamp down the roots, but when all are well and carefully covered, an even pressure with the foot may be used, to compact the earth. A tree so set will need no stake.

Crops in the Orchard.—While the trees are small, it is well to cultivate manured crops between the rows; potatoes, or other crops, or corn, if kept far enough from the trees, are best.

Manning Old Trees, or those that have come into bearing should have been cared for last month, or earlier. If they need manure, give it at once. Nearly all the "running out," bitter root, and other troubles not due to insects, are merely cries for manure. Stable manure rarely comes amiss; this may be applied over the whole surface, except close to the trees, and turned under with a furrow so shallow as to not cut the roots. On orchards already fully manured in previous years, or naturally rich in vegetable matter, a dressing of lime will often produce gratifying results, and wood ashes scarcely ever come amiss on any soils.

Pruning may still be done, where the season is so distinctly backward, but if the buds have started, it is better to defer it until midsummer.

Insects require constant vigilance. Up to the time that the leaves open, clusters of the Tent-caterpillar's eggs may be found and destroyed, and the same may be said of cocoons of various kinds.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE. We have much pleasure in publishing Mr. Guy's letter on the appearance of Ayrshire cattle, and in presenting our readers with a portrait of his bull "Bismarck." Mr. Guy was requested by the Canadian Commissioners to send his herd to the Centennial for exhibition, but there being no prizes offered declined to do so. We would be pleased to receive from our former friends communications on any agricultural topic which will likely prove of general interest to the farming community.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

DEAR SIR, In your this weekly issue of

DOMESTIC.

SPRING DRESSES.

Fresh importations of spring dresses arrive each week at this season of the year, confirming anew some of the designs already received, and bringing more varied novelties. Thus the modistes in the over dress most often seen on both rich and simple costumes. While a dissertation might be written on the various shapes of this garment, its distinctive features remain the same. The newest patterns have but one dart in each front, and this dart extends to the foot of the garment; the greater number are fastened on the left side, and the same proportion have long back seams beginning on the shoulder; all of them are plain over the tunic, in Marguerite fashion. Very elaborate polonaises are seldom of uniform shape; they differ not only in being draped differently on each side, but their gowns are unlike; as, for instance, there will be only one long gore from shoulder to foot, while all the other parts are of various designs, and have separate skirts. In others, the two materials that now enter into every dress are most irregularly arranged, one material disappearing suddenly and re-appearing in an unexpected place, while the other fabric is found where it has never been used before.

Knickerbocker woollens with tufted threads, very much in vogue, are designed in soft camel-hair, plaid, striped, and damask damask, and the new gazelle barge of dark navy blue, and the materials used for these new over dresses. Some of these have large buckles and clasps of faceted steel for holding their drapery in place, while others are entirely without drapery, hanging plain over the shoulders, and some are draped back by Breton bands. Black silk polonaises are made with flat pleatings from the neck down the middle of the back to match the trains with which they are worn. Black grenadine polonaises have large damask figures, are draped differently on each side, and have a wide band of black satin ribbon, the trimming of which is French lace, and jabs of lace with ends of satin ribbon hanging in the shells. Light-tinted smoked-pearl buttons are used on both dark and light cloths.

Cloth dresses of light quality are made up with postillion, basques and long overalls, and some of them are made of a material which he is said to be a representative: for judging from the likeness, a plainer and more ungainly-looking animal it would I think be difficult to find, even among the native scrubs of the country, that do not claim the least particle of scientific breeding; and as a breeder, I advocate of the Ayrshires I consider it becomes me to enter a protest against such illustrations being distributed and shown off to the public as fair representations of this famed and useful breed.

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The newest princess dresses for spring are of light Algonquian or Knickerbocker woolsens in shades of blue, green, or brown on white, with silk of another color for sleeves and for flounces. Such blue and white soft Algonquian wool princess dresses have silk gowns, such as shawls, pockets, collars, and such ends of shawls, of roses grain. The drapery is unequalled, being massed in horizontal pleats on one side while the opposite edge is of plain silk, on which square bows of silk are laid. The foot of the dress is cut out in squares, and silk knife-pleatings border the skirt. The inevitable patent buttons appear on each dress. These beautiful dresses will be copied by thrifty ladies who wish to modernize partly worn dresses, as one good dress may be made of two old ones, or the best parts of a half-worn silk dress may be combined with one of the new woolsens thus described.

For evening dresses the dress style prevails, and for the gray dress is largely in vogue, but has a square neck and a Médicis collar, and a separate square train without a particle of drapery, and suggesting a regular court train. The richest dresses of this kind have one of the gorges of light gray grain and other gorges of the new chenille gauze of gray colors. —*Harper's Bazar.*

In *planting*, first settle where the varieties are to go, putting all of a kind near together. Mark out the land, and put a stake in indicating where each tree is to stand. Where there are but few varieties and even rows, it is not of so much importance; but in a mixed collection, a map should be made and the position of each variety set down, and in planting, follow the map; with this, each tree may be identified if labels (as they surely will) get lost.

Cutting Back.—If one could spend an hour or more in taking up each tree with a ball of earth, he might plant it in the orchard as it stood. But even in the best nursery digging a share, and often a large one, of the roots must be lost. This is not of so much consequence if met by a corresponding loss of top. The nurseryman knows that 99 in 100 would grumble, should he cut back the trees properly, so he scuds all the top, and as much root as he can. It is safe to cut back from one-half to two-thirds of every branch upon a young tree as received from the nursery, to give a proper balance to root and top. Open, not a post-hole, but a broad, shallow hollow, to receive the roots, spread evenly in all directions; fill in the top soil by sprinkling it from the shovel, and fill another work the soil in among the roots, leaving neither deep nor shallow hollow, nor hollow places under and between the large roots. It will take time, but it will be

Time well spent, to plant each tree carefully. Allow no heavy boots to stamp down the roots, but when all are well and carefully covered, an even pressure with the foot may be used, to compact the earth. A tree so set will need no stake.

