

MONTREAL WITNESS,

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XX.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1865

No 59.

TRIAL OF DR. PRITCHARD OF GLASGOW FOR WIFE MURDER.

This trial, the prospect of which had caused so much painful interest in Great Britain, has ended in the condemnation of the prisoner, and we propose giving our readers the most essential portions of the evidence.

The trial took place in Edinburgh, on Monday, the 15th of July instant, before the High Court of Justiciary, the charge being for the murder of his wife and mother-in-law by poisoning.

Catherine Graham, or Lattimer, formerly cook to Dr. Pritchard, related how that Mrs. Pritchard, the wife of the prisoner, took to her bed, complaining of vomiting. After some illness she somewhat recovered, and towards the end of November was again ailing. She was troubled with retching, and from that time sensibly declined, and took to her bed. No one cooked any food for her, except the witness, and another servant, Mary McLeod, generally carried it up to her. By the request of Mrs. Pritchard, Dr. Gairdner was sent for. She told him she had taken some chloroform, but did not blame the prisoner. She complained of thirst. Seeing the prisoner weeping she bade him not to cry, and added, "you are all hypocrites." She had another serious attack two or three days after this, and her mother [Mrs. Taylor] came. The latter was also taken sick with the same symptoms, but scarcely so bad. The witness afterwards left the house, but returned to it on Friday, when she saw Mrs. Taylor, and she, Mrs. T., was dead before the Saturday morning. Anything prepared in the kitchen was cooked either by the witness or by Mrs. Taylor after she came. She saw Dr. Pritchard, and he said, "We have a sad house to-day." Went on the 27th February and heard that Mrs. Taylor was dead, and that her body had been taken to Edinburgh. The next time she saw Mrs. Pritchard was Tuesday, February 28, coming out of her bedroom. Witness had been preparing some tapioca for Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Pritchard. That was a few days after Mrs. Taylor came.

Cross-examined by Mr. A. R. Clark.—The prisoner and his wife lived happily. I remember seeing Mrs. Pritchard after Mrs. Taylor's death. She said, "It was her own fault that she had not a nurse, for her husband wished her to have one."

Mary McLeod, housemaid in the service of Pritchard, was examined.—She was seventeen years of age. She gave a good deal of evidence corresponding with that of the previous witness. She also stated as follows: Before her death Mrs. Taylor sent me to purchase a bottle of Battey's solution. I saw the bottle, or one like it, after her death, in her bedroom. She was complaining the day before she died. She first said to me that she wanted to vomit but could not. The second time the bell rung she wanted warm water. She tried to vomit and she threw up a little water. When the bell rung the third time the doctor was up. Mrs. Taylor seemed insensible. Mrs. Pritchard had got up beside her mother. The prisoner was in the room, and we put Mrs. Taylor into bed without her clothes being taken off. Mrs. Pritchard herself was sick before her mother had gone up to the bedroom. It was after dinner on Sunday that she was sick. The dinner was sent up from the dining-room, roast beef and potatoes. It was the doctor who gave me the dinner. It was shortly before tea that Mrs. Pritchard became sick. Dr. Pritchard left the house on the Monday with Dr. Taylor and Mrs. Taylor. I don't remember if Mrs. Pritchard had breakfast before the doctor left. She was not sick that morning. She lived about three weeks after her mother.—She was ill sometimes twice a day, after breakfast generally, and sometimes after dinner. She generally vomited her breakfast. I remember getting a bit of new cheese from the doctor to give her one night. Dr. Pritchard gave it to me. I did not see him cut it. She asked me to taste it, and it tasted very hot. It produced a burning in my throat. I had never felt the same sensation before. Soon after taking the cheese I became thirsty. I remember getting some chamomile tea to take to Mrs. Pritchard. It was left by the doctor. Some time after the doctor poured out some for his wife. He said that was for Mrs. Pritchard. It was to be given to her when she wanted a drink. She vomited immediately after taking it. In the course of the week in which she died I got some egg-flip to give her from Mary Paterson, the girl who came to succeed Catherine as cook. I saw her taste it. When she had tasted it she said "What a taste it has!" I took the egg-flip to Mrs. Pritchard. The doctor was in the room.—Mrs. Pritchard took about a wineglassful. Mrs. Pritchard was sick very soon after she had taken the egg-flip. In the morning after Mary Paterson told me she was sick. In the course of the week Mrs. Pritchard died. I gave her some port-wine. I gave her more than one glassful. She had been sleeping in the spare bedroom. She pointed to the floor and said, "There is my poor mother dead again, take her into the bedroom." I called Mary Paterson, and we put her to bed. She did not become quiet. Mary Paterson began to rub her hands, and she asked us to rub her mother, and never mind her. Her hands appeared to be cramped. She became more quiet and sensible while we were there. The doctor was out. I don't know if she had anything to eat or drink. The doctor came home about seven o'clock, and after he came home Dr. Paterson was sent for. I was in the room while Dr. Paterson was there. I remained in the room during the night till she died on the morning of Saturday. The doctor was in bed with her when she died. I was lying on the sofa. I think the doctor had on his clothes. She complained of feeling very cold. I was told to go down stairs and get the mustard. I went down and got the mustard, and it was applied to Mrs. Pritchard's stomach. She seemed no better, and I was sent for another, and then went down for Mary Paterson, and at the time I returned, Mrs. Pritchard was dead. Mrs. Pritchard had seen the doctor using family arithmetics with me. She saw him kissing me to one of the bedrooms. I said I wanted to go away, and she said she would not let me. She said she would speak to the doctor, and that he was a very nasty, dirty man. The doctor or first used familiarities towards me shortly before. He got the better of me, and I became with

child to him. I told him, and he said he would put it all right. This was after Mrs. Taylor had seen me in the bedroom. I had a miscarriage in the autumn. The connection between the doctor and myself continued after I had a miscarriage. He spoke of marrying me before his wife turned ill. He gave me a ring, also a brooch very shortly before his wife's death. The same month that she died he gave me a photograph of himself. His photograph was in the locket when he gave it to me. There is not a photograph in it now—I tore it.

Dr. William T. Gairdner, Professor of Medicine in the University of Glasgow, deposed.—The night of the 8th and the morning of the 9th of February, I was told to come and see Mrs. Pritchard. I met Dr. Pritchard at the house. He told me what was the matter. He said she had been very sick, and her stomach was not able to bear any food. Prisoner spoke about spasms; then he said it was cataplexy. He mentioned to me that Dr. Cowan had ordered stimulants, and that his wife had had chloroform, but whether by Dr. Cowan's orders or not I don't know. I think he said she had had champagne. I had some other conversation with her. I found that she had been sick, but she was not sick when I saw her; she was in a state of extreme exhaustion. She had a pretty good pulse, and there was nothing indicating immediate danger. The most remarkable symptom was the violent state of excitement and the spasms in the hands. Her hands were in a very peculiar state. I think it was owing to my mentioning this that Dr. Pritchard used the word "cataplexy." The impression I formed was that she was intoxicated by the champagne and chloroform. I withdrew to the fire to warm my hands with the view to make an examination, and I had no sooner moved than she began to scream "Oh, you cruel man! you unfeeling man! don't leave me!" I returned and said I was not going to leave her. I did so. In the midst of this she was in a state of the most violent hysterical excitement. I came to the conclusion that she was not in a state to give evidence of her own previous history, and I gave the orders that I thought necessary, and left. I called again between one and two o'clock. I was very much puzzled to know what was the matter with her. I thought she was drunk, and I thought she was hysterical. I thought it was a case which would require serious, constant attention. I never saw Mrs. Pritchard again. I had to leave town in two days afterwards, and before doing so, I wrote a note to ascertain how Mrs. Pritchard was, and I received for answer that she was better. I wrote to Dr. Taylor, the brother of Mrs. Pritchard; I think, after my second visit. My reason for doing so was that I was puzzled, and that I thought the practice bad, and I wished to be aided by his assistance.

Dr. James Paterson, formerly professor of midwifery in the Andersonian Medical School, was then examined.—I remember being called to Dr. Pritchard's on the 24th of February. Dr. Pritchard told me that his mother-in-law, while in the act of writing a letter, had been taken ill, and had fallen off her chair. I think he said it would be about an hour or half an hour before I came. I asked if he could assign any reason. He said his mother-in-law and Mrs. Pritchard had been partaking of some bitter beer, and both complained that the beer was much more bitter than usual. He said they could not have taken more than a third of the pint each, as there was some remaining in the bottle. I could not think it possible that either Allsopp's or Bass's beer would produce such an effect. I asked him with regard to the previous state of his mother-in-law's health, and particularly as to her social habits, when by a particular insinuation, he led me to understand that she was in the habit of taking a drop occasionally. He stated also that Mrs. Pritchard had been very poorly a long time past with gastric fever, and that some days before he had telegraphed for his mother-in-law to come and attend her. I then went up stairs and I observed Mrs. Taylor lying on the edge of the bed on her right side. All her clothes were on, and she had all the appearance of a sudden seizure. Mrs. Pritchard, with her nightdress on with nothing on her head, and with her hair much dishevelled, was in the same bed, and sitting up immediately beyond her mother. On examining Mrs. Taylor my impression was that she had previously been in good health. There was not the slightest appearance of her being given to the use of spirits or intoxicating liquors. Her face was rather pale, but the expression was calm. The eyelids were partially closed; the lips rather livid; the breathing slow and laborious. On my opening her eyelids I found both pupils very much contracted. From these symptoms and her general appearance, my conviction was that she was under the influence of some powerful narcotic, and I at once pronounced that she was dying. On my doing so Dr. Pritchard said something, apparently unwilling that my opinion should be heard by the ladies. We retired a little and then I said distinctly that she was dying. Dr. Pritchard said that she had frequently had attacks of a similar kind, but never had one so severe. I afterwards went down stairs, accompanied by Pritchard, and we entered the consulting room. I repeated my opinion that she was in a state of narcotism. Pritchard then stated that the old lady was in the habit of regularly using Battey's Sedative Solution, that she had a few days ago purchased not less than a half-pound bottle and that it was very likely she might have taken a good "swig" of it. While attending to Mrs. Taylor I was very much struck with the appearance of Mrs. Pritchard. I could not banish the conviction that she was under the depressing influence of antimony. A little before 1 o'clock next morning there was a girl asking for me to come directly to Mrs. Taylor. I refused because I was certain that I could be of no service, and was much fatigued with the previous day's work. But I sent my compliments to Dr. Pritchard, saying that if he really thought I could be of use he was to send back word. On the 3rd of March I received a schedule from the registrar, in which I was requested to tell him the cause of Mrs. Taylor's death. I refused and sent the schedule back with a note directing his attention to the circumstances. I accidentally met the prisoner on the Wednesday after Mrs. Taylor's death. He said I had been very correct in my opinion with regard to his mother-

in-law; and added that he would feel obliged if I would visit Mrs. Pritchard next day. On the 2nd of March, I saw Mrs. Pritchard in bed. She was still very weak. She asked me if I really thought her mother was dying when I saw her. I said "most decidedly," and that I had told Pritchard so. She then clasped her hands, and freely exclaimed, "Good God, is it possible?" and burst into a flood of tears. I asked her the previous state of her mother's health. She told me her health was generally very good, but she suffered from neuralgic headache, and for relief took a little of Battey's Sedative Solution. I understood she was not in the habit of taking it. I then questioned her with regard to herself, and prescribed some stimulants. Dr. Pritchard called on me on the 17th of March, and requested me to visit Mrs. Pritchard. When I saw her I was struck by her terribly altered appearance. She caught my hand, and I could see a half smile of recognition. She began to mutter something about vomiting. Dr. Pritchard volunteered to say she had not been vomiting, and was only raving. She complained of great thirst. There was a peculiar wild expression in her face. The eyes were of a fiery red, sunk in the head; her cheeks hollow, sharp, and pinched, and much flushed. Her pulse weak and exceedingly rapid. Her tongue was of a darkish brown colour, very foul—very foul. She immediately began to grasp at me to catch some imaginary object. Pritchard said she had not slept for four or five days on nights. I then said we must endeavor to relieve her, and if possible procure refreshing sleep. I then prescribed. Next morning my bell was loudly rung, and a young woman requested me to come to Mrs. Pritchard; but in less than three minutes my door bell was again rung, and the servant girl said Mrs. Pritchard was dead.

In cross-examination, Dr. Paterson stated that it was his impression on seeing Mrs. Pritchard that she was poisoned, or being poisoned with antimony. He did not go back to see her, because she was not his patient. It was not his duty to do so.

You saw a person being poisoned with antimony and you did not think it your duty to interfere?—I did the best I could to prevent her being further injured by applying the registrar of the fact.

Did you tell Dr. Pritchard—I did not. You were surely under an obligation to go back again when you saw a person being poisoned by antimony?—I took what steps I could to prevent any further administration of the drug. I refused to certify the death of Mrs. Taylor, and if there had been a post mortem examination, I believe that the drugging with antimony would have gone no further. On the 2nd of March, I still believed her to be suffering under antimony, and prescribed accordingly. I saw her alone but did not mention antimony.—The treatment I prescribed, provided she got nothing else, was quite sufficient to have brought her round. I saw Dr. Pritchard who asked me to visit his wife. I did not mention to him what I thought. It would not have been a very safe matter to have done. She had her husband, who was a medical man, I had discharged my duty.

The dignity of your profession, then, prevented you?—The etiquette of the profession.

Being asked why it would not have been safe to communicate his suspicions to Dr. Pritchard, he said he would rather not answer that question. He also sent a certificate of his wife's death, and gave the following as the letter he had written to the registrar:—

"Dear Sir,—I am surprised that I am called on to certify the cause of death in this case. I only saw the person for a few minutes, and a very short period before her death. She seemed to be under some narcotic; but Dr. Pritchard, who was present from the first moment of the illness till death occurred, and which had been in his own house, may certify the cause. The death was certainly sudden, unexpected, and to me mysterious.

I rendered emphatic the words "the cause of death" by having them underlined.

The Lord Justice Clerk.—Your impression, when you first saw Mrs. Pritchard, and afterwards when you saw her on the 2nd of March, was that she was being poisoned with antimony. Do you mean you believe some person was engaged in administering antimony for the purpose of procuring her death?—Yes; but to me unknown.

Dr. James Moffat Cowan, Edinburgh.—I am a cousin of Mrs. Pritchard, and saw her on the 11th of February, not exactly as a medical man, but as an old friend. She at the time complained of feeling a desire for food, and yet could not retain it, and I proposed to administer beef-tea injections.

Cross-examined.—Dr. and Mrs. Pritchard lived exceedingly happily together, at least that was the case the last time I saw her. He was Mrs. Taylor's idol. Mrs. Taylor was of very temperate habits.

EDINBURGH, July 5th.—Evidence for the prosecution resumed.

John Campbell, apothecary, deposed to prisoner's purchase of several large quantities of tincture of aconite, tartarised antimony, and other poison. Identified several vials produced.

John Currie, chemist, spoke to having furnished the prisoner in February and March with several quantities of solution of morphia, tincture of aconite, and solution of strychnine.

Professor M'Lagan, Edinburgh, Professor Penny, Glasgow and other medical and chemical witnesses, were called to prove the reports of the post mortem examination and analysis of organs of the deceased ladies.

In Mrs. Pritchard's case Dr. M'Lagan and Dr. Littlejohn reported that the body presented no appearances of recent morbid action, and nothing at all capable of accounting for death.

Dr. M'Lagan in his chemical report stated that antimony had been found in all the organs examined, and that death must be ascribed to the action of antimony, which appeared to have been taken in repeated doses, and to have amounted to a large quantity.

Professor Penny also reported that all parts of the body examined by him contained antimony.

In the case of Mrs. Taylor, Dr. M'Lagan found that deceased had taken a considerable quantity of antimony in the form of tartar emetic evident-

ly in a succession of doses, and that her death must be ascribed to its action.

Prof Penny certified that antimony was found in all the organs.

Examined.—The Professor related a number of curious experiments on rabbits to which he administered Battey's Sedative Solution; also Battey mixed with aconite by himself, and Battey's Solution as contained in the bottle found in Mrs. Taylor's pocket, and in the contents of which he had detected aconite. He stated that with the pure Battey the animals recovered, while the animals treated with Battey mixed with aconite and with Battey found in deceased's pocket died after violent spasmodic symptoms, it being quite impossible to distinguish the effects in the two cases.

Dr. Littlejohn gave his opinion that Mrs. Pritchard's death was caused by aconite administered in small and continuous doses. He also concluded that Mrs. Taylor had been poisoned, but could less easily distinguish the poison.

Dr. Paterson, recalled, said the medical evidence confirmed his original impression, that the deceased suffered from chronic poisoning.

Witnesses were called to prove that prisoner's bank accounts were overdrawn by about £200. That he was insured for £500, and had received £225 of advances on the policies; that he had borrowed £500 from Mrs. Taylor, and that two-thirds of Mrs. Taylor's money was left to Mrs. Pritchard, or to him for the children in the event of her death.

Prisoner's declarations were then read. He denied the administration of antimony or other poison in either case. He attributed his wife's death to paralysis and apoplexy.

This closed the case for the Crown. The evidence for the defence established no material point in favor of the accused, and he was, therefore, convicted, and sentenced to death.

The Lord Justice Clerk, after referring to the great atrocity of the crimes laid to the prisoner's charge, and the singular means by which it was alleged he perpetrated these crimes, said there were three things of which the jury must be satisfied upon the evidence; first, that the deceased died by poison; second, that the poison was wilfully administered for the purpose of destroying life; and third, that it was the prisoner who so administered it or caused it to be so administered. Having gone over the medical evidence, he said the jury would consider whether it was possible to resist these conclusions:—That Mrs. Pritchard died from the action of antimony administered in large quantities; that Mrs. Taylor died from the action of antimony, either alone or in combination with the vegetable of aconite and opium. In the case of Mrs. Pritchard the evidence of the poison having been taken continuously for a period of months, excluded the possibility of either accident or suicide; and therefore, it seemed impossible to resist the conclusion that the poison must have been administered for the purpose of destroying her life.

The character of Mrs. Taylor, and her general condition of body and mind, was such as not to suggest the idea of suicide as a possibility, and whether she died through the influence of antimony, administered in several doses, as the chemical reports bore out, or whether death was brought about through swallowing some of the contents of the bottle of Battey's solution, it was very difficult to understand how her death could be accidental. The jury would consider whether they could resist the conclusion that the poison was wilfully given for the purpose of destroying life. The third question, which was one of vital interest, was whether the prisoner administered, or procured to be administered to either or both of the ladies, the poison by which their lives were destroyed. His lordship went minutely into the evidence, directing the attention of the jury to the fact, and characterizing it as a very remarkable circumstance, that whenever the prisoner had occasion to explain what he thought was the matter with his wife, he called it gastric fever, when all the symptoms indicated the very reverse of that disease. He also pointed out that the prisoner reported to the registrar that Mrs. Taylor had been under paralysis for twelve hours, which was an absolute falsehood, and that the disease which immediately preceded death was apoplexy, while the medical evidence had demonstrated that there was not a trace of apoplexy in the case. The jury would consider whether a professional man could, under the circumstances, be so far deceived as to believe she died of gastric fever. After noticing the evidence as to the poisoned cheese, the egg-flip, and the tapioca, his lordship said it appeared beyond a doubt that some one had been practising a system of poisoning, and that in possession of the prisoner were the agents to carry it on. If he understood the theory of the prisoner's counsel right, it was that Mary McLeod was the person who caused these murders, and that the jury must choose between her and the prisoner by balancing probabilities, but the prisoner's counsel did not seem sufficiently to advert to the possibility that both might be implicated, and if that was so, they could have very little doubt who was the master, and who set on the other; and he (the Lord Justice Clerk) did not desire the jury to take this theory. Was it conceivable that a girl sixteen or seventeen years old, in the position of a servant-maid, could have herself conceived or executed such a design, and if she had conceived it, could she have executed it subject to the vigilance of the husband of her victim, himself a medical man? That was very hard to believe. On the other hand, if the prisoner conceived and executed the design, it was not so difficult to believe that Mary McLeod may have been the perfectly unconscious and innocent instrument. If they were satisfied the murder was committed, the parties who had access to Mrs. Pritchard only could have done it; and the probability of the guilt was reduced to two. Of these two, one or other of them was guilty of the deed.

The jury returned in about an hour with a unanimous verdict of "guilty" of both charges. The Lord Justice Clerk then sentenced the prisoner to be executed on the 28th instant, and in passing sentence said that the verdict of the jury proceeded upon evidence which could leave no reasonable doubt on the minds of those by whom it was considered.

The prisoner, who had maintained great composure throughout the trial, seemed greatly affected when the verdict was pronounced, and leant slightly on the policeman who was sitting beside him; but while the sentence was being recorded he completely regained his composure, and after sentence was passed upon him he bowed to the judge and jury before leaving the dock.

PRINCIPAL GRAHAM'S ADDRESS ON EDUCATION, AT OTTAWA.

Mr. Principal Graham, of St. Francis College, Richmond, O. E., gave an interesting account of the Teachers' Associations and their workings in Lower Canada. There are three local associations,—that of the district of St. Francis—much the oldest—another in the district of Bedford, and the third in connection with the McGill Normal School. There are also the Jacques Cartier and Laval Normal School Teachers' Associations. By the hearty co-operation of the leading members of the three former, the Lower Canada Teachers' Association was formed a little more than a year ago, and held its first regular annual meeting at Sherbrooke in the month of June. At the session a delegation, consisting of O. Durkin, Esq., M. P., Prof. Robins, of the McGill Normal School, and the speaker, was appointed to represent that body at the forthcoming meetings of the Teachers' Association of Central and Western Canada.

