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No. 22.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[For the Witness.]

A DELICATE SUBJECT.

We should fail in our duty as public journalists were we to pass over the sad tragedy which has resulted in the suicide of one who might have been an ornament to society and an honor to his profession. It is seldom a crime produces such ramifications of sorrow and distress as that which has appalled this community for the past few days. The crime has met with no palliation, but the universal expression of indignation and horror has been pronounced distinctly and clearly. Words of commiseration for the young medical man who preferred death to a dishonorable exposure, and pity for the unhappy victim, have, indeed, been uttered; but unsparing condemnation has been meted out to the guilty author of the crime. In a Roman-Catholic country, peculiar odium and guilt are attached to the destruction of fetal life, as without the rites of the church it is believed the soul is consigned to perdition. The view of Protestants is, that, as God alone gives life, it is murder to destroy even the germ of life. It is these ideas which have hitherto preserved our community from this crime, which is more frequent in large cities, like London, Paris, and New York. We think it right to call attention to the fact, that in no case can fetal life be destroyed without incurring guilt in the eyes of the law of God and man, and at the same time placing in jeopardy the life of the mother. In this connection we wish to call attention to the advertisements which disgrace some of our papers, of female pills and remedies, which have no other object than to prevent the consequences of seduction. These medicines are sold at an enormous price, and any one familiar with physiology is aware that they seldom accomplish the object for which they are vended. Nevertheless, they hold out a premium for crime, and often suggest a mode of escape from its consequences. We have been most unwilling to allude to this subject, but recent events which have so horrified the public constrain us to speak out; and, we trust, both the press and pulpit will set forth plainly that he who connives at or aids in the destruction of human life, even in its germ, deserves to be branded as a murderer.

FROM OUR WINDSOR CORRESPONDENT.

WINDSOR, March 6, 1868.

This has been the most steadily cold winter that I have experienced here for the past thirty-seven years, and the oldest inhabitants do not remember one as cold.

On referring to the record kept at the observatory connected with the Windsor Grammar school, I find that in the winter of 1866-7 the thermometer fell on five days to zero and under, while the present winter it has fallen on fourteen days to and below zero.

I fear the prospect for a good crop next season of the more tender varieties of fruit is not good; as, on examining the blossom buds of the peach and finer kinds of cherry, I find the whole or greater part have been winter-killed; other kinds of fruit, with, probably, the exception of the grape, have, however, not been injured any. Last year we had a fair crop of cherries, peaches, and grapes, though the thermometer fell twice in January to 17 and 20 degrees below zero, while this year the two coldest days were 13 and 21 degrees below zero respectively.

There is a saying here amongst the old French Canadians that winter never sets in till the *coulées* (runs of water) are filled. This, the severest winter we have had, is an exception to that rule, as the *coulées* have been perfectly dry since midsummer; the farmers back from the lakes and rivers having had great difficulty in getting water for their cattle, and many of the steam-mills being stopped all winter for lack of water to keep the steam up.

The great drifting snow-storm of 1st and 2nd inst. reached here as severely as elsewhere, though the one of the week previous, so severe east of this, was quite moderate here; but its effects were felt in getting to mails for nearly a week from Montreal, the daily visits of the *Witness* being greatly missed: four numbers of it arrived one evening and two the next morning, while we were three days without Toronto papers.

The Detroit river has been frozen over the greater part of the winter, the ice when undisturbed being about 15 inches thick; when broken up by the repeated passing of the Great Western steamers it is of much greater thickness, often, in some places, four or five feet thick. Several times they have been almost beat in crossing, taking the greater part of a day to make a trip; but, in general, they plough through it with considerable ease, having been built with a view to this service.

It commenced raining last night and has continued all day; about half the snow is melted, though it still lies very deep and in great drifts. If the rain continue, we may expect to hear of great floods caused by the melting snows. The scarcity of water is now at an end. J. D.

MONTREAL WATER-WORKS.

(To the Editor of the Daily Witness.)

Sir,—Montreal can boast, at this moment, of water-works not inferior to any in the world, for which it is indebted to Edwin Atwater, Esq., as member of the Montreal Corporation; Thomas O. Keefer, Esq., as civil engineer; and the indomitable perseverance of D. A. Macdonald, Esq., M.P., contractor. The principle introduced by the great philosopher, Benjamin Franklin, has been, with all improvements since his time, fully carried out; but the immense increase of the City of Montreal, and a winter of unexampled severity, together with some parsimony on the part of the Corporation, has brought on a panic from which Montreal is suffering at this moment. Let the same parties, whose experience, talents, knowledge, and energy have effected so much, be again called into requisition, and immediate steps be taken to prevent a recurrence of such a catastrophe. Montreal will from her commanding position in commerce, navigation, and manufactures, soon possess a population of half a million. Though eminent

engineers have decided that piers extending from the head of the entrance from the river, would secure a supply of water for many years, still there should be a reservoir on the southern spur of the mountain, for the use of a large population behind the mountain, and the population extending the city westward towards Lachine. A fort should also be erected on that spur, where guns would command the country to the St. Lawrence. When this great work shall be completed, let the year of its completion, the name of Her Majesty; those of the Viceroy of the Dominion, the Lieut.-Governor of Quebec, the Mayor of the City of Montreal; together with the names of Edwin Atwater, Thomas O. Keefer, and Donald A. Macdonald, Esq., be engraved on it in indelible characters.

CHS. P. TREADWELL.

L'Original, March 5.

THE LATE DR. ALFRED PATTON.

At the close of a sermon from Numbers xxxii. 23, "Be sure your sin will find you out," the Rev. Dr. Irvine addressed to his congregation in Knox Church the following impressive remarks on the melancholy case of suicide which has so much engrossed the public mind during the past week:—

Where, in all the range of revealed truth or recorded experience, shall we search for a more striking, shall I say thrilling, illustration of the warning conveyed in my text than in the sad and painful case of suicide which has recently stunned this community, and is this day gazetted in every journal of the Dominion? A plan was laid to commit a felony, not only to do a non-professional act, but an act forbidden alike by the laws of God and man,—an act endangering the lives of both parties immediately concerned, and jeopardizing the lives of the medical gentleman himself and his accomplices,—if accomplices he had. Whether he was induced by the consideration of pecuniary recompense, or moved by the impulses of an over-generous nature to aid guilty parties in their attempts to conceal sin and screen themselves from the shame of exposure, I know not; perhaps this part of the mystery is reserved for the day of judgment. Yet from the sad and sudden end of Dr. Patton, I am disposed to believe that the judgment of charity will acquit him from the charge implied in the first of these theories.

It is scarcely credible that the "love of money," though declared by inspiration to be "the root of all evil," prompted him to venture deliberately upon the perpetration of such a heinous crime. There is evidence, I understand, to show that he was naturally an estimable and sympathizing man, besides, it is to be feared that, at least to some extent, he had been indulging in the use of ardent spirits. He may have, therefore, in an unguarded moment, given way to the influence of persuasive importunity, and been induced to undertake the wicked task which has ended so fatally. But to whatever hypothesis we may venture to trace the motive, one thing is obvious,—that the sin was soon discovered, and he was not only made to sit in judgment on the awful deed he had committed, but was allowed to become at once the law, judge, jury, and executioner in avenging upon himself the penalty of his own crime. The very fact that he was goaded by the darts of conviction,—I might say by the arrows of the divine law festering in his conscience, and thus driven to desperation,—showed that he was not perhaps an adept in that department of crime. Nay, more, the impression conveyed by the suddenness of the act of self-destruction would indicate that there must have been lingering in the deep recesses of that man's moral nature the remnants of some early religious impressions. It does not seem to me that he had become callous,—that his conscience was seared. He felt that he had the blood of one human being to answer for,—that of an unborn infant,—and that perhaps, before he swallowed the poison, the immortal spirit of another,—the parent,—a consenting accessory to the deed, had already appeared as his accuser before God's bar; and conscience, as if inflamed by the fire that shall never be quenched, hurried him into despair. In the fever and frenzy caused by the consciousness of the evil he had thus done, and the dread of its consequences in time and eternity, he became his own murderer, and the unintentional exposé of the sin he was laboring to conceal.

I am the more inclined to indulge this charitable view of the case, because I am in circumstances to know something of his early upbringing, and am glad to be able from this pulpit to testify to-day to the fact that he was the child of many prayers. His father was a pious man, and often have I knelt beside him and joined him in commending his children (a daughter and two sons, of whom Alfred was the younger) to God. His mother is one of a large and respectable circle of Christian people, some of whom I know to be among the excellent of the earth. His elder and only brother is a minister of superior gifts and eminent piety. His uncles and other relatives are among the foremost in every evangelical enterprise in the province of Ulster. His cousins are among the leaders of the youth of Ireland in conducting the National Temperance League and the Young Men's Christian Association. Hence, his death, I doubt not, will awaken many a sore pang in many a Christian heart.

I had not met him since he was a child, nor was I aware that he had become a resident of Montreal until I saw his death announced in one of our city journals (which fell into my hands in the cars, about 150 miles from the city). On my return, I made every inquiry as to the statements which had found their way into the papers; and, without brooding longer upon the incidents which make up the painful tragedy, or the guilt of his accomplices, who are in the hands of the civil authorities, let me close my remarks by urging you all, but especially the young of this congregation, to beware of the folly, the infatuation, of indulging in sin with the hope of concealment and secrecy. "Be sure your sin will find you out."

It is true that some have run long and far

and fast in a career of impiety without detection and without exposure, and it may be that a tremendous account of hidden sins awaits them at the Judgment Seat; but it is equally true that, as in the recent occurrence in this city, some secret sins have burst suddenly into view, and the very means adopted to conceal have been instrumental in exposing them. "There is a God in Heaven that revealeth secrets"; and even should he, in his forbearance, veil your hidden sins from public gaze, and wait until the Books be opened at the last Assize, still, fellow-sinner, let me ask thee if these reveries by day, and dreams by night; if these fears and terrors by the way, if this lashing of conscience, if this hell begun in thy wicked heart, if this gnawing of the worm and burning of the fire which renders life so miserable—if all this be not even in time a terrible award of thy misdeeds! O fellow-sinner, if an accusing conscience will chase thee not only to the grave, but to the very presence of thy God, without time to cry, "Lord be merciful to me a sinner," is it worth all this to indulge in any secret sin? If we have before the public eye to-day, but one single instance of a thousand similar cases (which God forbid), and if 999 are concealed, while his has been exposed,—oh, is not this calculated to awe thee, and drive thee to the mercy-seat for pardon and purification by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? Go, then, fellow-sinner, go to the "secret place of the Most High," with all thy secret sins and confess them to Him who has no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, but rather that he turn and—

"Lay his sins on Jesus,
The precious Lamb of God,
Who bears them all and frees us,
From the accursed load."

THE SABBATH-AFTERNOON RELIGIOUS TEMPERANCE-MEETING.

The meetings have, since we last reported them, been very crowded and very interesting.

At a recent one, Dr. Carpenter said, his mind was full of an awful instance of the results of drinking which had just occurred, and he thought that, when such cases were providentially brought to light, it behooved us to learn the lessons they taught. A young, vigorous, accomplished, amiable, and popular gentleman had, it seems, been addicted to drink for some time. He had doubtless made frequent efforts to overcome this propensity, or rather disease, for it was a disease; but he would find it very difficult to abstain in the fashionable circles in which he moved,—circles where people were trained to drink from childhood upwards. This gentleman met with a fracture which would not, in ordinary circumstances, have been difficult of cure, but, in the case of drinkers any injury is very liable to prove fatal. The brewers' draymen, in London, used to be in such a state of body with continual beer-drinking that a very eminent surgeon said, a prick with a pin would kill them. In this case, *delirium tremens*, with all its horrors set in, rendering it impossible to hold the patient still. The consequence was, that he died after a few days of such suffering as could not be described, and all this was the effect of drink on one who would otherwise have been a bright ornament of society.

A physician of this city had told him (Dr. Carpenter) that he was greatly shocked at the way children were taught to drink at children's parties. This he (the physician) had learned from his own little son, who came home excited with liquor from a party, and told his father how good the wine was and how much he had drunk. It seems wine is set out on the sideboard at these parties, and the children are left at entire liberty to help themselves as often and as much as they like; and, of course, the boys encourage each other to drink as a manly thing. At one of these parties, a boy got so madly drunk as to smash glasses, and anything that came in his way, till he had to be shut up in a room, where he could not do much damage till he got sober. He (Dr. Carpenter) deplored this debauching of the youth, and looked forward with alarm to its effects in after life, and he had no hesitation in saying that the fashionable drinking usages of society were its chief bane.

A soldier said the description which had been given of *delirium tremens* reminded him of what he had passed through when in the same state. He saw hideous things coming out of the fire towards him, and felt them seizing and pulling him when no one else could see or feel anything; and his condition was so fearful that he cried in agony to God to spare him and he would never drink again. God did spare him, but he did not keep his vow. After he got well, a friend asked him to go into a saloon and have something, and he went with him and began a fresh career of drinking. These saloons and taverns are ever open to tempt men to break their good resolutions, and drag them down to destruction. Thanks be to God, however, he had been arrested in his downward course, and not only enabled to become a teetotaler, but a follower of Jesus.

SUGAR DUTIES.—MEETING OF RETAIL GROCERS.

A meeting of retail grocers was held last evening in the Mechanics' Hall to consider the subject of the sugar duties. Mr. Hutchison was called to the chair. He said, standing between the refiner and the consumer, the retailers had a very good opportunity of seeing how the thing worked, and so far as his experience went, the public were well satisfied with the sugar furnished by the refiners.

Mr. ALEX. MCGIBSON then moved the first resolution as follows:—

We, the retail grocers of Montreal, met to consider the subject of sugar duties, and the proposed alteration in the present tariff, which is likely to take place at the next meeting of Parliament, resolve:—

1st. That the consumption of yellow refined sugar has steadily increased since its introduction, and has, to a great extent, displaced the ordinary raw sugar, being generally preferred by the consumer.

2nd. That the retailer finds it more satisfactory to deal in refined sugars, as they are uni-

form in quality, put up in convenient packages, and free from dirt and waste, from loss arising from insufficient tares and short weight, occurring from the drainage of wet sugar, and impurities which invariably accompany the handling of the hogshead raw sugar.

3rd. That, while the retail-trade are desirous of having wholesome competition in the supplying of sugar of all grades, they are nevertheless strongly of opinion that a y alteration in the tariff that would operate against the use of yellow refined sugar, and compel a return to the old system of using only ordinary raw sugar, with all the inconveniences and losses already referred to, would be a serious injury to the consumer as well as detrimental to the interests of the retail-grocers.

Mr. CHAPUT seconded the resolution.

Mr. W. D. McLAUREN supported the resolution, showing the great convenience and saving to grocers by the present system, and deprecating any legislation which would tend to cause consumers of sugar to use it raw instead of in a refined state.

Several other speakers followed, in a sense unfavorable to the threatened change in the sugar-duties, and corroborating what had been said as to the advantage, to both retailer and consumer, in the use of refined sugar instead of raw.

The resolutions were carried unanimously. It was also resolved that the resolutions should be published, and copies of them be forwarded to the Ministers of Customs and Finance at Ottawa, and the President of the Board of Trade, Montreal.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

(Extracts from a letter from "Refiner," in the Toronto Globe.)

It is proposed to establish a tariff on all grades of sugar of one cent per lb., specific duty, and 20 per cent. *ad valorem*. Mr. Boyd estimates the cost of the raw sugar, which, he says, is used by the refiners, at \$3.50 per 100 pounds in Cuba. A specific duty of one cent per pound on this would amount to \$1, being two cents more than that which would accrue from an *ad valorem* duty of 28 per cent. But the best grades of sugar can be had in Cuba for \$5 per 100 lbs., and the specific duty of \$1 on this 100 lbs. would be equivalent only to 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duty; in other words, in a quantity of the cheap and dear sugars of the same aggregate value, over 28 cents would have to be paid on the cheap sugar, where 20 cents would suffice on the dear article; being, in effect, a differential duty of about 29 per cent. against the less valuable grade. What is this but reversing all the principles usually acted on by financiers, which are to increase the rate of duty according to the value of the goods, instead of, as these gentlemen propose, putting the heavier duty on the least valuable article, I leave out of sight the proposed 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, as it does not affect the proportions above stated. I think, sir, the refiner may fairly demand that, if importers be anxious to have all placed on an equality, they shall cease to ask that the refiner be charged 29 per cent. more than the importer on a quality of sugar of the same selling value. If they really want equality, we are content to meet them, but we are not content to join them in advocating a tariff which would force us to pay \$140 where they would escape with one hundred; of course there are grades, between 3c. to 5c., but in all cases the weight of the proposed duty would increase as the value of the goods diminished. I do not think that any person can be found to say that such an increase would be right or politic. The refiners have invested an enormous amount of money; in their factories they employ some 500 men, whose families probably amount to 1,500 to 2,000 persons; if at present the business is in the hands of a few that will alter as the demand increases, when this business may swell into a great industry, giving employment to thousands in Canada and helping to build up a mighty trade with the West India Islands. Surely, under these circumstances, it would be nothing short of suicidal to enter on a policy which might tend to shake it. The importer, however, may reply that it would not be suicidal to destroy this or any other industry, if it be necessary that to support it the consumer should pay a higher price for his goods than that at which they can be imported. For the present, I will grant this theory to be correct, thus avoiding the vexed question of free trade vs. protection. But I contend that the argument used by the importers to prove that refiners are making enormous profits at the cost of the Canadian consumers are fallacious, and this for the following reasons:—1st. It has been repeatedly asserted and generally believed that nearly all the sugar imported for refining purposes is of the lowest grade, paying only \$1.68 duty. This is entirely incorrect; on the contrary, the amount of that grade used is comparatively trifling, being in the year 1867 only 71 per cent. of the total consumption of the leading refinery.

2nd. It is stated that from such sugars we make a grade dutiable at \$2.60 and \$3.00. This is also incorrect. The class of raw sugars with which our manufacturers compete, is never assessed over \$2.25; but often passed at \$1.90, and to no inconsiderable extent at \$1.68. These statements can be proved to be in accordance with fact by the departmental returns.

3. It is alleged that in refining such sugar nothing is lost; but the fact is that in working it there results a clear loss of 7 to 10 lbs. in every 100 lbs., which consists of dirt removed in the filters, on which dirt duty is paid.

4. The statement that the syrup which is extracted is sold at a profit, is grossly erroneous, so far from its being sold at a profit, it is sold (as every merchant knows), for less than 4c. per lb., casks included; while the raw sugar from which it was made, cost 6c. per lb.

From these statements, which refiners are prepared to prove before a committee of the House, importers may, perhaps, be led to see that they have not so clear a case as they have been led to believe from looking at their own side of the case; the consumer may learn that he

is not being victimized so heavily as alleged, and that if we have enjoyed some slight protection in the past, we are now ready to compete with the markets of the world, and being so prepared to stand on our own feet, asking only to be placed on an equal footing with our competitors for public favor.

NEWMAN HALL ON AMERICA.

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—ANDERSONVILLE.

In the lecture on "American Institutions," delivered last week at Exeter hall, by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B. (the third of a series), several interesting topics were treated of, which we have not observed in the reports of the lecture given by the daily press. For instance, he mentioned that in a conversation with Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, that lady informed him that the idea of writing "Uncle Tom's Cabin" came upon her as with the force and solemnity of a religious inspiration. It was first presented to her mind whilst partaking of the sacrament at public worship. On that occasion the scene of the death of "Uncle Tom" came vividly and suddenly before her as in a vision. With this fresh and clear upon her memory she, immediately on her return, wrote out the chapter describing it, which closing scene was, in fact, the first chapter of the tale, and all the other chapters were written afterwards and adapted to it. A great variety of authentic illustrations of the evils of slavery were embodied throughout the work, which, from the extraordinary influence it excited in deepening the general abhorrence of slavery might, without any irreverence, be reasonably supposed to have been providentially prompted, even apart from the statement made to Mr. Hall by the gifted authoress. If, in ancient days, Bezaleel and Aholiab were divinely endowed with mechanical skill and artistic wisdom for the construction of the sacred and typical Tabernacle of Witness in the desert; and if, as the prophet subsequently declared, the wisdom of the orator, the scribe, and the statesman have their source in the bounteous supply of talent implanted by the Spirit of the Creator, surely it is appropriate to conclude also that the same Divine Providence may have supplied the ability for a work which was so effectual in sapping the foundations of the eminently anti-Christian system of slavery.