Crops in the Orchard.—While the trees are small, it is well to cultivate manured crops between the rows; potatoes, or other crops, or corn, if kept far enough from the trees, are best.

Manning Old Trees, or those that have come into bearing should have been cared for last month, or earlier. If they need manure, give it at once. Nearly all the "running out," bitter root, and other troubles not due to insects, are merely cries for manure. Stable manure rarely comes amiss; this may be applied over the whole surface, except close to the trees, and turned under with a furrow so shallow as to not cut the roots. On orchards already fully manured in previous years, or naturally rich in vegetable matter, a dressing of lime will often produce gratifying results, and wood ashes scarcely ever come amiss on any soils.

Pruning may still be done, where the season is so distinctly backward, but if the buds have started, it is better to defer it until midsummer.

Insects require constant vigilance. Up to the time that the leaves open, clusters of the Tent-caterpillar's eggs may be found and destroyed, and the same may be said of cocoons of various kinds.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE. We have much pleasure in publishing Mr. Guy's letter on the appearance of Ayrshire cattle, and in presenting our readers with a portrait of his bull "Bismarck." Mr. Guy was requested by the Canadian Commissioners to send his herd to the Centennial for exhibition, but there being no prizes offered declined to do so. We would be pleased to receive from our former friends communications on any agricultural topic which will likely prove of general interest to the farming community.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

DEAR SIR, In your this weekly issue of

BIBLE WORK AMONG THE FRENCH-CANADIANS.

The following extracts from recent Journals kept by the co-workers of the French-Canadian Missionary Society give an idea not only of the difficulties encountered by these faithful laborers, but also of the steady progress which the Word of God is making in the fulfillment of its mission of enlightenment.

One missionary writes joyfully of his visits to lumbering shanties on the Gattineau. Writing in English he says: "They received me splendidly; gave me a good tea and sat around (thirty-five) to listen. I had the *Witness* and *L'Aurore*, and read the news and something about temperance. Seeing they were interested, I took my Bible, and, sir, it was eleven o'clock when they went to bed. The Bible was triumphant. Had I tried to attack the errors of Rome they would have said we were mad. Let the Bible speak. Read about Jesus, his love for sinners, and they will hear you. May God do the rest. Going down to the village I met a man to whom I offered my books. 'I have good for him and those who are in it.' 'Stop,' said I, 'I am agent for a society that does not allow you to say lies against its books. Prove to me that you are a Christian, or else take back your words.' He replied that the priest had said that they spoke against the holy Virgin and the saints. I immediately opened my Bible and made him read a few verses. 'Oh,' cried he, 'that is the book the priest spoke of; he said it was nothing but a book of lies. I took the Bible, opened it at many places. (No doubt God guided me, for the words seemed all adapted to the circumstances.) I never was so happy when the man told me, 'I'll read that book from one end to the other. I'll pray for that man, for heaven is near him.'"

Another colleague writes: "This month I have been much encouraged—not so much in the matter of the Word of God, as in the work of evangelization. Thank the Lord, people are getting of a more enquiring mind; many who for fear of the priest will not accept the Book, are now open to conviction. He said, 'I was enabled to read and speak with many for hours. One man said to me, 'You Protestants are honest people, it is too bad that you have religion; for it is not a religion where there is nothing to do, no commandments, no penances, no purgatory nor nothing.' I tried to get him to understand what is the true religion of Christ. He appeared interested; but when I mentioned the holy Virgin Mary he said, 'What then do you make of the Church? Christ calls himself the door, and your neighbor here said that Peter was the door; how many doors have you? to whom shall you go?' I tried to speak of Christ as the door, and the man replied quite simply, 'He said, 'I have never seen through it so well.' 'It is clear,' he said, 'there cannot be so many doors; but why are we taught these things?' I spoke with him for hours; promising, at his request, to visit him again."

Another writes that he finds much to do among people of different nationalities, and that he is encouraged in his work, both in his visiting and in the meetings which he holds regularly on the Sabbath, and occasionally through the week. He says: "I found myself lately in a French-Canadian house where I had been able to gather a score of persons who lately were opposed to the Word of God, but who now, thanks to God, have to the truth, and are busy with much in visiting these people; they show me much affection."

Another missionary says: "I have collected on the south side of the Ottawa, where I have been for some time. A man to whom I gave the Bible said to me: 'It is impossible for a man who reads the Bible to remain a Roman Catholic. Since I commenced to read it my wife, her parents, and my brother have turned against me; and the next time I was at a church, I was denounced in his discourse as having lost faith in the holy religion.'"

Another writes as follows: "During the month I have disposed of two Bibles, eleven Testaments, and five hundred copies of the Bible. I have visited seven villages and traversed 320 miles of distance. I have entered into 275 houses, and have been put to the door eight times. I have been in meetings. God be praised, I have been well and happy. May the seed soon bear fruit."

LACROSSE FLOURISHES ON SCOTCH HEATH.

CALEDONIAN VS. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY—INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP—NEW CLUBS.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

GLASGOW, 14 Hamilton Drive, 10th March, 1877.

SIR,—Our season commenced last Saturday with an exhibition match on the Academical Ground, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh. My referring to our card you will see that the arranged match was our Club versus Edinburgh University. But the various circumstances which prevented a proper field for practice, the University Captain, Mr. C. W. Cathcart, was not able to get a wholly University team mustered; therefore, with our consent, he gathered together from amongst the students of the various clubs, notably Loretto, Craigmount, Cargillfield, Marchmont Castle and Academicals, a