A PROVINCIAL AND A N. A. ASSOCIATION.

It seemed to the Lower Canada Association that by an interchange of delegates a more intimate acquaintance, a more hearty co-operation, and a closer union might be formed among the members of the teaching profession in different parts of the Province, and that, therefore, ere long it would seem advisable to form a Teachers' Association embracing the whole of Canada. (Applause.) And it is also thought that in due time, among the possibilities of the future, there may be brought into effective existence an association embracing the whole of British North America. (Great applause.) Such hopes may be more confidently entertained from the success of similar national associations in the mother country and in the United States.

THE CO-OPERATION OF THE THREE ESTATES.

The speaker next made several excellent practical suggestions in regard to the manner of conducting Teachers' associations, emphatically expressing the great desideratum of securing, if possible, the co-operation of the three great classes in the profession,—the schoolmasters, the teachers of the Grammar Schools, and the Professors and Lecturers in the Colleges and Universities. A prize of \$30, (thirty), which was given last year by the Hon., the Minister of Finance, through the officers of the St. Francis Association, for the best essay on common schools, was carried off by a lady,—one of the best teachers in the St. Francis District. (Great applause.)

THE PROFESSIONAL STATUS OF THE TEACHER, AND HOW TO SECURE IT.

Teachers must presently, but a fairly, demand similar rights and privileges as are accorded to the other professions. (Applause.) To whom does the Government entrust the examination and licensing of candidates to the practice of Medicine? To a College or Council of eminent Physicians. To whom is certified the examination and authorization of gentlemen to practise law? To a legally constituted board of lawyers. To whom is given the power of rejecting or granting permission to individuals to act as Notaries Public, Surveyors, &c.? To a body of Notaries, Surveyors, &c. And to whom should the examination and licensing of teachers be entrusted? Why, clearly to a legally constituted body of eminent practical teachers. (Great applause.)

THE OFFICES OF THE TEACHER NOW MONOPOLIZED BY POLITICIANS AND ECCLESIASTICS.

Boards of Examiners and Councils of Public Instruction should be composed chiefly, if not wholly, of instructors distinguished in their profession. Too long have the official positions of honor and emolument in the administration of educational affairs, been withheld from teachers and given for the most part, to ecclesiastics and politicians. (Heard, heard.) These non-professional gentlemen, however good, cannot expect, and some of them do not desire, this state of things to continue. In no other profession would it be tolerated.

OTTAWA AND UPPER CANADA.

The lecturer then made an earnest appeal to the people of Ottawa, educationally, to prove themselves worthy of their great prospective future; he spoke most highly of the efforts of Dr. Ryerson in bringing into existence and developing the admirable public school system of Upper Canada; and resumed his own amid loud applause. Thanks were voted to Principal Graham for his admirable lecture.

DUNKIN'S BILL IN LUHER, WELLINGTON COUNTY.

Many parts of Luther are settled by an intelligent and industrious class of people. In one part they are a step in advance of many of the new townships. In some of the settlements no spirituous liquors are used at their raisings and logging bees; and those who do use them are disconcerted by the thinking portion of the people. The former temperate habits of the people will now be strengthened by the passing of Dunkin's Bill which was accomplished in a manner a little different from the usual mode.—Instead of getting a majority of votes at the poll, the township was canvassed, and a majority of the voters' signatures obtained to a petition praying the council to adopt Dunkin's bill, which they of course granted. By this mode the voters are tested at home, in their right mind, and under the influence of their families, whose interest is at stake in the decision. They are also free from the pernicious influence exerted over them during the polling through drink and otherwise. The influence thus exerted is so great that when the publicans have only a majority of 40 or 50, the true and unbiassed voice of the people may be considered as in favor of Dunkin's bill.

[Will our benevolent politicians make a note of this plan? Ed.]

Contemporary Press.

LORD BROUGHAM ON LEGAL REFORMS.

On Saturday, June 24, the annual dinner of the Social Science Association, with which is incorporated the Society for the Amendment of the Law, took place at the Salp Tavern, Greenwich. Lord Brougham presided, and referred to the influence the incorporated Society had had in the legislation of the present session so far as it was connected with legal reform. The present session had, he said, been fruitful of important law reforms. There was, for instance, the measure which had been passed for the concentration of the courts of law in one locality, and this he considered a step which was evidently calculated to lead to improvement in the administration of justice. A second measure was that of the extension of equitable jurisdiction to county courts, a measure which had been long called for, and which he considered as the necessary complement of the establishment of those useful courts.

A third improvement had been made for reforming, to a certain extent, the municipal institutions of the country. The Social Science Association, and the Society with which it was now connected, had been at all times consistent friends of progress, and they were both in favor of progress at a time when their efforts in that direction created alarm in the minds of some, and led to the resistance of not a few; but, in the face of the fears of the one and the interested views of others, the societies had uniformly given their support to every reasonable measure of progress. Their mission in that respect was predicted by a great poet, of two centuries ago, who said:

"To draw forth good, lend struggling progress wings."

These are imperial acts, and worthy kings." The progress to which they had to lend wings was not that of reckless, extravagant theories, of which persons who do not thoroughly understand, were too often the clamorous advocates. Among the changes during the present session, at which he expressed his gratification, was that made for the conduct of the great mass of private business which now came before both Houses of Parliament, and which had, he believed, been productive of considerable good. Some years since, when the Duke of Wellington was in office, a plan was proposed which, if adopted, would have been of very great value. The Duke requested him (Lord Brougham) to propose such a change in the standing orders of both Houses as would admit of the appointment of a joint-committee of twelve, five Lords and seven Commons, to hear a report upon all matters of private legislation. He stated to the Duke that there would not be the slightest chance of such a measure being agreed to, but he was encouraged to make the trial, the Duke of Wellington saying that they could only be beaten, and if they were they could fall back upon some other plan. The result was as he (Lord Brougham) had anticipated; the plan was rejected, and another, though not so good as that which was first proposed, but which was still an improvement upon the then existing system, was adopted. He was still of opinion that the adoption of the plan of a joint-committee would be of great service, and would obviate great loss of time, save wasteful expenditure, and the labor and anxiety to the promoters of being, as they were now, compelled to appear before two separate committees upon the same matters of fact. The improvement of the mode of proceeding in respect to private bill legislation was a subject well worthy the attention of the Society for the improvement of the law.

THE LAST DAYS OF PARLIAMENT.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR AND HIS ACCUSERS.

The last scene in the present House of Commons, which was enacted on Monday evening, was one which will ever be remembered with regret by those who had the fortune to witness it. The occasion was happily a rare one,—no less than the virtual impeachment of the Lord Chancellor, the highest functionary of the law, and the third person in point of rank in the realm. It has been the boast of this country that her judges are above suspicion, and that purity was their characteristic. But this feeling had been rudely shaken since the present Lord Chancellor came into office. Early in the Session the public mind was shocked by the revelations in the Edmunds case. As most persons are aware, a committee was appointed by the House of Lords and the House of Commons to consider allegations made against the Lord Chancellor, that he had forced Mr. Edmunds to resign his office of reading clerk and clerk of committees in the House of Lords by threatening to expose certain mal-practices of his, but offering, if he resigned, to procure for him a pension; and when a vacancy in the office had thus been created, filling it up by the appointment of his own son. In that case the gravamen of the charge was, that he kept back from the House his knowledge of Mr. Edmunds's mal-practices, and recommended him to a pension which ought not to have been granted, and both committees censured him for so doing. The Lord Chancellor, however, kept his post, which he was the more easily enabled to do, because Mr. Edmunds, his accuser, by no means came out of the matter with clean hands. Subsequently, however, another case similar in some of its characteristics, was brought forward, the charge being that he had forced Mr. Wilde, the registrar of the Leeds Bankruptcy Court, to resign, in order to put in Mr. Welch, a nominee of his son's, the mode of creating the vacancy being pretty much the same as in the Edmunds case. In the Wilde case, however, it was proved that Mr. Welch paid Mr. Bethell £1,050 in order to secure his influence with his father, and that Mr. Bethell did recommend him for the appointment. The committee refrained from imputing personal corruption to the Chancellor, but, short of that, they severely condemned his conduct. Of course the opportunity of attacking so high an official, and thereby indirectly damaging the Government, was not to be lost by the Opposition on the eve of a general election. Accordingly on Friday evening Mr. Hunt, the Member for Northampton, gave notice of a motion, which may be shortly described as a strong vote of censure on the Lord Chancellor; and when the House met on Monday the opposition mustered in strong force, and it was evident that they had set their hearts on carrying that motion. Mr. Hunt introduced it, marshalling the facts skillfully; and his speech told with great effect. The Lord Advocate, who followed, of course defended the Chan-

cellor, but, apparently despairing of being able to persuade the House to negative the motion, he moved an amendment which took the sting out of it, and acquitted the Chancellor of all but of the matter except that of haste and oversight in the matter of the granting of pensions to the holders of leading offices. This amendment, however, was not acceptable, and Mr. Bouverie moved another, which was almost as severe as the motion, inasmuch as it declared that "the conduct of the Lord Chancellor in sanctioning the granting of retiring pensions to public officers against whom charges had been made, was calculated to discredit the administration of his great office." From the moment this amendment was moved, coming as it did from the Ministerial side of the House, it was evident the Lord Chancellor was doomed. Mr. Hunt accepted it at once in lieu of his motion, and Mr. Henley, who said he could not have voted for the first part of the motion, said he could vote for the amendment. The House was then addressed by the Attorney-General, who in a vehement speech defended his chief, but, the feeling evidently against him, Lord Palmerston, with the view no doubt of averting the impending blow on his colleague, moved the adjournment of the debate, but this the Opposition refused to accede to, and a division being taken, they negatived the motion by 177 to 163; whereupon Lord Palmerston, taking that as an indication of the opinion of the House, said he would not trouble it to divide again, and the result was that the Lord Advocate's amendment was negatived, and Mr. Bouverie's carried, and an end was thus put to the official career of a man of unquestionable ability, and who, whatever may be said against him, has done much to simplify and amend the law.—*Christian World*, 7th July.

ROMISH LOTTERIES.

One of the principal agencies by which the Romish Church endeavors to promote its own aggrandizement at present is a system of lotteries. To build a Chapel, endow an orphanage or a fraternity of monks, or to carry out any other scheme requiring funds, a lottery is set on foot, and money prizes and other tempting baits are offered, in the way of bank notes, jewellery, carriages, cases of champagne, masses for the dead or living, &c., to entice the unwary who may have a sixpence or a shilling to spare. This system has become a perfect nuisance. Thousands and hundreds of thousands of tickets are sent by post all over the country, and they are forwarded not only to the members of the Church of Rome, but to persons who are most hostile to the superstitious and degrading dogmas of Romanism. Wise governments have put down this species of gambling, and since 1826 lotteries have been illegal in the United Kingdom, in consequence of the pernicious influence they were found to exercise upon the character of those concerned in them; yet still they are maintained by the emissaries of Rome, and not only the Ultramontane Press, but even some Protestant journals, occasionally contain advertisements announcing that a drawing will take place at such a date under the auspices of some Brotherhood or Order,—which is, perhaps, equally illegal,—when a number of valuable prizes will be distributed. Now why, we ask, does the Government tolerate a system like this, which is undermining the morals and disturbing the sober and industrious habits of the community? In France, where the lottery traffic was formerly carried on to excess, the humbler classes were impoverished by this kind of gambling, and it was estimated that, at Paris, the result was for several years more than one hundred suicides annually. It is this unlawful and demoralizing system that the Church of Rome now employs as its favorite agency for levying contributions from the public in these kingdoms. The practice of extorting pence, and sixpences weekly from the poor by the house to house visitation of its employes has not been abandoned, but it is found too tedious a mode of getting in the supplies for the erection of those grand and costly cathedrals that are lifting their heads throughout the country, and now lotteries are the great resource, and a spirit of gambling is fostered among the population, with the view of filling the coffers of "Mother Church."—a spirit most inimical to the growth of real religion. The Government ought at once to suppress this immoral system, unless they are determined to allow a complete immunity to those who profess the Romish faith, no matter how egregiously they infringe the laws. They have permitted Roman Catholic ecclesiastics and laymen to violate with impunity the Anti-Procession and Party Emblems Acts. They have suffered the Romish hierarchy to assume territorial titles, in defiance of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. They have allowed Jesuits and friars of all orders, "black, white, and gray," to settle and take up their abode wherever they thought proper, and to proselytize and kidnap to the utmost, whilst the Emancipation Act of 1829 contemplated and provided for the utter extinction of those orders; and now they connive at a practice from which the British Legislature withdrew its sanction in 1826, whilst Protestants are dragged before the tribunals of criminal justice if they venture to celebrate in public the anniversary of the battle of the Boyne, an event to which her Majesty Queen Victoria is indebted for her throne!—*Londonderry Guardian*.

PAPAL ENCROACHMENTS ON OUR PROTESTANT TOWNSHIPS.—THE PARISH OF SAINT HEDWIG.

The *Canada Gazette* of the 8th of July, 1865, contains a proclamation signed by Lord Monck, and Hector L. Langevin, Solicitor General, proclaiming "all that part of the Township of Clifton, in the County of Compton, in the district of St. Francis, forming an extent of territory of about seven miles in front, by about seven miles in depth, bounded as follows, that is to say, to the north by the lots Nos. 18 in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th ranges of the Township of Clifton, to the east by the fourth range of the said Township, to the south by the Townships of Hereford and Barford, and to the west by the Township of Compton" to be the Parish of Saint Hedwig, "and we have erected and declared the said Parish of St. Hedwig to be a parish for all civil purposes."

Very few of our township people know what a parish is, the mode in which one is constructed, and its operations.

By the 18th chapter of the Consolidated Statutes of Lower Canada, the Roman Catholic Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, in whose Diocese we have the happiness to dwell, shall on the presentation to him of a petition of a majority of the inhabitants interested in the erection of a parish, proceed according to the "Ecclesiastical Law, and the practice of the diocese, to the final decree for the canonical erection of the Parish." We have in blisful ignorance existed in the belief that we were not subject to Ecclesiastical Law. The Bishop, in accordance with the Ecclesiastical Law, which all are presumed to know, renders his decree,—and an Ecclesiastical Parish is in existence. Ten of the petitioners then apply to the commissioners, who report to the Governor, and the Governor then proclaims it a Parish for civil purposes. Trustees, a body politic and corporate with perpetual existence, under the style of "The trustees of the Parish of—" are elected. They make an assessment on all the lands situated in the Parish; they appoint parties designated "Agents of the Parish of—" to collect their taxes and bring suits. The Parish has now arrived at maturity; it is vested with, and exercises, great powers, and is not amenable to the civil authority. "The amount of any assessment on any land to defray the expenses of the construction or repair of any Church, Sacristy, Parsonage-house, or church yard, shall be the first charge on such land, and the first privileged debt which shall affect and bind the said land, without its being necessary to re-enregister the act of assessment in any Registry Office."

The Act declares Protestants not liable to be assessed or taxed for the purposes of the Act. We object to the establishment by the civil government of any territorial limits to congregations, or to parties of a peculiar faith or of opinions. Our divisions of Townships, lots, and ranges, are admirable for description in conveyance, legal sales, and registration. We have known no other. For the future our subscribers in Clifton will be legally designated as of the Parish of St. Hedwig, and our friend reading a notice in the *Canada Gazette*, "that a piece of land in the Parish of St. Hedwig, bounded on one side by John Baptiste, and the other by Peter Smith, containing 200 acres," is to be sold by the Sheriff, may when the purchaser takes possession, discover that his own lot No. 9, in the 9th range of Clifton, was thus properly described.

We protest against a State Church in Canada. It is not right for one Church to have special powers and privileges. We should be opposed to such powers being conferred on any or on all of the Protestant Churches.

Let us fancy for a moment the Roman Catholic, the Episcopal Church, the Congregational Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, and other Churches, having and exercising the power of assessment on the lands of their members, and that this assessment once made should be the first mortgage without registration. A party desirous of purchasing land, or lending money on it, would have to search first the Registry Office, and then all the churches to ascertain that the land was free from assessment not only against the present holder but all his predecessors for thirty years!

Protestants, it is said, are not affected by these powers conferred on the Roman Catholic Church. Special privileges are always at the expense of the community. The parish assessment is the first mortgage on the land, not only against the claims of Roman Catholics, but against Protestants also. In our dealings with each other when we desire to buy a farm, to sell land, to give credit, or to lend money on real estate security, to any one, the first question must be, are you a Roman Catholic? If the answer be in the affirmative, we must, if we wish to buy, ascertain from the priest that it is free from assessment. Are we disposed to sell land to him on credit? we may expect an assessment to-morrow will defeat our claim.

This is no imaginary case. We know of a party giving a Roman Catholic a promise of sale. Soon after an assessment, equal nearly in value to it was laid on the land. The tenant not carrying out the promise to pay, the original owner, a Protestant, on re-entering into possession, recovered his land subject, nevertheless, to a privileged claim of some £30.

The much abused tythe system which was commuted and done away with in Ireland, and is becoming obsolete in the Old World, is extending into the Townships. Disliked by the people of the Seigneuries where it has been in force since the first settlements, it has now, we fear, been introduced into our midst. Some lawyers held that the Parish System and Tythes could not be enforced in the Townships. The one has come, and we fear the other also.

This subject was brought before the Compton County Council several months since, and a petition was forwarded to the Legislature for an investigation, but we have never learned that it produced any effect. We would suggest that every Township and County Council in the Eastern Townships should thoroughly investigate this matter and petition the legislature against the wrong which is being done to the Protestants as well as to Roman Catholics; for all classes suffer from the evil complained of. Before we are scarcely aware of it our townships may be metamorphosed into Parishes and become subject to tythes and secret mortgages.—*Sherbrooke Gazette*.

[We have several times called attention to the gradual encroachment of the parish system in the most insidious way upon the townships, but we did not know before reading the above very able article, all the mischief it was doing. What does the Hon. George Brown and the *Globe* say to this system? What do Mr. McDougall and Mr. Galt think of it? What the Hon. John A. Macdonald himself? We heard, not long ago, a Satchman from the townships express such disgust at the state of things there, that he said fortifications were of no use. In the event of a war, there would, he believed, be more in favor of the States than against them. And such feelings naturally result from the crafty, over-bearing policy of Rome in Lower Canada. No wonder the French Canadians flee from such burdens. If this system go on under British rule, how can those who seek a change be badly blamed. The best way to resist annexation, is to resist all evil measures, and especially encroachments upon religious liberty in Canada.—*Ed. W. R.*]

—The sale of naval vessels at New York, last week, netted the government \$100,000 more than the vessels were appraised at. Another large sale will be made at Philadelphia during the first week in August. The aggregate amount received from sales of vessels to date is about \$1,250,000.

THE DECISION OF THE CONVENTION.

The Detroit Convention has arrived at a unanimous conclusion on the question of Reciprocity. Yesterday it adopted the report of the Committee recommending the Government at Washington to enter into a new treaty of reciprocal free trade with the British Provinces. The doubt and hesitation expressed by delegates, both in public and private, seem to have been swept away as the debate progressed to an end. The few who perhaps still dissented in their hearts did not venture to divide the Convention upon the report, and it was passed unanimously amidst the most enthusiastic cheering. We congratulate all interested in the Reciprocity Treaty upon this result. We congratulate the American members of the Convention and the constituencies they represent, upon the just and fair decision which has been arrived at. We find in it fresh proof of the kindly and liberal disposition of the American people towards the inhabitants of these Provinces, and rejoice at the cordiality with which our delegates were met by the great mass of their colleagues in Detroit. The narrow and unstatesmanlike idea of refusing to trade on fair terms with Canada, in order that the owners of a few thousand acres of pine land in Michigan and Maine might obtain a monopoly, had no weight in the Convention. The plea that the Canadians were foes, to be met, not with open ports and outstretched hands, but with frowning barriers and bitter words, was rejected by men who are intimately acquainted with the people of Canada, and therefore aware of the falsity of the foundation upon which it was attempted to raise a pyramid of injustice. Equally futile was the attempt of Mr. Consul Potter to induce his countrymen to enter upon a system of ungenerous and unwise compression of Canadians, to drive them into a betrayal of their allegiance. These, and other objections to Reciprocity, the Convention rejected, and declared unanimously their decided desire for a renewal of the Treaty on a fair basis.

CLOSING PROCEEDINGS.

Votes of thanks were then hurriedly passed and some gentlemen who had prepared speeches and had not got them fired off, received permission from the Convention to hand in their speeches to be printed with the proceedings, the publication of which, by collection of newspaper reports and the addition of manuscripts, has been undertaken by the Detroit Board of Trade. A similar privilege was extended to one or two committees which had not got their reports ready for presentation.

The President, Gen. Wallbridge, then delivered a short parting speech, in the course of which he took his revenge on the late Vice-President of the United States, for some sharp words uttered on more than one occasion during the Convention, by claiming that his decisions in the chair would be approved by practical men, whether they were in accordance or not with the rules insisted on by decaying politicians. The Maine gentleman, however, who was evidently referred to, is just the hard knot that he was described to be the other day by Mr. Malcolm Cameron, and I dare say will give the General some day full "tit for tat."