Mr. Hall received from many gentlemen in the Northern States the most harrowing descriptions of the treatment of the Federal captives in the Southern "prison" at Andersonville. This prison was, in fact, merely a large open pen or enclosure, fenced in by a bank two feet high, unroofed, exposed to the wind, rain, and frost, and every way unsuited for the detention of a single human being; yet, in this horrible place, 15,000 brave northern soldiers perished within nine months! It was guarded by sentinels mounted on low wooden towers, or standing in sheltered boxes. They were armed with loaded revolvers, and the instant any captive manifested any disposition to overstep the bounds, he was instantly shot down. The most wanton murders were repeatedly perpetrated by the sentinels in this way. Thus, on one occasion a poor lame soldier dropped his crutch over the low fence, and on just stepping over to pick it up, was shot down and left writhing in agony for hours, no one within venturing to lift him up and so share his fate, and no sentry or officer caring to help a dying "Yankee dog." The commandant of Andersonville boasted that, on his part, he would take care to kill off as many Yankees in the rear of the Southern armies as General Grant could slay in the front of them. He fulfilled his word. The men perished by thousands, of starvation and agonizing disease. Their food was half-ground, uncooked Indian-corn, coarse, hard, and utterly unfit for human stomachs, scarcely fit for a beast, in fact. The supply even of water was also scanty and irregular. A little firewood was furnished every few days, but the drenching rains often prevented its use. Meanwhile rheumatism, diarrhoea, and pains of every description, carried off scores daily to the welcome rest of death. The dead bodies were taken out of the great enclosure, and often left in sight of the prisoners for many hours, or even a day or two, and treated with the utmost indignity. Some of the miserable captives endeavored to obtain a little warmth and shelter by scooping out the earth underneath their bodies so as to form a rude "burrow" to lie down in. They were all crowded together in a space barely affording room enough for a grave for each. Fierce bloodhounds were in readiness to chase any runaways. Altogether the horrors of Andersonville can scarcely be exaggerated. The generous manner in which the Northern States have since pardoned their Southern foes, and forbore to punish them, presents, perhaps, the most marvellous instance of national Christian magnanimity in all the annals of history.

FARADAY'S DISREGARD OF WEALTH.—Among some reminiscences of Faraday given at a recent lecture before the Royal Institution in London, it was stated that at one period of his life the question was brought before Faraday whether he should choose wealth or science, and he determined to forego the pleasures of wealth and devote himself to science, with its comparative poverty. After the discovery of magneto-electricity, numerous offers were made to him by which he might have acquired a large fortune. In 1832 and 1833, he did gain, by a commercial use of his knowledge, £1,000 per annum, and might readily have made £5,000 a year; but he afterwards devoted his attention exclusively to scientific investigations, and his gains from that source became very small. During the last ten years of his life, they ceased altogether; and, though he might have gained a fortune of £150,000, he died a poor man. In 1835, Sir Robert Peel proposed to grant him a pension, and the offer was renewed by Lord Melbourne, but in such an injudicious manner that Faraday regarded it as an insult, and would not see his lordship again till he had apologized. The Professor was very systematic and orderly in his experiments, recording and numbering each one. The last one was numbered 16,541.

Contemporary Press.

THE "ALABAMA" CLAIMS.

In the House of Commons, on Friday night 6th March, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, in rising to call attention to the failure of negotiations with the United States Government for arbitration of the "Alabama" claims, said that the cause of complaint on the part of the United States Government arose out of Her Majesty's proclamation of neutrality, which was issued May 12, 1861, on the advice of the law officers of the Crown. The fall of Fort Sumter took place on the 14th of April, and was generally considered to be the commencement of the civil war. Long before that, however, seven of the Confederate States had made great preparations for war, and virtually separated from the Northern States. The fall of Fort Sumter was followed two days afterward by the proclamation of President Lincoln, calling out seventy-five thousand men. That was followed by a proclamation from the Confederate States calling out thirty thousand men, and inviting privateers to apply for letters of marque. The next day President Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of the Southern coast, and announced his intention to treat the crews of the privateers as pirates. These facts reached this country on the third of May, and on the fourth they were published in the *Times*, although it was not till the tenth that an official copy reached the Foreign Office. On the sixth of May Her Majesty's Government announced in this House that they should recognize the South as belligerents; and on the 13th of May, as he had stated, the Proclamation of Neutrality was issued by the Government. The actual blockade was enforced by the North along the coast by the end of April, and from that day forward there were in the Prize Courts numerous cases of English vessels captured during the blockade, and of vessels of the Southern States captured on the high seas. It was not until some time afterward that the Southern flag made its appearance. It was the custom of the American Government to talk as if all the vessels which carried the Confederate flag had their origin in this country, but there were four cases of Confederate men-of-war, or privateers, which sailed from Southern ports before any one was built in this country. The first, it is believed, was a vessel called the "Sumter," which escaped from New Orleans, and which, after capturing several prizes off Cuba, put into Trinity on the 29th of July, 1861. That was the first instance in which the Confederate flag had been recognized by the Government of this country. Another vessel, the "Nashville," also duly commissioned in one of the Southern ports, afterward sailed on a cruise of destruction, and put into English ports at various times. It was not until the following year that any complaint was made of a vessel being built and equipped in our ports. In the course of the winter of 1861-2, the Confederate Government sent over here a staff of naval officers, with instructions to buy or build vessels of war, their main object being to embroil us with the North. They also raised a considerable loan, out of the proceeds of which these vessels were to be paid for. In due course, the "Oreta" or "Florida," was completed by Messrs. Miller & Co., of Liverpool. The American Minister having made a complaint in respect of this vessel, inquiries were made, and the Collector of Customs, a gentleman who seemed on all occasions to have been easily misled, asserted his belief that she was intended for the Italian Government. She cleared for Palermo, but she sailed direct for Nassau, there underwent some judicial investigation; there obtained a portion of her armament, and ran the blockade into Mobile, whence, in due time, she sailed as a vessel of war, burning and destroying every Federal vessel she fell in with. In his complaints of the doings of that vessel, Mr. Adams pointed out that another vessel was being built in the Messrs. Lairds' yard, also for the Confederates. The Collector of Customs, on being consulted about that vessel, reported that she was obviously intended for war purposes, that her owners did not deny it, but that they refused to say for whom. On the 21st of July, 1862, affidavits were obtained by the American Consul, throwing light upon her intentions. Among these was one from Passmore, who stated that he had been told by Capt. Bullock, who engaged him, that the vessel was intended to fight the North. These affidavits, the next day, the 22nd, were also sent to the Foreign Office by Mr. Adams, and on the 23rd, the Solicitor to the American Government, Mr. Symonds, on calling at the Foreign Office, was informed by Mr. Layard that the papers had been sent on the 22nd to the Law Officers. The honorable and learned member for Richmond, Sir E. Palmer, then Attorney-General, had on a previous occasion told them that they only reached him on the 28th. During that interval they appear to have been left with the Queen's Advocate, who, according to the routine of the office, would have given his opinion, and sent them on to the Attorney-General. Unfortunately, at that very moment, the then Queen's Advocate was suffering from a severe malady, from which it was to be feared he never would recover; and from this sickness there resulted that long delay. The fact hitherto had not been stated in this House, chiefly through the kind reserve of the honorable and learned member for Richmond; but, as in a conversation between Lord Russell and Mr. Adams, reported in the American official correspondence, the delay was attributed to that cause; and as it was well known in the States,—there was no longer any reason for that reserve. On the 28th, the papers reached the Attorney-General, who at once gave his opinion, and orders were sent the next day to stop the vessel. On the next day, unfortunately, before the order arrived, or was executed, the builders got wind of it, and the "Alabama" got away by a stratagem, under the pretence of a trial-trip, without a clearance, and with a party of ladies and music on board, but not without great suspicion of treachery, the cause of which, he believed, was freely spoken of in Liverpool. She went to Port Lynas, near Beaumaris, where she received part of her crew, and then sailed to the Azores, where she was met by another vessel, from which she obtained the rest of her men and armament. When it was discovered that she had escaped, orders were sent to Queenstown and Nassau to detain her; but she avoided those ports, and when she put into a British port in Jamaica, she was received as a properly commissioned vessel-of-war. From that time to the end of her career, she never put into a Southern port but she frequently received hospitality, sometimes of a

demonstrative character, in British ports. She burnt all her prizes, which she constantly decoyed by flying British colors. Her crew was, for the most part, English; some of her officers were English; and she was paid for by money raised in England on the chance of the success of the South. Her function was not to fight, but to burn and destroy and run away. She was a kind of firebrand, lighting the sea with bonfires of different merchant vessels. The damage she did was enormous. The like of such an enterprise had never before been known, and was scarcely possible until steam had given such a great advantage to such vessels over merchantmen, which were for the most part sailing vessels. The name of that vessel, her cruise, her bonfires, her English origin and connection, he regretted; and the cheers of the House he also regretted, when an honorable member boasted of his connection with her, and said he would rather be the builder of it than make the speeches which the honorable member from Rochdale had made. (Hear, hear.) All these had entered deep into the hearts of the American people, and had done untold mischief in raising ill-feeling between them and us. (Hear, hear.) He supposed there were few now who would not look upon all those who were connected with that vessel as among the greatest malefactors of the age. Unfortunately they were never brought before a criminal tribunal; and it was, perhaps, on account of their immunity, that other similar attempts were made,—some successful, others not so. He need not recall to the memory of the House the case of the iron-clad rams, also built by the Messrs. Laird. The Government by that time had learned that if they followed the strict line they had pursued in the case of the "Alabama," viz., of insisting upon strict evidence to connect the vessel with the South, and disregarding the surrounding circumstances of violent suspicion, the vessels would get away. In the case of the rams, the Government overstepped the line of the law and detained them, on their own responsibility, pending further inquiries. It would be recollected that Lord Cairns made a fierce attack upon the Government, and only failed by six votes in defeating them. Was there a member of this House, he wondered, who did not wish that the same course had been pursued in the case of the "Alabama." Another vessel, called the "Pampero," was also seized at Glasgow, and was condemned in the courts there. At the close of the war she was restored to her owners, who responded to that act of kindness by immediately rushing into another similar enterprise, and, under the name of the "Torado," that vessel had done her best to complicate our relations with Spain. Two other vessels, however, escaped without, as far as he could learn, any information or complaint having been made by the American Minister. They were the "Georgia" and the "Sea-King," afterward the "Shenandoah." Both these vessels sailed by stealth from our ports, met other vessels, bringing guns and men to them, somewhere beyond our jurisdiction, and then started on the same errand as the "Alabama." In the case of the last vessel, he should mention that a letter from the American Minister at London to his own government showed that there was much to be said on the other side of the question as to the negligence of the American authorities. He complained in his letter that he was not yet informed of the whereabouts of the Federal cruisers; and said if he had been, he might have been able to stop the vessel, as he knew what was going on at Liverpool. The vessels he had named, constituted, for a long interval, the cruising force, he believed, of the Confederate navy, except, perhaps, two or three coasting privateers, or some floating batteries, which never left their ports. Of these six vessels, four escaped from our ports. The damage done by them was very great. They captured, or burnt, upward of two hundred merchant vessels, with cargoes valued at about three million pounds. A considerable portion of that loss, however, fell upon English insurance companies. Another portion fell in the same way, owing to the enhancement of the price of oil and other commodities destroyed. But the damage to the Americans was not measured only by the loss of these vessels; their commerce fled their flag; freights rose so high, in consequence of the rate of insurance, that their vessels could not get them; large numbers of their vessels were sold either really, or collusively, to us to be registered under our flag. What they lost we gained. In two years the foreign commerce of America, carried under their flag, fell to about one-third of what it was before; while that under our flag doubled. This, perhaps not unnaturally, raised a suspicion in the minds of the people in the North, that the ship-builders and ship-owners of Liverpool were not even disinterested in the aid which they gave to the slave-owning South. Those only who had travelled in America since the war could, he believed, appreciate the harm which had been done by the cases which he mentioned, or the extent to which ill-feeling had been roused in that country. At the same time, he did not wish to exaggerate or alarm on this subject; for he did not think that war would ever arise out of the matter. He believed that it was the feeling and desire of most all classes in this country and in America to have this question brought to a proper, amicable conclusion; and the only question was how that best could be done, and what should be the conditions of the arbitration. He would next refer to the manner in which diplomacy had dealt with it. The first matter was recognition of the belligerent rights of the South-erners, and Mr. Adams arrived in this country, which they must all regret he would shortly quit, on the very day the Proclamation of Neutrality was issued. His first task appears to have been to communicate with Lord Russell, and he expressed regret that the British Government had decided to issue that proclamation, which at once raised the insurgent States into belligerents. Lord Russell replied that the proclamation was due to the advice of the law-officers of the Crown, and that, in recognizing the insurgent States as belligerents, no opinion was expressed on the merits of the war. Mr. Adams, while stating his readiness to assent to that view under other circumstances, intimated that the act appeared to be a little more rapid than the occasion actually called for. At a subsequent period, Mr. Adams protested, in conversation, against the course pursued; but, in the diplomatic communications, no official despatch between the two countries referring to the fact of the protest was to be found until a very recent period, although, in the letters from Secretary Seward to Mr. Adams, there is abundant reference to this matter. Such was not the case with

regard to Confederate cruisers. No sooner was it known that the "Alabama" had escaped and was burning American vessels than Mr. Adams made a claim against our Government for compensation for the damage. He founded his claim on the remissness of our Government in permitting her escape; but he said nothing of the question of recognition in connection with it. This was in November, 1863. Complaint was also made that we allowed this vessel to enter our ports, and that we did not amend our laws, when we found them defective in October, 1863. Further information having been received of the number of vessels burned by the cruisers, the correspondence on that point was resumed; and in the course of that correspondence Mr. Adams for the first time offered arbitration to the British Government. But nothing was said about the recognition of belligerent rights, the complaint being confined to the remissness of the Government in not maintaining the neutrality they professed, and in not putting the Foreign Enlistment Act in force and thereby preventing those vessels leaving British ports. On that occasion he did not find that Lord Russell took notice of this offer of arbitration. The noble lord simply met the claim of Mr. Adams, and denied its justice. From that time the claims lay dormant for nearly two years; and when they were renewed in the case of the last vessel, the question of belligerency was then for the first time brought forward. In the course of the correspondence Lord Russell adverted to the claims made by Portugal in 1824, and pointed out how similar they were to those now made by the Federal Government on England; and he also pointed out that the United States took the same line of defence then as England does now. The noble lord then adverted to the question of arbitration, and observed that he could not consent to submit to the arbitration of any foreign Government the two points, whether the British Government had acted with due diligence in maintaining the neutrality they had proclaimed, and whether the law officers of the Crown had properly interpreted the Foreign Enlistment Act; neither of which questions could be submitted to a foreign arbitration with any regard to the dignity of this country. With this the correspondence closed for some period; but President Johnson, in his message to Congress, in 1865, observed that the accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgent States was unprecedented, and expressed regret that Great Britain had declined arbitration on the subject. When Parliament met in 1866, Lord Derby stated in another place that he fully approved of the correspondence of Lord Russell, and of the arguments by which he had supported the cause of England in that House. No objection was made to the course taken by their late Government, only one or two members having ventured to express incidentally their regret that arbitration had not been accepted. He himself, having a strong opinion on that point, had framed a motion early in the session of 1866, after consulting with a few who thought as he did; and, having done so, he went about to see how it would be met by other members of the House. He found that if the discussion came on, it would elicit so strong an expression of disapproval of arbitration that, after consultation with his friends, and especially with the honorable member from Bradford, he thought it better not to progress with it, feeling confident that the subject must come on again at some future time; and in the meantime it was not wise to commit the House too strongly against it. If anything at that time seemed more improbable than even household suffrage coming from a conservative government, it was that they would offer arbitration for the settlement of the "Alabama" claims. (A laugh.) Their whole attitude in their speeches during the war seemed to render it impossible. But it seemed that office brought with it a great change and sense of responsibility, which was wanting before. Perhaps also the two changes with respect to reform and to the mode of looking at American questions were not so unconnected with one another as might at first appear. The hostility of certain parties in this country to the Federal cause was due mainly to a dread of its institutions, to an instinct that in the success of the North was involved the success of popular government. It was the homage paid to the force of American institutions. On the success of the North, there followed an immediate necessity for an advance toward democracy here, and it was only right that it should be accompanied by a very different tone toward America. He had no desire to taunt the honorable members with either one change or the other. He rejoiced in both. They were both equally beneficial to the country as to the honorable members opposite; but it was right that, in estimating our present position, we should bear this in mind.

Lord Stanley then took the floor. He praised the pacific tone of the oration of Mr. Lefevre, and warmly complimented Mr. Adams for the conciliatory spirit he had displayed in the subject under discussion. He said we could not make indiscriminate concessions, but we could learn the right of the case. There never was a case where there was more need to understand the points. Much allowance was to be made for the feelings of the United States. Great Britain, in the same case (with five hundred millions of debt contracted through a civil war, in which a million lives had been lost), might appreciate the case better than mere lookers-on only. He thought England had been entirely neutral. But no neutrality would have pleased America. What the United States wanted was neutrality coupled with warm sympathy and support. The Queen was ready to arbitrate and submit all questions but the great point of recognizing the belligerent rights of the South. Nobody contends that at no time the South acquired them. If not, why deny the right of Great Britain to recognize them at the time she did? The Confederate ship "Alabama" did not sail from England until 1862, and the battle of Bull Run was fought in 1861. Admitting that it was wrong for Great Britain to recognize the South, would the United States Government say that its case against the "Alabama" had been altered had Great Britain made a declaration of neutrality six rather than eleven months before she sailed? Lord Stanley referred to the speech of Daniel Webster in the United States Senate on the subject of recognizing Hungary, in support of his argument, and continued: How could England refuse to recognize a war which Mr. Seward himself had announced to be a civil war nine, twelve, and sixteen days before the proclamation? Who could complain that England had recognized the civil war which the

United States had admitted some weeks before? In conclusion, he thought a friendly arrangement of this difficulty still practicable. He deprecated the debate. The friendly reception of Mr. Thornton at Washington was a pledge of peace. The British Ministers are ready to leave the question to the people of the entire world.

Mr. W. E. Forster, member for Bradford, thought that Mr. Seward's view of the question of the recognition of the "Alabama" claims deserved better treatment and more careful consideration, as being, perhaps, the view that was right and sensible. He complained of the abrupt disposition of the question which had been made when the universal wish in the United Kingdom was for its speedy settlement. He thought that, had any influential statesman been sent to the United States as minister, the point in dispute might be readily adjusted. Mr. John Stuart Mill, member for Westminster, was the next speaker. He regarded the present condition of the question as the result of a mutual mistake. The real question was, whether England was bound to prevent such expeditions as that of the "Alabama." He denied that the United States Government claimed, or could claim, that the recognition of the South was a violation of the law, but only that it was an unfriendly, rash, and unprecedented act. The American Government only pressed the point for the purpose of making it manifest that but for the unfriendly action of England the "Alabama" depredations would not have occurred. Mr. Mill thought that an arbitrator between the two countries was needless, and that reparation was fairly due to the United States. He concluded by advising the appointment of a mixed commission for the proper adjustment of the question.

Mr. W. E. Gladstone, member for South Lancashire, thanked Mr. Lefevre for his able speech, and Lord Stanley for his temperate reply. He (Mr. Gladstone) could not understand why the negotiation was ended, nor could he agree with Mr. Mill that Lord Stanley had admitted that reparation was due, or that an arbitrator would surely decide against England. For himself, he doubted if reparation for the "Alabama" depredations was due the United States. It was unquestionably right that the point should be referred to a commission; but if the Government feared such a reference it should settle the matter at once or leave the decision with an umpire. He (Mr. Gladstone) inferred, however, from the closing sentence of Lord Stanley, that communications between the two Governments were not closed, and that friendly feelings between the United States and England would be preserved. He concluded by saying if his inference was correct the whole country would support Lord Stanley in a just and honorable settlement of the case. The debate ended with Mr. Gladstone's remarks.

THE ALLEGED MILLION-DOLLAR JOB.

(From the Montreal Herald.)