The President having finished his remarks, the Convention, at 2 o'clock, adjourned sine die, breaking up with three cheers for President Johnson and Queen Victoria.

The British American delegates assembled at 3 p.m. in the parlour of the Russell House. Resolutions of thanks to their chairman, Hon. Mr. Ryan, and to Mr. Howe, for his able advocacy of British American interests, and to the Secretaries, were passed by acclamation. A resolution was also passed in favor of the establishment of a Provincial Board of Trade.—*Globe*, 15th.

SUBSTANTIAL PROTECTION FOR THE FREEDMEN.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, July 12, 1865.—The following important Circular of Instructions to Assistant-Commissioners and other officers was to-day issued by Major-Gen. Howard of the Freedmen's Bureau:

The Assistant Commissioner will be careful in the establishment of sub-districts to have the office of his agent at some point easy of access for the people of the sub-district. He will have at least one agent, either a citizen, military officer, or enlisted man in each sub-district. This agent must be thoroughly instructed in his duty. He will be furnished with the proper blanks for contracts, and will institute methods adequate to meet the wants of his district, in accordance with the rule of the bureau. No fixed rates of wages will be prescribed for a district; but, in order to regulate fair wages in given individual cases, the agent should have minimum rates for his own guidance. By careful inquiry as to the hire of an able-bodied man, when the pay went to the master, he will have an approximate test of the value of labor. He must, of course, consider the entire change of circumstances, and be sure that the laborer has due protection against avarice and extortion. Wages had better be secured by a lien on the crops or land. Employers are desired to enter into written agreements with employes setting forth stated wages, or securing an interest in the crop or land, or both. All such agreements will be approved by the nearest agent, and a duplicate filed in his office. In case there should be no agent within reach the nearest postmaster will forward the duplicate of contracts direct to the Assistant Commissioner for the State.

Attention is specially called to section four of the law establishing the bureau, with regard to setting apart land to every male citizen, whether refugee or freedman, &c., and the same arrangement is recommended when it can be effected between private parties. Already many farmers have rented lands to Freedmen and Refugees. This course is a recognition of the general principle in the law. In order to enforce the fulfillments of contracts on both contracting parties, the commissioner of the bureau lays down no general rule; the Assistant-Commissioner must use the privileges and authority he already has. Provoct courts, military commissions, local courts, where the freedmen and refugees have equal rights with the people, are open to his use. In the great majority of cases, his own arbitration or that of his agents, or the settlement by referees, will be sufficient. No Assistant-Commissioner or Agent is authorized to tolerate compulsory, unpaid labor, except for the legal punishment of crime. Suffering may result to some extent, but suffering is preferred to slavery, and is, to some degree, the necessary consequence of events. In all actions the officer should never forget that no substitute for slavery, like apprenticeship, without proper consent, or peonage, as either holding the people by debt, or confining them

without consent to the land by any system, will be tolerated.

The Assistant Commissioner will designate one or more of his agents to act as the General Superintendent of Schools—one for each State—for refugees and freedmen. This officer will work as much as possible in conjunction with State officers who may have school matters in charge. If a general system can be adopted for a State it is well, but if not he will at least take cognizance of all that is being done to educate refugees and freedmen, secure proper protection to schools and to teachers, promote method and efficiency, correspond with the benevolent agencies which are supplying his field, and aid the Assistant Commissioner in making his required reports.

AN IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

Having spent the time allotted to him by the Foreign Committee, in gaining information concerning the present state of religious affairs in Mexico, the Rev. Dr. Nicholson has returned to New York, and a long and interesting report from him appears in the *Spirit of Missions* for July.

From this report we learn that Dr. Nicholson's journeys to and fro, in that troubled country, were attended with considerable danger, as the highways are infested with armed bands of desperadoes. On two occasions the party with which he travelled, was attacked by these banditti, and he was deprived of his extra clothing, watch, purse, and valuable papers.

Notwithstanding these and other drawbacks, Dr. Nicholson succeeded in visiting Vera Cruz, Cordova, Orizaba, Puebla, the city of Mexico, and various other places of less note; in, and near which, he found friends who were eager to hear the Word of God, and take part in the services of our church in the Spanish language. These services were uniformly held in the grand *salas*, or great rooms, of the houses of these friends; and these rooms were crowded, and his efforts were rewarded by the listful and pleased attention of all present. They were surprised and delighted with our service, and at the conclusion they uttered such expressions as "What a beautiful service!" "Oh, how unlike the mockery of the mass!" "Who could have framed such services?" "Was this book gotten up especially for Mexico?" &c.

In the city of Mexico Dr. Nicholson had interviews with a large circle of influential and intelligent Mexicans, who evinced a lively interest in his mission, and to whose kindly cooperation he is largely indebted for the success which has crowned his efforts.

Here he received as a member of the "Catholic Apostolic Society of Mexico," one of the "Reforming Priests," a man of considerable ability, and one who in breaking away from Rome, gave up a good living. The Society here referred to, was instituted in New Mexico, and Chihuahua, in 1853, by the Rev. Dr. Nicholson and some members of the reforming party in the Mexican Church. The aim of the Society is to put the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer in every Mexican household, and to labor for a reformation of the Mexican Church on the principles of the English Reformation. The Society has continued to increase in numbers and influence.—*Episcopal Recorder*.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

A convention of friends of the Temperance cause, to which all Temperance organizations and all Christian churches have been invited to send delegates, is to be held at Saratoga Springs on Tuesday, the first day of August, at 11 o'clock a.m. The call is signed by a committee of eminent friends of the cause, Rev. J. W. Chickerling, D.D., being chairman, and Rev. J. B. Merwin, secretary. Among the signatures we observe also the names of Rev. T. L. Cuyler, Wm. E. Dodge, and the Rev. Dr. Mearns. We copy a portion of the call:—

"Saved, through the horrors of war, whose dark clouds are rolling away, from destruction by slavery—now itself dying by suicide—is not the country, which our fathers' God has thus preserved and blessed, endangered by another evil—impelled by another sin?"

"Is not this a time for repentance and reformation? Has not Temperance cast a deeper shadow over the dark scenes of war? Does it not imperil thousands of our brave returning defenders, whom shot and shell and fever have spared?"

"Strong drink is still raging. Wine, still a mocker, is deceiving many who might be wise. Intemperance is casting down many wounded, tormenting and slaying its hundreds of thousands of captives, with a barbarism rivaling, if it cannot reach the atrocities of the slave-mart and the soldier-prison; invading the church and the ministry; corrupting the young; diminishing the national resources, both pecuniary and industrial, and retarding the progress of Christ's Gospel, which comes to bless the land and the world with light and love, purity and piety, happiness here and salvation hereafter."

"Shall we not come together, as friends in council, a solemn assembly, a holy convocation, to review the past, re-affirm the simple scriptural principles on which the original temperance reformation was based, and re-inaugurate, by the blessing of him who holds in his hands the hearts of men, the efforts and successes of former days?"

The National Council of Congregational Churches appointed six delegates to this convention; viz. Gov. Wm. A. Buckingham, of Connecticut; Hon. C. G. Hammond, of Illinois; Rev. J. P. Thomson, D.D., of New York; Hon. E. D. Holton, of Wisconsin; C. A. Stackpole, Esq., of Maine; Rev. H. M. Dexter, of Boston.—*N. Y. Independent*.

[The above meeting will be a sort of general Council of the friends of Temperance, to consider what the present state of the cause and of the times requires. It will be a very important occasion, and we trust Canada will be well represented.—*Ed. W. R.*]

—No rain has fallen in portions of Eastern Mississippi since the 1st of May. The crops will be very short, and especially the corn crop.

—England is not, it appears, to have a monopoly of railway accidents of a serious character. A very grave one is reported from India, where two trains—one loaded with soldiers and the other a luggage train—came into collision. The drivers and stokers of both trains were killed, and the troops a good deal shaken. The conductors began to dispute as to who was in fault, and while the argument was going on a third train came up and ran into the tails of troops, of whom fifteen were killed and one hundred and fifty wounded.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

CLEVELAND, 19th.—Gov. Brough passed an uncomfortable night. He had a severe hemorrhage from a wound in his foot; but is now easier, although much prostrated. Surgeon-General Barr is in attendance.

WASHINGTON, July 19th.—Despatches state that President Johnson has expressed a determination that the laws passed by the Tennessee legislature shall be obeyed, and that all illegal voters in the approaching election shall be kept from the polls.

Governor Johnson, of Georgia, addressed a large audience at Atlanta on Monday. He speaks at Macon to-day; from thence he will go to Milledgeville and enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

The rebel General Cheatham arrived in this city yesterday.

New York, July 19.—The bulls are in a close quarter and are glad to sell out at what they paid; demand for customs very active, and speculative transactions merely nominal. Quotations opened at 143½ and closed at 143.

New York, July 19.—The steamer "Novada" brings Savannah dates of the 15th. The *Herald* publishes an order of Gen. Steadman, on taking command of the department of Georgia. Gen. Brannon is made commander of the district of Savannah.

Mr. Tranholm, rebel secretary of the Treasury, was remanded to Fort Pulaski on the 14th. He had been permitted to visit Hilton Head and Charleston under parole, and without guards.

New York, July 20.—The *Times*' Washington special has the following:—Secretary McCulloch announces that the shipments of arms, ammunition, grey uniforms, and grey cloth, may be made hereafter to and within the State of Tennessee.

Gov. Murphy, of Arkansas, has informed the President that he will not, hereafter, recommend persons for pardon who participated in the rebellion, owing to the demonstrations such made on the 4th of July. He is satisfied they ought to be kept on long probation.

A special to the *Tribune*, dated Washington, 19th, says, Gen. Forrest, W. B. Brook, of Mississippi, and M. H. Bloodgood, of England, applied for pardon yesterday.

A special to the *Herald*, dated Washington, 19th, says, a spirited contest is going on for naval officer of New York. Mr. Odell is strongly urged, while the friends of Mr. Dinwiddie are active to keep him in.

There are but forty-two and one-half millions dollars remaining of the last series of the 7.30 loan.

Government intends to reduce the army to 100,000,—if not 50,000.

Advices from the Indian country are favorable to an early consummation of amicable relations with the tribes in the south-western agency.

New York, 20th.—The *World's* correspondence from Alabama says, there is a deplorable state of society in the capital of that State, resulting from the lax administration of affairs by Gen. Smith. There are fears of a general negro insurrection. There is a complete and terrible desolation in the country.

The *Herald's* Washington special says the few remaining regiments in the 2nd division of the 9th army corps were discharged from the service yesterday. Gen. G. Griffin, commanding the division, and his staff left for their homes. The work of sending off regiments and detachments of veterans to be mustered out is still steadily progressing under the superintendence of the officers of Maj.-Gen. Angers department.

The number of returning soldiers received, fed, and forwarded to their homes from Capt. Camp's Soldiers' Rest at the depot was 3500. The last of the old army of the Potomac except Wilcox's division of the 9th corps will start home to be mustered out of service.

Wilcox's Division will remain here to perform garrison duty until relieved by one-year men now on their way from the Shenandoah Valley.

New York, July 19th.—The U. S. steamer "Sebege," Lieut. D. B. Harmony commanding, arrived from a nineteen months' cruise in the Gulf of Mexico. She took part in the battle of Mobile Bay, and in the subsequent bombardment of Fort Morgan, and in the latter naval operations against the city of Mobile.

ALBANY, 20th.—The directors of the N. Y. Central R. Co. to-day declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent., free from income tax, payable 1st August.

New York, July 20.—Private despatches from San Francisco mention the death of Bishop A. Potter, Bishop of Pennsylvania, on the 4th inst.

New York, 20th.—The *Commercial's* Washington special says the report that the reward for Booth has been handed to Colonel Baker is untrue.

The *Post's* special says the first through train to Richmond since the war broke out left today via Manassas and Gordonsville.

New York, 20th.—The following is an extract from a letter from Capt. A. Bocard, commanding the mail steamer "Lafayette," to Mr. George McKenzie, agent of the General Transatlantic Company at New York:—

"Tuesday, June 27, at 4.40 p.m., about lat. 42.16, long. 52.21, fell in with two boats of the ship 'Wm. Nelson,' burned at sea, and took from them 24 male and 6 female passengers, including the captain of the ill-fated ship. I obtained from him the following statement: I was in command of the ship 'Wm. Nelson,' 1,039 tons, with a crew of 30 men. I left Antwerp on the 2nd day of June, and Flesingen on the 4th, with 600 tons of merchandise and 450 emigrant passengers for New York. On Saturday, June 26th, at 12.30, lat. 41.21, long. 50.22, having just taken observation, I was informed that the ship was set on fire while tacking, and the flames spread so rapidly that I had only time to order the 4 boats to be lowered, which were immediately filled by those nearest, and, finding all efforts useless, I soon followed. The scene on board was horrible in the extreme. This morning at four o'clock, the ship had entirely disappeared. I stood out for the north-west, the other three boats keeping company as long as they could. I stood south in search of the two missing boats, and at 7.40 p.m. sighted a boat at a great distance, but the Russian ship 'Ilmar,' Capt. Adolph Niska, having come up, the 14 passengers in the boat were picked up by the ship, and at once transferred on board the 'Lafayette.' I learned from three passengers that the remaining 4th boat parted from them at about ten o'clock on the previous evening; that she contained 37 passengers, and that she must be in a south-easterly direction. I stood therefore in that direction searching for

her, part of the night firing signals every five minutes, but did not succeed in discovering the lost boat. The forty-four passengers were carefully attended to on board the 'Lafayette.' I had the men all clothed with the ship's seamen's clothing, and the lady passengers on board the 'Lafayette' provided for the female sufferers. The passengers also collected 2,862 francs for their benefit.

New York, July 21.—President Johnson has announced his intention to sustain the administration of Gov. Pierpont in Virginia.

An effort is making to induce the President to suspend processes issued under the confiscation law, against property of late rebels in Richmond, until action had been taken on their applications for pardon.

The effect of the recent operations under the confiscation act in Richmond is said to completely suspend the efforts which were making to rebuild the burned district, and to have excited the greatest consternation among property-holders, who thought they were going to be exempted from the liability of confiscation of their property.

The *Tribune's* special says a prominent senator asserts that it is positively determined to try Davis by military commission.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—The commercial treaty between France and England has been in operation six years. In that time the exports from the latter country have risen from £668,000 to £23,000,000 annually, and from France the amount has been even greater.

—The infant son of the Prince and Princess of Wales is to be christened to-day, at Windsor Castle. The King of Hanover will be godfather, and the infant will receive the names of George Frederick Ernest Albert.—*London paper, 7th July.*

—On Saturday an Act of Parliament was printed to render owners of dogs in England and Wales liable for injuries to cattle and sheep. An owner can be summoned before a magistrate where the damage shall not exceed £5. The occupier of a house or premises where any dog was kept, or permitted to live, or remain at the time of the injury, is to be deemed to be the owner of such dog, unless the occupier can prove that he was not the owner at the time the injury complained of was committed, and that such dog was kept or permitted to live or remain in the house or premises without his sanction or knowledge.

—An accident of a most distressing character occurred on Tuesday last on the Great Western Railway, between the stations of Whittlesea and March, by which two persons were killed. It seems that Miss Vawser, the daughter of a farmer in the neighborhood, had occasion to cross the railway in a covered cart, accompanied by a servant, and driven by a lad. The lad led the horse and cart on to the line, where he left it to open the other gate; and as this junction the train from Peterborough to March, and which was due at 5.13, was in sight. The driver saw the cart on the line, but not early enough to stop the train, and the engine ran into the cart, smashing it to atoms, and killed the servant on the spot. Miss Vawser was dreadfully mutilated; one of her legs severed from the body; her face partially severed from her cheek-bone, &c.; and after lingering several hours she died in great agony.

—A butcher named Donevay, near the French frontier at Montlucon (Allier), got drunk recently, and going home, bit his wife's index finger nearly off. He then disappeared, and returning next morning, his wife, thinking to appease him by the fear of the authorities, said: "The police are after you." The effect of these words was to exasperate him still further, and snatching up a knife, he exclaimed: "Ah! you want to have me arrested; I will put an end to that," and then buried the weapon in the breast of the unfortunate woman, who fell at his feet, and shortly after expired. A niece, a young girl aged fourteen, threw herself on Donevay's neck and endeavored to restrain his rage, but the savage stabbed her in the side and threw her from him; he next plunged the knife into his own throat and breast and tore open the wounds with his hands. He then fell dead. The girl was expected to recover.

THE NEW ENGLISH LORD CHANCELLOR.—Lord Cranworth, the new Lord High Chancellor of England, is seventy-five years old. It is not probable, therefore, that he takes the office with any other intention than that of filling up the interval between the old and the new Parliament. He has held the office before, under Lord Aberdeen, and his professional reputation, though not brilliant, is excellent. His family name is Rolfe, and he is the son of a clergyman. He was raised to the peerage in 1850.

AMERICAN NEWS.

—The Central Texas Railroad, a work of importance to the troops, is being rapidly pushed forward to completion.

—Two brothers named Joseph and Isaac Sidos were killed the other day in Philadelphia by a woman named Adeline Ready. All three had been drinking, and were keepers of disreputable houses.

—At least a hundred persons, some of them ladies, were, on Monday, waiting to see the President. A man was pointed to in the throng as the engineer of the pirate "Alabama," who, with others present from the South, had come to seek Executive clemency.

—The consumption of beer is rapidly increasing in the United States. In 1860 the amount sold was eight millions of barrels. In 1864 the quantity used had increased to twenty-four millions of barrels, or about an average of a barrel apiece for everybody.

—An American paper says that a few months since seamen's wages were \$40 a month to all parts of the world, but now they are only \$25 to the West Indies, coastwise and to Europe; and \$20 to the East Indies and California. The reduction is in consequence of the discharge of a large number of men from the navy.

—Augustus H. Sibley, a clerk of the Rochester Express Company has been discovered to have embezzled the funds of the company to the amount of \$2,850. Failing to procure bail for \$5,000 he was committed to jail. Associating with loose women is said to have been the cause of his frauds, as otherwise his habits were inexpensive.

—The trial of Miss Harris, for the murder of Burroughs, is still proceeding at Washington, and creates a good deal of interest. The case for the defence was closed yesterday morning.

The District Attorney was then to close the case on the part of the prosecution; after which it was to go to the jury.

—Two men who were killed recently on the Hudson River railroad met their death in the following manner:—They had been drinking and made a bet as to who would remain longest on the track when the train was approaching. When they heard the cars, they linked arms, and walked toward the on-coming locomotive. Again and again the engineer whistled and ordered the brakes put down, but it was too late, and the men moved not; the locomotive struck the men and killed them instantly.

—For the privilege of selling books and newspapers on the Hudson River Railroad, it is said that no less than \$5,500 a year is paid. For the same privilege on the Central Railroad, the tax is \$5,500 per year. This seems a large sum, and yet it is said that a large income is derived from the operations. On the Hudson River Road the sales average \$100 to each through train. On the Central the average is \$150 per train. The books and papers are not sold by the owners of the right, but by boys employed by them. The boys receive 15 per cent. on all sales, and make large wages.

—The Russian papers generally admit that their Government will sooner or later annex what yet remains of independent countries in Central Asia,—Bokhara, Khokand and Kaira. They don't want, they say, any further aggrandisement of their immense country; but they want peace on their border; and as there is no lasting peace possible with any of these barbarous tribes, Russia will finally be compelled to annex all of them. These uncivilized tribes are, of course, at the mercy of Russia, and England is, from geographical reasons, as unable to sustain a war against Russia in Central Asia as France would be to sustain one against the United States in Mexico.—*N. Y. Paper.*

—Four years ago, O. Illinois, we took from your midst an untried man, and from among the people. We return him to you a mighty conqueror. Not thine any more, but the nation's; not ours, but the world's. Give him place, O ye prairies; in the midst of this great continent his dust shall rest, a sacred treasure to myriads who shall pilgrim to that shrine to kindle anew their zeal and patriotism. Ye winds that move over the mighty plains of the West, chant his requiem! Ye people, behold a martyr whose blood, as so many articulate words, pleads for fidelity, for law, for liberty.—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

—A number of American citizens have combined for the advocacy of free trade, the natural and proper term in the series of progress after free speech, free soil, and free labor. The "American Free Trade League" holds that men should have the right to exercise their industry, to dispose of its fruits in any market which to them shall seem best, and with the proceeds to buy whatever and wherever they please. It protests against the "paternal" interference of government with private pursuits, being convinced that the less government is felt and seen the better for all concerned. It believes that "protection" to the producer is robbery of the consumer, with the added hypocrisy of pretending to look after the latter's interest.

THE CROPS IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.—The wheat, which a short time ago bid fair to yield a heavy crop, is so badly damaged by smut, rust, and spot, that many of those fields which were the most promising will not be cut at all, and those that will be harvested will not produce near half a crop, and that in a badly damaged condition. I have conversed with quite a number of farmers in Kentucky, from Henderson, Union, Webster, and other counties bordering on the lower Ohio, and they describe it as being worse there than here. The corn, which was suffering ten days ago from dry weather and the bad stand in planting, is brightening under the influence of recent rains and may yet make a fair crop. Hay and oats are fine and will yield abundantly.—*Letter in Chicago Tribune.*

SUFFERING OF THE CHEROKEES.—A gentleman recently in North-Western Texas, informs the *New Orleans Times* of the 3rd instant, that the late rebel portion of the Cherokee Indians are in great distress, and are actually near starvation. Their Chief, Standwater, late Brig.-General in the rebel army, has issued an address, or appeal, to the people of Texas to assist his poor followers, which will probably be responded to in the proper manner.