The *Canadian*, or rather we should say Mr. Ewanture, for the article in the *Canadian*, though written with the usual editorial "We," refers throughout to the personal acts of the writer, has now given us the history of the big job which it has recently accused Mr. Cauchon of having attempted, in company with other conspirators. Many of our readers will no doubt remember the abortive railway jobs of a few years ago. By these a number of our politicians sought to obtain the control of immense sums of money, at the cost of nominally taking a few shares of stock which they never expected to pay for in money, though they doubtless calculated on very considerable returns in the way which we have the authority of a divine for declaring as "casual advantages." A subscription judiciously made of a few hundred nominal dollars would, it was supposed, if the subscriber be also influential, secure him a salary as a director, which would exceed the amount of all his risks, and give him a chance of providing in other ways, for his friends, if not for himself, out of the capital which was to be made up from the contributions of the Government, and of the herd of less adroit speculators. Among these projects was the North-Shore Railway from Montreal to Quebec, which for a time seemed to be a very promising thing for a board of members of Parliament, mayors and other impecunious but active patriots, and it did attain to sufficient importance to occasion a small ministerial crisis. However, as the time has gone by for extracting sunbeams out of cucumbers, the chief movement of the energetic proceedings consists of a certain number of debentures, which we believe the city of Quebec was induced to issue by that able financier, Mr. Langevin, at that time mayor of the ancient capital. The Government had too much to cry in the Grand Trunk to make it willing to undertake a rival route on the other side of the river; but, not to seem too inextinguishable to its supporters on the left bank, it granted a million and a half of acres of land to the North Shore railway, on condition that that road should be amalgamated with another Company, which proposed to build what was called the Piles railway, along a part of the banks of the St. Maurice. The land was to be given, therefore, for building, principally for constructing a railway between Montreal and Quebec; to which another 35 miles was to be thrown in as a bonus on the part of the railway company. Mr. Cauchon was President of the North-Shore road, and, as such, he made a contract with Mr. J. E. Turcotte, by which the latter undertook to construct the Piles railway, and a steamer which was to run on the navigable part of the St. Maurice, for £288,000 sterling. Mr. Turcotte being dead, his family wanted to convert this contract into a property—a handsome thing of \$25,000, though the entire project has disappeared almost from memory. Some American speculators had in the meantime cast covetous eyes on the 1,500,000 acres of land, which, with the wood and the chance of minerals, water-powers, &c., are supposed to be worth at least 10s. per acre. The elements of a job are here too plain not to be seen even by the most obtuse persons, who have never had their wits sharpened in Parliament or the lobby; and there was moreover the necessary ingredient with which to throw in a fine flavor of benevolence towards a family, and thus to bring a Christian grace to the support of a patriotic speculation. The result of the mixing up of all these considerations was the preparation and submission to the Quebec Legislature of a bill, which, had it passed, would have annulled the amalgamation, reorganized the Piles Railway Company, exempted it from building the railroad from Montreal to Quebec; but above all

would have left it in possession of the million and a half acres which was given for a mileage about four times as great as that of the Piles road. Mr. Ewanture gives the bill in full; and it is quite clear that these would have been its effects. It moreover obliged the Directors or the newly organized Company to recognize the contract made with Mr. Turcotte, and all sub-contracts made by him for the purpose of carrying it out. One thing, however, the promoters of this project failed to do,—they did not insert any clause which bound the new Company to meet the debentures which the city of Quebec had issued in favor of the old Company. Yet, as Mr. Ewanture remarks, there was a very zealous mayor of Quebec—Mr. Cauchon—who knew what was going on. He adds, that to give the names of all the operators in this game is going farther than its duty requires for the present; but it would be difficult to avoid giving the name of the public man who directed the whole movement, and that man is the Hon. Joseph Cauchon. His name is judiciously left out of the bill; but he was at the bottom of the plot. Other names might, it is added, be discovered as participants, if there were any means of inquiry like that by which it was found out that Mr. Cauchon, the day he succeeded Mr. Rose in the Public Works Office, paid away, at a stroke, \$300,000 for works done long before, the accounts for which he could not have had time to verify. Our contemporary expresses an opinion that for that sudden disbursement, if made in France, Mr. Cauchon would have gone to the gallies; whereas in Canada he has been made—suppose very fitly—President of the Senate.

[It is this same Mr. Cauchon, Speaker of the Senate, who, when the Lower House abrogated its bar, has got a splendid saloon fitted up in connection with the Senate.—Ed. Wrr.]

ACTS PASSED BY THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

An act respecting Attorneys-at-Law. An act protecting Butter and Cheese manufacturers. Act to incorporate Toronto Y. M. Christian Association. Act to Consolidate debt of Peterboro, and authorize issue of debentures. Act to authorize the Crescent Petroleum Co., of N. Y. and Can., to hold and dispose of certain lands. Act granting certain power to Waterloo Co. Mutual Fire Ins. Co. Act to extend powers of the Core District M. Fire Ins. Co. Act to confirm conveyances by J. S. Campbell, formerly of Quebec, acting by Attorney, D. R. Stewart, to Thomas Eyre, late of Cobourg, of lots in T. of Hamilton, and to declare conveyance vested in the said T. Eyre, all the estate which the said Campbell had at time of his death in said lands. Act amending law of Auctions of Estates. Act respecting overholding Tenants. Act to incorporate the Royal Niagara Hotel. Act to extend the Cobourg and Marmora Railway. Act to incorporate Bishop Strachan's School. Act to incorporate Clifton Suspension Bridge. Act to enable Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, to sell lands. Act to incorporate Temporal Committee, of St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and vest certain property in said Committee. Act to grant certain powers to the Oxford Farmers' Mutual Fire Association. Act to amend Common Law Procedure Act. Act respecting London Collegiate Institute, and to change name to "Hellmuth College." Act to amend Act of Legislature, intitled, "An Act to vest certain Real Estate of the late John Knatchbull Roche, in the hands of Trustees." Act to continue for limited time several Acts therein mentioned. Act incorporating Royal Canadian Ins. Co. Act to incorporate Sisters of L'Hotel Dieu for Diocese of Kingston. Act to legalize Debentures of County of Simcoe. Act to amend act entitled, "An act to incorporate the Ottawa City Passenger R. R. Co." An act for the encouragement of Agriculture, Horticulture, Arts, and Manufactures. Act to admit Whitley to L. W. Society. Act respecting Mutual Insurance Company. Act as to Executions against goods and lands. Act to amend law relating to purchasers of Reversions. Act respecting appointment of Magistrates and Coroners. Act to incorporate the Island of Point au Pelee in Lake Erie as a separate Municipality. Act respecting Grand River Navigation Company. Act to incorporate the Board of Trade, Guelph. Act respecting grant of land in Woodstock to Trustees for the purpose of a burial-ground. Act to give effect to an indenture made between E. A. Meredith and A. F. Meredith, his wife; M. L. Nanton; L. W. Ord; and S. H. Ord, his wife; W. G. Gwynne and E. W. Jarvis; and J. Henderson, the younger. Act for conversion of ordinary bonds and old stock of Brockville and Ottawa R. R. Co., into reduced new stock. Act respecting proceedings in Judges' Chambers at Common Law. Act to amend the Acts respecting Joint-Stock Companies for the construction of roads and other works in Upper Canada. Act to make valid Commissions for taking affidavits and bail informally issued, and acts done in pursuance thereof. Act to vest the estate of the late George Paxton. Act to incorporate the Royal Canadian Yacht Club. Act for incorporation of the Burnside Lying-in-Hospital, Toronto. Act to amend the charter of the Grey and Simcoe Railway Company. Act to authorize and regulate the use of Traction Engines. Act to grant certain powers to the Toronto Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Act to amend the Municipal Institutions Act of U. C. Act to place the Wesleyan Methodist Church and Parsonage property in the town of Ancaster, in Wentworth, under the directions and provisions of the "Model Deed" of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, in connection with the English Conference, for the better management thereof. Act to provide for the Inspection of Asylums, Hospitals, Common Gaols, and Reformatories in this Province. Act to incorporate the Toronto and Nipissing R. R. Co. Act providing for the organization of Territorial Districts, Muskoka. Act to incorporate the Port Whitley and Port Perry R. R. Co. Act to incorporate the Gananoque Water-Power Co. Act respecting Dentistry. Act respecting Gold and Silver Mines. Act respecting Registrars and Registry Offices. Act for the Collection of Taxes for Belleville. Act to incorporate the Toronto Trust Co. Act to incorporate the Rama Timber Transport Company. Act to impose tax upon all Patented Lands situate in Algoma. Act respecting Collection of certain Taxes in Hastings. Act to incorporate the Toronto,

Grey, and Bruce R. R. Co. Act granting Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying the expenses of Civil Government for the year 1868, for making good certain sums expended for the public service in 1867, and for other purposes.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—The committee of the first Swedish Chamber has decided, by eight votes to seven, in favor of the abolition of capital punishment. That resolution was adopted contrary to the opinion of the Minister of Justice, Baron de Geer, who is opposed to any change.

—In the House of Commons on Feb 17, the Lord Advocate introduced the Scotch Reform bill, which makes the borough and county franchise the same as in England, and gives to Scotland seven additional members. These members the Government propose to add to the total number of members now comprising the House of Commons.

—There have been serious disturbances—stimulated, it is said, by the priests—at Chirigano, in Venetia. The Town-house was attacked, the archives were burnt, the national colors hauled down and torn to shreds, and a portrait of the King was destroyed. From Naples the accounts were far from satisfactory.

—The Paris Constitutionnel maintains that the great Powers acted upon correct information when they made representations at Belgrade and Bucharest. The same journal adds that warnings were indispensable if it were wished to avoid a repetition on the banks of the Danube and Save of the game which others attempted to play last autumn on the Pontifical frontier.

—The France, of Feb. 19 (evening), says that the good offices of France have now been requested in connection with the negotiations between Austria and the Papal See, for the revision of the Concordat. The same journal maintains that overtures have been made to Cardinal Antonelli respecting the establishment of the post of Papal Nuncio at Berlin. Cardinal Antonelli neither objected nor assented to these overtures, but brought forward certain objections arising from the exceptional position of the Catholics of the Duchy of Posen.

The London Star says: "Brazil is coming to England for money to help in paying her expenses in the war with Paraguay. How hopeful her prospects are in regard to that war may be judged by the news just at hand. At Rio, anxiety was beginning to be felt as to the result of the war, there appearing to be no hope of its immediate termination. The fact is, the allies have hitherto virtually made no impression on Paraguay, and they are not likely to do so. To lend Brazil money to carry on such a war would be as morally wrong as it would be commercially unwise."

—The Times says:—"Proposals have been issued for the formation of another co-operative establishment in London, to be called the Clerks' Supply Association, under the management of a few clerks in the most respectable houses. It seems that the movement, of which this is another example, is assuming a proportion of extraordinary social importance, and such as is likely in some way to revolutionize all the existing places of retail trade. The only way for the retail trade to meet the co-operative system now initiated is by a resort on their own part to co-operation. Instead of large central depots being established, with every appliance for extensive and speedy deliveries that modern facilities would afford, little shops are starting in every street where the cost of separate rents, attendance, book-keeping, advertising, &c., must all be defrayed by their customers; but the time appears to have arrived when the system of setting up innumerable petty establishments must come to an end."

MR. GLADSTONE ON SIR WALTER SCOTT.—After Homer and Shakespeare, he thought no name in the whole history of literature could be compared to Scott's. In conclusion, he observed:—"Scott died a great man, and, what is more, a good man. He has left us a double treasure: the memory of himself, and the possession of his works. Both of them will endure. The recollection of a character so noble, so simple, so generous, as his, cannot pass away. All that was best and highest in the age of chivalry was brought down by him into the midst of a world of invention, of criticism, of movement, of increased command over the powers of external nature, and possibility of increasing wealth and luxury, which, by the use of these powers, we are enabled to attain. As to his works, they are immortal. Nothing but the extinction of civilization can possibly extinguish the writings of Sir Walter Scott. I do not now appreciate him as we ought, it is our misfortune, not his. The fashion of the moment may prefer the newest to the best, but, as the calm order of nature is resumed after the storm, so that permanent judgment of mankind will regain its equilibrium, and will render honor to poetical and literary achievements."

THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.—The last intelligence from Abyssinia is not likely to gratify the public at home. The cost of the expedition is exceeding in magnitude all estimates of the probable charge; little progress is reported from the seat of war; our expected allies have been driven from the field; our enemy is said to have recovered possession of his stronghold; and the Egyptian forces are pursuing a course which must almost necessarily create trouble in one way or another. None of these difficulties, it is true, can be described as unforeseen; but it is hard to contemplate, without dismay, the prospects of certain cost which are opened before us. It is now actually stated, and with some appearance of authority, that the expense of freight and transport alone, between Bombay and Abyssinia, exclusive of the charge for coal, amounts to £392,000 a month. In other words, we are spending money at the rate of nearly £5,000,000 a year on this one exigency of the campaign. All the expenditure incurred in this country and Bombay, or in India itself, or in Abyssinia itself, remains still to be added. These £5,000,000 go for freight alone between the Indian and Abyssinian coasts, and though the work of the expedition has been six months in hand, our army has only just made its first march from the base of our operations at Senafe.

After all, too, as must again be remarked, we are but at the beginning of our work. The army has just commenced its march upon Magdala in quest of King Theodore and his captives. Our enemy, King Theodore, appears to be

stronger than was represented; our probable allies, such as Menelek, appear to be weaker. That our force will enable us to dispense with such auxiliaries, and to deal with Theodore wherever we may find him, is doubtless to be assumed; but the way to Magdala is long, the road is unknown, and the movement of the Egyptians may deprive us of the support we have hitherto experienced at the hands of the native population. In the meantime a fabulous expenditure of money is going on, so that, what with the prolongation of the campaign on the one hand, and the multiplication of its charges on the other, the prospects of the British taxpayer are decidedly unsatisfactory.—London Times, Feb. 17.

AMERICAN NEWS.

—The Constitutional Convention of Mississippi has approved the action of Congress in impeaching the President.

—Cincinnati, by means of a well-regulated system of charity, has given over 80,000 bushels of coal to the poor this winter.

—A company has been organized to construct a ditch sixty miles long to bring water to a mine in Colorado. It will cost two and a quarter millions.

—Boston spends \$200,000 a year for flowers and New York twice as much, but a large share of the New-York money is paid to Boston florists.

—A young lady, near Columbus, Mississippi, met her death very suddenly a few nights since, from eating snow. She complained of a headache when she retired, and was found cold and stiff in her bed about midnight.

—Connecticut is, in proportion to its population, the richest State in the Union; the average property of every inhabitant is over \$900, which is about one hundred dollars higher than the average in the State next highest, Rhode Island.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.—One of the Missouri representatives in Congress, writing to the Common Council at St. Louis about the proposed removal of the national capital to that city, says: "We cannot carry a measure of this kind until after the Southern States are admitted and the apportionment of 1870 takes effect. Then, I am confident, we shall be strong enough to control the matter in the West, and have very little doubt that St. Louis will be the place fixed upon for the permanent capital."

—The Detroit Post comments on Lake freights as follows:—"No one expects Lake freights to be kept down to the same low range that prevailed last season. Already offers at improved rates have been made and refused, and reasons 'plenty as blackberries' might be adduced to show why they will be higher, but all combined would not be stronger than the one fact that vessels cannot carry at last year's prices. Many of those which ran at a loss last year, would have laid up only for the fact that owners had on hand a fund left over from the handsome earnings of 1866, and they were led into an experiment to determine at how low a scale they could run with the existing high scale of expenses. There is no necessity for repeating the experiment, and there is no surplus to back them up in repeating it. Taking the gross receipts of our vessels and comparing them with the expenses, the results would show an aggregate loss. The stocks of grain at Chicago and Milwaukee are steadily increasing, and it is estimated that upon the opening of navigation they will aggregate about 9,000,000 bushels, against a nominal amount last spring. There are also large stocks at the sources of supply, in which respect there is a striking difference from last year. Then, what little wheat had accumulated, was nearly all diverted by rail for the supply of the numerous localities where destitution prevailed, but next season it will take its old charnel down the lakes. The corn crop of 1866 was a failure, severely felt in the carrying trade. Last year, although there was not an average crop, there will be an immense amount over and above the local wants, and every bushel that can be spared will go forward. It has been thought that the lumber would show a falling-off, but the season has been so favorable that this opinion is now reversed, and large as was last year's stock, that of this year will fully equal it. Upon the whole, the prospects for fair rates the coming season are flattering, and it is to be hoped that our vessel-owners will fully overcome the effects of past reverses."

LOSSES BY THE FIRE AT BARNUM'S MUSEUM.—THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WILD BEASTS.—The loss of the Museum and Menagerie Company is \$400,000, on which there are insurances in New York companies for \$110,000. The scene in the department where the wild beasts were caged, in the early part of the fire, is thus described by the Times:—"Within the building, when the wild beasts were confronted with the fire, the scene, according to the testimony of several trustworthy eye-witnesses, was terrible in the extreme,—terrible in its possibilities should those beasts burst their prison-bars, an event constantly anticipated, but more terrible as an exhibition of helpless terror on the part of these mighty brutes. When they first smelt the fire, they howled and roared in fury, but soon shrunk back into the corners of their cages, and lay there cowering and shuddering and giving vent in low whines and growls so long as no person was in sight. Whenever any one of the numerous persons engaged in the efforts to save the 'hay animals' from the flames passed before one of the cages, the beast would spring from his corner, howl in helpless terror, and shake the bars of his prison in a rage, as if, poor brute, he knew the danger that menaced him, and was appealing in his furious way for succor. The person withdrawn from sight, the beast slunk back to his corner again, and once more whined in agony. Lions, tigers, bears, leopards, all alike seemed to shrink affrighted from their fiery enemy, and only when human beings came in view did they seem roused to make an exertion for their lives. The great Asiatic lion, making one such effort, seized two of the iron bars of his cage in his teeth, and compressing them like so much butter, thrust his head through the increased interval. But the stout iron resisted his further effort. His head became wedged in the space, and at the same moment a tongue of flame leaped down upon it from the story above. The great king of beasts gave a loud roar of rage and pain as the flames closed around him, and then the only sound heard was the subdued and mingled growls of all the beasts. At nearly the same moment one of the Bengal tigers burst his bars

and sprang, badly burned, to the street, as described yesterday. The moment that he reached the pavement, the firemen turned a stream upon him which knocked him into an area, where a policeman despatched him with his pistol. This feat of the tiger was the last sign of life in the doomed building."

IMPEACHMENT.—The Tribune gives the following account of the opening of the impeachment Court in the Senate:—

The Chief-Justice then advanced up the aisles, clad in his official robes, and escorted by Mr. Pomeroy, Chairman of the Committee appointed for that purpose, with Judge Nelson of the Supreme Court on his right, Messrs. Buckalew, Wilson, and other members of the Committee, bringing up in the rear, with members of the House, who stood behind the bar of the Senate. The Chief-Justice having ascended to the President's chair, said, in a measured and impressive voice:—

"Senators.—In obedience to a notice, I have appeared to join with you in forming a Court of Impeachment for the trial of the President of the United States, and I am now ready to take the oath."

Judge Nelson then administered to the Chief-Justice

THE OATH.

"I do solemnly swear that in all things pertaining to the trial of the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, I will do impartial justice according to the Constitution and laws, so help me God."

The Chief-Justice then said:—"Senators.—The oath will now be administered to the Senators, as they will be called by the Secretary in succession."

The Secretary called the roll, each Senator advancing in turn and taking the oath prescribed in the rules as given above. The only Senators absent were Doolittle, of Wisconsin; Edmunds, of Vermont; Patterson, of New-Hampshire; and Saulsbury, of Delaware.

CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

—Mr. P. Cosgrove, "The Allumettes Bard," has been reading selections from his own poems in Pembroke.

—James Hall, one of the first settlers of Oshawa, died on the 24th ult., aged eighty-three years.

—On the night of the 4th, a fire occurred in Almonte, by which three stores—belonging respectively to Mr. G. R. Robertson, Miss Reburn, and Dr. Patterson—were burned down. Total loss, \$5,000.

—In Ottawa, there is a "hair-dresser, by appointment, to His Excellency the Governor-General." The lucky man who has the nobby custom of the capital is E. Miles.

—Business is at a complete stand-still in the north-western counties, in consequence of the obstructed state of the roads.

—Fifty-two licensed taverns and twenty-five liquor-selling shop-keepers will supply the requirements of London in that line for the ensuing year, with the aid of a corresponding number of unlicensed groggeries.

—The death of snow in the vicinity of Goderich surpasses the memory of the "oldest inhabitant." That venerable individual chopped down a tree in the bush some days since, and has not yet succeeded in finding where it went to.

—Burglars who use chloroform in their practice are operating at Toronto. On Sunday night, 1st inst., the residence of Captain Douglas, Parliament street, was entered, and after the captain and his wife had been stupefied in the most scientific manner, a watch was taken from beneath a pillow, and the premises thoroughly ransacked.

—The residence of Mr. John R. Swazze, near Paisley, a costly building, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 24th ult. The family were in bed when the fire broke out, and saved little besides what they had on their backs. Loss, about \$2,000, with an insurance of \$1,500.

—The sum of \$3,580 has been raised in the city of Toronto for the relief of the Nova Scotia fishermen. Two thousand four hundred and eighty-six dollars of this sum was a balance of the amount collected for the relief of the Quebec sufferers by the great fire in October, 1866, and which was not forwarded at the time.

LIEUT.-COL. DUNN, V. C.—Lieutenant-Col. Dunn, of H. M. 33rd Regiment, who was lately accidentally killed in Abyssinia, was the second son of the late Hon. J. H. Dunn, of Toronto, who for more than 20 years held the important office of Receiver-Gen. in Canada. He entered the army as Cornet in the 11th (Prince Albert's Own) Hussars, and soon afterwards accompanied his regiment to the Crimea. In the ever-memorable "Charge of the Light Brigade" he especially distinguished himself, and was selected as one of the first men to receive the Victoria Cross, which was presented to him by the Queen herself. At the end of the war, he left the 11th and came to Canada, where, in 1858, he exerted himself in raising the 100th Royal Canadian Regiment, and was appointed Major of the regiment, of which he afterwards became Colonel. He had lately been appointed to the command of the 33rd or "Duke of Wellington's" Regiment, and was the youngest Colonel in the British service.—Globe.

FIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—The Ottawa Examiner says:—"On the night of the 28th ult., two young men named Alex. Brown and Thos. Sifton, were sleeping in a shanty in the woods, near the South Falls of Muskoka. About midnight they awoke suddenly and found the whole shanty in flames. They sprang out of bed and attempted to escape, but Brown only succeeded in reaching the door, which he found fastened. He unbarred it, and as it had no hinges it fell in upon him, and he was obliged to crawl over it upon his hands and knees. When he got out he heard Sifton shrieking inside, and he then attempted to return for him, but the flames were issuing from the door so violent that he found this impossible. He then tried to extinguish the fire by throwing snow upon it, but found this ineffectual. He knew Sifton must be dead, so feeling weak and chilled, he ran to the nearest habitation, a mile and a quarter distant, which he succeeded in reaching, completely exhausted, and with both feet and legs frozen. He was taken care of by Mr. P. Pranty, and medical aid immediately sent for; but before Dr. Elliot arrived mortification had commenced, and it was found impossible to prolong his life beyond a few hours. The whole surface of his body was very badly burned, and he was so disfigured that his friends would not

have recognized him. He lingered till Monday, 2nd inst., in great agony, when he expired. The body of Sifton was reduced to a blackened mass. The deceased were both natives of Ireland.

QUEBEC.

—The Compton County Temperance Union held its annual meeting at Moe's river on the 25th ult. Nearly all the clergymen in the county were present and are assisting in the work of the society.

—The St. Johns News has lately been greatly enlarged and improved. It is published at St. Johns and Fredericburg.

—Mr. Steyens Baker died at Dunham last week, aged 75 years. He was Justice of the Peace 30 years, and held the rank of Lieut. Col. of Militia 16 years.

—Mr. Vinton Barns, of St. Armand East, sold, last week, 77 tubs of butter at the Stanbridge station, being the production of his dairy for the two seasons of 1866 and 1867, receiving 27c. per pound, in silver, amounting to over \$1,000. It went to the Boston market.

NEPOTISM.—We were in error in announcing that M. Alfred Langevin, who has just been appointed to the Quebec custom-house, was a brother of the Hon. Secretary of State. This is not the case. He is his cousin and not his brother.—Minerve.

WIDE-AWAKE SPECULATION.—A French contemporary, L'Evénement, exposes a little game which, if successful, would have done the Province of Quebec out of thousands of pounds. It says:—"Some of our political men, always ready for a good speculation, having learnt that an American company was in treaty with the heirs of the late Honorable J. E. Turcotte, in order to acquire the contract for the Piles Railroad, which was given to the former member for Three Rivers, for a certain number of years, conceived the idea of getting hold of this contract and of obtaining from the Government, as aid to the construction of the road, 12,000 to 15,000 acres of land upon the St. Maurice, and of their coming to terms with the American company, who would have undertaken the work, by transferring to them a few thousands of acres. The adroit members would thus become owners of 8,000 to 10,000 acres of land, to which the opening of the railroad would give considerable value." We are informed that the company was not so modest as all this; that they actually strove to obtain a grant of a million and a half of acres, originally asked by the old North Shore and Piles Railroad Company.

NOVA SCOTIA.

SCARCITY OF WATER.—The Pictou Standard says that, in that county, in places where the ground has been excavated, it is found frozen to a depth over four feet, and the ice on the harbor is over three feet thick in places. Many of the streams in the country are frozen to the bottom, and the water in some places is exceedingly scarce.

THE NEW PROVINCIAL BUILDING.—This edifice, which is a credit to both the city and the province, is now completed and ready for occupancy. It is situated on Hare's lot, forming a square at the junction of Hollis street, Chesapeake, Bedford Row, and George street. The building is 125 feet long by 54 feet wide, and three stories high, exclusive of the basement and attic. The basement walls are of granite from the quarries at the North-West Arm. The walls above the basement are of freestone, from the Wallace quarries, and most of the blocks are of uniform color and shade. There are two main entrances in the centre of the building, one from Chesapeake, and the other from George street, and a spacious hall running all the way through. These entrances are lined with freestone, and ornamented with moulded base and fluted columns. The roof is covered with the best descriptions of Welsh slate, and all the gutters are lined with copper, and protected from the action of the weather upon the most approved plan. The roof is surmounted by a dome, which is covered with copper sheathing. This dome supports a tall flag-staff, on the summit of which is fixed a vane, representing a lion rampant. The carving on the stone columns, capitals, and other exterior finish of the edifice, is executed in artistic style, being graceful in outline, and delicate in finish. The western gable end is ornamented with the coat of arms of Nova Scotia, neatly wrought out of a solid block of freestone. The pediment in the southern front is surmounted by a figure of Britannia, also carved out of the same material. The western half of the structure will be devoted to the purposes of the post-office department, and will comprise rooms for the Postmaster-General, money-order office, receiving, assorting, and despatching rooms, and also convenient and comfortable apartments for the keeper of the department. A portion of the eastern half will be set apart for the accommodation of the customs and excise, and the tide and landing waiters will also be provided with quarters in this part of the building. The remaining portion of the edifice will be occupied by railway and other departments under the Dominion Government. The windows, of which there is a number sufficient to thoroughly light the building, are circular-headed, and glazed with stout, clear glass, of good quality. The style of architecture is Italian. The upper stories are reached from the main hall by staircases, which are firm, spacious, and easy of ascent. The means devised for ventilation are of the most approved description. The edifice is heated throughout by steam, which is generated by two large tubular boilers located in the cellar. The principal offices in the building are furnished with fire and burglar proof vaults, the iron doors of which were manufactured in New York. Nearly all the rooms in the structure are ornamented with handsome marble mantels, imported from Montreal. Of the character of the workmanship, both of the interior and exterior, competent judges speak in the highest terms of praise. The building is a decided ornament to the city, and is, without doubt, the handsomest public edifice in the Maritime Provinces.—Halifax Unionist.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

NEW JUDGE OF PROBATES.—It is reported that Mr. Skinner has accepted or will accept the office of Judge of Probates, retiring altogether from political life.—St. John's Globe.

UPPER CHAMBER NOT WANTED.—The Legislative Council is scarcely heard of at the present time. Messrs. Chandler, Todd, and Seely, and one or two others, comprise all that is valuable in it; and they must feel greatly out of place there now. It is to be hoped that the experiment now being tried in Ontario, where there is

but one House, will be so successful as to enable the Government at the next session to bring in a bill to abolish the Council altogether.—Id.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

DISTRESS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.—The fishing population of Newfoundland are in almost as dire need of the necessities of life as the fishermen of Nova Scotia, judging by accounts which have recently reached us. The St. John Telegraph publishes letters from a Newfoundland M. P., which show the terrible condition of some of these poor people. Writing from Greenspond on the last day of December, this gentleman says:—"The distress in this place and the out-harbors is a great deal worse than we expected. We cannot tell what will be the result before the first of March, saying nothing if it is a late spring. The people already have told the owners and sealing-masters that they will break in on their ice-hunting stock. They have broken into Messrs. Brookings's store and taken ten bags bread. There is not provision enough in the place to last until April, if every one was put on two meals per day. The people talk very hard of getting on board the sea, and going to St. Johns, and not starve here with their families. Others say that there should be a petition got up by the vessel-owners and merchants, stating in full the distress from Freshwater Bay to Cape Freels, and asking for the steamer to come again, as they heard there were some provisions left behind that she could not bring. One instance of distress has already occurred here. Benjamin Holloway, an Englishman by birth and a cooper by trade (past his labor), was found frozen to death in bed, by the side of his wife, who had only a piece of an old blanket on her, and that was frozen with the snow that came into their hut. The people had to make a fire and thaw it, or she would have been dead in a few hours. There were others at that time in the same state who have since been provided for. There are some sixty-four persons on Swan's Island who had not one gallon of provisions until the steamer came." Governor Musgrave, in his speech at the opening of Parliament, gives a gloomy picture of affairs. He says:—"I regret that since the close of the last session, the fortunes of the colony have not been sufficiently prosperous to enable me to congratulate you upon the present condition and prospects of public affairs, on your re-assembling for your legislative duties. The greatly reduced value of our staple product in foreign countries has deprived the mercantile community of remunerative markets for our exports, and this, combined with the continued high prices of provisions, has produced effects which have been painfully felt by the operative population. The trade of the colony has been most injuriously affected by the oppressive quarantine imposed in Spain upon vessels from our ports, where no disease within our borders justified so serious a restriction upon our commerce, and one so detrimental both to British trade and Spanish interests. The disastrous result of the severe gale on the coast of Labrador in the early part of October, was a calamity inflicting severe loss upon many ship-owners, depriving numbers of the fishermen and their families of a large part of the produce of the labor of the season, and causing heavy drafts upon the resources of the Government for their relief and support. On intelligence of the misfortune, a steamer was at once despatched with provisions to feed those who were left destitute and helpless on a barren shore, and to bring back to their homes those who had no other means of conveyance; but these measures of humanity were not accomplished without considerable expenditure from the public funds. It is not surprising that the untoward circumstances to which I have referred should have caused a diminution of imports, and consequently considerable deficiency in the estimated revenue for the year; while at the same time large outlay was rendered absolutely unavoidable, both in the last winter and the present season, to prevent starvation in most of the outports and in St. Johns. The short harvest of 1866, and the almost entire failure of the potato crop of that year, reduced the people to distress, which has been aggravated by the low value of the produce of the fisheries and high prices of provisions during 1867, and which has been still further heightened by the Labrador disaster. The financial position of the colony is therefore, at present, far from satisfactory, but my Government have acted under the obligation to sustain the public credit, relying upon such provision being made for meeting the public exigencies as, in your judgment, shall seem most expedient."

FRIGHTFUL STORM.—THIRTY PERSONS LOST.—The Newfoundland says:—"A snow-storm like that of Monday, the 3rd February, has often terrified by melancholy consequences to the people of this country; but this last one has exceeded all the most distressing of its nature that we can remember. It appears that some thirty persons are known to have been travelling that evening between Heart's Content and Harbor Grace, and that up to yesterday thirteen dead bodies had been discovered, while there is every reason to believe that the remaining seventeen, yet unaccounted for, have met a similar sad fate. Searching parties have been on the track since Tuesday, and no doubt their search will be continued till the further extent of this dreadful visitation has been ascertained. Meanwhile, it seems vain to hope that their perseverance can effect anything beyond recovering the corpses of those who have been thus suddenly snatched away,—many of them too, in all likelihood, from families dependent upon them for support. Further particulars will doubtless soon be forthcoming; but remembering the present condition of so many of our poor, it is much to be feared that what was in most cases the evil that drove those unhappy victims from their homes on that fatal day. The weather was such that even the best fed and clothed who were long exposed to it would have succumbed, and it is easy to understand how soon such hardship would prostrate those who perhaps for weeks or months had been without food or clothing but sufficient for nature's demands in this trying winter. The occurrence is in all respects one of a most painful character, forcibly reminding us of the sufferings and trials of our poor and of their claims upon the utmost practical sympathy we can afford them."

WORK FOR THE DISTRESS.—Through the private enterprise of a mining firm, about five hundred persons have recently found employment in a copper-mine at Tilt Cove. It is also hoped that others will be employed in a similar manner.

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

THE WITNESS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1868.

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

The public have been startled and horrified, within the past few days, by the accidental poisoning of two children. Their parents had applied at the drug-store of Mr. Picault, Notre Dame street, for worm-powders, instead of which strychnine was sold to them in mistake, by Mr. Alfred Picault,—this deadly poison having some similarity in appearance to antimony, the chief ingredient in the supposed worm-powders. Both of the children died within an hour or two of the administering to them of one of their respective powders; and an inquest has been held, resulting in a verdict of death from culpable negligence.—Yet another case of death has occurred. On Wednesday evening, a Mrs. Ferny, residing in Vallée street, while laboring under temporary insanity, strangled herself by tying one end of a clothes-line round her neck, and fastening the other to the bed, and throwing herself backwards.—The Mrs. Hooper who, for some time, has been in custody on suspicion of having poisoned a young man who was stated to have lived with her, has been discharged for want of evidence. The story seems to have been bred in the brains of a young girl, named Gage, who declared that the body had been buried close by the house. The ground has been dug up to a depth of nearly six feet; but, no human remains having been found, and the girl's story generally wanting corroboration, the discharge of the prisoner followed as a matter of course.—A writ of *quo warranto* has been granted to Mr. Beaudry, the defeated candidate for the mayoralty; also to Mr. G. Bowie, the defeated candidate for the St. Lawrence Ward. It is sought to set aside the election in both these cases, on the ground that the polling began on Ash-Wednesday, which has lately been made a legal holiday; also on the ground that the successful candidates had suits against the corporation.—The water supply continues scanty.—The ladies' literary association of the McGill Normal School, gave its annual entertainment on Thursday evening. It was very interesting, and an original poem by Miss Bothwell, one of the pupil teachers, was read by her on that occasion.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

—The Dominion Parliament was opened at Ottawa on Thursday. The attendance was small, there being only about seventy-five members present.

—We ask all who encouraged or justified the construction of vessels in Britain to destroy American commerce during the late civil war, to read Mr. Shaw Lefevre's speech on the subject in Parliament, which we copy to-day. It is one of the best and most important speeches ever delivered in the House of Commons, showing, as it clearly does, the true position of a most irritating question between the United States and Britain, and its only correct solution. All who desire to know the merits of this question, which may yet possibly have far-reaching consequences, should study Mr. Lefevre's speech.

—The case which has just occurred in this city, of the same druggist giving the same deadly poison, by mistake, about the same time, to two different mothers, each of whom poisoned her child with it, is probably without parallel.

—The *Minerve* calls for more stringent legislation concerning the sale of poisons, alleging that the present facility for obtaining the most deadly drugs, is a sort of encouragement to the most frightful crimes, as in the Joutas and Ruel cases. This subject certainly requires the attention of our local government.

—Dr. Dow, one of the metropolitan members of the New-Brunswick Assembly, has given notice of a want of confidence resolution to be moved on Saturday.

—Preliminary arrangements are being made for the erection of a large cotton-factory in the vicinity of Quebec. The capital is figured at \$300,000, and the mills will give employment to about 3,000 workmen.

—The *Halifax Express* says, it is now pretty well understood that all the Nova-Scotian members of the Dominion legislature will again take their seats at the reopening of Parliament.

—Not only is there great distress among the fishermen of Nova Scotia, but in some parts of the interior also. In the county of Lunenburg, many families are suffering from want of the necessities of life, the *Bridgewater Times* says, and need assistance quite as much as those who dwell near the sea.

—The captain of the French government schooner "Stella Maria," from St. Pierre Miquelon, reports that great privation and distress prevail among the population in some sections of that island.

—The New-Brunswick papers have just made the discovery that not a single Roman-Catholic Senator has been appointed from that province.

There are, at present, three vacancies to fill, and possibly the N. B. Catholics may then be represented in the Senate.

—The *St. John Journal* calls attention to the fact that as yet there is no inter-provincial or Dominion alien law; and, at present, a man naturalized in New Brunswick would still be an alien in Nova Scotia, Quebec, or Ontario, and vice versa. This matter appears to have been overlooked by the Ottawa legislature.

—The *Express* of Halifax is responsible for the statement to the Repeal resolutions, passed in the Nova-Scotian Lower House, were not sent to the Legislative Council for concurrence, as it is well understood that they would have been rejected in that branch of the Legislature, appointed as it was by the leaders of Confederation.

—The *Yarmouth Herald* says that nearly all the thirty-six supporters of the repeal resolutions in the Nova-Scotian House of Assembly, delivered speeches on the subject, and acquitted themselves creditably, effectively representing the feeling of the country.

—The *St. John Telegraph* says that all the house-coal now in stock in that port is in the hands of one firm, who are demanding eleven dollars per chaldron for it. Imagine the poor paying such rates for coal, and the quantity required during the cold weather that has recently prevailed.

—Fitzgerald, Doherty, and McCarthy have been discharged from custody at Dublin.

—Louis Napoleon will visit St. Petersburg in June.

—The Prince of Wales will soon make a visit to Ireland.

—The British troops in Abyssinia are being steadily pushed forward. Theodoros, with his troops and war-material, is in the neighborhood of Magdala.

—The French Press bill, as amended, has been passed in the Legislative Body, with only one dissenting vote out of 243.

—It has been stated in the House of Commons that the London police were informed of the intention to blow up the Clerkenwell-jail wall, but that they were thrown off their guard as to the exact hour for carrying out the plot.

—Three actions against ex-Governor Eyre are still pending with regard to his proceedings in Jamaica, one of which will be tried at an early date.

—The *Invalide Russe* states that in the town of Dobrowa, in the government of Minsk, 2,000 Roman Catholics, with their *curé*, have become converted to the Greek religion.

—A Copenhagen letter mentions a rumor that Prussia has demanded of Denmark the cession of an important island in the Baltic Sea, as a condition of the retrocession of the Danish portion of North Schleswig to Denmark.

—The *London Times* of a late date publishes a letter written by a Mr. Rawson, on the Nova-Scotian gold fields. The writer, after spending three months in examining these gold mines, believes they will prove the most productive in the world. He says they need only the investment of the superabundant capital lying unemployed in Great Britain.

—Further information from China shows that Mr. Burlingame's appointment by the Chinese Government is that of joint ambassador to western nations. Two Chinese of high rank were originally appointed for this service, but it was feared that their inexperience would defeat the object of the mission, and Mr. Burlingame was afterwards added to the number, the three travelling as co-ordinate ministers.

—An *attaché* of the British legation at Jeddo, who was there on the 21st January, describes the streets of that city as cumbered with the cut and disfigured bodies of those who fell in the fight in that city after the burning of the Tycoon's palace, and were thus left unburied to the dogs and vultures, while acres of the city were in ashes or blackened ruins.

—There are just now two diplomatic problems, which the newspapers are unable to solve; namely, why an American fleet visits Italy, and why an Italian fleet visits America, as they are both doing at the present time.

—The important and interesting debate in the British Parliament, on the "Alabama" question, of which we published a telegraphic summary on Monday, was transmitted by the Cable Company gratuitously, as a compliment to the American press. It made several columns in the New-York papers. We give it nearly in full to-day.

—The entire Democratic ticket has been elected in Kentucky.

—In the U. S. Senate, on the 9th, an Illinois member presented a petition to abolish the office of President of the United States.

—Rents are falling a little in New York; in some instances 5, 10, and even 15 per cent. below last year's prices.

—The *N. Y. Tribune* says, it has yet to find the first square Republican paper that does not justify the impeachment of Andrew Johnson. There are a few that regret the necessity, but none that doubt the rightfulness, of the step taken.

—The "DIAL"—This is a good Sunday-school paper, published in Toronto, at the exceedingly low price of 15 cents per annum for a single copy, or \$6 for 50 copies. It is suitable for all denominations.

"SUNDAY MAGAZINE" AND LIQUOR ADVERTISEMENTS.—The attention of Dr. Guthrie, editor of the *Sunday Magazine*, having been called to the advertisements of liquors on the advertising sheet of that magazine, Dr. Guthrie, in a private letter, states that he had protested against it, and he hoped that nothing of the kind would appear again. It appears that the advertising is farmed out, and the consent of neither editor nor publisher is asked respecting any advertisement that may be offered.

MILITARY JOURNAL.—We have received the first number of *The United Service Gazette*, an eight-page military journal, published at Ottawa, and professing to be "devoted to the interests of the passed candidates of the military schools, the volunteer and service militia, and the naval forces of the Dominion." The prospectus states that the editor, during the early part of the past year, has been engaged as the editor of the *Volunteer Review*, in the peculiar sphere which the *Gazette* is intended to occupy, which journal, he says, he designs to conduct in the interests of all classes of military men. Mr. Ira Cornwall is at present canvassing for this periodical here.

PARLIAMENTARY DRINKING-SALOON.—An ominous paragraph appeared in the telegraphic despatch from Ottawa yesterday, to the effect that the splendid refreshment saloon of the Senate was all ready. Now it is to be remembered that when the Lower House, acting on the pressure of deep conviction and painful experience, and enlightened public opinion, closed its bar,—an act which was much to its credit,—the President of the Senate resolved to render the reform nugatory, by opening a similar establishment on his side of the Parliament buildings; and now it seems it is ready. Mr. Cauchon is the evil genius of Canada in several ways, but in none more markedly than in this effort to promote and perpetuate drinking in our national Capitol.