SCARCITY OF MERCHANTS IN THE LEGISLATURE.—It is not the business of merchants to make laws, but to make the most of them. A man engaged in commercial pursuits cannot, without detriment to his own interests, look after the interests of the public. It is for these perfectly satisfactory reasons that so few of our eminent business men have found their way into Congress, or even into the state legislature, or the city government. It is so reflection upon their capacity, their intelligence, or their patriotism that they keep aloof from politics. They cannot afford to neglect their business; and when they become sufficiently wealthy to retire from trade, they are too old to enter upon a new career. The same rule holds good in England, although there are some seeming exceptions.—When Cobden entered Parliament he abandoned his business, and John Bright would have been compelled to do the same if he had not had a rich wife and partners to manage for him. The Baring family have always had a member of their firm in Parliament; but the management of the business devolved upon others. Occasionally an eminent merchant goes into Congress; but he does not remain there long. It is a great pity that it should be so, for the influence of intelligent and practical men of business is greatly needed in our national and state legislatures as well as in our Common Council. Our commercial laws, as a natural result therefore of the absence of commercial men of practical experience from the national councils, have been extremely defective, and have required constant tinkering and amending, until they have become a conglomerate of contradictory principles.—*Am. Paper.*

DEATH OF MADAME JUMEL.—The New York papers contain notices of the death of this celebrated woman, at Washington Heights, on the 16th inst., at the advanced age of 92 years. She was born in the cabin of a French frigate, the captain of which, on the death of her mother, left her in friendly hands at Newport, R. I. At 17 years of age she eloped with a British officer, Col. Croix, then moving in the first circles of New York. For some years she was a most celebrated belle, acquainted and influential with many of the first men of the country. It is said that she inspired tender emotions in the hearts of Patrick Henry,

Benedict Arnold and Aaron Burr, whom she afterwards married. Ben. Franklin called her his 'Fairy Queen,' and Lafayette was greatly charmed with her. But from all the crowd of admirers, she turned to marry Stephen Jumel, a rich, hard working French wine merchant. After she had lost and won for him again a fortune, he died at the age of 70 years, and the gay widow married Burr, a gallant gentleman still, even at the age of 78. The alliance, however, was not a happy one, and the parties separated, never to be united again. Since then, for over thirty years, Madame Jumel, who has never resumed her late husband's name, has resided in her home at Washington Heights in comparative retirement. She leaves an immense property.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.—Three ladies were crushed to death on the lake steamer "Ottawa" on the Fourth, while making a pleasure excursion to Put-in-Bay, the particulars of which are furnished by the *Sandusky, Ohio, Register*:—

"The shaft of the vessel is situated some eighteen inches above the main deck, and spliced in the centre. From the splices a nut protruded which, in its revolutions, caught the crinoline of a Miss Whitehead, who, in her desperate efforts to extricate herself from being wound around the shaft, caught hold of a Mrs. Montgomery with a deadly grasp. Mrs. Montgomery immediately grasped a Mrs. Fisher, and the three were wound around the shaft together, and crushed in the most horrible manner. The parties all belong to Locust Point. The husbands, children, and friends of the unfortunate persons were on board, and beheld the horrible sight without any power to relieve them. The boat was turned and headed for home, and the party that had started out for a day of pleasure and rejoicing, returned in grief and mourning."

CANADIAN NEWS.

—During the last three weeks, says the *Elora Observer*, the book and stationery store of Mr. R. J. Smith, of that town, has been entered three times, and goods and money taken each time.

—The *London Advertiser* states that a little girl, aged 5 years, named Jackson, fell into a barrel of lye and was drowned.

—The *Quebec News* states that the skeleton of a woman was discovered the other day in Sault-au-Matlot street, a few feet below the surface. A coroner's inquest was to be held on the remains.

—The *Clinton Era* says that Mrs. Brunson, an old resident of Lunenburg, fell lately from a wagon, and, though at the time she did not appear to be dangerously injured, she survived the accident only a few days.

—In North Chatham, the house occupied by Messrs. Brady and Draper was destroyed by fire on the 9th inst. The effects in the upper story were also consumed. There was an insurance of \$1,900 on house and effects, which will about cover the loss.

—The other day as the express train from Toronto, running at full speed, reached the curve on the line near Cornwall, the engine swerved, causing the fireman, who had gone on it to put tallow in one of the side cups, to fly off at a tangent. Providentially, with the exception of some slight scratches and bruises, he escaped uninjured.

—In an altercation which took place on the night of the 15th between two men, named James Sweeney and William Boyle, who occupy the same house in St. Dominique street, Quebec, the former took a fowling piece and shot the latter, wounding him severely in the wrist and abdomen. Sweeney has been arrested. Both parties have cuts in the face, and each blames the other as the aggressor. Boyle is said to be recovering, though he cannot yet be pronounced out of danger.

—A colored boy, who has been residing for a short time at St. Catherine's, and who, having no relatives in the place, was picking up a living as best he could by running errands, &c., was recently, while standing on the street, burnt with vitriol in a most cruel, wanton manner by a boy named Bullock, accompanied by a number of other boys. It appears that Bullock emptied the contents of the bottle down the poor boy's back, inflicting such injuries as to render his recovery doubtful.

—One of the Inspectors of Revenue has made a tremendous haul, seizing the whole of a large establishment near Toronto. False pipes, connecting with the underground vats; false entries and frauds on the revenue to a tremendous extent,—have been discovered. The lucky inspector, it is said, will net over seventy thousand dollars out of the transaction. Suspicion has been aroused for some time past, Montreal houses declaring they could not compete with the firm in question. The secret is now out.—*Quebec Mercury.*

—Some weeks ago we announced that George H. Sanborn, Esq., had a well in progress near Dresden, and when about forty feet down, had procured an excellent sample of oil. Mr. Sanborn on Tuesday let a contract to drill to the depth of four hundred and fifty feet in the rock. The drilling will commence immediately, and in the course of a few weeks we may expect to hear that Dresden has been added to the list of oil-producing regions in this county.—*Chatham Banner, 13th.*

—The gang of burglars by which Toronto is at present infested, seem to be putting both law and police at defiance. During the night of the 14th, Carty's soap and candle manufactory, corner of Queen and George streets was entered, the safe opened with false keys, and a couple of small drawers, where money was usually kept, forced open with a "jimmy," or tool used by burglars in the shape of a chisel, for such a purpose. Fortunately, Mr. Carty had taken out the night before what cash there was in the drawers, so that the burglars did not get even so much as a five cent piece. A quantity of coppers and cents were in the safe, and were left there by the burglars, deeming themselves above taking such small change. No policeman was on that beat the night of the robbery, from the fact that four were absent from the division on sick-leave.

LICENSES FORFEITED.—The following appears in Saturday's *Gazette*:—From and after the 19th day of June, A.D. 1865, the license of William Busby, of the village of Southampton in the county of Bruce, distiller, is forfeited, and the same has become null and void, nor shall a new license be granted to the said William Busby until he shall have complied with the provisions of the Excise Act 27th and 28th Victoria, chapter 3rd, nor until after all duties, penalties, or forfeitures due the Crown by him, shall have been satisfied.

SAD ACCIDENT.—A LITTLE GIRL KILLED.—An inquest was held, yesterday afternoon, by Coroner Panel, upon the body of a girl named Theresa Clark, daughter of Mr. James Clark, carpenter, of Diamond Harbor. It appeared that deceased had fallen through the flooring of a new building in course of construction—the fall producing instant death. A verdict of accidental death was rendered by the Coroner's jury.—*Quebec Chronicle, 19th.*

BODY FOUND.—The body of a sailor, named Joseph Pelletier belonging to the pilot schooner "Marie Lydia," lying at the harbor Commissioners wharf, was found floating this morning between the schooner and the wharf. It is not known how he was drowned, or when.—*Quebec Gazette, 17th.*

QUEBEC FORTIFICATIONS.—The Messrs. Worthington, one of whom lives in Toronto and the other in Hamilton, arrived in town by the mail steamer of this morning, to prosecute the extensive works they have undertaken for the Royal Engineer Department, in connection with the fortifications at South Quebec. We learn that this firm will build all the forts, with the exception of one, which will be entirely constructed by the troops. A large number of laborers will, no doubt, shortly find employment there; in fact, we heard yesterday of a call for hands at the camp.—*Quebec Mercury.*

SUPPOSED CASE OF DROWNING.—A gentleman connected with the Henson's Bay Company, who has just arrived in town, informs us that a man named George Leclerc disappeared from on board the schooner when off Beresford, under circumstances which lead to the belief that the man was drowned. The men were below, when one of them heard a noise which he supposed to be in the hold. On coming up, however, Leclerc, was missing; and a search for him proved fruitless. His trousers were shortly afterwards found in the water, containing the keys of his trunk and a small sum of money.—*Quebec Chronicle, 16th.*

"THE DUSTY CROWN" ON THE ST. LOUIS ROAD.—A gag of ruffians now prowls along the St. Louis road, from the toll-gate to the end of the Gomin bush, ready to pounce on any passer-by who either comes to, or goes from town on business. About a month ago four of them entered a dwelling house in Sheppardsville by force of arms, and carried off what they needed. They were recognized by some of the inmates of the house on leaving, but have not been arrested, as the residents of that locality are in bodily fear of these scoundrels and dare not give information at the police office against them.—*Quebec Mercury.*

SUICIDE.—A man named Cavanagh, living near Philipsville, was found near that village in the woods with his throat cut. He had left home on the Monday and was not found till Thursday, when his body was in a sad state in consequence of exposure during the warm weather. The cause is not known, although it is alleged that a lawsuit was threatened for the support of a child born to him before his marriage to the wife he had now left a widow.—*Brockville Recorder.*

GAROTTING IN LONDON.—As Mr. Bernard Henry, stationer and exchange dealer, London, was returning home from his store on the night of the 14th, he was assaulted by two men on Waterloo street, who threw him to the ground and kicked him severely about the face and head. Mr. Henry, who has been in the habit of carrying home his money from his store, had with him at the time a sum amounting to \$800, part of which, consisting of gold and silver, he carried in a satchel slung at his shoulder, and the remainder in bank bills in an inside pocket of his coat. While lying on the ground, with one of the ruffians kneeling on his breast, Mr. Henry, though almost insensible from the blows he had received, managed to draw a pistol, which one of his assailants immediately endeavored to twist from his hand. In a moment the pistol went off, the ball lodging in the ground near Mr. Henry's head. He then hallooed, and the robbers shortly after left. In the *middle* Mr. Henry was released of his watch, which had been severed from the chain. The strangest part of the proceedings was that not a penny of the money, certainly the object for which the attack was made, was molested. The injuries sustained by Mr. Henry are not of a serious nature, and it is expected that he will soon recover. Two notorious desperadoes answering the description are supposed to be the guilty parties, but they left London by an early train on the following morning. They will probably, however, soon be captured.

PURITANISM IN ENGLAND.—We have had lately to chronicle, says the *St. Johns (N. B.) Church Witness*, more perversions to Popery in England, and still they go on. In a time of fearful pestilence how anxious are medical men to discover some remedy to stay its progress, and how earnest are those in authority to enforce any precaution which may tend to avert its dire effects, and what readiness on the part of the people is manifested to carry out their wise regulations! But what is any pestilence compared with the soul-destroying heresy which is now paralyzing the Church? And yet, alas! what apathy is manifested with reference to it. There can be no doubt that the sacramental system and high Church views which are held by so many are the symptoms which denote the presence of that spiritual disease amongst us, and that here it behoves us to endeavor to arrest its progress, and yet, alas! the opposite to this is too often witnessed. This subject, however, we are assured is at the present time engrossing in the mother country the attention of thinking men of any religious tone, and is one which bids fair to involve questions of deep importance to the welfare of the National Establishment. "So quietly" says the *Morning Advertiser*, "so unobtrusively has this web of error overcovered the country—the metropolis especially—that the leading difficulty encountered by those who yearn to crush it is the callous indifference, not to say actual unbelief, as to its present position, held by many who are heartily opposed to its tenets. But the fact still remains the same—remains as patent as ever, that the progress of Popery in London since the consecration of the Bishop has been more genuine than its most ardent partisans had ever hoped to see, and more rapid than the spread of Popery proper in its palmy days."

—With regard to the Wesleyan Missionary Jubilee Fund, the *Watchmen* says:—"The contributions paid in Great Britain have amounted to nearly one hundred thousand pounds. The contributions promised, of which one half remains to be paid, have amounted to two hundred thousand pounds. To God be the praise!"

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We respectfully request subscribers who find the figure 7 after their names to observe, that their subscription expires with this month; and, that all papers, of which the subscription is not renewed, are necessarily, according to our system, discontinued. They are, therefore, requested to remit in time, and they will confer a great favor by endeavoring each to send another name or two with his own.

THE

WITNESS.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1865.

Inasmuch as the *Witness* is supported by advertisements, we request all who send notices of births, marriages, or deaths, to accompany them with the amount, viz., 25 cents for an ordinary notice of a birth or death, and 50 cents for that of a marriage or of a death with any additional particulars. Postage-stamps will do as well as money. After this date we cannot insert without charge any notices of the above description, unless they are of public interest, such as the death of an eminent man, or one of the first settlers of a township, &c.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

The "Peruvian" arrived at Father Point on Sunday. The news is unimportant. The elections in Britain so far have returned an increased majority for the Liberals, but four members of the administration had been defeated.

The "Shenandoah" is supposed to be making havoc among American whalers in the Pacific.

Dr. Pritchard, the criminal now under sentence of death, had confessed to the poisoning of his wife and mother-in-law.

The relations of Earl Russell and Mr. Seward appear not to be of the most satisfactory kind. The trouble is about the Confederate cruisers.

The Pope has, it is said, excommunicated Maximilian.

There were rumors of the appearance of the cholera at Constantinople and Smyrna, but they were declared to be unfounded.

It is rumored in Paris that Ab del Kader will be appointed Governor of Algeria.

The Spanish Government had recognized the kingdom of Italy. In the Cortes a bill modifying the Press law, had been passed by a vote of 117 to 16. The Cortes were closed on the 12th, Marshal O'Donnell reading the royal decree.

The telegraphic communication with India is still suspended. The cause is believed to be a break in the Persian Gulf cable.

In Portugal, the government had carried the elections by a small majority.

A powerful iron clad ocean frigate was launched at New York on the 22nd inst. She is named the "Dunderberg" (Thundering Mountain), and is said to be the greatest sea-going frigate afloat. She is pierced for 21 guns, and her sides are three feet thick, 4 1/2 inches being of iron. She is to be ready for sea in six months, and is expected to make 15 knots an hour.

By an order in Council Her Majesty has extended the provisions of the Foreign Deservants' Act of 1852 to the Ottoman Porte. All seamen, therefore, not British subjects or slaves, desert from Turkish ships within Her Majesty's dominions, are subject to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships; excepting those who have committed crime in the said dominions, who may be detained for trial and until their sentence has been fully carried into effect.

The strike of the Parisian cabmen, which became a matter of national, if not European, importance, has come to an end. The company which employed them published a statement showing that their previous pay was good, and that the increase demanded would be more than the whole receipts of the company. New hands were, therefore, to some extent, employed and sustained by the police and the public, when the old hands gave in, and most of them were reinstated. A considerable number have been punished for assaults on the new drivers. The way the cabmen contrived to evade the law, which forbids a meeting of more than twenty persons without a license, was as follows:—The men of each of the 144 cab stations of Paris appointed a delegate, and these met at an appointed place in groups of twelve, which each appointed two delegates, and these appointed a council of four, who managed the strike.

With some of our cabinet ministers the interests of the public service appear not to be considered in making appointments, but only the interests of their friends or their party. We have had men in the Post-office and in the Custom-house of Montreal who were notoriously perfect ciphers as far as the duties of their office were concerned. Such things really should not occur again.

The "Columbian," a vessel of 450 tons, is loading staves at Chatham, C.W., for Nantz direct. This is a striking instance of enterprise. Her voyage before she reaches the sea will be some 1,400 miles.

The prize list of the Provincial Agricultural Association for the twenty-ninth annual exhibition,

to be held in London, C. W., on Sept. 19—22, is a pamphlet of 28 pages, containing a very long list of prizes to be adjudged at that exhibition.

A young man, calling himself one of the St. Albans' raiders, has called at this office to state that, from his knowledge of the whereabouts and employment of the raiders, he is able to affirm that none of them acted as a spy for Consul Potter, nor as a spy upon him, and, consequently, that the statement to that effect in a letter which appeared in the *Gazette* is false. We need not add that we have no knowledge of the individual making this statement, nor of the amount of wealth to be attached to it.

The Quebec papers have a curious account of the loss in some mysterious way of two debentures of \$1,000 each by the Quebec Harbor Commissioners, who have sued their late secretary for them. The secretary's defence is that he deposited them with others in the Quebec Bank as security for a loan, and the reason why he had no acknowledgment for them was, as he alleges, that the chairman of the Board caused him to destroy the letter which mentioned them and to write another, making no allusion to the deposit of debentures lest the credit of the trust might be affected. The story is a strange one, but the court seems to have believed it, as the Commissioners lost their suit. The officers of the Bank know nothing about the missing debentures, but they must be in existence somewhere, for it is said the interest coupons have been regularly presented and paid.

We have seen letters from the Engineer of the Nova Scotia railway to Mr. McQuig here, explaining the disappointment which occurred respecting the laborers sent down. The men having gone forward faster than was expected, the contractors had failed to make arrangements for setting them to work on their arrival at Pictou, and many went on to Halifax on foot begging their way. There the engineer got them all set to work at \$1 a day, though some of them are not worth more than half, but many of them are good laborers. A number would not work at all when they could get it, and these had been the loudest in their complaints of want of work. Only 183 applied for work of the 301 whose passages had been paid down, so that this business, though undertaken in perfect good faith, has been unsatisfactory all round.

The *Herald* of Monday last discredits an alleged rumor that Mr. Carder took Mr. Brown the length of Rome and induced him to kiss the Pope's great toe, but says some distinguished Roman Catholic ecclesiastics who accompanied him across the ocean probably fitted him for his present alliance with the pious Attorney-General of Lower Canada. However that may be, the writer says he sadly misses in the *Globe* the harvest which its readers used to reap just before the meeting of Parliament of "denunciation of Lower Canada domination; separate schools; Grand Trunk subsidies; corruption in general and corruptionists in particular; besides a very heavy produce of Rep. by Pop."

The Cincinnati *Gazette*, commenting on the proceedings of the Detroit Convention, says:—"It would be difficult to tell now whether the Convention favored or opposed ship canals, or whether the majority favored or opposed a reciprocity treaty. Congress cannot refer to the action of that body for information on either of the interesting subjects, and the public will look in vain for the arguments that were expected to be brought out and sifted by the clear, practical business minds of the merchants and manufacturers, of which the Convention was largely composed. Matters, therefore, stand precisely where they did before the Convention assembled, and, except for the social intercourse enjoyed, a pleasant excursion on the Detroit river, and an exchange of cheers for the President of the United States and Queen Victoria, nothing would have been lost if it had not met at all."

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.—Captain Wallis, of Peterborough, one of the enterprising farmers who are fast raising the character of Canada West for choice stock, has imported a fine ram by the "Shandon," now in port. In the *Canada Farmer* we perceive a statement, that an extensive sheep-breeder of Pennsylvania having become convinced of the superiority of Leicester and Cotswold sheep to all others, had made purchases in Canada West of some fine specimens of these breeds for which this Province is famous.

EMIGRATION AGAIN.—A gentleman who has recently travelled through the mineral lands between Arthabaska Station and Lake Nicolet says, they are remarkably rich in various kinds of valuable ores, but very poor in present means. The inhabitants are all desirous of selling lands or mining rights, and they expect that the price will advance, especially if a railroad is carried through that country, of which there seems to be a general anticipation. Our informant adds, that almost every second farm along the road was deserted, the owners having gone to the States on account of the difficulty of making a living where they were. The letters from them he understood, encouraged their friends to follow to the West.

We hear also, that there are agents in tow inducing factory hands, washerwomen, and others, to go to the manufacturing villages in the States, where trade is at present remarkably brisk, and the supply of labor deficient. There is a class here which becomes every winter a burden on our public charities, and which we could conveniently spare. Perhaps the agents in question would kindly take this class to

Lowell or other places, where they might possibly become permanently useful.

CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL DAYS.—The feast of St. John the Baptist, which occurs on the 24th of June, was this year, with the consent of the clergy, transferred to the 26th. This has proved, unexpectedly, a dangerous precedent. The French Canadians in the United States finding that Saints did not object in Canada to a little delay in the celebration of their anniversary so as to accommodate the people, improved upon the discovery. Those residing in Plattsburg thought that the distance was not great between the 26th June and the 4th of July, and so it was decided, with the consent of the priest, to unite the celebration of the two national days. Cheap trips being always organized for the occasion, several hundreds from Canada joined on the 4th their brethren from Plattsburg to inaugurate the new, and more noisy than heretofore, celebration of St. John the Baptist. In an eloquent speech, Father Bernard told the visitors how gratified he was to see several hundred French Canadians come from different parishes to witness the happiness and prosperity of their brethren who had settled in the States, and that he hoped to have hereafter the occasion and the visit renewed every year. With such a precedent, it may well be surmised, that hereafter French Canadians living in the States will always find it convenient to observe on the 4th of July their national day, since they can do it without sacrifice of either religion or patriotism.