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.—A correspondent who has travelled a good deal in Lower Canada, gives the following encouragement to immigration:—

1. The country is one of the healthiest portions of the known world.
2. Real estate and taxes are lower here than in any part of the world, in proportion to the improvements and commercial advantages.
3. Thousands of acres of well-timbered land, good soil, can be bought for 30c. per acre, and much of it within fifty miles of Montreal.
4. Four classes of resources invite development; viz., timber, agricultural, mineral, and water-power.
5. The country is especially adapted to the raising of sheep, and the production of butter and cheese.

THE PRUSSIAN LAW OF EDUCATION.—The *Minerve* gives a synopsis of the educational law of Prussia, which requires that all children, besides the usual secular branches, shall have religious instruction from teachers of their own faith at the public schools, unless the parents prove that they are receiving an equally good religious education elsewhere. This law the *Minerve* highly approves, and asks us what we think of it? We answer that we regard religious instruction as of the utmost value in the training of the young, but cannot see how it is to be communicated in common schools, which are necessarily mixed, unless all could agree, as in the Irish National System, upon the religious books to be used and instruction to be given. To take the money contributed by all denominations to pay teachers for inculcating the dogmas of each, would appear to us a system fraught with insuperable difficulties.

A NEW THING.—Since history began, no instance has occurred of the fourth part of the human race putting their interests into the hands of one man, and he a foreigner, as the Chinese Empire has now done in its appointment of Mr. Burlingame to be its ambassador at large to the nations of Europe and America. This appointment is extremely flattering to Mr. Burlingame, who must have produced the most favorable impressions in point of ability and integrity on the Chinese mind, whilst residing as American envoy at Peking. Apart from his personal character, however, it is obvious that China would rather trust an American in such a position, than a native of any of the nations which have acquired, and may still further extend territorial possessions in the East. Mr. Burlingame is to have a brilliant attendance of Chinese officials of high-standing, with whom he will doubtless consult in the negotiation of treaties with the great powers of the world.

THE "ALABAMA" QUESTION.—The remarkably candid and conciliatory tone of the debate in the British Parliament on the "Alabama" question on Friday night, seems to have awakened a kindred feeling of good-will and conciliation in the United States. The *Tribune* is completely won over, and admits that if there is any insuperable obstacle to a speedy settlement of the dispute, that obstacle exists with themselves. It calls Mr. Seward's difficulty mainly a matter of sentiment, and thus concludes:—"Let us not huddle over the means of getting at the amount, but meet her (Great Britain) in a frank and friendly spirit, and a great trouble will be off our minds." Truly, "A soft answer turneth away wrath," as is shown in the influence of the debate in America. We believe that Englishmen's proverbial love of justice will triumph over their pride in this matter, and that the settlement of this vexed question will be followed by a firmer friendship than ever between these two great nations. We will give Mr. Shaw Lefevre's great speech on this question to-morrow.

THE INTERCOLONIAL.—We hear a hint that a company has offered to construct the Intercolonial Railway by the shortest and best road, namely, that of the St. John Valley, for six millions, whereas the estimated cost of the road by the Gulf is called thirteen millions; and, if carried on by the Government, it may (Parliament Building fashion) swell to thirty millions. But for our ministers to adopt the cheaper plan, would obviously be to destroy their own patronage. Brothers—of whom, we understand from the *Minerve*, Mr. — has still some unprovided for—would have little chance, and cousins perhaps none at all. Besides, how could the elections be carried on without a stock-piece like Parliament buildings or a railway to draw upon?

Seriously we had hoped that Dominion politics were to prove much purer than those which preceded; but when we look at the tenderness of the Minister of Justice for fraudulent Waterloo brewers, and the scheme unveiled by *Le Canadien* to rob the public of a million of dollars,—the chief author of which is alleged to be the President of the Senate,—and other matters, we are inclined to doubt whether the Canadian political atmosphere is altogether pure yet.

IMPEACHMENT.—Those who are crying out against the impeachment of President Johnson as a revolutionary proceeding, would be puzzled to explain what was the object of the provisions of the United States Constitution in the premises. If impeachment of a President is never to take place, why are there provisions in the constitution for it. If it is ever to be resorted to, what case could occur more distinctly requiring it? Here are immense majorities of the representatives of the people doing all in their power to bring back the Union to a good working condition on their plan, whilst the President, a man who was not even elected to that office, is doing all in his power to thwart and frustrate their efforts, and to substitute an entirely different plan of his own. Nor, in his efforts for these objects, does he keep himself within the letter of law, but distinctly and avowedly violates an act of Congress. This was for the purpose, as he now alleges, of having its validity tested by the court; but that is a pretence which would equally avail him for violating any other law, or all other laws. If ever a chief-magistrate was a disgrace and an injury to a nation, it is Andrew Johnson; and if ever it were lawful to remove one from office, it is in his case.

THE "NEW DOMINION MONTHLY" AND "CANADIAN MESSENGER."—On account of having to set up two or three of the previous numbers of the *New Dominion Monthly* over again, the March number was delayed about eight days beyond the usual time of issue, and then the snow-storms came on, which prevented the mails from running; so that altogether it must have been twelve or fifteen days behind time at most parts of the country. This delay, which has given us a good deal of uneasiness, will not, we trust, occur again.

It so happened also that the *Canadian Messenger* for 1st March was delayed; so that both were thrown towards the end of last week. Just then we got a message from the Post-Office (which always does its best to accommodate the public) stating that, as four through-mails had arrived together, we should not send in the *Messenger* and *Dominion Monthly* till Monday afternoon; and when these two publications went in, together with the *Witness* of that day, they made the largest lot of literature that probably ever lay at one time on the floor of the Montreal P. O. The pile contained about 26,000 copies of the publications above-mentioned.

THE ACCIDENTAL-POISONING CASES.—We trust that the two poisoning cases now under investigation will lead to some legal enactment to render it all but impossible for poison to be dispensed by mistake. The most careful will continue to be occasionally at fault; also a bottle, containing a harmless substance, standing upon a particular part of a shelf, perhaps for years, may, unknown to the dispenser, have been removed, and another, containing the most powerful poison, put in its place. The hand reaches mechanically to the same spot; the eye detects no perceptible difference in the looks of the two articles; and, instead of a means of restoration to health being taken home by the purchaser, packets, containing death, are carried away, and in an hour's time the consequence is a ghastly corpse. To avoid the sale of poison unawares, every thing should be done to make assurance doubly sure. Not only ought the vessel containing it to be labelled "poison," and have the death's-head and crossbones upon it, but it seems to us that it should be kept in a place apart by itself. Such is the opinion of medical men with whom we have conversed on the subject, and such, we are sure, will be the opinion of the public. Will then, those who should move in the premises, see that this melancholy occurrence is so far taken advantage of as that its occurrence shall be made to be henceforward impossible, either by the means now suggested, or any other that may be yet more effective?

GAME PROTECTION.—We gather the following from the annual report of the Committee of the Montreal Fish and Game Protection Club. During the last session of the Quebec Legislature, Mr. Sydney Bellingham introduced a bill for an amended game act, into which were introduced the following amendments recommended by the Club:

1. Snipe and Woodcock: to prohibit hunting and killing between sunrise and sunset.
2. Grouse and Partridge: to obtain power to confiscate game killed by snares, and to impose a penalty for having such in possession.
3. Waterfowl: to abolish Spring shooting after 20th April.
4. To prohibit the taking of the eggs of wild fowl anywhere west of the Saguenay.
5. To increase the minimum penalty for violating the act from \$2 to \$10.
6. To abolish entirely the injurious class privileges now enjoyed by Indians.

The bill passed the House of Assembly, with some modifications, but met with opposition in the Legislative Council, where it was saved from being thrown out altogether by only one vote. It passed that House, but shorn of perhaps its most valuable provision, that which prohibited the destruction of wild fowl in the breeding season.

The measure still permits spring shooting, and sanctions the snaring of the ruffed grouse or partridge, which was illegal under the old law.

The following are the differences in the close terms created by the bill:—

Old Law.	
Woodcock and Snipe...	1st Feb. to 1st Aug.
Grouse and Partridge...	20th May to 20th Aug.
Waterfowl...	1st March to 20th Aug.

New Law.	
Woodcock and Snipe...	1st March to 1st Sept.
Waterfowl...	20th May to 1st Sept.
Grouse and Partridge...	1st March to 1st Sept.
Deer remaining as before.	

The Club claims to have greatly checked the destruction and sale of game and fish out of season which formerly prevailed, and to have made such practices more dangerous than profitable to those engaged in them.

Water-fowl, the report says, were scarce during the last season, and this scarcity must be expected to continue and increase so long as their wholesale destruction in the breeding-season is permitted by the Legislature. Moose, caribou, and deer are yearly decreasing in numbers; indeed the first two named are fast becoming extinct. This in a great measure is to be attributed to their destruction at all seasons by Indians for the sake of the skins, a practice which it is to be hoped may be put a stop to under the new law.

The small birds of all kinds continue to increase since protected.

THE PONTIFICAL ZOULAVES.

The *Montreal Witness* has no language strong enough to condemn the departure of the Pontifical Zouaves, who go, as he says, in violation of law, to fight against a country friendly with England. But, in the first place, it is perfectly understood that our young compatriots only engage in the Papal service on condition that they shall be free to return if their country needs them, and if our government chooses to recall them. And, secondly, with what grace can the *Witness* condemn the Canadian Pontifical Zouaves, when he finds nothing blamable in the English volunteers who joined Garibaldi's "red shirts," or those who, in Britain, aided, by their large subscriptions, the invasion of the Pontifical domains? Is it only the friends of bandits and pirates who have the right to violate the law, and to enjoy the sympathy and approbation of the *Witness*.—*Journal de Quebec*.

REMARKS.

The *Journal* would certainly be very much displeased with us if we placed the Canadian Bishops of the Church of Rome on the same level with the recruiters for Garibaldi in Britain. Yet he evidently does this himself! The great difference between enlistments in Britain for Garibaldi—if they actually took place—and enlistments here for the Pope is, that in the one case only private individuals were concerned, whilst in the other the dignitaries of the church are engaged in it. The *Journal* seems to admit that the one set violate the law, and, if so, he must equally implicate the other.

To call Garibaldi a bandit and a pirate is just about equivalent to applying the same epithets to William Tell, William Wallace, George Washington, &c., &c. Hide it as you will, the fact remains the same that the Garibaldians are fighting for freedom, and the Papal Zouaves for despotism.

THE SITUATION.

The Dominion Parliament is about to assemble again in Ottawa, and the situation is, in several respects, singularly interesting.

The Premier, who has ruled Canada for many years, and who now rules the Dominion, seems to be (if we may attach importance to the old sign of the rats leaving a sinking ship) ready for shelving. And, indeed, no one who saw his exhaustion, after efforts to bring the House into his measures last winter, could do otherwise than hope that he would soon find repose upon the Bench. His opponents say that his pathway has been strewn figuratively, as that of Robespierre was literally, with the heads of his colleagues; and now, probably with the same important difference, his own head is about to follow the fate of that of the other leader. Like Robespierre, also, he has the high praise of being public-spirited in all that he did, and of abstaining from the opportunities of private gain, which were so abundantly within his reach. In this respect he stands immeasurably above some who have been, from time to time, his colleagues; but of what avail is a man's own personal purity, if he affords the opportunity for others to plunder the public, and especially if he wastes the public funds in the wholesale bribery

of classes of the people and sections of the country?

Already the phalanx of statesmen who carried Confederation has been decimated.

McGee, who, whatever he has been in the past, would now probably be a tower of strength, was the first to go; Galt, who, as well merited the title of heaven-born financier as Pitt did that of heaven-born minister, was the next; and now, if Sir John has to follow, there will be almost as little of the identity of the Cabinet left as there was of the Highlandman's gun after it had got a new stock, &c.

Of course, there are good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; but it will take pretty good ones to equal these three in ability. Mr. Cartier boasted once that he could get cod-fish enough from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to balance the surplus of voters belonging to Canada West, or something of that kind; and perhaps Confederation was his means of accomplishing this object. The only difficulty appears to be that he has not got the codfish; and the great experiment before the ministry now is, so to let down the net that they will catch the shoal of Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers.

There are two rocks ahead in which any administration would be very likely to make shipwreck. One is the Intercolonial Railway, which every one knew was a tub to catch the Lower Provinces, but an awfully costly tub, and withal very useless. Now, Canada West, which will have to foot most of this bill of costs, insists that it shall be as light as possible, and Montreal and other influential portions of Canada East do the same. They are all willing to give the pound of flesh according to the bond, but not one poor scruple over. They insist, therefore, on the shortest road, and in this view they are aided by New Brunswick itself, which wishes for a central route to open up the country, instead of a round-about route through a country already opened up. With the exception, perhaps, of Halifax, Nova Scotia will also probably join in this view in order to get produce brought down at the cheapest rate for consumption and shipment, and in order to send back sugar and fish cheaply. But, then, all the French-Canadians are determined to have the road made by the *traverse Robinson*, that is, by Gaspé and the Gulf, and they will have the northern section of New Brunswick with them. The British Government is also said to be on that side in order to get the road as far as possible from the American lines. Politicians, contractors and speculators will also, doubtless, be in favor of the longest line, as the one which will involve the largest expenditure. Now, it must be confessed that this is a question sufficient complicated to test the powers of any administration.

The other question is even more difficult; namely, the Militia Bill. Unless that measure involve a very heavy expense and much military training, it will not at all meet the views of the British Government in promoting Confederation, nor fulfil the pledges given by our delegates in London. Neither will it accord with the views of what may be called the war-party in Canada. But, if a costly and onerous measure of defence be adopted, it will render any administration so unpopular that it will necessarily be overthrown, and the law revised. The Lower Provinces will not stand such a militia law as would please Britain, and neither will the Eastern Townships; nor, for that matter, will the French Canadians, unless there be plenty of pay going for all services rendered. However fond they may be of France, they would not stand French conscription. However fond of Rome, they would not accept of the Roman pay of soup and three sous a day in return for military services in Canada.

On this militia question, all our ministers who went to London will, if consistent, probably have to retire.

The situation is full of interest.

THE INTERCOLONIAL ROAD.

The French-Canadian element in our Government thought that all was arranged to construct the Intercolonial Railroad by way of Rimouski and the Bay of Chaleurs; but it turns out that Upper Canada has something to say in the matter, even in the Cabidit, which has long been under French-Canadian influence. And what Upper Canada has to say is substantially this: "We will have to pay more for this road than any of the other provinces, and we will get none of the benefit that Lower Canada and New Brunswick will obtain from the money spent in constructing it. It is therefore clearly for our interest that it should be made by the shortest and least expensive route, instead of the longest and most expensive."

To such an argument there is no answer, unless it be bribing votes, and we hope the day for that sort of logic is past.

Now, it appears that a tender has actually been sent in, offering to construct for six millions a line from Rivière du Loup in Canada to Woodstock in New Brunswick, where it would connect with the railway system of that province, which, in turn, connects with the railway system of Nova Scotia. This would be a moderate sum for such an important object; but it is quite enough to pay, and it would be exceedingly pleasant to have the sum fixed, so that it could not be exceeded. Nor is this the only

advantage held out. The company which is willing to construct the road is also willing to run it, thus relieving the Dominion of indefinite charges in that respect. Now, as compared with the Robinson line, constructed by Government (which the French-Canadians insist upon), the saving effected by this one would probably be some twelve or fifteen millions of dollars; and what do they insist upon this enormous expenditure for? Why, to open up the parishes between Rivière du Loup and Rimouski, and a little beyond. But any one that has travelled through that country, as we have done, knows that its whole face-simple, if bought out and out, would not be over two or three millions of dollars; and to benefit this comparatively barren and unpeopled region, they are willing to spend four or five times as much as it is all worth, and quite unnecessarily; for all that country has excellent water communications; and the people would not use a railroad to any extent if they had it. Three or four passengers to the car, and one or two of them priests, travelling as dead-heads, would be about the extent of the local-passenger traffic; and, as for goods or produce, there would be none going out, and none coming in, to a country which raises little and buys less, and which sends what it does produce—viz., potatoes and fish—to market by schooners.

To saddle the Dominion with ten or twelve millions of dollars extra, for the benefit of this region, and to make every passenger between the west and Europe go round a circumbend, is what the French-Canadians are willing to do; but Ontario cannot see the matter in the same light, and neither can a large portion of New Brunswick. All the St. John interest will be for the shortest route, on account not only of its economy, but of its bringing business to that city, which is, upon the whole, probably a better, and certainly a nearer, shipping port than Halifax.

The great objection commonly made to the St. John valley route is its nearness to the frontier; but it has the St. John river and a wild country between it and any American force, and would thus be far better defended than a line along the coast, which could be assailed at almost any point by a flotilla.

We know nothing of the company which is said to have tendered to build this road for six millions, and it would be necessary, in any case, to have its powers, privileges, and duties strictly defined; but we have no doubt that the shortest and cheapest route between the interior and the sea is, all things considered, the best.

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE BIBLE RULE OF TEMPERANCE: Total abstinence from all intoxicating drink, by Geo. Duffield, D.D., Senior Pastor of the First Presbyterian Congregation of Detroit, Michigan. New York: National Temperance Society and Publication House, 1868. Pp. 206.

The important question of scripture testimony for or against intoxicating liquors is in this volume thoughtfully discussed, and we recommend it to the earnest attention of all those who think that they find permission in the Bible for the moderate use of wine and other stimulants. The volume is small and written in a popular style, and its arguments should be familiar to every friend of temperance. It is, moreover, of the greatest consequence that the young, who are as yet unprejudiced, should be trained up with correct views on this very important point, and to this end we think that this book, or some other written upon the same principle, should be in every Sunday-school library throughout the land.

THE GOLD-FIELDS OF NOVA SCOTIA. A practical guide for tourists, miners, and investors, and all persons interested in the development of the gold-fields of Nova Scotia, by A. Heatherington. Price, \$1. Montreal: John Lovell. Pp., 170.

In this carefully-prepared little volume, we find a most complete and satisfactory analysis of the gold-fields of Nova Scotia. After narrating how the first discoveries of gold were ridiculed unmercifully, until, at length, the evidence was too strong to be put aside, the writer goes on to describe minutely the eighteen gold districts which have been at this date officially proclaimed and surveyed. He then notes the hindrances to development which exist, and discusses various methods of reducing the ore, &c. The volume also contains important statistical tables, and forms altogether a valuable practical guide to all who are interested in the subject.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE,

Friday, March 13.

Weather to-day dull and cloudy; rained all last night; thawing fast. Thermometer at 7 a.m., 34° above zero.

—Greenbacks bought at 28½ to 29 dis., and sold at 28½ discount. Silver bought at 4 dis., and sold at 3½ discount. 5-20's sold at 107½ to 110½, and 7-30's sold at 106½.

—In Toronto, Greenbacks are buying at 70½ to 71½; selling 71½ to 72½. On the \$ Silver buying, large, at 4½; selling at 4½ dis. U. C. Bank Bills, in demand, at 64½ to 65c. on the \$.

—The Montreal City-Passenger Railway have declared a dividend of four per cent. for the past half-year.

—Business continues quiet generally; transactions being confined to immediate wants of local consumers.

—Customs-revenue for 9th, 10th, and 11th instants was \$39,348 89.

IMPORTS FOR FEBRUARY.—The following are the amounts of various kinds of goods imported at Montreal in the month of February:—

	1867.	1868.
Paying specific duties (value).....	\$175,433	\$89,697
Paying 25 per cent.....	4,311	1,045
" 15 ".....	1,605,538	1,070,988
" 10 ".....	10,118	25,710
Free goods.....	170,798	113,976

The grand totals for the two years, leaving out coin and bullion, are \$1,310,550 this year, against \$1,966,205, showing a falling-off of \$655,655, or about one-third. A large portion of this falling-off is in dry-goods, of which the imports for Feb. 1867 were \$1,073,551, and Feb. 1868, \$693,403,—showing a diminution this year of \$380,108.

—Ships loading at Liverpool for Montreal on 22nd Feb:—"Alecto" and "Sunbeam." The number of wrecks reported for the week ending Feb. 15 was 33, which raises the total for the present year to 229.

—A seizure of some magnitude was made by the customs authorities during the latter part of last week. The goods seized belonged to one of our largest and most respectable importers, and an investigation of the affair has proved, we are informed, to entirely exonerate the house from any premeditated attempt to defraud the revenue.—*Herald.*

PRICES CURRENT OF LEATHER.

MONTREAL, March 10, 1868.