PUZZLING.—We have a note from a subscriber in South Sutton, asking us to send his paper to another post-office; but there is no post-office called South Sutton, and the writer does not sign his name. Another note asking us to send the *Witness* on credit is signed, but no date or post-office address is given, and two post-marks on the envelope are illegible. Under these circumstances, it is even easier than usual to adhere to our rule, of sending no paper without the money. And, when speaking of this, we may say that we have no system of book-keeping for credit subscribers, and cannot commence one. The cash system, though it has its difficulties, is, after a trial, of several years found to be far the best, and we ask all to concur in this view of the matter.

MISREPRESENTATION.—The New York *Tribune's* correspondent from the Detroit convention, probably the same party who wrote a letter from Toronto and another from Hamilton, instructing that convention beforehand not to recommend reciprocity, is evidently exceedingly chagrined with the result, and gives to the readers of that paper as one-sided and incorrect a view of the proceedings, as the London *Times's* New York correspondent used to give of the American civil war. This writer makes out the whole concern to have been packed in the Canadian interest, and so arranged as to give Mr. Howe the last word, allowing no one to answer his "plausible sophistries," &c. &c. True, the delegates in the provinces took no part in the organization of the meetings, or voting, but it was because they were too deep to do that openly. They had arranged the matter secretly, and, even with all their subtleties, the final unanimous vote which they got in favor of reciprocity, meant nothing. Those who voted for it knew it would never be granted, &c. &c. Is it worthy of a paper of the *Tribune's* standing to allow no other account of such an important commercial meeting to reach its readers than such stuff as this correspondent furnishes? Should he not have the fairness, at all events, to give Mr. Howe's speech as the New York *Times* has done, that his readers may judge for themselves of its "sophistries."

GOOD WORDS.—An illustrated monthly Magazine, edited by Norman Macleod, D.D. July. London; Strahan & Co.

Most of the writers in this excellent and deservedly popular magazine are well-known in the literary world as men and women of genius and learning. It comprises a wide range of subjects, religious, literary, and scientific, with a small proportion of fiction and poetry. In the present number, among other excellent matter, we find an article on "Longevity," recording a number of well-established instances of persons who have lived to a very advanced age; a scientific paper on "Light," by Sir John Herschel; a discussion of the subjects of "Strikes and Lockouts," by Henry Rogers; and a remarkably interesting account of a visit to Jerusalem, by the editor, which is made more valuable by the numerous illustrations, representing points of interest, such as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the "Wailing Wall," the "Cave cut out of the Rock," &c. The two serials, "Harroward the last of the English," by Charles Kingsley, and "Alfred H. Hart's Household," by Alexander Smith, are continued. There is also a short poem by Jean Ingelow, entitled "The Nightingale and the Unsettled Heart."

A NEW SET OF BEGGARS FROM THE SEIGNIORIAL CROWN LANDS.

Times are hard and money is scarce. But if individuals feel the financial pressure, so does also the Government, whose income this year does not meet the expenditure. And, yet, it is just at this juncture that a certain class of people, indebted to the government, petition to be released from their obligations. They do not request a mere postponement in paying their debts, but they ask an absolute gift of them. They are bold beggars, for they claim that they have a right to the gift, that it is in fact only an act of justice due to them.

This new set of claimants upon the generosity of an almost bankrupt exchequer, are certain

landowners in Lower Canada, whose property is situated in the Crown Seigniories. They have bravely addressed a petition to the Governor General, which is published in the *Journal de Quebec*, without note or comment. At the head of the applicants who append their names to the petition stands that of the Rev. Z. Charest, priest, acting for the Fabric of St. Roch, Quebec. Then come the names of Mr. Louis Panet, Mr. Huot, M.P.P., and other influential gentlemen. The grievance of the petitioners, as they state it themselves, is that some years ago they commuted with the Government agents for *lots et ventes*; but, instead of paying cash for the privilege, they were allowed to retain their money and issue instead a mortgage on which, of course, a yearly rent is due. Now these gentlemen have lately discovered that it is unfair they should pay either the mortgage or the interest, and they want a free discharge from their indebtedness to the Province.

The argument used by these new claimants is that other *censitaires* by an act of Parliament have been relieved in 1855 from paying *Lots et ventes*, these claims being liquidated at public expense, while they, the petitioners, have had no share in the great gift, to which they were entitled as well as anybody. They say:—

"Your petitioners are the only ones in the whole Province, who still bear, under a modified form, the burden of *Lots et ventes*, contrary to justice and to the intentions of the act mentioned above. It is much regretted by them that they accepted these acts of commutation, because the advantages which they hoped thereby to secure, although obtained at a high price, have been since granted gratuitously to all the rest by the act which abolished Seigniorial rights."

These unfortunate gentlemen have certainly a short memory, and it will be some consolation for them to know that they are by no means the only ones in Lower Canada who had no benefit from the millions of dollars which were most unjustly presented as a free gift to the *censitaires*.

Have they forgotten that all the seigniories held by the priests and the nuns were especially excluded from the benefits of the Act? All the people of the city and Island of Montreal are deprived of their just share in the munificent gift. The *censitaires* of the seigniories of St. Sulpice, and of several ecclesiastical fiefs, are not liberated from the *lots et ventes*, unless they have commuted with the priests; they are just as badly off as the petitioners, or a little worse; and, if the latter obtained the coveted gift, the former will also apply to have, as a matter of justice, a proportional slice at the expense of the country.

The sending of the petition to the Governor-General, and its publication, indicate that the aggrieved gentlemen are sanguine of success; but we trust that these beggars will in vain knock at the door of Parliament. The country is in no condition to give them such a munificent gift. With a deficit in the treasury, it would be an act of folly to surrender a source of income. These crown seigniories include the Jesuits' Estates, the income of which is indispensable to the support of superior education. The estate received in 1863 from *lots et ventes* \$128, for commutation \$513, and for reconnoissances, which are mostly past due accounts from the same source, \$2,087. In all, over \$2,729 was received in that year, an annual sum which would be lost to superior education unless made up from the public chest. In the same year the sums received on the other crown seigniories, from *lots et ventes*, and commutations, were by no means insignificant. From the Lauzon Seigniorie \$5,918 was received, and from the *Censitaires* of Quebec and Three Rivers no less than \$6,314. And, as we learn from the Crown Lands report that a great deal was left unpaid by the *censitaires*, the income would have been larger if rigidly enforced.

But why did the aggrieved gentlemen wait so long before sending their petition to the Governor? For ten long years have they patiently and silently borne with the great injustice they complain of. Why now, for the first time, demand redress? We see only one way to account for the prolonged forbearance of the poor victims and their sudden awakening to the claims of justice. Experience has taught sharp beggars that they must bide their time and watch their opportunity. In the face of a powerful reform opposition, it would have been useless to prefer such claims. But with a coalition government, an opposition tied down, and an easy Finance Minister, there is some chance of success. Were the treasury only full the petition would, perhaps, be granted, but we trust that the present necessities of the Government will lead them either to resist it openly, or at least to adjourn its consideration.

The objects of the petition can scarcely be reached otherwise than by a new act of Parliament, and it is scarcely credible that a majority of the members of the House would, under present circumstances, run the risk of re-opening the whole question of Seigniorial indemnities. Let them remember that the passing of such an act would involve a great deal more than the objects of the petition. Everywhere those who have commuted and paid cash would claim from the Province a just indemnification. The *censitaires* on the Island of Montreal alone would be entitled to a very large indemnity, and when all these claims had been allowed, then an equivalent gift of money would have to be paid to Upper Canada and to the Eastern Townships, thus involving an immense waste of money.

which the public treasury can no longer borrow as in former times, and which would lead to ruin and national discredit.

MOUNT ROYAL FORT.—A SUGGESTION OF LIEUT.-COL. PLAYFAIR.

Very soon our Legislative halls will be the scene of new debates on the defence of the Province, and especially on the very momentous question of fortifications. The four ministers who went as a delegation to the Imperial Government have a report to lay before the House and suggestions to make on that difficult and vexed subject, which must lead to the adoption of some final policy. The Imperial Government wants us to build fortifications, and to do it at our own expense, offering only some facilities in raising a loan for the object. It would be hard to vote in opposition to this expressed desire of the Home Government, and it will not probably be done. But fortunately there is a way left open for not definitely committing ourselves to the scheme, and yet not coming into collision with the Imperial will. Our Ministers have been specially authorized, it is understood, to postpone the scheme of fortifications until after that of Confederation is carried into effect. The building of fortifications will thus be postponed, and the delay offers some probability that the expensive and, as we believe, useless undertaking will ultimately be given up.

In the mean time the appearance of a pamphlet on the subject by an old officer of much sagacity and experience is timely, and it will be read with interest. This officer is Lieut.-Colonel Playfair, of the Lanark Rifles, and the title of the pamphlet is "Suggestions on the Defence of the Canadas on the most economical Principles of Blood and Treasure." We pass over many valuable hints as to the color of the uniform, and the kind of weapons best adapted to the Canadian forces, to reach the important part of fortifications. The Lieut.-Colonel takes precisely the same ground which we have advocated, that fortifications will fail of their intended object, that they will not serve the country, but, on the contrary, entail disaster in the event of war; and that an invasion of Canada can very well take place in winter, even during the most rigorous season. Colonel Playfair's statements are, of course, in direct contradiction to the report of Colonel Jervois. It is military authority against military authority, with this difference that one is an able engineer, come here for a special object, reached through a temporary residence, and rather ignorant of Canada its people, its climate, and its circumstances; while the other has spent most of his life in the country, and seen a good deal of service in it, beginning with the war of 1812. There can, therefore, be scarcely any doubt of the superior value of the latter, as an authority on the point of Canadian defence.

In addition to the arguments which have been urged against the Jervois scheme, Col. Playfair calls attention to the very recent experience of the Southern Confederacy, as one from which we might learn a timely lesson. He says:—

"I think we have some proof of the folly in the Southern policy, spending so much time, blood, and treasure, in fortifying and defending towns and cities, and losing them one after another, being decimated piece-meal, shutting themselves up in fortifications, and allowing the surrounding country, with their communications to be destroyed, and their supplies cut off—dividing their force instead of concentrating it."

He thinks that while the fortifications will cost enormous sums, and paralyze us financially for the objects of war, these large forts will, in order to be properly garrisoned, abstract so much of the national force as to make weakness and defeat a matter of certainty in the field, leading ultimately to the surrender of the fortifications themselves. The fate of the South would very promptly be ours, considering that we have no depth of country.

As to winter campaigning, the experience of Col. Playfair is invaluable. Col. Jervois rests his whole scheme of defending Canada by fortifications on the axiom that our province cannot be invaded in winter, and that therefore the crossing of the St. Lawrence on the ice by an American army is not amongst the eventualities at all probable, or to be guarded against. But, says Col. Playfair, "this shows a want of provincial knowledge. Montgomery made an attempt to storm Quebec in winter; Col. MacDonald of the Glenarry Fencibles passed over the ice when the snow was deep, and took Ogdensburg. The 104th Regt. marched from St. John, New Brunswick, on snow-shoes to Quebec, in the depth of winter, some hundreds of miles, without a mark on a tree, with from four to six feet of snow under our feet, a dense forest in front, and nought but the canopy of heaven over our heads,—dragging on Indian sleighs our arms, knapsacks, provisions, &c. &c., numbering 1000 bayonets, besides fifty officers and non-commissioned officers, without losing a single man, although many nights we dug out the snow with our snow-shoes, made fires, and lay on the hemlock brush. We crossed the ice at Quebec on the 27th day, in good health and spirits, rested ten days, started off the 15th of March a-tiptoe for the seat of war, 350 miles further, over three feet of snow, which in a short time became mud under our feet. Thus military operations can be carried on in winter, in British North America, as well as in Northern Europe, of which I could give many instances."

If a campaign can take place in winter and the St. Lawrence be crossed on the ice, it follows that all the fortifications erected at St. Lambert, or in protection of the Victoria bridge, cannot protect Montreal. Our city will be approached in the rear, and, while our volunteers are in the trenches of St. Lambert, the Yankee artillery may some morning begin to thunder

from the top of the mountain, causing a not very agreeable surprise to our citizens:—

"Again, let me ask the question, what is to be done with the mountain that commands the whole city of Montreal, and the internal part of the proposed fortifications? Does it not extend for some distance no to west? Could not an enemy land above and take possession of it? Is it not the most commanding position. Then it ought to become the citadel, and its name should be Mount Royal."

The conclusions of the experienced Canadian officer will command the respect of the country, and well deserve the serious attention of our Government and Legislature. He is entirely against an expensive system of fortifications; but if it be decided to have them erected, then it is his advice that we should first begin with the Mount Royal fort, and cover our beautiful mountain with parapets, embrasures, and rows of cannon. But let us hope that the whole folly will be postponed as a step towards its being altogether discarded.

THE TEMPERANCE REFORMATION AND THE DOCTORS.

It is felt by all who have been heartily engaged for a series of years in the temperance cause, that it is not making the progress they expected, or that its own merits, and the urgent requirements of humanity demand. The evil to be remedied was so great that the announcement of a safe, easy, universally applicable, and never failing remedy, should have been all that was necessary to banish it forever, when the sympathy and aid of associated numbers were extended to all to help them to break through the trammels of custom and appetite. But, instead of such a desirable result, what do we see?

It is said of Melancthon, that when he first understood the doctrine of Free Grace in the Gospel, he thought all that was necessary to convert all men into happy believers like himself, was just to make the good news known; but he soon found that old Adam was too strong for young Melancthon; and the experience of the religious reformer of the sixteenth century has been repeated in that of the temperance reformers of the nineteenth.

The hindrances to the adoption of the principle of total abstinence from intoxicating liquors have been manifold. Custom or habit, which has been described as second nature, was against it. Appetite in numberless cases was strongly against it. Fashion, with all its merciless, tyranny was against it; and, finally, the doctors as a body, though with many honorable exceptions, were against it, and, by their advice and prescriptions, did more probably to protect and promote the use of intoxicating drinks than any other cause.

We know that it may be, and has been asked, how temperance men can pretend to question the wisdom and authority of the doctors in the matter of prescribing intoxicating drinks? Are they not men who have given their lives to the study of the human system, its diseases and their remedies, who have had all the advantages of scientific education, and the accumulated hygienic wisdom of ages, and who shall dare to impugn their judgment?

In reply to this objection, we freely admit that it is a formidable one, and that it will take very strong arguments indeed to invalidate it; but these arguments we think the case supplies.

In the first place, doctors are not infallible. When the circulation of the blood was discovered, it is upon record that none of the doctors above a certain age gave in to the new doctrine; and the same thing may happen when any other great principle or application of a principle is discovered. It is not yet a hundred years since bleeding was the remedy for almost every disease. This doctors themselves now admit to have been a most erroneous and mischievous practice; but any unscientific opponent then who had merely analogy and common sense to sustain him, would have been treated by the fraternity with the same contempt that they now exercise towards temperance men. Again, it is not fifty years since fever patients were shut up in warm rooms, covered with blankets, and allowed nothing but warm drinks. In vain, nature and common sense cried out for fresh air and cold water. The authority of the doctors was superior to nature and common sense, and the patients, unless particularly strong, panted and stewed to death. The doctors of the present day have changed all that, and is it too much to expect that a future race of doctors will equally change their present absurd and injurious alcoholic prescriptions.

In the second place, doctors differ. There is an honorable minority of the faculty which not only condemns the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, but which is exceedingly chary in prescribing them as a medicine; and doctors of high reputation, we believe, state distinctly that substitutes equally as good can be had in any case, and that in the present state of public habits, it is far better to prescribe these substitutes.

In the third place, experience contradicts the doctors. We happen to know various cases where prescriptions of wine or beer were strongly insisted upon, and as strongly declined, in which the patients recovered as soon and as completely as they would have been likely to do under any treatment; and those who wholly decline alcoholic medication are usually a very healthy class.

In the fourth place, and this we think is conclusive, no doctor, so far as we have ever known the profession, would state that alcoholic

liquors of any kind were absolutely necessary in any case, or that no substitute for them could be found.

It is not wonderful that professional men should go on in the beaten track, and, perhaps, from their conscious superiority, be the last to acknowledge a beneficial reform, which takes its rise among the people. This has been the case in all ages and in all reforms. But the reforms go on nevertheless, and Stephenson's reply is applicable to them all:—When questioned by a committee of the House of Lords concerning his locomotive, what would be the result if it came in contact with a cow, he said, "It would be so much the worse for the cow."

We have no desire or intention to depreciate the medical faculty, which is, generally speaking, learned, able, honorable, and conscientious; but, we think, for the reasons already set forth, that they are greatly astray in the matter of prescribing intoxicating drinks, we know also from various quarters that their prescriptions have resulted in the ruin of individuals, some of them church members; and all active temperance men find by melancholy observation, that those prescriptions are a very chief hindrance to the progress of the temperance reformation.

STRANGE TERMINATION OF THE POLICE INVESTIGATION.

This inquiry which was begun reluctantly, and continued with attempts to interdict certain ugly revelations, has found an end alike sudden and unseemly. Its violent death by the rash hands of one of its members, who has furnished to others an excuse for giving the coup de grace to an inquisitorial form, which they, not without reason, must have regarded with weariness and apprehension, is not of much public consequence, seeing that the hour of its dissolution had almost come in the course of nature, and that this doubtfully constituted and ill-omened deliberative body could not be expected to produce any other than an abortion. Certain minutes will now alone be left to tell of the stormy, yet dreary hours, through which the patient reporters had to weather the gales of angry altercation, or lie becalmed with moveless pencils, waiting till the City Fathers might practically show themselves entitled to public filial regard, and their doings worthy to appear in the mirror of the morrow's printed sheet. But this is over.

Alderman McCready—who, it must be allowed, has done good service during the inquiry, by pressing for the fullest particulars—in the midst of an obstinate dispute, forgot himself so far as to tear from the official minutes of the proceedings, then under the hands of the recording secretary, a motion of his own, but which had become distasteful to him, not being, as he alleged, worded by himself. The result was, the French Canadian members rose and left the room, and there being no quorum, the English-speaking members followed, and it remained for the chairman to repair and complete the record, and summarily close the proceedings. These proceedings, we say it with sorrow, cannot, in many respects, be considered to have been creditable, and the real ends of the inquiry have been but little forwarded. But enough has been elicited to show that a great lack of discipline has existed in the police force, and that some of its members have screened those doings to prevent which they receive their pay. Suspensions, which will not soon be allayed, have been cast on other and higher quarters; and, above all, it has been shown that the police committee, of all other committees, is the one from which the legal element should be eliminated. There can be little doubt, but that the first stage only, of this inquiry has been reached. It cannot be buried either intentionally or by accident, and we trust that the investigation will be pursued, either by a committee of the whole council or by a commission chosen from it, which shall, if possible, have no pecuniary interest or personal feeling in the result.

[For the Montreal "Witness."

DANVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

This body held its last Annual Meeting at Eaton, O. E., June 21st and 22nd. It was organized by the choice of Rev. J. F. Ferguson, Moderator; Rev. P. Tyler, Clerk; and D. P. Willey, Treasurer.

In the failure of the appointed preacher, the opening sermon was delivered by Rev. P. Tyler, of Newport, Vt., from Matt. 22: 11, 12. After appointing the usual Committees, adjourned for dinner. Wednesday, p. m., heard the letters from the Churches. Some of these were spirited, with cheering fruits of the old year, or with brightening prospects. After the letters, the Rev. A. Norcross, of Troy, Vt., gave an earnest, practical discourse from Matt. 13: 31, 32. There was a sermon, also, at 5 p. m., by the Moderator, formerly pastor at Barnston, O. E. The preacher seemed in his best mood. After sermon, although it was late, Principal Graham, of St. Francis College, deeply interested the audience for half an hour, while urging the importance of finding on the field the laborers needed in its cultivation, instead of seeking them abroad. Thursday morning, heard, and acted upon, reports of Committees, and at 11 o'clock had a sermon from A. A. Cameron, student in the Theological Seminary, Woodstock, C. W. After this, addresses were made by Revs. J. W. Truesdell, of Warwick, O. E.; and R. Smith, of Montpelier, Vt., in behalf of Domestic Missions. A collection was then taken, to be equally divided between the Vt. Baptist Convention, and the Canada Baptist Convention. Thursday, p. m., finished business; had a sermon from Bro. Chickering, from East Burke, Vt., and adjourned to hold the next Annual Meeting at Derby, Vt.

Good feeling prevailed throughout the meeting. Devotional exercises well attended, lively, interesting, and spiritual. The hospitalities of

the people of Eaton abounding. Those from the States were most favorably impressed with the people of the Townships.

P. TYLER, Clerk of the Assoc'n.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE,

Tuesday morning, July 25, 1865.

The weather since yesterday has been very warm, and the hot sun will, no doubt, be of great service to the crops.

—Brokers are buying Greenbacks at 30½ dis., and selling them at 29½. Silver is being bought at 4½ and sold at 4. FINANCIAL.—New York, July 25.—10:30 a. m. Gold 143½; Exchange 8½. At 11 a. m., Gold 142½ to 143; Exchange 8½ to 9.

—The authorized discount on American invoices is 29 per cent., at the Custom-Houses here, for week ending 29th inst.

THE CROPS &c.—Wheat harvest has commenced in Canada West and the crop is generally very fine. Only a few sections have been injured by the fly. In Lower Canada there has been a great deal of rain with an unusually low temperature for a month past, which will throw the crop late. There is but very little movement of produce from the western states in this direction; but, as it is accumulating in Chicago, and, as the harvest is at hand, there must be a great rush of produce this fall, by every outlet. There are no sea-going vessels in this port at present, but, doubtless, there will be a fleet in the fall to receive the grain crop of Canada and the Western States.

—The latest news from Europe respecting the growing crops is less favorable than heretofore, and a slight rise had taken place in wheat. There is again a good deal of talk about substitutes for Pot Ashes, which, it is surmised, will keep prices permanently low, but all previous predictions of this kind proved erroneous. The price has, however, fallen, and sales can with difficulty be effected in England.

—The business of this port has greatly diminished as compared with last year. The Custom House returns for six months show a falling off in dry goods to the extent of about \$1,800,000, and in hardware and iron of over \$400,000.

—The lumber trade is very much depressed in Quebec.

FURS.—The Hudson Bay fur sale on Saturday last was a very exciting one, prices ruling very high. For Prime Mink Skins \$5 and upwards was paid, and as high as \$537½. Beaver, very best parchment, \$2.50 to \$2.65 per lb. There were also a few lots of No. 2 Mink sold at from \$2.25 and upwards. No. 2 Beaver sold at from \$2.25 and upwards. A few lots changed hands at good profits without being removed from the H. B. warehouse. The chief buyers were from New York. Orders from Buffalo, we understand, arriving at advancing prices.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.

MONTREAL, Friday, July 21, 1865.

TEAS.—Considerable sales of fine uncolored Japan for export and consumption have been made at full prices; some lots of colored Japan have also been placed in bond for export. In Green Teas there is a good inquiry for fine Young Hysons, and some demand for Gunpowders. Prices of all desirable lines are fully maintained, and the stock of the finer descriptions is light. Desirable uncolored Japan in the English market are scarce and higher by latest advices. From China, we hear a fair business in Green Teas was doing at fully previous prices.

SUGARS.—Sales of bright Cubas have been made at 9½ to 9¼ for good to choice, and of Porto Rico choice 10c. Stocks of Sugar are very light, and with high prices abroad an advance in fine grocery grade may be looked for.

MOLASSES.—No transactions of importance; sales in lots at from 28c to 35c for Clayed and Muscovado.

RICE.—Fair demand at \$3.40 to \$3.60 for good to choice samples.

FISH.—Dry Cod scarce and selling at from \$5 to \$6 for medium to large table Herrings in fair supply, selling at from \$3 to \$5 per bbl., according to quality. The lower quotation for round, and the higher for best split.

OILS.—While, none here; Pale Seal, 77c to 80c; Straw, 70c to 73c; Cod somewhat scarce, 75c to 77c, with upward tendency.

SALT.—Fine, 95c to \$1 fair demand. Coarse 60c to 65c for new bag; 55c to 67½ for old ex-store. Supply moderate.

PRICES CURRENT OF LEATHER.

MONTREAL, July 25, 1865.

The quantities of Leather inspected in the city during the week ending July 22, were:—Sides No. 1, 1,401; Sides No. 2, 723; Sides No. 3, 24;—total, 2,148 sides. The following are current prices:—

	Conts.
Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 1 (b.b.) per lb. 60 to 10	
Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 2 (b.b.) per lb. 15 to 16½	
Do do No. 1 (ordinary) 17 to 18	
Do do No. 2 14 to 15½	
Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1 17 to 19	
Do do No. 2 15 to 16½	
Waxed Upper, light and medium 27 to 30	
Do do heavy 27 to 30	
Grained do 27 to 30	
Split do, large 18 to 22	
Do do, small 13 to 17	
Kips, City Slaughter, ex. quality (whole) 37½ to 45	
Do ordinary 30 to 35	
Calf-Skin (2 to 3 lbs per ds.) 55 to 62½	
Do (18 to 25 lbs per ds.) 50 to 55	
Sheep Skin linings 18 to 23	
Harness 21 to 25	
Skinning 25 to 30	
Buffed Cow, per foot 10 to 11½	
Enamelled Cow do 14 to 15	
Patent Cow do 16 to 17	
Pebbled Cow do 13 to 13½	

TANNING MATERIAL.

Palermo Sumac, per bag of 10 lbs. \$3.00 to \$10.00 Spanish Sole.—Tanned during the past week have been uncommonly small but there is no change to notice in prices. Receipts are still limited.

Slaughter Sole.—The inquiry for this description of stock has fallen off, and only prime, plump leather is saleable, there being but little of that in the market.

Harness Leather.—A fair demand exists for heavy weights of desirable finish, but only the

lighter being offered, there are but few sales effected. For this as well as Slaughter Sole heavier hides should be selected by the Tanner.

Waxed Upper is in better request with light stocks in first hands and prices are improving. Grained Upper.—For light and Medium weights the inquiry is good, but to insure ready sale should be neatly got up.

Waxed Calfskins of heavy weights are scarce and in fair demand, while light skins are more plentiful and difficult of sale.

Buffed and Pebbled Cows are moving, but in small quantities.

Enamelled and Patent Cows.—Little or nothing doing.

Waxed Splits of good size and finish are scarce and in good request.

Sheepskin Linings are plentiful and slow of sale.

JOHN DOUGALL & COS. WEEKLY PRODUCE CIRCULAR.

MONTREAL, July 26, 1865.

Flour, per bbl. of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$6.25 to \$6.50; Extra, \$5.50 to \$5.80; Fancy, \$5.20 to \$5.35; Superfine, from Canada Wheat, \$4.65 to \$5.20; Superfine from Western Wheat, \$4.50 to \$4.70; Superfine No. 2, \$4.20 to \$4.30; Fine, \$3.95 to \$4.05; Middlings, \$3.65 to \$3.75; Pollards, \$3.20 to \$3.40; Bag-Flour, \$2.70 to \$2.80.

OATMEAL, per 200 lbs.—\$4.50 to \$4.85.

WHEAT, per 60 lbs.—U. C. Spring, \$1.00 to \$1.05.

PEAS, per 60 lbs.—95c to \$1.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—First Pots, \$5.7½ to \$5.10; Inferior, \$3.25 to \$3.35. First Pearls, \$5.25; Inferior, \$3.30.

EGGS, per doz.—13c to 13½c.

BUTTER per lb.—Store-packed, 14c to 15c; Dairy, 16c to 17c.

LARD, in brls., per lb.—14c; in kegs, 14½c.

TALLOW, per lb.—8c to 8½c.

PORK.—Less \$20.00 to \$20.50; Thin Mess, \$18.00 to \$19.00.

HIDES, per 100 lbs.—Butchers', \$4.00 to \$4.25; Country, \$3.00 to \$3.00; Western, \$10.00 to \$10.50.

REMARKS.

FLOUR.—There is but little demand for any quality, and consequently but little business doing.

BUTTER is still scarce and in fair demand at quotations.

PORK.—No wholesale transactions to report.

ASHES.—Prices have still a downward tendency, with no promise of early recovery, the causes being apparently that Pearl Ash and certain grades of Pots are being superseded in some extensive manufactures by a recently discovered mineral product, and other works which have used large amounts of Pot Ash are doing much less business, owing probably in some measure to the stoppage of the American war. Our quotations for Pearls are nominal.

—Reports from the interior of the South afford accumulating evidence that the supply of cotton will largely exceed the estimate of \$1,500,000 paraded by interested holders of the staple. The Secretary of the Treasury has reports from the cotton States upon which he estimates that the supply, exclusive of the new crop, will prove to be not less than 2,250,000 bales, of which he supposes that 1,000,000 bales will come from the region West of the Mississippi. The Galveston Bulletin, of the 13th ult., makes complaint of the want of a sufficient quantity of shipping in that port to transport to New Orleans and to New York the cotton now there, and which is arriving from the interior. The quantity of the staple West of the Mississippi, is estimated at about 1,000,000 of bales, a large portion of which will at once seek the market in exchange principally for supplies of manufactured goods.

MONEY MARKET.—Money continues a drug. The rates are very low for call-loans on first-class securities, such as Government stocks and gold. The range is four to five per cent. On bond and mortgage the rate is six to seven per cent., and business paper of high grade is easy to sell at 6½ to 7 per cent. The banks loan freely. The city banks report loans past week \$221,255,082—an increase of \$2,700,000; deposits \$200,470,293—an increase of \$2,200,000. The national banks also increased their issues last week over five millions. With this inordinate supply of currency and of money to loan, no wonder speculation is rife and gold advances. Premium on gold is 43 per cent. and the stiffness of the gold market advances prices of all articles of food, clothing, and raw material. Cotton does not come forward so freely as was anticipated. The reported large stocks in the South remain there. The receipts here are inadequate to the demand from Europe for our 6 per cent. 5-20 year U. S. bonds is active, and keeps down the rates of exchange, and our exports of produce are increasing. Rate for 60-day bills is 108½ to 109 per cent. in gold, with a downward tendency. The demand for gold to pay duties is brisk, but for export is insignificant—only \$298,286 was shipped last week. The imports last week were \$3,687,174 valued in gold, and exports of produce, \$4,063,538, valued in currency. The subscriptions to the 7-30 amounting to \$35,600,000 for the week. Only \$50,000,000 remain uncollected, which will probably be absorbed in a week or two. The Boston banks have agreed to lend the U. S. Treasury ten millions of dollars at 5 per cent. for certificates payable in 30 days in legal tenders.—N. Y. Ince pendent 20th July

PRODUCE IN NEW YORK.—The Wheat market has shown considerable activity during the past week, and prices have steadily advanced under the influence of better Western and European markets and a good demand for shipment. During the past as the previous week, it has rained almost daily, and the weather has been for the most part cool, but up to the present time, all accounts of the crops are of the most satisfactory kind. The shipments have exceeded the receipts for past week, and the stock in store has been reduced about 100,000 bushels. The receipts have averaged 43,000 bushels per day, against 34,000 bushels daily at the same time last year. The stock in store is estimated at about 450,000 bushels.

THE FISHERIES.—A correspondent writing to the Quebec Chronicle from Gaspe Basin on Friday, says:—"The cod-fishery is very poor. Reports from the North Shore state that cod-fishing is bad there. The salmon-fishery, however, is pretty good."

HOGS.—There is a very great demand, throughout the country, for all kinds of pigs, and farmers are turning it to good account. The American buyers are travelling the whole country in search of purchasers of all kinds, and

offer remarkably good prices. They are shipped in car-loads to the other side.—Toronto Globe.

LUMBER.—The lumber trade is exceedingly dull. At the commencement of the season it was thought the prospects were good and that a lively business would be done. On the opening of the New York State Canals the market became somewhat lively and a spirit of speculation showed itself for a few weeks, but a decline in Albany dispelled every feeling of that kind. When gold was down to 125 and 180 there was a considerable margin left for operators here, but now with the high price of gold and the low price of lumber we are almost shut out of that market for the present. Dealers report that good common lumber can be bought for \$12 in Albany. Large lots are being shipped constantly, on account of the low rates of freight, and are being stored in the American yards to wait for better prices. There are but few transactions taking place and we cannot give quotations for this month.—Toronto Leader.

FORSTYTH, BELL, & CO.'S PRICES CURRENT OF TIMBER, DEALS, &c. QUEBEC, JULY 20, 1865.

	S. d.	S. d.
WHITE PINE, in the raft, for inferior and ordinary according to average, &c., measured off.....	0 4½	0 6½
for Superior do do.....	0 6	0 10
in shipping order according to average and quality.....	0 7	0 11
board, 18 to 21 inch, in shipping order.....	1 0	1 1
RED PINE, in the raft, measured off, do do.....	0 5	0 11
in Shipping order, 40 feet.....	0 9	0 9
OAK, by the Dram.....	1 5	1 8
ELM, by the Raft according to average and quality.....	0 7	0 11
in Shipping order, 85 to 40 feet.....	0 10	1 0
TAMARAC, Square, according to size in the raft.....	0 7	1 0
Flat.....	0 4½	0 7½
STAVES, for Specification Merchant-able sid.....	242 10	245 01
Do All Pipe, according to thickness 547 10	547 10	547 10
Do W. O. Puncture, Merchantable 212 00	212 00	212 10
DEALS, Bright according to Specification 215 10	215 10	215 60
Do. floated.....	214 10	215 00 for 1sts, 2nds for 2nds
Do Spruce do 27 50 to 27 10 for 1sts, 24 10 for 2ds	27 50	27 10 for 1sts, 24 10 for 2ds

REMARKS.

The advices from England still continue very discouraging, notwithstanding the continued supply of money for all commercial requirements on easy terms, and we can hold out no prospect of any immediate demand for timber. The prospects of harvests are very cheering, and if fully realized we think the fall of the year will see an improvement in most articles of our exports.

White Pine is arriving very freely, and the prices obtained are much the same as when we last issued our circular. Rafts of 50 to 60 feet, if good, move off without much difficulty at from 5½ to 6½. There is not the same demand for large timber, although a lot of Bay of Quinte of 81½ feet, was sold at 9½, and 104 was refused for a prime lot from the rear of Toronto.

Red Pine continues dull and depressed, both for large and small.

Oak timber is selling at very low prices in England, and the demand here is very inactive. Elm is very difficult of sale, although there is more enquiry for small averages, and 30 feet has been sold at 8d to 9d per foot.

Tamarac is wanted, and there is very little of large square in market.

For Staves the demand is very slack, although prices at Home are very fair.

Deals Bright Pine are still saleable at from 215 10s to 216 10s for 1sts, 2nds, and 3rds in proportion.

Freights are improving, and 26s 6d is the last charter we have heard of for timber for Clyde.

—An extensive vein of silver has been discovered at Bayfield, Wis.

—At the regular auction sales of coal in New York on Friday, compared with the last sale, Pittston advanced 5c to 25c, and Scranton declined 10c to 25c.

N. Y. MARKETS (By Telegraph), July 25.

Flour 10c better; receipts 12,855 barrels. Wheat 3c to 5c better; receipts 28,200 bushels. Corn 1c better; receipts 54,780 bush. Rye quiet. Pork quiet. Lard quiet. Ashes dull. Oats 1c better. Barley dull. Peas nominal. Freights quiet.

CORN EXCHANGE REPORTS.

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES.

Furnished by the Corn Exchange exclusively to the Witness

MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE, July 25, 1865.

Flour, per bbl. of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$5.95 to \$6.20; Extra, \$5.50 to \$5.70; Fancy, \$5.15 to \$5.30; Superfine from Canada Wheat (old-ground), \$4.60 to \$4.90; Superfine from Canada Wheat (fresh-ground), \$4.90 to \$5.20; Super from Western Wheat, \$4.60 to \$4.70; City-Brands of Superfine, \$4.65 to \$4.80; Western States Flour, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Super No. 2, \$4.20 to \$4.40; Fine, \$4.00 to \$4.05; Middlings, \$3.60 to \$3.80; Pollards, \$3.00 to \$3.50; Bag-Flour, \$2.65 to \$2.80 per 112 lbs. Fair a tendency on 'Change, to-day, with slightly improved demand, but without material change in quotations, several lots of Western Superfine were sold at \$4.62½ and \$4.65. Fine was sold in one instance at \$4.10. Several lots going at \$4.00 to \$4.05. Middlings, brought \$3.75 and Pollards \$3.00.

OATMEAL, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—\$4.50 to \$4.60, according to quality.

WHEAT, per bu. of 60 lbs.—The quantity of Wheat offering was not large. Sales of two cargoes Milwaukee Club reported at 95c for No. 1 and 92½c for No. 2.

CORN, per 56 lbs.—Nothing doing. ASHES per 100 lbs.—First Pots \$5.07½ to \$5.10; Seconda, \$5.20 to \$5.30. First Pearls, \$5.30.

BUTTER, per lb.—15c to 17½c for good qualities. Considerable enquiry for shipping lots. PORK, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—No sales reported. CHEESE, per lb.—Good Dairy 9c to 9½c, and of Factory at 10c to 10½c.

FINANCIAL.—Sterling Exchange without demand; Bankers' 60-day drafts on London nominally 9 prem. for cash; counter-raise 10½ prem. Private 60-day drafts, 8½ to 8½ prem. Documentary and Produce nominal. Bank demands drafts on New York 30 to 31 dis.

Family Reading

AND WENT AND TOLD JESUS.

MATTHEW IV. 12.

Go and tell Jesus, when thy heart is full
Of keen and bitter agony and woe;
When the dear, precious form of one beloved
Is taken from thee in the grave laid low,
Go and tell Jesus he will soothe thy grief,
To thy poor sorrowing spirit bring relief.

Go and tell Jesus, when thy sins arise
In dread and dark perspective to thy sight;
"Saviour, I am unclean, unclean,—Oh, save!
Oh, cheer my gloomy way with thy clear
light!"

Go and tell Jesus; he will speak to thee,
"Be of good cheer: thy sins shall be pardoned."

Go and tell Jesus when thy heart is glad,
And hope and joy and friendship crowd thy
way;
Ask for his sanctifying grace o'er all,
That nought may cause thy heart from him to
stray;

Go and tell Jesus, making joy more bright,
Shedding o'er all thy path a holier light.

Go and tell Jesus, when thy weak heart fails,
In looking through the mist of coming years;
Thou think'st of sorrow, pain, and loneliness,
And the bright world seems but a vale of
tears;

Go and tell Jesus; he will say to thee,
"I thy good shepherd am, Oh trust in me!"

Go and tell Jesus; so shall he be thine,
And sweetly will he come and dwell with
thee;

Tell all to Jesus; so shalt thou be his,
His through all time, and all eternity:
"Saviour I come; Oh, teach me how to pray,
Thou only canst; my Life, my Truth, my Way."
—Leaves of Comfort.

DIARY OF MRS. KITTY TREVILYAN. —A STORY OF THE TIMES OF WHITEFIELD AND THE WESLEYS.

[Continued.]

Toby Treffry, when Mother and I went to
visit him to-day, asked me, as a great favor,
if I would let him come to our house for an
hour now and then, and help him on a little
with his reading, which, with all his pains, he
still finds to be a very slow and not very
certain mode of gaining information or edifi-
cation.

This evening he came for the first time, and
with some hesitation made known the chief
reason for his coming. He has contrived to
collect a few of the idle boys of the parish on
Sunday afternoons to teach them. And the
attempt to teach others has made him feel
his own deficiencies.

This accounts for the sounds Father and I
heard issuing from Toby's cottage as we were
walking through the fields last Sunday.

The singing was hearty enough, at all
events. From time to time the voices seemed
to grow uncertain and scanty, and to wander
up and down without knowing where they
were going. But after such intervals Toby's
voice was heard again like a captain's col-
lecting his scattered forces after a chase, and
the whole body came in together at the close
with a shout, which Father and I concluded
was the chorus.

I suggested to Betty that a little elemen-
tary instruction in singing, such as I could
give, might not be useless to Toby, if he is
to be choir-master as well as school-master.
"More than that, too, Mrs. Kitty," said
Betty. "Toby is appointed local preacher in
our district."

This announcement was made as Betty was
taking away the supper, and the demand on
Mother's faith in Methodist arrangements was
more than it could stand.

"Toby a preacher, when he can scarcely
read!" she said.

"It's my belief, Missie," said Betty, "folks
can learn to read a deal easier than they can
learn what the Almighty's learned Toby's
poor soul. There be things seen in the depths
Toby's been brought through never written
in any lesson-book I ever see."

But whatever the profit may be to others,"
said Mother, "it must certainly be dangerous
to Toby himself to set himself up to teach
when he has still so much to learn."

"Well, Missie," said Betty, very respect-
fully but very determinedly, "seems to me if
folks weren't to teach till they've no more to
learn, they may wait till doomsday and be-
yond that, for aught that I know by. And
more than that, the folks that do set up to
teach because they've done learning be most
times mortal dull teachers. Nothing comes
so home, it's my belief, as a lesson the teacher
just learned himself from the Almighty, whe-
ther from His word or His hand. However,
Toby's not set himself to preach, any way.
Folks felt the better for what he'd got to
say, and they would make him preach, and
that's the end of it."

"A congregation who will listen is a good
beginning for any person, certainly," said
Father. "And I suppose Toby's salary is
not very high."

"The pay of them local preachers," re-
plied Betty drily, "is most times the wrong
way as far as this world goes. Toby often
walks ten or twenty miles to his preaching,
and when it rains he's got to preach in his
wet clothes, and sit in them till they're dry;
so that his pay is like to be weary bones now
and rheumatics in old age. But he's content
enough."

But when afterwards I questioned Toby
about his self-denying labors, he colored and
stammered, very little like a man accustomed
to public speaking, and at last he said,—

"They've only taken me on trial for a year.
And as to the pay, the times I have alone on
my walks, thinking over the Lord and His
goodness, and all I've got to tell them, is pay
enough for a prince, let alone the joy of see-
ing the poor souls comforted and cheered up
a bit, while I talk to them, and the hope of
meeting them all and thanking the Lord to-
gether by-and-by."

These last weeks have been full of events.
Uncle Beauchamp died rather suddenly two
months since. The shock of his death

brought on a slight attack of paralysis on
Aunt Beauchamp, which has disabled her
from entering any more into society.