	Cents
Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 1 (b.b.) per lb., 21 to 23	23
Do do No 2.....	19 to 20
Do do No 1 (ordinary) 20 to 22	22
Do do No 2 do 18 to 20	20
Hemlock Slaughter, No 1.....	27 to 29
Do do No 2.....	20 to 22
Waxed Upper, light and medium.....	41 to 44
Do do heavy.....	38 to 40
Grained do.....	40 to 45
Skins (large).....	32 to 35
Do small.....	18 to 22
Kips, City Slaughter (whole).....	50 to 55
Do ordinary.....	35 to 40
Cal-Skin (27 to 36 lbs per doz.).....	65 to 70
Do (18 to 25 lbs per doz.).....	55 to 60
Sheep-Skin linings.....	25 to 30
Hair-skins.....	20 to 25
Skirting.....	32 to 36
Butted Cow, per foot.....	11 to 15
Pebbled Cow, do.....	15 to 15
Embossed Cow, do.....	17 to 18
Patent Cow, do.....	18 to 19
Rough.....	26 to 28
English sole.....	35 to 41
English Kips.....	43 to 57

REMARKS.

The long, steady winter, one cause of the stagnation hitherto, has at last broken, and some signs of activity have manifested themselves in the *Sole-Leather* market, both Spanish and English having been in good demand during the week at lowest figures. There is scarcely enough doing yet in these departments to give decided quotations, but there seems to be reason for a general lowering of figures as above.

JOHN DUGGALL & Co.,
Commission Merchants.

BOSTON BOOT AND SHOE MARKET.—There is nothing of particular interest to record in the boot and shoe market for the week, beyond that already noticed since the opening of the spring trade. The demand continues moderately active, and for lines of ladies' light leather work the request is good and in advance of the supply, some of the manufacturers having orders a month ahead. For ladies' cheap heeled kid slippers, buskins, and the lighter kinds of mock welt leather boots, prices are very firm, and for some descriptions have advanced from 5c. to 10c. per pair. Men's sewed Congress and Balmorals are also in good request; but for the greater part of ordinary pegged work, both for men's and women's wear, the demand is slack, with a full stock on the market; hence prices are variable, and favor the buyer at the present moment. There is a greater preference manifested this season for machine sewed work than there was formerly, and the machine work has, to a great extent, taken the place before filled by pegged goods, as it is generally of better style and finish, and, if well made, wears equally as well, and is more elastic and comfortable for the foot.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

BOSTON HIDE MARKET.—The hide market has continued unchanged since our last report. Asking rates are firm, and higher prices are demanded by holders. Sales have been made to a moderate extent only at full rates. The demand is light and transactions limited owing to the depression in some descriptions of leather and the increased rates demanded for hides. Supplies of loose hides come in slowly, and the stock in market is very much reduced. Sole leather hides are in light request, yet are firmly held at recent rates. The greater inquiry continues to be for upper leather stock. The supply of salted is quite limited and demand good. City slaughter firm at 11 to 11½c; country do, 9½ to 10½c; green calfskins selling at from 15 to 17c.—*Ibid.*

NEW-YORK HIDE-MARKET.—The call for hides has been very active, the large Swamp houses having purchased freely during the past week or two for the purpose of stocking their tanneries. Prices have advanced on all descriptions from a half to three-quarters of one cent per pound, and are firm at these rates. The kind of hides suited for upper leather stock are particularly in request. There are now about 175,000 hides in this market.

The following are sales (prices in gold):—1,200 Buenos Ayres, 20½ lbs. 20c; 7,000 Montevideo, 21½ lbs., 19½c; 3,000 Buenos Ayres, 21 to 25 lbs., 20c; 1,500 Corrientes, 22 lbs., 18½c; 6,000 Orinoco to arrive, 21 lbs., 18c; 6,000 Montevideo, 21½ lbs., 19½c; 1,000 Buenos Ayres, 23 lbs., 20c; 3,000 Montevideo, 21½ lbs., 19c to 19½c; 1,000 Montevideo, 21½ lbs., 19½c; 4,000 Buenos Ayres, 23½ lbs., 19½c; 1,250 Wet salted Buenos Ayres, 51 lbs., 19½c; 1,038 Damaged Montevideo, at auction, 1½c; 900 Wet salted Rio Grande, 52 lbs., 11c; 1,000 Buenos Ayres, 22 lbs., 20½c; 2,200 Savanilla, 30 lbs., 11½c; 1,200 Bogota, 21 lbs., 16c; 1,600 Texas, 22 lbs., 20c; 2,500 Texas, 23 lbs., 22c; 2,500 Buenos Ayres kips to arrive, 11 lbs., 22c; 530 Wet salted New Orleans, 80 lbs., 11½c; 1,500 Orinoco, 21 lbs., 18½c; 3,800 Buenos Ayres kips to arrive, 12 lbs., 22c; 2,100 Montevideo kips to arrive, 11½ lbs., 22c; 4,000 Rio Grande to arrive, 20 to 21 lbs., 19½c; 1,100 W. S. do. horse, 38 lbs., \$2.25 per piece in bond; 4,000 Rio Grande to arrive, 20 lbs., 19c; 2,500 Orinoco, 20 to 21 lbs., 18c.—*Ibid.*

NEW-YORK WOOL MARKET.—The markets opened at the beginning of the past week with a sharp demand for fleece and pulled California

and Texas, and a heavy business was consummated at rather better rates. Most of the wools have been bought on speculation, the movement having been started by several Boston capitalists, who, finding cotton advanced too much above their views, turned their attention to this staple. Large speculations in wool at this season of the year have not generally been very profitable, and the present unsettled state of the country, politically and financially, does not give a very encouraging prospect. Sales of fleece foot up about 1,600,000 lbs.; including 550,000 lbs. Canada country at about 67½c.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

WEEKLY REVIEW OF MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.

THURSDAY, March 12.

There is but little change to note, save that the demand for Stocks generally has increased, and prices are somewhat higher since our last issue. *Bank of Montreal*.—Has been dealt in during the week at 130, 129½, and 129¼; the market closing steady, with buyers at 129½; sellers at 129¼. *Bank of British North America*.—In demand at 102, the asking price being nominally 104. *City Bank*.—Very little business done, owing to scarcity of the stock. 102 to 102½ would be paid. *La Banque du Peuple*.—Has been sold at 106, which would still be paid; no shares now in market. *Ontario Bank*.—Has changed hands at 97½ and 98. It is now scarce and in demand at latter figure. *Molson's Bank*.—Asked for at 111½ to 112; no stock offering. *Merchants' Bank of Canada*.—Has been sold at 107½ and 108, and to-day at 108½; there being still sellers at 108½; buyers offering 108½. *Bank of Toronto*.—Inactive, and in but little demand at quotations. *La Banque Jacques-Cartier*.—Is nominal at 106½ to 108. No business doing. *Gore Bank*.—Offering at 81, without attracting purchasers. *Quebec Bank*.—Quotation nominal at 99½ to 99¾. *La Banque Nationale*.—Nothing doing in the Stock for months. Quotation purely nominal. *Eastern Townships Bank*.—Asked for at 99, with sellers at 100. *Union Bank of L. C.*.—Has been sold at 100½ and 101, at which it is still in moderate demand. *Mechanics' Bank*.—Buyers at 97. Sellers at 98½. *Royal Canadian Bank*.—Offering at 90, with but little demand at over 88. *Railway Stocks and Bonds*.—No business to report. *Champlain Old Stock* is nominal at 9 to 11. Nothing doing in 10 per cent. preferential. *Montreal Telegraph Company*.—Has been dealt in at 131, at which there are still buyers. Holders asking 132. *Richelieu Navigation Company*.—Sales at 100, the rate of to-day being nominally 99½ to 100¼. *Canadian Nav. Coy.*.—Has been sold at 107, at which it continues in good demand. *City Passenger Railway Company*.—Very little doing. Asked for at 107. A half-yearly dividend of 4 per cent. has been declared payable on the 1st proximo. *City Gas Company*.—Transfer Books remain closed. Will be re-opened on the 16th instant, when the half-yearly dividend is payable. *Montreal Mining Co.*.—Nominally quoted. Buyers at \$1.90. Sellers at \$2.05. *Canada Debentures*.—But little doing. *Canada Currency Sixes* are offering at par, with buyers at 99½ to 99¾. Sterling Fives are dull and in limited request at 86½ to 87¼. Currency Fives are scarce, and would readily command 87 to 87¼. *Montreal Corporation Bonds*.—Continue to be dealt in at 90½ to 91. *Montreal Harbor Bonds*.—We have no transactions to report. *Exchanges*.—Very little doing. The range for round amounts of Bank is 9½ to 9¾. For private Bills 9 to 9½. Bank gold drafts on New York are in active demand at par to ¼ prem.

NEW-YORK, March 12.—The Stock-Board to-day decided not to receive any Erie stock dated after March 7th. This is done to prevent Daniel Drew from using any more stock. It is rumored he has issued a large amount without authority.

TORONTO MARKETS.—MARCH 10.

There was a better feeling on 'Change to-day, and holders advanced their views from 5 to 10c. There were more inquiries for Flour, and some sales were made. Holders were asking from \$7.15 to \$7.20 for No. 1 superfine, and \$7.10 was freely bid and refused. A hundred-barrel lot sold at \$7.15. A bag of the first flour manufactured at Mr. Boulton's new steam-mill, Esplanade, was exhibited on 'Change, and was much admired by judges of flour for its very superior quality. In the higher grades of flour, there was nothing doing. Wheat has also advanced under an improved demand. A lot of 8,000 bu. Spring sold to-day at \$1.67 f.o.b., cars. \$1.65 in store was offered for another lot of Spring and refused, and for another lot \$1.65 f.o.b. was bid. Some holders are now asking \$1.70; a lot of 1,000 bushels sold at \$1.64 in bags, at the Northern Station. In Fall Wheat, there was nothing doing. Oats are in fair demand and are firm, notwithstanding an attempt to bring down prices. Some holders are asking 60c. for choice, and some lots are offering at 58c. To-day, for a car-load, \$1.57 was offered and refused. Barley remains firm at former quotations. \$1.25 on the track was paid for 5 car-loads to day. In Pease, there is nothing doing. We heard of a sale of 100 bbls. of Cornmeal (American kiln-dried), which sold at \$4.25, and of a lot of 100 bbls. Mess Pork at \$19.25, deliverable next month. Provisions remain firm and unchanged.—*Globe.*

MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES FOR MARKET DAY, MARCH 13, 1868.

	d	c	d
Flour, country, per 100 lbs.....	20	6	21
Oatmeal, " ".....	14	9	15
Indian Meal (Ohio) ".....	13	3	13
Barley, per minot (56 lbs).....	4	6	5
Pease, do.....	5	0	5
Oats, do.....	2	9	3
Buckwheat, do.....	4	6	5
Indian Corn (Canada).....	0	0	0
Timothy.....	8	6	9
Turkeys (old), per couple.....	12	6	15
Pigeons (tame), per pair.....	1	3	1
Beef, per lb.....	0	7	0
Pork, per lb.....	0	5	0
Mutton, per lb.....	0	5	0
Lamb, per quarter.....	5	0	6
Veal, per lb.....	0	5	0
Butter, fresh, per lb.....	2	0	0
Do, salt per lb.....	1	3	0
Potatoes, per bag.....	3	9	4
Sugar, Maple, per lb.....	0	5	0
Lard, per lb.....	0	8	0
Eggs, fresh, per dozen.....	2	0	2
Haddock, per lb.....	0	3	0
Beef, per 100 lbs.....	\$5.00	to	\$7.00
Pork, fresh, per 100 lbs.....	\$6.50	to	\$7.50
Apples, per bbl.....	\$3.00	to	\$3.50
Hay.....	\$4.00	to	\$10.00
Straw.....	\$1.00	to	\$3.50

REMARKS.—The attendance to-day was small, on account of the bad state of the roads. Little change in prices.

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—March 14.

Cattle, Extra, none; First Quality, \$7.50 to \$8.00; Second and Third, \$7.00 to \$6.00; Milch Cows, \$25 to \$30; Extra, \$35.00 to \$40.00; Sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; Lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.50; Hogs, live-weight, none offering; dressed, \$6.50 to \$7.00; Hides, inspected, 7c.; Pelts, 80c. to \$1.20; Tallow, 5c.

REMARKS.—Market fully supplied, and cattle dull of sale; only a few of the best sold at outside figures. Hogs in demand. Sheep and Lambs, no change.

Corn Exchange Daily Reports.

(Furnished exclusively to the "Daily Witness.")

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES

MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE, March 12.

Flour, per barrel of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, nominal; Extra, \$7.75 to \$8.25; Fancy, \$7.55 to \$7.70; Superfine, from Canada Wheat, \$7.40 to \$7.50; Strong Superfine from Canada Wheat, \$7.60 to \$7.70; Super from Western Wheat, \$7.45 to \$7.50; City brands of Super, nominal; Super No. 2, \$7.15 to \$7.30; Fine, \$6.40 to \$6.65; Middlings, \$6.00 to \$6.35; Pollards, \$5 to \$5.75; Bag Flour, \$3.80 to \$3.85 per 100 lbs. Prices are nominally unchanged. Only a few small sales of Super mentioned this forenoon. Strong Bakers' Flour selling at \$7.65 and upwards.

OATMEAL, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—Quotations for L. C. brands are \$6.25 to \$6.50.

WHEAT, per bush. of 60 lbs.—U. C. Spring nominal, at \$1.67½ to \$1.70.

PEASE, per 60 lbs.—Nominal,—worth 90c. to 91c. for May delivery.

OATS, per bush. of 32 lbs.—Latest sale at 48½c. for May delivery.

CORN, per bush of 56 lbs.—Nominal,—no sales.

BARLEY, per 48 lbs.—Scarce, and wanted; good L. C. nominal, at \$1.00 to \$1.05; a sale of a very choice parcel at an exceptional rate.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—Market quiet this forenoon, and prices of First Pots nominal, at about \$5.60; Second, \$5.05; Thirds, \$4.70. First Pearls, \$6.50 to \$6.60.

BUTTER, per lb.—Market firm, latest sales of choice dairy at 25c. to 27c.; medium, 20c. to 23c.; and inferior at 18c. to 20c.

LARD, per lb.—Steady at 11½c. in kegs, and 12c. in tubs.

PORK, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—Fair inquiry; Mess, \$19.25 to \$19.50; Thin Mess, \$16.50 to \$17.60; Prime Mess, \$14.00 to \$14.50, and Prime, \$13.50.

FINANCIAL.—Sterling Exchange dull; Bankers' 63-day drafts on London, nominal, at 9½ to 10 premium; counter or discount rate, 11 prem. Best Private, 9½ prem. Documentary and Produce bills, nominal at 9 premium. (The rate for 60-day Sterling Exchange in New York city to-day, as reported by telegraph, was 9½ premium.) Buying and selling of Demand-drafts on New York, 28 to 28½ discount,—the quotation for gold in that city at noon yesterday being 139½. Gold drafts on New York, par,—scarce.

LATEST WESTERN ADVICES.—The following are the latest Western Advices received by telegraph at the Corn Exchange:—

MILWAUKEE, March 11.—Wheat, No. 1, \$1.96 in store; No. 2, \$1.91 in store; receipts, 4,000 bu. Flour, \$9. Mess Pork, \$23.00.

CHICAGO, March 11.—No 2 Wheat, \$1.95½ in store; receipts, 6,000 bush.; shipments, 2,000 bush. Corn steady, 21c.; receipts, 32,000 bu.; shipments, 4,000 bushels. Mess Pork, \$23.75.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

—In this changeable climate of ours, a cold is easily taken, and, without due care, another will be contracted on top of it,—one cold thus running into another, until the accompanying cough becomes settled and confirmed, straining and racking the lungs, and ultimately stimulating the production of tubercles. A majority of existing cases of clearly defined pulmonary diseases are thus accounted for. Thousands are now allowing themselves to drift through the preliminary symptoms under the delusion that they are troubled with "nothing but a slight cold." How obvious is it, therefore, that a cold should be carefully cared for from its incipency, and every exertion used to rid the system of its effects. Coughs and colds, pulmonary, bronchial, and asthmatic affections, are readily cured by that standard preparation, "Bryan's Pulmonic Wafers," and, by promptly resorting to them, all fears of dangerous results will be dissipated. Sold by all medicine-dealers; price, 25c. per box.

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

—The last days of ex-President Martin Van Buren were made comfortable by the use of Jonas Whitecomb's Asthma Remedy. Letters in our possession from his physician, and from Mr. Van Buren himself, express much gratification with the result of its use. Joseph Burnett & Co., Proprietors, Boston and New York.

Family Reading.

[For the MONTREAL WITNESS.]

TELL ME NOT OF FORGOTTEN LOVES.

Tell me not of forgotten loves,
Nor speak of forgotten woes,
The human heart is a burial place
Where memory's ivy grows
Green o'er the graves of buried hopes
That are hidden from mortal eyes;
With tear-dews we water each sacred spot
Of the heart where a dead hope lies.

Tell me not of forgotten loves,
You may bury them deep if you will;
But remove the affections of later years,
And you'll find their graves there still,
Fresh and green as when first you laid
Their ashes to rest in peace,
Breathing a prayer from the burdened heart
That its painful throbbings would cease.

Speak not to me of forgotten woes:
Is time such a healing balm?
Can it soothe to forgetfulness hearts bereft?
Or to grief's storm speak a calm
That will last till the heart and the hopes are
Dead?

Al! no;—from the dust of years,
A careless word may awaken past griefs,
Claiming fresh sighs and tears.

Then tell me not of forgotten loves,
Nor speak of forgotten woes;
For memory will guard as a sacred trust
Dead passions till life's latest close.

J. E. M.

Beauharnois.

AN AFTERNOON AMONGST THE ORPHANS.

Orphan! The word is associated in the mind with bleak wintriness, with howling "Januar blasts," with the hollow sighing of the mournful wind, uttering in fitful cadences its dirge-like music. And yet a visit to Mr. Muller's world-famed Orphan Asylum gives you a totally different idea. There the word seems an embodiment of all that is cheerful and healthful and glad and gleesome. Smiling faces greet you on every hand,—happy merry faces, with sparkling eyes and glowing cheeks, and features over which the sunshine of enjoyment ever seems to ripple.

What a marvellous institution this Ashley Down Orphan Asylum is; and what a marvellous man is George Muller! The veriest infidel who ever breathed cannot restrain his wonder when listening to the story of this good man's life and labors. It is said that truth is oftentimes stranger than fiction, and this is, perhaps one of the best instances that could be adduced in support of the assertion. No romance ever contained such a thrilling narrative. From first to last it savors more of the miraculous than of the sober, matter-of-fact, business-like relations of ordinary life. George Muller feeds, houses, clothes, and educates no less than eleven hundred and fifty orphans; and he is making rapid preparations for feeding, housing, clothing, and educating nine hundred more. Upwards of two thousand children dependent upon one man!—or rather dependent upon One God, in whom that one man places a reliant trust rarely met with even in tales of religious faith. No money has he of his own. For his very coat—his morning and evening meals—the bare necessities of life—he is dependent upon the One who, through deep waters, through evil report and through good report, through tribulation and success, has never deserted him. George Muller is a wonderful instance of a man practically carrying out the principle, "A chaque jour suffit sa peine." He takes no heed for the morrow what he shall eat, or what he shall drink, or what he shall put on; or what the eleven hundred and fifty children under his care shall eat, drink, or put on. Trusting ever, praying ever, he sees the morrow always brings its daily bread. From all quarters of the globe,—from the region of the Inl, from the backwoods of Canada, from the bush-house of the Australian settler, from the slopes of the sunny vineyards by the rippling Rhone, from the eternal snow-lands of the frigid north, there comes a constant flow of supplies sent by those who, far away, remember the poor orphan at home. Strange supplies they are, too, sometimes. All sorts of queer odds and ends find their way to the Asylum, either to be disposed of, or used by the children; and the givers to this noble charity are sincere and disinterested in their liberality, for no flourishing subscription-lists, with their names announced in big type, are ever to be seen, no annual meeting makes known to the world that they have benefited humanity to the extent of "one pound one."

The history of the rise and progress of the Orphan Asylum—its small beginning in 1836, when only thirty orphans were provided for—and its subsequent extraordinary development—are facts which have already been fruitful in chronicles. Our object is not to refer to these. We purpose merely giving a brief sketch of a visit to No. 3 House, which was made last Thursday. On previous occasions we had seen the other two houses—the ruddy-faced boys bustling with important energy; the tiny infants—veritable baby-orphans—too young to know aught of their mighty loss, and tended with almost motherly solicitude by the careful nurses—and now our visit was to the girls' department, the most important of all, in many respects. Just fancy what might have become of some of these girls if they had been left to the tender mercies of distant relations, or, still worse, to the cold charity of the world. Just picture what has become of many poor orphans who have had no one to care for them, and who have fallen into an abyss of misery. Boys are better off; their rugged natures are more fitted for contact with the sharp jostlings of real life; but the tenderly woman nature requires a gentler care, or it may perchance run into unwomanly extremes of the saddest character.

There are four hundred and fifty girls in No. 3, varying in age from six or seven up to eighteen. The house is divided into two compartments, similar in description. We

learn this from an agreeable and communicative lady who chaperons the party through the establishment. The first room we enter is a dormitory—spacious, lofty, light, airy, and well-ventilated. Everything is beautifully clean. The snowy purity of the bed linen rivals the whiteness of the whitewashed walls. Neatness—severe neatness—is the rule, and it is one of those rules which seem to boast of no exception. Forty iron bedsteads, accommodating eighty children, are the only furniture of the room. There is something almost austere in the absence of all luxuries. Nothing but absolute necessities are to be found—no chairs, no tables—nothing but a rigidly formal row of beds. There are several of these large dormitories, two of them providing room for a hundred girls each, and every one of them has a teacher's bedroom attached, so that the children may be said to be under supervision during the whole of the night. In some of those teacher's rooms, which are furnished with a little more taste, but very nearly as much simplicity, may be seen specimens of the children's work—Lilliputian dolls, for instance, attired in the smallest of frocks, with tucks that are just visible to the naked eye, worked with the most exquisite finish. In connection with each bedroom there is a wardrobe. Every girl has her own numbered compartment, where, folded with scrupulous neatness, is kept her stock of clothing. Take out a frock or a shawl anywhere, and we defy you to discover so much as a speck of dirt upon it. There is, indeed, such a monotony of cleanliness throughout the house, that one would almost like to chance upon a soiled spot somewhere to give the eyes a little relief. Even the floors, which are uncarpeted, are so thoroughly well scrubbed and cleaned that a dinner might be eaten from them without the risk of the slightest speck of dirt being admitted to the diner's system.

We next go to a room where a number of girls are occupied in learning to make their own clothes. Deftly the little fingers ply the needle, and happy look the little faces peeping up from their work. Some are making frocks, and some bonnets. The training which they get in the latter branch would hardly fit them for employment in a milliner's establishment. The bonnets are a shade or two at variance with the present fashion. But what matters it? The headpiece and the short hair are no tests of the goodness or the usefulness of the child.

From the workroom we go to the school-room. Specimens of writing and cyphering, very creditable indeed, are laid out for the inspection of the visitors. The teacher proceeds to put the children through a sort of examination. They march round the room with quite a martial step, and then sing several pieces, both of a sacred and secular character. The sweet, pure, melodious, childish voices rise in a full-sounding and harmonious chorus. They seem to enter heart and soul into the work, and sing with a right good will. The sound of a child's voice, tortured into the painful treble of the vagrant vocalist falls on the ear like a wail of despair. But the merry jocular songs of the Ashley Down Orphans, and their winsome faces, are a more pleasant theme on which to decant. Then the teacher makes them explain the different signs by which they express what they want; for, where there are so many together the hubbub would put an end to all work if everybody spoke when they felt inclined. So, instead of saying "I want a needle," or "I want some ink," they make signs with their fingers, and their requirements are supplied without the stillness of the school-room being disturbed. Exercises in drilling form another part of the examination, and then the visitors were treated to what, to us at least, was a novelty. The children, by making a peculiar half-whistling, half-hissing sound, gradually increasing in volume, give a good imitation of a rising storm. These whistling gusts of wind almost make one shiver; but, when the rumbling of feet on the floor bursts into an artificial thunder-clap, the effect is complete.

In the play-rooms there are rows of cupboards in which the girls keep their own private boxes. How treasured, we can imagine, are many of their contents. Who knows how many of them are the tombs where lie enshrined the last gift of a dead mother, or the lock of a father's hair? Poor orphans! Over those sadly sweet relics they can linger with tearful eyes; over the memories thus called up they can ponder in day-dreams of the past, and if the eyelid droops and the bosom heaves when the remembrance of the mother who "turned from her Bible to bless her child" comes fresh as yesterday, summoned by those love-links so fondly treasured; if the orphan's sorrow is thus ever cherished in a calm and hallowed spirit of "Thy will be done,"—the lock of hair, or the faded flower, or the little Testament with a parent's writing on the fly-leaf, will be a lifelong sermon more earnest than burning words of eloquence, more touching than the softest sigh of pathos. Sad memories, indeed, do these hoarded relics call up,—sad and bitter memories, perchance, of lingering deathbeds or of abrupt severances! But who would rob the orphan of such memories? Their soothing, purifying influence is too valuable to be lightly prized; for we hold that the recollections of a mother's love amongst the holiest thoughts of the mind, and the tears shed over those recollections the noblest overflow of the heart. But from the play-boxes and their associations we must hasten, for the children are romping busily in a merry game skipping and singing and running, and enjoying themselves to their heart's content. No restraint is put upon them now, and there is a veritable babel of voices.

Quitting the play-rooms and paying a hurried visit to the bath and washing-rooms, kitchen, and dining apartment, we are introduced to a number of young women who are being trained for domestic service. It is well known that servants from the asylum are eagerly sought for, and Mr. Muller is daily obliged to refuse applications for girls because he is unable to supply the demand.

This speaks well for the training they get. They are taught washing, ironing, mangle, scrubbing rooms, and all the other ramifications of housework, of which we must admit ourselves to be profoundly ignorant.

We must dismiss cursorily the rest of the internal arrangements, which are all carried out with systematic regularity and precision. As we leave the colony of orphans, and the five large buildings (two of which are in course of erection), the strange romance of the story comes back to the mind again, and fastens itself more firmly than before. The Ashley Down Orphan Asylum is one of the wonders of a very wonderful age.—*From Bristol (Eng.) paper.*

THE DISTRICT SCHOOL TEACHER.

She was a District School Teacher, nothing higher or better than that, and she had not more money than she knew what to do with, and her best dress was a turned silk, that had been made to look almost as good as new, through being carefully sponged, on a flat board, with a little spritz of wine and water. She was poor and still rich, which sounds contradictory, but was true nevertheless. Poor, in the sense of having but a few shillings a week to live upon, with a sick mother and a young brother to help out of it; but she was rich in the sense of being able to give out of an abundant store; she could teach, she could make truth plain, she could fill young minds with awe and wonder, and young hearts with joy and peace. "Blessed are ye poor,"—poor in the sense of humility,—"for yours is the kingdom of heaven."

Jessie—that was her name, Jessie Blanchard—had been thoroughly well educated; but on her father's death came poverty, all that he had dying with him, and he had never been careful to lay by a suitable provision for his widow and children. He was struck down almost suddenly, there was no lingering in the valley of the shadow of death; but he who is the Shepherd of his sheep did not forsake the afflicted ones. What though sickness came and laid the mother on her bed; what though the poor "lame lad" was nigh unto death; what though the purse was well-nigh empty, and it seemed as though the oil and the meal could only be renewed by miracle. He who works miracles by means found out the remedy. The good parson of the parish had noticed Jessie; he knew something of her good qualities, he knew the sore trial through which she was passing, and he offered to assist her. Would she undertake the management of a District School? there was some money to be earned by it, and it was good work to do. Would she? Ay, gladly enough; and so she tried and prospered.

How the children loved her! Never was an empress so faithfully obeyed. There was no fear in that all-conquering love, a love which cast out fear, and made the children joyous in their teacher's smile.

"I can't think how it is that Miss Blanchard gets on so well with her scholars," says Miss C., teacher of another District School.

"Well," says Miss D., "I suppose she has been trained to it."

"No, no, not at all; that is the surprising part of it; she never entered a school of this sort till her father's death, and her preparation was quite hurried."

"Humph—very strict, perhaps?"

"Well, she is rather strict, I believe, but—"

"Well, rather strict, but—"

"So kind—there is no other word for it. The best and strongest rule, at home or at school, is the rule of Love. Why a kiss, gently but firmly refused, an averted glance, a withdrawn hand at parting, will make Miss Blanchard's scholars more sorry than the longest lesson, or even the terrible disgrace of standing on a form. They love her so dearly, that they cannot bear that she should be pained."

"Well, that would not do with 'em all," said Miss C.; "I have been strongly disposed to use my pointer more than once in a way it was not exactly meant for. If I had not my temper well under control, I should give my charges some sounding slaps."

"Would they be the better for it?"

"I cannot say, but I should think so. You must make children mind you, must you not?"

"Yes, no doubt of it."

"Well, then, how can you do this without a sharp word, and a smart stroke?"

"Miss Blanchard uses neither: Love rules her empire without a sword."

"Well, we ain't all Miss Blanchards."

"Perhaps, in the sense of having Miss Blanchard's spirit, it were better if we were. You remember when the Lord appeared to Elijah, He was not in the fire, the whirlwind, or the earthquake,—but in the 'still small voice.'"

A GOOD DAY'S WORK.

A Christian man in a Western city resolved, several years ago, that he would never allow a day to pass without speaking to some one on the subject of personal salvation. He felt that this could be easily done, and it would bring him in direct contact with many hundred souls.

He was returning home late one evening, and his mind was burdened with the thought that his purpose had not been kept. The day had gone by, and no one had been invited to Christ. He saw a man leaning against a lamp-post, and felt that here was the last opportunity of retrieving the failure of the day. He stopped, put his hand gently on the shoulder of the stranger, and said,—

"May I ask you if you love the Lord Jesus Christ?"

The stranger resented the freedom, and replied curtly, that that was a personal matter, in which nobody else had any concern.

But the Christian replied, kindly, that they were fellow-travellers to another world, and one could not be indifferent whether others had a good hope of entering heaven. After a few more words had passed between them, they parted, the Christian fearing that he

might have given offence, but carrying the matter to the closet for earnest prayer.

Three months after, he had just retired for the night, at his boarding-house, when a knock was heard at the door. He inquired what was wanted, and a gentleman replied, he would like to see him. He dressed rapidly, and, on opening the door, recognized the stranger met at the lamp-post. The latter grasped him convulsively by the hand, and said,—

"The question you put to me, Do you love the Lord Jesus Christ? has been ringing ever since in my ear, and I have come to ask you what I must do to be saved."

They talked and prayed together, and in a few days the stranger was rejoicing in hope of pardon. He became an earnest and devoted Christian.

Those few words spoken at the lamp-post were the means of saving his soul. Might not a little Christian boldness be of service in reaching the hearts of others?

THE REASON WHY.

A noble-hearted Irishman, who had been taught by the rum-seller that the friends of temperance were aiming to take away his liberty, entered a temperance meeting which we addressed a few weeks ago.

At the close of the exercise, he rose up and asked permission to speak. Leave was granted. He said that with others he had come to the hall intending to make a noise and break up the meeting, but that the lecture had removed the wool that the rum-seller had drawn over his eyes, that he had been brought to see the true issue, and that, in place of rising to trouble the meeting, he rose to state that he had made a great discovery. He now saw why it was that the poor Irish had been hewers of wood and drawers of water to the Americans,—why it was that they labored from day to day and year to year, with liberal wages, and still were poor and destitute.

"The grog-shops get our money,—and not only our money, but also with it, our strength, our character, and our all."

A late Catholic bishop of New York said to a friend: "I have found that the laboring classes under my charge in the city of New York, pay for drinks alone, at the grog-hops, \$1,250,000 annually. This money, saved to the Irish in New York and converted into comfortable dwellings, better clothing, better education to their children, would soon elevate them to a condition and a respectability which would do honor to the country of their adoption, and make them its most powerful defenders."

We commend these facts to our fellow-citizens of Celtic origin, and wish increased success to the zealous efforts of the Father Mathew Societies, who are doing a great work to change this state of things among their countrymen.—*National Temperance Advocate.*

A TRUE CHILDHOOD.

To possess a true childhood is an inestimable boon. We do not believe, as a rule, that childhood is the happiest period of life; yet if life is happy in its maturer periods, it must be mainly due to influences which have affected it in childhood. This is, in every sense, the seed time, and after years the harvest. The entire nature of the child, the softness and flexibility of the flesh, the sportiveness of disposition, and the only transient impressions of sorrow of which it is capable, show very clearly that this is the season of enjoyment. To put the nerves which thrill with such acuteness to every touch of pleasure into steady contact with stern scenes, to fetter the elastic muscles and toughen the delicate flesh by hard labor, to occupy the young heart, instinct with yearnings for happiness, with the forethought of premature care, is to crush proper childhood, and to rob the future of the life of its chief source of satisfaction. Whatever that future may comprise in it of wisdom and goodness, of serenity and usefulness, it must always be poorer for having failed of the earlier opportunity and experience of happiness. To whatever heights of knowledge, power, and composure the mind may attain, these will all be unfavorably affected,—the knowledge will not be so healthful, nor the composure so natural and well-sustained, where childhood has not been surrounded by the genial advantages which love inspires and provides.

It is not uncommon to hear adversity lauded as the best school for virtue; and consequently as affording the best discipline for youth. If this be so, then are all those motives by which parents are impelled to provide for their families the conveniences and comforts of the household, false; and it were better that they should not toil to render home inviting and congenial. Here and there, one forces his way through obstacles, from the first dawning of thought,—obstacles which have intercepted most, if not all, the sunshine of an early existence, and his success is attributed to the poverty and severity of his lot; while the hundreds whose sensitive natures are either crushed or hardened are wholly forgotten. True greatness is more the creation of influences which reach the mind through its sensibilities, through the tender, mellowing appeals of love, than those more directly addressed to the intellect. Boys and girls, too soon thrust upon the world, do, it is true, become quick-witted, sharp, and shrewd—and oh, what sad lines are such marks of precociousness upon a child's face!—still, they seldom in the end develop into the strongest and even most successful men and women. Their strength is partial; their success is apt to be narrow; and throughout life the same hardness of feature and spirit is apt to follow them.

There are throngs of children in our great cities and elsewhere whom providence in their parents—and improvidence mostly caused by intemperance—or whom the Divine Providence, by the removal of a father, has prematurely turned adrift upon the world. They either become vagrants, or eke out a squalid livelihood for themselves, and, in a

measure, for those who have power over them, by resorting to all sorts of make-shifts, and prosecuting their trades, whether honest or otherwise, with the utmost tenacity of purpose. It makes one's heart sick to look into the eyes of these dear children, and see there cunning instead of artlessness, and the eager look for a chance, instead of the careless abandon which is the ornament of childhood.

CHILDREN IN THE BACK STREETS.—The distribution of children—as of other good things in this world—has long been a puzzle to thoughtful minds. The Psalmist who counted them among the greatest earthly blessings, was perplexed to see that the ungodly had children at their desire. Our modern point of view is different, but a walk through a back street in London always causes a somewhat similar astonishment. Children seem to abound in any neighborhood in inverse ratio to the means of supporting them. What statistics might say, we know not; but to a cursory observer it seems that the poorer the districts, the larger the families. In the thoroughly miserable regions, where the streets answer the purpose of nursery, they swarm with small girls carrying still smaller girls in their arms, and with dirty little boys of precocious impudence. Indeed, some economists have tried to make out that there is some necessary connection between the extreme poverty and the prolific powers of a population, and that the maxim of "the more the merrier" is carried out most completely where it seems least appropriate.—*London Saturday Review.*

—An artificial ivory is now made in France from a paste of papier maché and gelatine. Billiard balls made from this material are said to be equal to those made of real ivory, and cost only one-third as much.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

A SNAKE STORY FOR CHILDREN.

One time a keeper of a menagerie went with a friend to a public house. The two staid there several hours, and they both drank until they came to such a state that they scarcely knew what they were about.

As is always the case with persons in that more than half-drunken state, they said and did a great many things they would never have thought of doing if they had been sober.

When they went back to the garden where the animals were kept, the keeper began to play with the snakes. He had often done so before, but this time he was not so careful as usual, because he was not as sober as usual. In a few minutes one of the snakes flew up and bit the keeper's nose. Perhaps he felt insulted that a foolish, drunken man should presume to play with him!

The poison ran very quickly through the man's blood, and he became very ill. Those who take care of such exhibitions of animals, and play with them for the amusement of the people, generally carry in their pockets a medicine which will cure such bites, in case they should happen to need it.

This man who was bitten by the snake had some of the medicine in his pocket; but he was so stupefied from the effects of the liquor that he forgot all about it. He was taken to the hospital, and in a short time he died.

"Now, would it not be well to put upon the sign-board in front of every tavern this verse of Bible truth, 'At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder'? And we might also have a huge brazen serpent twined along the post from the top to the bottom!"

RIDDLES.

No. 285.

My first to the wearied traveller at night,
Be it ever so small, is a place of delight.
If my second part my first precedes,
I'm a call that the waiting visitor heeds.
My first and my second make up my whole,
Which oftentimes does a man's actions control.
When of moderate extent, I never displease,
When too great for one man, his pleasures cease.

No. 286.

Complete, it is a house for cattle; behead it,
and it is a stand; behead again, and it is ability;
transpose, a bundle; now, behead again, and it is a kind of liquor.

No. 287.

PUZZLE STORY.

I was born off the coast of Labrador, or along that region. My childhood was marvellously happy, being spent chiefly in frolicking with my companions among the waves, for we were great bathers. One day, after some grand sport, I crawled upon a sunny, crazy cake of ice to rest, where I fell asleep. While I slept, a number of men in a boat approached me cautiously (or else I dreamed it), and one struck me a blow which killed me. Of course you think that was the last of me, and I should think so, too; but that I one day, how long after I know not, came to my senses in a crowded court-room, where, as I found, John Smith was being tried for having broken me,—a thing, they said, John had no right to have done, and I naturally agreed with them. But I should never have known myself as I was now, never, had not I heard my name called so much. The judge, the lawyers, the witnesses, gave me the very same name that the fishermen off the north-eastern coast formerly did; yet how can this rumb little red thing, no larger than your thumb-nail, attached to a piece of paper folded into oblong shape, and without the power of motion at all,—how can this be me! I am sore puzzled about my identity; but if you can guess my name, I shall conclude I still am really a —.

No. 288.

There is a certain number of two digits, the sum of which is equal to three times their difference; and their difference, multiplied by one of them, is equal to one-third the required number. This will admit two solutions; what are they?

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES.

No. 281.—T O B A C C O.

No. 282.—Plaintiff.

No. 283.—Feather.

No. 284.—Because we cannot make them here,

The Miscellany.

IF WE KNEW.

If we knew the woe and heart-ache
Waiting for us down the road,
If our lips could taste the wormwood,
If our backs could feel the load,
Would we waste the day in wishing
For a time that ne'er can be?
Would we wait in such impatience
For our ships to come from sea?

If we knew the baby fingers
Pressed against the window pane
Would be cold and stiff to-morrow—
Never trouble us again—
Would the bright eyes of our darling
Catch the frown upon our brow?
Would the print of rosy fingers
Vex us then as they do now?

Ah, those little ice-cold fingers,
How they point our memories back
To the hasty words and actions
Strewn along our backward track!
How those little hands remind us,
As in snowy grace they lie,
Not to scatter thorns—but roses—
For our reaping by and by!

Strange we never prize the music
Till the sweet-voiced bird has flown;
Strange that we should slight the violets
Till the lovely flowers are gone;
Strange that summer skies and sunshine
Never seem one half so fair
As when winter's snowy pinions
Shake the white down in the air!

Lips from which the seal of silence
None but God can roll away,
Never blossomed in such beauty
As adorns the mouth to-day;
And sweet words that freight our memory
With their beautiful perfume,
Come to us in sweetest accents
Through the portals of the tomb.

Let us gather up the sunbeams
Lying all along our path;
Let us keep the wheat and roses,
Casting out the thorns and chaff;
Let us find our sweetest comfort
In the blessings of to-day,
With a patient hand removing
All the briars from our way.

THE MASONIC QUESTION.

The *Mystic Temple*, the new masonic paper started in this city, gives its readers the following extract from the *Baptist*, with an appended comment:—

EXTRACT FROM "AMERICAN BAPTIST."

"We are informed that several of the Congregational churches have washed their hands of this iniquity. Now is the time for our Baptist churches to move. We call upon every brother that reads our paper to put his hand to the work. We do not expect any immediate success in driving masonry out of politics and out of the nation, but we do expect success in driving it from evangelical churches. With the wave of infidelity that is setting in upon us, it cannot but be popular among rationalists and free-thinkers; all, therefore, that we can hope for, at present, is a total separation of evangelical people from the iniquity. We know of Christian professors, and ministers of the gospel, too, who say that they will give up their church rather than their lodge; all we ask is that they should have the opportunity. What we demand is, that they shall not hold their relations to both."

COMMENT OF "MYSTIC TEMPLE."

"The above extract from the *American Baptist*, published in this city, is the most striking illustration of the truthfulness of the adage, 'who the gods wish to destroy, they first make mad,' we have ever seen. The arrogance, ignorance, vindictiveness, suicidal and absolutely devilish spirit which must have prompted whoever committed such sentiments to paper, is so painfully apparent that we are at a loss how to treat the subject of such a singular hallucination. Charity, however, leads us to suppose that the writer is really in earnest in the proposed work, but to believe that any intelligent and sane human being, in this enlightened age, could evince such stupidity or deliberate and unwarrantable slander upon any respectable body of men, is not within the power of credulity. In either case, it would be unpardonable to let such conduct pass unnoticed and unrebuked, and we call upon the author to retract his base insinuations, or furnish evidence to warrant the declaration of the 'bare-faced deism of the upper degrees,' 'heathenish doctrines,' 'iniquitous and hidden works of darkness,' etc. Masonry needs no defence at our hands, and we have only to say, in conclusion, that self-respect, and a desire to promote the dissemination of the truths of the holy scriptures, will induce the writer of the above to make the *amende honorable*."