Cousin Evelyn is left in possession of a
large fortune, bequeathed for her sole use, on
her father's death, by the will of her paternal
grandmother. She has announced her inten-
tion of paying us a visit. Aunt Beauchamp
keeps recurring, like a sick child, to a prom-
ise she says Mother made her of coming to
nurse her if ever she should need it. And
since it is impossible for Mother to leave
home, the doctors (Evelyn writes) think that
difficult as the journey is, the most probable
chance of recovery is for her mother to come
for a time to us, if we can receive her. Mo-
ther's tender and quiet nursing may restore
her shattered nerves, or, at least, soothe them.
Betty's anticipations of this visit are not
bright. A fine London man and maid, and
an old maid, who (she has heard) paints
her face (which no one did in the Bible ex-
cept Jezebel), are very serious apprehensions
to Betty.

Indeed, she said to-day, it was quite enough,
in her opinion, to account for all the evil
signs and tokens; so that, she admits, there
is some comfort even in such an upset as this,
for such sights and sounds might have boded
worse.

Betty's spirits are much relieved, now that
our visitors have come, by discovering that
the "London man" turns out to be a Metho-
dist collier lad, promoted by Evelyn to the
dignity of groom; that my aunt's woman,
Mrs. Sims, is entirely engrossed with her
mistress; that my poor Aunt herself has re-
linquished the rouge; and that in a very short
time the whole party are to emigrate from
our house to the parsonage.

For Evelyn has bought the next presenta-
tion of the living for Hugh, for which, she
says, we owe her no thanks, as she intends
ruthlessly to rob us of the parsonage, and to
convert it, with the exception of such rooms
as she and her mother want, into an orphan-
house for some destitute little girls she has
discovered in London, for whom she believes
the great hope is to take them quite out of
reach of their bad relations, into such a new
world as this will be to them.

(To be continued.)

THE PAR VALUE OF BRAINS.

Working as an ordinary hand in a Phila-
delphia ship-yard, until very recently, was a
man named John L. Knowlton. His pecu-
liarity was that while others of his class were at
ale-houses, or indulging in jollification, he was
incessantly engaged in studying upon me-
chanical combinations. One of his compan-
ions secured a poodle dog, and spent six
months in teaching the quadruped to execute
sij upon his hind legs. Knowlton spent the
same period in discovering some method by
which he could saw out ship timber in a
bevelled form. The first man taught his dog to
dance; Knowlton, in the same time, discov-
ered a mechanical combination that enabled
him to do in two hours the work that would
occupy a dozen men, by a slow and laborious
process, an entire day. That saw is now in
use in all the ship-yards of the country. It
cuts a beam to a curved shape as quickly as
an ordinary saw-mill saw rips up a straight
plank. Knowlton continued his experiments.
He took no part in parades or target shootings,
and in a short time afterward he secured a
patent for a machine that turns any materi-
al whatever into a perfectly spherical form.
He sold a portion of his patent for a sum that
is equivalent to a fortune. The machine is
now in operation in this city cleaning off can-
non balls for the Government. When the
ball comes from the mould its surface is
irregular, and the ordinary process of smooth-
ing it was slow and wearisome. This machine
almost in an instant, and with mathemat-
ical accuracy, peels it to the surface of the
metal, at the same time smoothing out any
deviations from the perfect spheroidal form.
Within a few days the same plain, unassum-
ing man has invented a boring machine that
was tested in the presence of a number of
scientific gentlemen a few days ago. It bored,
at the rate of twenty-two inches an hour,
through a block of granite, with a pressure of
but three hundred pounds upon the drill. A
gentleman present offered him ten thousand
dollars upon the spot for a part interest in the
invention in Europe, and the offer was ac-
cepted on the spot. The moral of all this is,
that people who keep on studying are sure to
achieve something. Mr. Knowlton doesn't
consider himself by any means brilliant, but
if once inspired with an idea he pursues it un-
til he forces it into tangible shape. If every-
body would follow copy, the world would be
less filled with idlers, and the streets with
grumblers and malcontents.—*Philadelphia
North American.*

TEACHING THE CHILDREN TO GIVE.— AN AFFECTING INCIDENT.

In one of the churches in Western New
York, at the close of the evening service—
the Bible collection having been taken in the
morning, but the amount not announced un-
til the evening—a pious physician, of large
practice and highly esteemed in the whole
community, approached the pulpit, and
placed in the hands of our Agent a sum of
money, saying that, though absent when the
collection was taken, he could not consent to
let the occasion pass without his personal
aid in the work. After his name and gift
had been added to the list, he took from his
pocket a package of pennies, and presenting it,
said, with deep emotion, "Take this as
my little Georgy's gift to the American Bible
Society." This induced the questions, "Who
is Little Georgy, and what are the circum-
stances of his gift?" In the conversation
which followed, the following facts were elic-
ited: Little Georgy, an only son, and one of
precocious intellect, and of unusual promise,
had died a few weeks before, of that terrible
 scourge, diphtheria. He was only five years
and two months old, but though so young
had given evidence of real piety. Some time
previous to his sickness, the parents, in order

to encourage him in habits of benevolence
which he would be likely to observe when
grown up, arranged to place in his hands all
the pennies which they should obtain. These
were to be called "Georgy's for benevolent
purposes;" and the arrangement was for the
little fellow to empty his purse, as his own
gift, on every occasion when something should
be presented.

Just before Little Georgy's death, and while
his parents were bending with sad hearts over
his couch, he looked up earnestly to his fa-
ther and said, "Pa, won't you bring my pen-
nies?" They were brought, and placed up-
on a little table by his side. He tried to count
them, but was too ill to do so. After closing
his eyes, and clasping his hands, as if in si-
lent prayer, he whispered to his father with
all the strength he could gather, "Pa, when
I am in heaven, give them to the Bible
cause."

The occasion above mentioned was the first
opportunity which the physician had found to
fulfill his child's request. The gift, valued at
a dollar, was Little Georgy's legacy to the
American Bible Society. Will not some pa-
rent be incited by this incident to instruct
his children, while they are young, in the
beautiful and useful art of giving?—*Bible So-
ciety Record.*

BE IMPORTUNATE.

I was sitting in my study, engaged in the
preparation of a sermon for the coming Sab-
bath, and had determined to have the time
exclusively to myself.

There was about the house a little, mis-
chievous, blue-eyed boy, who seemed an
enemy to all quiet; for from early light till
darkness came, two little hands found baby
work, and feet seemed never tired. Our
Willie was a little one then; now he can read,
and has two little sisters. But memory has
the baby Willie, with dimpled chin and tot-
tering step, and never silent tongue. He
could not talk then—only a few little words—
but the chattering was continuous. I need
describe no further, for many of you have or
had just such a boy.

But I was going to say I was sitting in my
study, busily engaged, when, pater, pater,
I heard a pair of little feet. I knew in which
direction the toes were turned, and I pressed
my lips together and gave a nod,
saying mentally, "I'll not let him in. I
thought when I sat down I would not, and I
will not." Pater, pater, and somebody said
"papa" just outside the door. I knew who
it was, but he must not disturb me.

"Papa!"
I ran my fingers through my hair, and
tried to study.

"Papa!"
I heard the latch rattle, and I knew some-
body was rising on tiptoe to reach it. I
remembered a golden pen I once lost by Willie's
hand—broken by sticking it in the table like
a scratch awl. It did not take me as long to
think as it does to write, or you to read it
now.

"Papa! papa!"
A thought flashed into my heart, not mind,
and tears came into my eyes. Quickly I
opened the door, and clasped the child to my
bosom; I was willing to gratify its simple
wants, for I was going to preach on importu-
nate prayer, and there was an illustration.
I took it as providential.

Are we not God's "little children?" The
Apostle John says as much (1 John iv. 4.)
Though gray hairs cover our heads, yet little
children are we, and we come again and
again with our cries and wants. We seek,
we knock, and we say, "Our Father!" He
may not open until, like Willie, we patiently
wait and often cry "Father." He hears, he
smiles, and opens unto us. His strong arms
are about us. His hand supports the totter-
ing steps of his little children.

Though we often do worse than mischiev-
ous things, they are forgiven. When we
approach our Father,

"He bows his gracious ear;
We never plead in vain,
Yet we must wait till he appear,
And pray, and pray again."
—*Lutheran Observer.*

HOW TO BEGIN.

There was a little boy, one day coming
from school, when he saw some wild roses
growing by the fence at the side of the road.
"Oh! these will please my mother," said he,
so he threw down his books on the grass and
commenced to pick the roses. He had gather-
ed several beautiful ones, when in trying to
break one stout stem, a thorn ran into his
hand. He pulled it out, as he supposed, and
then started for home. His mother was as
pleased as he hoped she would be with the
roses, and he thought no more about the
thorn. But the next morning the place on
his finger where it had been was red, and
felt sore. He showed it to his mother, and
she said, "Perhaps you did not get all the
thorn out, let me take a fine needle, and try
if the point of the thorn is there." "Oh
no, mother," said he, drawing away his hand;
"that will hurt me, and I know there is no-
thing there." So his mother put on a little
piece of plaster, and he went to school. All
day his finger pained him, and at night it
was much swollen, but still he would not let
his mother look for the thorn. And so his
finger continued to grow worse, the pain be-
came more and more severe, until his father
took him to the doctor, who cut his finger
with his lancet, and drew from it a little black
speck, the point of the thorn which he had
run in his finger days before. "There," said
the doctor, "now your finger will get well,
but with that little thorn there, all the
plasters in the world would not have cured it."

Now this is the way to cure a festering
finger; first to remove the cause, and then
the finger will get well.

Two little children had each a piece of
ground given them to make a garden. They
were delighted, and immediately went to their
father's garden and picked roses and plucks

and honeysuckles, and stuck their stems in
the ground. Then what a gay, beautiful gar-
den they had, to be sure, but when they came
to it the next morning all the flowers were
withered, and their gardens had lost their
beauty. The gardener came along just then,
and they told him of their disappointment.
"Why," said he, "did you think flowers would
grow without any roots? why they will wither
in an hour or two. Let me put some rose-
bushes and pink-roots in your garden, and then
you will have flowers which will last some
time." You see these children did not know
how to begin to make a garden.

"My father has promised me a bright new
penny, when he comes home to-night if I will
be good all day, and I mean to be," said
Fred. So he sat down to read an interesting
book, and for half an hour was as good and
quiet as possible. Then he went to the nur-
sery to play with his little brother. But there
what a sight met his eyes! His beautiful new
drum with a hole knocked in the side. Nurse
had given it to his little brother to play with,
and he had made the hole with the end of the
poker. Fred forgot all about his penny then;
he called nurse all sorts of names, and struck
his little brother so that he screamed loudly,
and his mamma came to see what was the
matter.

Fred did not begin right to be good. He
should have asked God to take all angry
passionate feelings from his heart, for while
there is sin in the heart it must show itself.

I have told these stories to teach you that
you can no more be good children or do what
is right, unless God changes your hearts, than
the boy's finger could get well while the point
of the thorn was in it, or the children's flow-
ers grow and keep fresh without any root.
Perhaps some days you may think you have
been good, but if you will try to remember,
you will find that on those days you had no
particular temptation to do wrong; nothing
happened to cause you to be angry or made
you wish to be disobedient.

Thus you see the way to begin to do right,
is to ask God to take away all sin from your
heart, that is, to make you hate sin and love
holiness. Then only, you may hope to please
Him and keep His holy law. Besides this,
each day you must ask Him to give you His
Holy Spirit, to keep you in the right way.
For the flowers, even though they had roots,
would wither and die without sun or rain; so,
though you may have a new heart, yet you
cannot do what is pleasing in the sight of God
without the help of the Holy Spirit.

May every little child who reads this get
this new heart which God has promised to all
who ask for it.

HARRY'S EARNINGS.

"Uncle," said Harry Gray, "can you
help a poor man who lives down in the vil-
lage? He is very sick." "No," said his
uncle gruffly; "I haven't any money to
spare." Harry looked disappointed. After a
moment he said, hesitating, "Uncle, I'd like
to earn some money." "Well," said his
uncle, looking up from his paper, "I told you
I would give you three cents for every wheel-
barrow load of stones you carried away from
the hill, but you did not want to do it." "I
will do it now if I may," said Harry. "Very
good; you may begin as soon as you like."

Harry jumped up, and ran out to find the
wheelbarrow. Picking up stones was dull
work, yet he set about it as eagerly and mer-
rily as if he loved it. He wheeled the great
barrow up the hill, and began to fill it with
stones, singing away as gaily as a lark. The
summer sun grew warm, and Harry's shoul-
ders began to ache, but with a bright smile
on his face he said to himself "Inasmuch as
ye have done it unto one of the least of these
my brethren, ye have done it unto me." That
was the secret of Harry's readiness for this
work; he was doing something for his Savi-
our. He was determined to earn eighteen
cents, so he tugged away at the heavy stones
until the six loads were rolled down the
hill.

Harry went home with that same happy
look on his face, and said, "Auntie, will you
give me a loaf of bread?" "To take to that
sick man?" "Yes." "But you are too
tired to go with it now." "Oh no; I can
go. Please let me have a little pitcher too."
"What do you want that for?" "I'll bring
it back safely," said Harry, coloring a little.
So Auntie gave it to him, for she loved the
little motherless boy.

First he went to find his uncle, who gave
him the eighteen cents. Then he went to
the village grocery store, and bought a little
bundle of sugar, a small package of tea, and
his pitcher full of milk. If ever there was a
happy little boy it was Harry, as he trotted
up the village street, holding fast his pre-
cious packages.

He reached a forlorn wooden house and
knocked at the door. "Come in," said a
feeble voice. Harry went in, and there on a
bed lay the sick man for whom he was
looking. "I have brought you something,
because some one told me you were in want,"
he said gently. "God bless you, boy," said
the sick man; "I have not tasted a mouthful
to-day." Just then a woman came in. "See,
Mary," said he; "God has sent us food at
last;" and the woman took Harry's hands in
hers, and the tears poured down her face as
she asked her dear father in heaven to bless
him.

Harry lay down upon his bed that night
a weary little boy; but do you think he was
sorry he had worked so hard for his Saviour?
—*American Messenger.*

IS HIS PURSE CONVERTED?—A Methodist
laborer in Wesley's time, Captain Webb,
when any one informed him of the conver-
sion of a rich man, was in the habit of ask-
ing, "Is his purse converted?" Without
the conversion of his purse, the good captain
could give no credit to the conversion of the
man. In this he agreed with Dr. Adam
Clark, who used to say, "He did not believe
in the religion that costs a man nothing." The
religion that costs a man nothing is no
religion at all, and the being converted, all
but the purse, is no conversion at all.

WHEN?

Reader, I dare say you mean one day to be a
decidedly religious man. You hope one day
to be a really serious Christian. You think
it quite right to be a pious person. But when
is this to be? I say again, When?

Are you waiting till you are sick? Surely
you will not tell me that is a convenient sea-
son. When your body is racked with pain,
when your mind is distracted with all kinds of
anxious thoughts, when calm reflection is al-
most impossible, is this a time for beginning
the mighty work of acquaintance with God?
Do you talk so?

Are you waiting till you are old? Surely
you have not considered what you say. You
will serve Christ when your members are worn
out and decayed, and your hands unfit to
work? You will go to him when your mind
is weak and your memory failing? You will
give up the world when you cannot help it?
Is this your plan? Beware, lest you insult
God!

Are you waiting till you have leisure?—
And when do you expect to have more time
than you have now? Every year you live
seems shorter than the last; you find more
to think of, or to do, and less power and op-
portunity to do it. And, after all, you know
not whether you may live to see another year.
Boast not yourself of to-morrow—now is the
time.

Are you waiting till your heart is perfectly
fit and ready? That will never be. It will
always be corrupt and sinful,—a bubbling
fountain, full of evil. You will never make it
like a pure white sheet of paper, that you can
take to Jesus, and say, "Here I am, Lord,
ready to have thy law written on my heart!"
Delay not; better begin as you are.

Oh, lingering reader, are not your excuses
broken reeds? Be honest; confess the truth!
You have no good reason for waiting.

Take the advice I give you. Resolve this
day to wait no longer. Begin at once to seek
God. Repent of your sins. Break off your
evil habits. Believe on Christ, and be saved.
—*Rev. J. C. Ryle.*

CHRISTIAN TREASURY.

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

I am He that comforteth you. Isa. li 12

The Lord's people are often low and de-
sponding; they do not live up to their privi-
leges; the things of time make too deep an
impression, because they do not sufficiently
realize eternal things. But Jehovah is their
Comforter: as such He presents Himself
unto us this morning. He is the God of all
comfort. He comforteth those who are cast
down. To Him alone we must look for com-
fort. Looking to creatures for what God
promises, dishonors Him; and at such times
the creature may well ask, "Am I in God's
stead?" Our God comforts us by His Son,
whom He hath given to us; by the Spirit,
which He pours out upon us; by His word,
in which He speaks to us; by His ordinances,
in which He meets with us; and by His pro-
vidence, when He appears for us. Let us
look unto God as the author and giver of all
comfort, let us plead with Him to comfort
us according to His word, and let us be sus-
picious of all comfort which does not come
from Him, and lead to Him. He must be
the centre to which we always tend, and the
circumference within which we move.

Jesus, all our consolations
Flow from Thee, the sovereign good;
Love and faith and hope and patience
All are purchased by Thy blood:
Now thy richest grace impart,
Sanctify and fill my heart.

—When the heart is pure there is hardly
anything which can mislead the understanding
in matters of imminent personal concernment.

—Jesus hath many lovers of his heavenly
kingdom, but few bearers of his cross. He
hath many desirers of his consolation, but few
of his tribulation. He findeth many compan-
ions of his table, but few of his abstinence.—
All desire to rejoice with him; few are willing
to suffer anything with him or for him.—
Many follow Jesus unto the breaking of bread,
but few to the drinking of the cup of his pas-
sion. Many reverence his miracles; few fol-
low the ignominy of his cross.

THE FEET.—A specific odor escapes every
one, and is peculiar to the individuals; the
dog knows it, and by it follows his master
through any crowd of human beings, and
never makes a mistake. A man's organ of
smell is not thus acutely developed; still there
are persons whose peculiar penetrating odor
is readily recognized. This does not come
from the "sweat" of the person, as no such
odor issues from the hands, but from the
arm-pits and other parts kept covered by the
clothing, so that the air cannot penetrate;
nor is the application of soap and water too
frequently allowed. When the "sweat"
remains in contact with the skin, it undergoes
a chemical change, and it is this which dis-
engages the peculiarly disagreeable odor, as
to the feet particularly; thus this chemical
formation is a kind of fetid fat which is ab-
sorbed into the pores of the leather, and there
it is detained with fresh additions daily, for
weeks and months, with increasing rancidity,
as the smell of any old boot or shoe will
demonstrate. Some people wear stockings
without change from the time they are first
put on till they are worn full of holes. Very
many do not wash their feet oftener than once
a month; only a few as often as once a week.
The feet ought to be washed every night
before going to bed, and no stocking, boot, or
shoe should be put on a second time till it has
had a whole day's sunning, at least by those
who have an ambition to be and feel as sweet
and clean as a dew drop on the rose of sum-
mer, or put two table-spoons of the compound
of spirits of ammonia—hartshorn—in a basin
of water, and wash the face, hands, arms,
armpits, and feet with it. The skin is left
fresh, clean, and sweet; it is perfectly harm-
less, and costs but little.—*Hall's Journal of
Health.*

The Miscellany.

[For the Witness.]

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The ship at last has left green Erin's shore,
Like some huge spider spinning out her cable;
We almost think, as would our sires before,
The deed is Satan's work or else a fable.

Perchance we soon shall more than realize
The feat that frisky Puck proposed to do:
His girdle round the earth in anywise
Had been unfit to flash a message through.

O thou artistic nerve of Nature's frame!
When thou art laid along the ocean's floor,
Tell us of things for which we have no name,
In soundless depths beneath the surges roar.

Tell us of wrecks and of their dismal fate,
If they by fog or storm were overtaken;
We pine for all of old or modern date;
Describe the great sea-serpent and the kraken.

Give us a note of those whose dreamless sleep
Must pass in cabins, air and light denied;
Whose breasts heave not but with the heaving
deep,
Who whirl in ghostly dance at every tide.

So may the latent spark of life increase;
May not a shock thy vital fibres jar,
But to enhance the lovely arts of peace;
Impart to sharks the words that lead to war.
Bedford Co., July 16, 1865.

A CRUISE ON THE WEST COAST OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

U. S. STEAMER HYDROPE,

Realajo, Nicaragua, May 6, 1865.

We remained at Panama long enough to take in coal and provisions, and leaving American interests to be looked after by our friends of the "Cyane," started on a cruise up the Central American coast. A run of thirty miles across the bay, brought us at nightfall to our first anchorage among the islands of the Perlas Archipelago. It would be impossible to conceive anything more attractive than the appearance of these islands viewed from a distance of moderate height, so thickly wooded with shrubs, tamarind, plantain, and cocoa nut trees, that nothing can at first be discerned but a solid mass of brilliant foliage. As we approached, however, deep bays appeared, like sequestered mountain lakes, fringed round with trees and bushes, all of which were loaded with parasitical vines, which drooped over the water in graceful festoons. Birds of brilliant plumage glittered through the foliage; a delicious fragrance was wafted to us on the land breeze, and the whole scenery reminded us of the vivid descriptions of the sunny Isle of France in "Paul and Virginia," or of the romantic old bays and islands which the buccaneers loved so well to visit.

Here, we thought, in these charming and secluded retreats far from "the busy haunts of men," might surely be enjoyed that Utopian existence so extolled by poets, but which it is scarcely necessary to add, is seldom found or enjoyed in this mundane sphere by either poets or other less favored wights. Here, the earth producing fruits in abundance spontaneously, what need of labor or a strife for filthy lucre? Here, nature empties her lap at the feet of her children. Surely the lot of the peaceful dwellers of these lovely islands is to be envied. We found, however, that the few inhabitants of the island we visited were entirely unconscious of the fact of their being favored mortals. They looked upon the life they led amid these lovely surroundings, as being extremely dull and stupid. They cultivate cotton, and during the intervals in their labor train fighting cocks for the sporting gentry of Panama, at which place they reside during the rainy season. They were of the lowest of New Grenadians, and spoke a sort of Spanish *patois*, embroidered perhaps, with several Indian dialects, which was about as intelligible as Sanscrit to us. We left them, and wandering through the fragrant groves, and admiring the lovely scenery, the words of the old hymn constantly recurred to us—words applicable to more countries of the earth than fair Ceylon—

"Where every prospect pleases,
And only man is vile."

We left our anchorage next day, and steering South-westerly across the bay, rounded Point Mala at nightfall, and threading the island mazes of the Gulf of Montijo, anchored in the fine harbor of Bahia Honda, the next day at noon.

To us New Englanders who have been accustomed to associate the sea with rocky shores and sandy beaches, the verdant appearance of these tropical harbors and their surroundings seems something unnatural, but still invests them with all the witchery of a poet's dream. Here are no dark rocky promontories, storm-worn and wave-abraded, nor cheerless beaches of burning sand flinging back the billows of old ocean, but waves of rolling upland, covered with the loftiest trees and densest vegetation, leaving the mountain peaks far inland, gradually descending till their mossy and grass-grown bases are kissed by the foamy lips of the sunny sea. Here, every rock, however small, is covered with vegetable life; and the harbor entrances like niches in the land are not tortuous and rocky channels, but seem like inland rivers winding through dense forests hung with drapery. All the beauties which nature has lavished upon the tropical world are visible on every hand in these sheltered nooks—the slightly palms whose plume-like leaves wave gracefully in the soft breeze, the shady mango whose golden fruit sparkles through the foliage, like the skimmer of guineas through a silken purse, the sensitive mimosa, the mahogany, and the Brazil-wood, rise in stately grandeur, and the lesser trees of the banana and plantain laden with clusters of fruit, like pendant jewels, greet the eye on all sides. Here, also, are different forms of cacti; some gigantic in size rise like fluted columns, spangled here and there by

flowers of the deepest crimson; other forms trail on the ground like huge serpents, or appear in radiating clusters, but all of a colossal size compared to the shrinking conservatory exotics of the temperate zone. Every tree, too, however small, has its branches interwoven and draped with some form of parasitical growth. Here in the deep shade of some stately mango, whose arched and spreading arms remind one of the vaulted roof of some old cathedral, it appears in sombre festoons, like the dusky habiliments of mourning; again appearing in the sunlight like some silken fabric, and seeming to scorn the support of the stately tree, it lifts its gossamer tendrils high in air, but forced at last to bend—

"Downward again to that dear earth,
From which the life that fills and warms
Its graceful being first had birth!"

It hangs in drooping tassels the sport of every breeze. Many and various are the forms it assumes, and science has no names for its many varieties; and it is pleasant to know that these charming vines of the tropics still flourish unnamed in their native woods, and have never been classified by audacious old botanists, to whom "a thing of beauty" is not "a joy forever," but "a thing to be numbered, named, and mummified in Greek and Latin ceremonies."

Time will not allow me to go into a more particular description of these secluded spots. Suffice it for me to say that all we have ever imagined of the beauty and luxuriance of the tropics are here more than realized. There is something unnatural in the stillness of these tropical harbors at night. A certain feeling of sadness and gloom creeps over one which it is impossible to describe. It is a relief when at intervals the silvery sound of the surf can be heard breaking against the shore outside, not with the ceaseless monotone which seems to "steep the soul in awe," but with a sad wild cadence, like the mournful melody of the *Dies Ira* stealing softly through the aisles of some old cathedral.

Bahia Honda was the type of these harbors, and in fact the most secluded one that we visited. We found a few inhabitants here, two old patriarchs with their families, the oldest, who came off to us clad in the decayed remnants of a coffee bag, informed us that he had lived here with his family twenty-seven years, that during that time but three or four vessels had visited that harbor, they remained but a short time—that he cultivated a little rice, but that they depended principally for subsistence upon bananas and other fruits which the earth produces spontaneously, banqueting occasionally upon monkeys and iguana lizards and other like delicacies, but, he added, monkeys were becoming very shy, and he was getting old and could not catch them so well as formerly. Two of his children were ill with the calentura (coast fever) and he feared that as the rainy season was approaching they would not recover. He told his story with a most painful whine, and with many appeals to our charity; and, putting up a few luxuries to cheer his old heart, and comfort him for months, we accompanied him on shore. We found the families occupying three commodious huts, built of a sort of bamboo interwoven curiously with straw, airy and convenient, we thought, but furnishing for the household pets known in the tropics as centipedes, scorpions, tarantulas and chigoes. The first we noticed were as numerous as the comfort or convenience of the inhabitants could well require, and caused us to exercise a wholesome discretion in regard to our movements about the premises. The females, as is usually the case in tropical climes, were "the hewers of wood and the drawers of water," they being busy all the time, while the "lords of creation" looked on with an approving smile, swinging idly in their hammocks. The juvenile portion of the community, especially the two little sufferers for whom our sympathies had been enlisted, were playing about in the tall grass, and certainly gave no indication of approaching dissolution, if one could judge by their merry gambols. A few dressed carcasses resembling skinned babies, hanging from the walls, confirmed the old man's story in regard to the principal article of their food, and in fact the whole family looked exactly as one might expect people fed on monkeys to look. They were almost nude, and really but one degree removed from barbarism, nothing remaining of civilization but the Spanish *patois*, and this extremely mixed.

Wishing them all manner of success in their pastimes of monkey and iguana catching, and unlimited banquets of the same delectable food, we steamed away out of the harbor, and the next day entered the Gulf of Nicoya, anchoring off the little town of Punta Arenas, at sunset.

This port, though but lately of any great commercial importance, has long been celebrated for the superior article of coffee which it exports, and the cultivation of which forms the principal occupation of the inhabitants. The Costa Ricans have long been considered the most enterprising of any of the natives of the Central American States, and certainly they deserve the reputation. The merchants, however, are nearly all foreigners, principally Germans, who enjoy a complete monopoly of the coffee trade. It is nearly all sent to the markets of Europe and the United States, across the isthmus of Panama.

The town is nothing more than a collection of huts built upon a sandy beach; but to the credit of the Costa Ricans be it said, it boasts the only light house in Central America.—Back of the town stands a swamp, filled with the rarest vegetation, in the rainy season a fruitful source of malaria, and the birthplace of disease and death. Punta Arenas is considered the most sickly port on the coast, both natives and foreigners suffering alike.—We found the inhabitants very kind and hospitable, and their coffee of excellent flavor, equal to the finest old Java; farther than this we were not struck with the place, and were glad after a stay of two days to break ground and proceed.

Out of the Gulf of Nicoya and steering northward we entered Port Culebra or the Port of Snakes, a place whose name was sufficient to deter people from becoming very familiar with it, but which we found a very pleasant spot nevertheless. It was almost the exact counterpart of Bahia Honda; a splendid harbor, almost uninhabited and with an excellent ground for fishing, which sport we enjoyed to our hearts' content during the two days we laid there. The name Port of Snakes was certainly a misnomer, for we saw none of the reptiles there, but a river which discharged itself into the bay, swarmed with the most hideous alligators, and which, from the blackness of its waters, and the death-like gloom which surround it, we named the Styx.

Still on, up the coast, we anchored over night in the bay of Salinas, an uninhabited spot, possessing the same general characteristics as Port Culebra and Bahia Honda, a fine harbor, and easy of access. Leaving this, we next anchored twenty miles farther north at the little cove of San Juan del Sur in Nicaragua, the Pacific port of the Opposition line of steamers for California. It is an insignificant place, merely an indentation in the land, but forming a safe and convenient anchorage. Here we found the steamer "Moses Taylor" from San Francisco, with seven hundred passengers on board, like fowls in a coop, and apparently about as comfortable.

Eighteen hours sufficed in this little port, and away northward again, along the verdant shore of Nicaragua. Lofty volcanic cones bristle along the distant horizon, forming a remarkable feature in the landscape. Mom-bacha, Momotombo, Axucos, Santa Clara, extinct volcanoes all, and finally El Viejo, whose sharp-angled peak, rising six thousand feet above the sea level, served as a fine landmark and guide to our destined port—Realajo. We anchored here twelve hours after leaving San Juan.

Port Realajo is the best harbor in Nicaragua and the only port excepting San Juan del Sur at which any trade is carried on. The town of the same name situated seven miles inland, on the banks of a river which debouches into the harbor, is too remote from the sea to be of any use to vessels. Quite a little village has sprung up near the entrance of the harbor, however, which now rivals Realajo itself, and in course of time will be a large town. It was formerly called "Merrimack town" having been commenced and partly built during the stay of the United States frigate of that name some seven years ago. It now rejoices in the name of Corinto.

We found on our arrival the inhabitants of the little village exceedingly jubilant, like good republicans as they are, over the fall of Richmond and the surrender of Lee's army, the steamer having just brought them the news; and here in this far off port of Nicaragua, salutes were fired, rockets sent up, and loud and hearty cheers were given, and all in honor of Northern victories, and the triumph of the cause of human freedom. It is astonishing what long these people have for the United States, and amusing to hear how strenuously they advocate the enforcement of the "Monroe Doctrine." "Now you will soon drive the French out of Mexico," was the first remark we heard after being congratulated on the success of our arms.

This is to be our "headquarters" while on the Central American station, and on many accounts is the best port that could be selected. All the ports on the coast are unhealthy and extremely hot, and there is nothing to amuse or entertain one on shore, save the lovely scenery, and with the thermometer at 95 in the shade, that can only be enjoyed from the vessel's deck under shelter of the awnings.

Dull and tedious indeed the time passes away, enlivened semi-monthly by the arrival of the steamer, by which we receive New York papers only fifteen days old, and letters, without which life here would be almost unsupportable.

As I write, intelligence reaches us of a revolution in the neighboring State of San Salvador, and the presence of our vessel is required to protect American residents and their property. We leave at once for the port of La Union in the Gulf of Fonseca, sixty miles farther north.—*Newburyport Herald.*

THE LATE JOSEPH PAXTON.

Sir Joseph Paxton rose from the ranks to be the greatest gardener of his time, the founder of a new style of architecture, and a man of genius, who devoted it to objects in the highest and noblest sense popular. England is the nursing mother of self-made men, and in this generation the number of them has been greater than in any former age. They bring themselves to the front by their natural force, often in spite of many obstacles due to defective early training and education. Paxton, though humbly born, was still a young man, and in the employ of the Royal Horticultural Society, when he attracted the attention of the late Duke of Devonshire; and it is a striking example of the opportunities which men of high rank possess of winning reputation that the house of Cavendish should have had a sensible addition made to its lustre by the judicious selection of a gardener. Under the skill of Paxton the wild Derbyshire region in which Chatsworth stands became the wonderful place which drew visitors from far and near, and set the example of that princely development of grounds and pleasures which now marks the country homes of the great English families. Its fountains and Italian terraces; its rich woods laid out with such marvellous care; its hot-houses, where the Victoria Regia was first compelled to blossom; and the great conservatory, which was the precursor of the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park and at Sydenham—all are now become familiar objects of admiration. But while Chatsworth attracted the loftiest personages as visitors, its grounds were still left freely open to the dense manufacturing populations close at hand, and Paxton used always to dwell proudly upon this trait in the character of "my Duke," as he called him, who was willing to share with

the humblest of his countrymen his own passion for flowers. It was as a gardener that Paxton first made a name for himself; but it was in the large sense of the word, as one who by a kind of instinct had the beautiful in nature at command to embellish the landscape, and, without the ordinary processes of scientific study, had practically all the laws of plant life at his call. In these delightful pursuits a vigorous, kindly, and sensitive disposition expanded congenially. He had many friends among literary men and artists, with whom he had close and cherished relations; among the great captains of industry, who appreciated and were proud of him; but most of all among younger men than himself whom he could help or cheer on their path through life.

When the scheme of the first Great Exhibition threatened to fall through for want of a suitable building, this was the man who stepped forward to solve the difficulty. The architects and the engineers had brought matters to a dead lock, and a great national *fiasco*, the most humiliating thing that could happen to a practical people like ours, seemed imminent. Then Paxton came with his simple but comprehensive design, and all difficulty vanished. The genial gardener was so clearly and unmistakably right in what he proposed, and he had so many backers in every direction, that, as if Prospero's wand had waved, opposition vanished. The fairy structure was erected, and, as all the world well remembers, the greatest triumph of the Great Exhibition was loudly proclaimed to be the building. So strongly was this felt at the time that a vigorous effort was made to retain it permanently where it stood, and in this Paxton, now Sir Joseph Paxton, strenuously joined. But the effort failed. The House of Commons would have the Park restored to its previous state, and there can be no doubt now that the House decided wisely. While at Kensington the Commissioners of 1861 and the Horticultural Society are struggling with the almost hopeless difficulties of a garden no longer suburban and closely hedged in on every side with chimneys, the old Crystal Palace, removed to the first slope of the Surrey hills, and reconstructed there amidst terraces and fountains and a landscape of surpassing beauty and extent, is a thing by itself in the whole world. It has cost a million and a half of money, but bit by bit its self-supporting character becomes more firmly established. The railways are every day making it more and more accessible to the huge population of London. Music is getting reconciled to a glass and iron home there, and all this has been done with the money of the people, for their own instruction and recreation, mainly by Paxton. He had many fellow-workers, and he was not the man to deny any of them their share, but he was the foremost among them, and we best show our estimate of his performance when we take foreigners there to see and wonder. This was Paxton's "magnum opus," and will now be his monument. He built several great country houses, he was director of the Midland Railway, and engaged in other commercial and industrial undertakings. During the Crimean war he organized a Navy Corps which did excellent service in road-making and other works for the army. He was also a Member of Parliament, having represented Coventry, as a Liberal, since 1854. But in none of these respects does his name claim more than a passing notice. His real title to the regrets of his contemporaries and the regard of those who came after, is the work which he did as a gardener and garden architect, the impulse which he has given to the love of the beautiful in nature, especially among our great town populations; above all, the English breadth and genuineness of his character, which made him the object of affectionate regard to so many friends.—*Times.*

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

The first impressions of San Francisco are very much what I had prefigured. It is a city built on a billowy range of sandhills, high and steep, with short artificial levels created between them, with land stolen from the sea to eke out what more of level was needed for business. The city is laid out with a reckless regularity, like Philadelphia, when nature intended it to be laid out in concentric half-circles, which would have made it as beautiful and original as anything in the world. The streets are steep beyond belief. They run right over what we should call mountains and a street beginning in splendor, and on a dead-level, ends in a sandhill, skirted with the original chapparal, at not half a mile distance. Such an assemblage of ambitious first-class buildings, gleaming with the biggest plate glass, great mirrors, and great upholstery; of iron and wooden and squatty stores; of Spanish-looking stone prisons; of adobe huts covered with tiles, you never imagined. The buildings look odd in this country very soon; the city is now half brick covered with stucco, and half wood, painted to look like stone. The dwelling-houses are very much upon the hills, and are, many of them, elaborate and elegant, and in the midst of gardens; flowers and running vines abound. The public buildings are mostly third rate, although the school-houses are in several cases significantly fine. The public squares are few. Many of the best houses are low, by reason of fear of earthquakes.

The great feature of San Francisco is the vastness of the sandhills, which seem to be a desert quarrelling with civilization for dominion. You are reminded, in the form, size, and general aspect of these hills, of the mountains around Jerusalem. The country is oriental in sky, in configuration, and in absence of trees and water, as well as in size and grotesqueness of vegetable growth. The idea of Palmyra and Tadmor is reversed: there, the desert is conquering palaces; here, palaces are conquering the desert; but both are in great force and in vigorous juxtaposition. You cannot overrate the savageness of

the immediate neighborhood of the city; nay, within the city bounds. A walk of fifteen minutes carries you into the bush. The original sand and chapparal are there. It is already divided into lots. It is worth dollars per foot; for next year a three-story building—a block perhaps—will be on this very spot. The vastness of the enterprise, the actual manual labor, the courage, and patience, with which this coast and city have been seized and subdued, is appalling to contemplate. You cannot imagine how any people ever had the heart to undertake, or the persistency to accomplish it; and people say the mines present a still more wonderful evidence of this.

The next thing is the average age of the people, at the most energetic period of life—few men above forty-five, few below twenty; few young people, except children under ten; no grandaunts.

The next, that nobody expects to stay here, although more than half will. All talk of the States as home.

The next, that everybody is talking of the newness and miraculous growth. There is no other topic, except "feet," meaning interest in "Gould & Curry," etc. There are more dignity, civilization, and self-respect in the customs of the people than I counted on; more gravity, less disposition to overrate people and things. I have as yet seen many people, but few leaders. I do not know whether they have them out of commerce.—The peril in which fidelity to the Union is placed by extreme distance is constant. A tax on mining stock would strain the cord fearfully. Let all who have any influence warn the government how that tax is placed on everything except dividends themselves.—O how important the Pacific Railroad is!—How little I appreciated it at home!—*Dr. Bellows, in Pacific Monthly.*

APPLETON AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

(To the Editor of the Montreal Witness.)

Sir,—This young and beautiful village, in the township of Ramsay, Lanark county, has improved perhaps faster than many of its neighbors during the past few years. Among its other numerous manufactures is a large woollen mill, lately erected, and in full operation, which has given quite an impetus to the place. It is a blue limestone building, five stories high, neatly finished, and surmounted with a bell. A train of other buildings soon followed in its track. Among others is a large flour mill, which has almost eclipsed the factory. Stately mansions have sprung up, ornamented with hedge and bower, which would do credit to any city. Shade trees in endless variety line the roads in every direction far out of the village. The Mississippi river flows through it, with a fall of about fifteen feet. From this source all its factories are put in motion. There are also a post-office with a daily mail, two stores, and a variety of sober, industrious mechanics, all kept busy. Agriculture is flourishing, under the steady, persevering skill of our industrious husbandmen. Perhaps in no other part of the Province are there better evidences of it than in and around Appleton. The township of Ramsay is famed for its neat houses, gardens, and farms. Wherever we turn we behold the sturdy son of the soil, who has battled with the pine, the oak, and the hemlock, from the day he landed, a pilgrim and a stranger in the dreary forest, until he has made his farm a model home, worthy to be compared with the "banks and brass" of his nativity. Many of the farms are now cleared of every vestige of these giant monsters, which stood like huge barriers in the march of agriculture. The ploughshare can now glide smoothly through the soil which gave them birth long before the tide of civilization rolled over this Continent. The banks of the river are lined with waving fields of corn, mellowing for the sickle, where not long since the wild Indian roamed in savage freedom with his squaw and gun. Such is Appleton at the present day, with every prospect pleasing.

But where can we find limit of human enterprise when properly directed? Look at the pyramids of Egypt, the Thames tunnel, the Steam-engine, the Victoria-bridge, the "Great Eastern," the Atlantic cable. Each of these is a noble monument of the labors of the lords of creation. Half a century ago, the New-World-bound immigrant was ten or twelve weeks on the voyage. Now he can travel it in the same number of days, and, before the present month is past, we may see the two worlds embracing each other. Mount Ararat, rising out of its watery tomb to receive the solitary family of a destroyed world, can, perhaps, converse in a few days with Columbia's first-born. "Nature, like nations, knows no pause in her progress and developments." The Nineteenth Century is standing in breathless suspense to watch Great Britain chain the lightning, and, with the tiny cable, span the tempestuous Atlantic, uniting the other country with her possessions in America. May the vast ship, with its precious freight, bound over the billows of that "dark, heaving, boundless, endless expanse" upon her glorious mission, in perfect security! May she ride triumphantly over the swelling bosom of that immensity which the poet so beautifully illustrated.

"Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow:
Such as creation's dawn beheld, thou rollest now;"

and successfully land upon the iron-bound coast of the New World, the message-bearer of peace and good-will to the nations of the earth.

RESIDENT.

Appleton, July, 1865.

(To the Editor of the Daily Witness.)

Dear Sir,—I thank you very much for the little piece you send in your paper headed "Christian Treasury." It may, perhaps, encourage you to know that one at least has been benefited by the precious promises you have so beautifully selected. Often when discouraged, cast down, afflicted by doubts and fears, these words of comfort have come like balm to the wounded spirit, lifted the heart from earth to Heaven, the eye to cast all my cares upon that blessed Saviour who careth for us. May God bless you in your Christian labor be the prayer of your
HUMBLE CORRESPONDENT.

—Nineteen Japanese youths have just arrived in Great Britain to be educated. They are fine, intelligent looking young fellows. They are dressed in English costume, and can all speak a little English.