REPLY OF "AMERICAN BAPTIST."

The point which seems to have greatly excited our contemporary is our reference to the "bare-faced deism," and "heathenish doctrines" of masonry in its higher degrees. We should be very sorry to attribute to any man or body of men a creed which they do not hold. If the religion of masonry be something different from deism, we shall be most happy to acknowledge the fact. But our charge rests on the testimony of so many unexceptionable witnesses that we could not admit it to be incorrect, without equally good evidence on the other side. When it can be shown that any of the higher orders, speaking through their regular officers, have repudiated or renounced the deism taught by their present standard authorities, then it will be time to call us to account for stating what masons themselves have taught us.

We have, in our late discussions, made quotations from various masonic writers of the highest standing, who all unite in affirming the same masonic creed. We published a portion of the masonic ritual, copied by Elder Bernard from the official degrees written out by Rev. Dr. Dalcho, the grand head of masonry, containing the "requisitions to make a good mason;" amongst others that he should "shake off the yoke of infant prejudice, concerning the mysteries of the reigning

religion," that he should fight against it as "a serpent which we detest, as an idol that is adored by the idiot and vulgar under the name of Religion." When this ritual was adopted, and when Dr. Dalcho copied it, the prevailing or "reigning religion" was Christianity. The religion of masonry, then, is not the religion of Christianity. If the religion of masonry be not deism, will the *Mystic Temple* be good enough to tell us what it is? Is it Judaism or Mohammedanism or Hinduism? It must, according to all masonic authorities, be something in which Mahomedans, Hindus, Parsees, and men of every religious belief, except atheists, can join. What religion is there beside deism that can unite all these discordant elements without infringing upon any of their doctrines?

In the last masonic work on the higher degrees, by McClenachan, we not only find that masonry gives us a "universal religion," but we learn exactly what that religion is. It is what the European masons call the "religion of God;" i. e., deism. If McClenachan's "Book of the Scottish Rite" does not teach deism, it would be impossible to teach it in any words that could be invented.

But we will, for the present, waive all these testimonies; admit the supposition that Dalcho, Macoy, McClenachan, and other illustrious masons of the thirty-third degree, have been mistaken; and look to the columns of the *Mystic Temple*, to find out what the religion of masonry is. As only three numbers of this periodical have been published, we shall have rather a scant field from whence to gather up the several points of the masonic creed. But we trust that what we do find, in this small compass, may not be disputed; as there can, of course, be no higher authority with the editor than his own carefully digested and clearly expressed opinions.

To begin with the number containing the criticism at the head of this article. Its leading editorial is on the "Religion of Masonry." We do not find in it any formal definition of this religion, but the whole scope of the article shows that it is deism. Atheism is condemned. The substance of it is, that "sweet religion unfolds to man his brilliant destiny;" that the soul is immortal; that nothing is the offspring of chance; that the chain which binds man to earth is not a heavy one; that when death, "the blind divinity, has burst the thick crust of matter which envelops his soul, he shines in space like an angel of light, beyond reach of the shafts of affliction."

"The path leading to the Temple of the Sublime Architect of the universe is not rough and thorny; it expects not that mortal shall suffer superstitious fear, or that, breaking the bonds which bind them to surrounding objects, they shall condemn themselves to austere principles and practice, or to a life of contemplation which is contrary to his law."

Whatever this may be, it certainly has no Christianity about it; it carefully eschews the "strait gate" and the "narrow way" of the New Testament. Another editorial on the next page, concludes with the following laudation of masonry as the sure passport to eternal life:

"As a tree is known by its fruit, we challenge an impartial comparison of the virtues and benefits of masonry with those of any or all the evangelical bodies of the day; and should it be accepted, and the dignity of the order require it [at?] our hands, our opponents will find that the mildness of masonry is only equalled by her firmness and ability to establish her claim to be the best and most ancient and honorable institution known on earth, and the surest passport to everlasting enjoyments in the life to come."

It is not our object now to dispute or disturb our contemporary's comforting opinion that masonry is a better passport to salvation than Christianity; all we ask is that he should not pretend to be a Christian and a heathen at the same time. Holding these deistic doctrines, let him not be ashamed of them, nor accuse others of slander because they apply to them the proper appellation.

We lay down this third number of the paper, and take up the one for January 4th. Here we have first a "salutatory," and then a long and glowing editorial on "masonic toleration." The editor begins with stating that "the fundamental basis of our institution rests upon the adoration of a single omnipotent Deity, and that [the] method we observe in his worship varies as the neophytes have progressed to the acquisition of purity in light." He then shows how "the wise and intelligent of successive generations have been compelled to descend to dissimulation in pandering to vulgar prejudices and in avowing absurdities, repugnant to moral convictions;" how these philosophers have, nevertheless, been themselves superior to these popular delusions, and have "congregated in hidden assemblies and disseminated their teachings and symbolized their oral precepts by the invention of parables, legends, inscriptions, and graven devices, which while concealing an occult interpretation, served to gratify the fantasies and superstitions of wonder-loving multitudes, accepting as enunciations of fact ingenious fictions, inculcating moral abstractions." Warming with his subject, the editor continues:

"Aided by the light of Truth and of Reason, we, to whom have been transmitted revelations of ancient mysteries, admire and respect the depth of primitive philosophy, with the soundness and accuracy of whose teachings we have become impressed. At each stage of masonic exaltation, we are tempted to wonder at the sublimity of their doctrines, and to pause in admiration, viewing the comprehensive scope of that enigmatical symbolism designed for their perpetuation; as the veil is gradually uplifted from the portals of the *Mystic Temple* there is disclosed a vastness of expanse, a newly discovered world, peopled with the shades of sages and philosophers, messengers from a transmundane sphere, bearing to us revelation of a religion consonant with the laws of Nature, inculcating a dogma simple in truthfulness and beneficent through its universality."

After the errors of the dark ages and "during the dawn of resuscitated light," the philosophers conceived the idea of "discard-

ing their subtleties," but courageous as they were, "nevertheless, they dared not openly propagate their doctrines." "Could they," asks the editor, "when Catholicism was the avowed religion of the states, incur certainty of martyrdom, by reviving the ancient mysteries, obnoxious as identified with paganism?"

"But one course was left to the sagacious sons of light; finding the Hebrew book of laws a convenient basis for a system of religious discipline, alike acceptable to the Christian, the Israelite, and the Moslem, they proclaimed to the world that they had combined to re-erect a mystic temple, physically extinct, still capable of reconstruction. Unwilling to be identified with the templars and other monk knights, sworn enemies to the Moors, persecutors of the Jews, and oppressors of Christians of lower degrees, the new order assumed a grade in mechanical labor, and beneath this unostentatious guise sought to combine humanity into a harmony of religion, race, and privilege."

Observe it is the *Mystic Temple* not we, that tells this story of masonic trickery, men making up a religion of their own out of the old pagan religions, and palming it off upon the world under the "guise" of "a grade in mechanical labor," and using the Hebrew book of laws as the basis of their discipline, simply because it was "convenient!" The editor proceeds:

"As every religion boasts a demigod, every nation a master, and every dogma of faith a legend, the masons invented the fable of the Widow's Son, the outline of whose imaginary existence and martyrdom coincides with the mythological actions attributed respectively to Osiris, Hercules, Woden, Arthur, Pendragon, and to Jesus of Nazareth."

Could there be a greater libel on Christianity than to say it "boasts a demigod?" No Christian, of any sect or name, with the exception of Unitarians or Socinians, hold that Christ is a "demigod," or anything less than the "fulness of the Godhead." And yet this masonic editor asserts that "every religion boasts a demigod!" And that masons have "invented" the story of Hiram Abiff, with an outline that coincides with the "mythological actions" attributed to "Jesus of Nazareth!" What is this? Deism or blasphemy? Let our readers judge. The editor goes on:

"By means of this simple narrative (that of Hiram Abiff), devoid of supernatural and marvellous embellishment, they inculcated the dogma of an identity in all religions; for, by whatever name history or fiction may designate the demigod, H. A. answers for them the type of a perfected man-martyr through superexcellence of virtue, who died, arose from the dead, and now lives in life eternal."

This is a little bolder deism than we have seen in any of the masonic works that have come under our notice; but, for substance, they are all in accord. The Christian plan of salvation is subverted; Christ and his cross are thrust aside to give place to a vile substitute, a dramatic representation of an imaginary martyr, Hiram Abiff; Reason is enthroned as the supreme God; and speculative masonry, a human invention, assuming for a mere "guise" the humble garb of "mechanical labor," is pronounced the "surest passport to everlasting enjoyments."

The *Mystic Temple* has our answer. We have given the proof demanded. If the editor wishes for more, it shall be given. We say, as we did before, that the higher degrees of masonry are incompatible with membership in an evangelical Christian church. We call for a separation in no vindictive spirit. Every man has the right to choose his religion, but he has no right to sail under false colors. If he prefers the deism taught in masonic books, let him come out boldly and avow it before the world, and not come to us with the absurd "dogma of identity in all religions," claiming to be Christian in belief, while he puts Baal and J.ovah side by side, and worships at an altar inscribed "Soli Sanctissimo Sacrum—Sacred to the Most Holy Sun!"—*From the American Baptist*.

THE GREAT MUSSULMAN CHURCH.

As St. Peter's at Rome is the grandest cathedral of the Romish church; so is St. Sophia the most esteemed by the Mussulmans. It stands on elevated land, and may be seen far up and down the Bosphorus. Obtaining a *firman*—that is, permission to visit it—we entered its portal, leaving our boots at the door. I shall give no figure of length, breadth, or height, for statistics will convey no clear idea of its appearance; but you see a building with white walls, an immense central dome, and a score or two of smaller domes, arranged as you might build a miniature mosque, with a large bowl turned bottom up for the central dome, and tea-cups and saucers, also inverted, arranged around it.

There are small windows high up the walls which admit light, and four small minarets, like light-houses, piercing the sky. It is the fast of Ramadan, which lasts one moon; nothing can be eaten or drunk from sunrise to sunset. The follower of the Prophet may be ready to faint, or on the point of fainting, but to eat while the sun is above the horizon during Ramadan is to lose his soul, and he esteems his soul of far more value than do many residents of Christian lands. It being Ramadan, the place is especially holy, and we infidels had better take care lest we fan the dying members of fanaticism by appearing inside the holy place.

We ascend first to the gallery and gaze upon the interior from a point high above the pavement. It is an immense area. The dome is supported by pillars of porphyry, serpentine, and marble. Some of the pillars were brought from Ephesus, others from Egypt, others from Balbec. There are three thousand years of genius in those sculptured marbles. Incense to the gods—to Ishtar, Astarte, Jupiter, and Diana—has been offered around those columns in heathen temples. Christians have kneeled at their base, and now before them hundreds of devotees are bumping their heads against the floor. So religion, in all ages, has had possession of the firmest convictions of man.

It would be a place for silent and profitable meditation upon man's moral nature, were it not for what is going on below us. There is a row of Mussulmans with their faces towards Mecca, bowing their heads. It is adoration, and we will respect it; but just beyond them a fiery old Turk, flaming all over with red, is exhorting, doubling up his fists, shaking his head fiercely, shouting at the top of his voice, getting himself into a fever of excitement in his zeal. Farther out, under the great dome, are two groups, some exhorting, and others saying their prayers. Around the area are dervishes reading the Koran aloud. Aside from the few who are kneeling, there is no more apparent reverence than there is in an American town meeting when an exciting topic is up for discussion. The scene is very much like one I once witnessed in the "coal-hole" of the New York gold-room, when gold was at 250 and on a rise. Boys are capering across the room, having great glee upon the carpet, the entire area being spread with carpeting.

GREAT CIRCLES.

Every mathematician knows that *great circle* is a term for any line passing around the earth so as to divide it into two equal parts. The centre of all great circles is the centre of the earth. The meridians and the equator are great circles. A small portion of a great circle is called a straight line on the earth's surface, or an air line. Such so called straight lines (they are really circular, with the centre four thousand miles beneath our feet) never keep to the same point of the compass unless it be due north and south, or at the equator, and due east and west. A line running continually five, ten, or forty-five degrees north of east would run round around the earth till it came infinitely near the pole without ever reaching it; for a line cannot hit a point without going straight towards it. Such a line is called a *loxodromic curve*.

If one place be exactly east of another, the nearest course to it would recede from the equator and approach it again. If they are exactly one hundred and eighty degrees apart, and both north of the equator, the nearest course from one to the other would be through the north pole. At a lesser distance, as from Boston to Japan, the shortest course would begin northwest, and strike Japan while running southwest.

The introduction of steam on the ocean has made great-circle sailing a practical question. The immense stretches on land within the bounds of the Union make the great circle an element of practical calculation, and to overlook it leads to no little error. Instead of speaking of Boston and Japan, I first take places much farther south—Philadelphia and Canton. Ask a Philadelphia child to point towards Canton; if he does not point to the antipodes or the antee, he will point straight west. In reality, the shortest route—the air line—passes through Hudson's Bay. From Philadelphia to San Francisco, a degree further south, the air line comes within about twenty miles of Lake Michigan. Virtually, then, the shortest route from the Atlantic seaboard to San Francisco and all the region north of it passes through Chicago, because it must keep south of Lake Michigan. From Chicago to Canton the line would pass north of the Strait of Fuca, and as this is the southern boundary of British Columbia, this strait, like the southern point on Lake Michigan, must be a northern limit of any practical route. The air line from Fuca to Canton passes through the Alaskan peninsula; the practical route would be therefore crowded south again by this, to pass among or south of the Aleutian Islands. The air line from San Francisco to Japan passes just south of these islands. Now, as all courses from our seaboard to China and Japan must pass through one of these points or between them, we may safely conclude that an *entrepôt* will be established on one of these islands near which they all pass, a half-way house between America and Asia, the post-office for whalers and cod-fishers. Let us assume that this point shall be on Tanaga, west of the middle of the group, but not half-way to Japan, and that all trade between the United States and China and Japan will touch at this island.—*Rev. I. F. Holton*.

WHAT ONE DAY'S ABSTINENCE WOULD DO.

There is one circumstance in the effects of the drinking habits of the country which, while it ought to arouse our sympathy, is really one of those facts which assist to paralyze the efforts of many people working for the promotion of good, and that is, there is no specialty in the sufferings and outrage caused by drunkenness. In that recent outrage at Clerkenwell, which has called forth so much sympathy and indignation, there was one feature which I think has very much added to its atrocity, that the suffering fell so much upon women and children. That is a great feature in the results of drinking in this country—that the blow falls heaviest on women and children and those who are innocent. Therefore, while we feel indignation and sympathy for those special evils, do not let us neglect this daily and hourly sorrow around us. Hard times no doubt we shall have, and yet in the demands made for funds to assist the distress, there often occurs to me a ready way of meeting it. If the people of this country would stop their drinking, and pay the price of it into the treasury of these benevolent associations, there would be £200,000 as the result of one day's abstinence! It seems strange to speak of the amount of suffering, and the difficulty of relieving it, when the people of this country spend upon this one article alone such an enormous sum. Some time ago I was at a meeting called to raise funds to relieve the distress, and especially to provide means of education for the freedmen of America. There was a very generally expressed feeling that, as we have so much suffering in London, we could not be expected to send anything across the water.

I made the remark that our association, after three years, had succeeded in collecting £100,000 to send to the relief of those four millions of free men in America. I believe they have an extra claim upon the sympathy of Christian England; and yet I say in one day it spends £200,000 in intoxicating liquors! If we could but give up this drink for one day we should have £100,000 for the distressed freedmen, and another £100,000 to relieve distress at home, and nobody would be the worse, but all vastly the better. What an immense treasury we should have!—*Extract from a Recent Speech by Mr. John Taylor at Exeter Hall*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—The fascination of liquor selling is explained by the fact that a gallon of brandy, costing \$12, yields \$61.40 when r-tailed by the glass.—Whiskey, at \$5, yields \$27.70.

—Dr. Lardner once attempted to prove that ocean steam navigation was an impossibility; and Thiers, in 1839, said railroads would never be useful or successful.

—Lord Stanley is about forty years of age. In manner he is very grave and austere. On the occasion of the cable banquet where mirth and hilarity were the order of the evening, Lord Stanley was strict as a beadle. At an early hour he requested to be excused. "Now," said his father, the Earl, "we can have some fun—the old man has gone!"

—"Do you smoke, Senorita?" said a gentleman who discovered Madame —, of the Italian Opera, refreshing herself in that way on her travels from Boston to New York. The answer had a good deal of Tuscan naïveté. "Yes," responded the lady; "I smoke, and I drink, and I does everything vot is vicked!"

—Every one has heard of Frederick the Great's passion for playing on the flute, and how, spite of his father's prohibition, he used, on pretence of going out hunting, to organize concerts in caverns and woods, at which he could indulge in his favorite amusement. Quite recently the famous flute, on which Frederick used to play has come into possession of the Paris Conservatoire de Musique. The instrument is valuable, not only as an historic relic, but on account of the richness of its ornamentation and its excellence of tone.

—In New York and Philadelphia, many of the Episcopalian ministers and Presbyterians ministers fraternize, exchanging pulpits. It may be assumed that this was not taken into account when the American bishops were invited to the Pan-Anglican Synod. The answer returned to their duties more high-priestly and exclusive than they were before, with much loftier notions of episcopal privilege, and much less inclined to admit the competence of any Presbyterian or Congregational minister. But if the American and English churches are to be closely welded, it may become a question, Shall the Church of the new world thaw that of the old, or the old freeze up the new? There is yet another possibility—and we should say it is the probability—that an importation of stiff High-Churchism into the American Episcopal body will split it up; and the Evangelicals, who have not the same inducement for clinging to it there that they have in England, will go off and form a new community, which will exchange the pretence of apostolical succession for that true mark of churchmanship—apostolical humility.—*English Independent*.

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL.—Experiments made by Drs. Kinger and Richards on men and animals go to show that the temperature of the body falls nearly as fast after the use of alcohol in doses sufficient to produce intoxication, as after death itself. The facility with which drunkards freeze to death, is explained by this fact. Dr. Jolly declares that an increasing tendency towards mental disease has been generated by the increasing consumption of spirits. Official reports show that the abuse of alcohol accounts for one-fifth of the insanity in France.—*Exchange*.

WHEN RAIN FALLS MOST.—Mr. Glaisher has tabulated the records of rain-fall at Greenwich Observatory for a period of six years, 1861-67, with a view to ascertain whether any connection could be traced between the fall of rain and the periodical phenomenon of magnetism, whether there were any hours in the twenty-four more rainy than others. He finds that the greatest amounts of rain at any hour in one year do not correspond with those of other years. On the average of six years, rain is most frequent between noon and midnight than between midnight and noon. No connection could be discovered between the daily movements of the declination magnet and the daily fall of rain. There does appear to be some connection between the daily rain-fall and the position of the sun; for the smallest falls take place in the morning hours while the sun is going up, and most rain falls during the afternoon while the sun is dropping.

JOHN BRIGHT looks a hale fifty-five years. In stature he is about the height of Henry Ward Beecher, though considerably stouter. He has a face of the finest English type, full and open, with gray side-whisker, and a healthy, ruddy complexion. The mouth, chin, and lower jaw express great firmness and vigor. The nose is full, nostrils broad, while the space is broad between the clear, full, gray eyes, which appear capable of great expression. In repose they are mild and kindly. Both brow and head are broad, full, and arched high in the coronal region. The whole figure is cast in a massive mould. He looks the orator and leader of men, even when silent; and there is in his presence itself a prevailing sense of power. His manner is pleasant, grave, and cordial, yet not unmixed with a dash of hauteur and brusqueness that one can readily trace to his business and public life.—*Galaxy*.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(BY ATLANTIC CABLE.)

LONDON, March 9, evening.—The Fenians on trial at Sligo have been brought up here for trial. Baron Gifford has been appointed Vice-Chancellor.

The Morning Post, in an editorial on the subject of Irish reform, says the plan which will be pursued by the new government under Mr. Disraeli, in regard to Ireland, is as follows:—1. The consideration of the church question will be put off until the commission on the Irish Church Establishment, already appointed, shall have made their report. 2. Another commission will be appointed to inquire into the relations of landlord and tenant in Ireland. 3. A charter will be granted for a new Roman-Catholic university. 4. Irish railways are to be subsidized by the government.

DUBLIN, March 9.—Messrs. Fitzgerald, Donohue, and McCarthy, arrested for seditious conduct, have been discharged from custody. Mr. W. G. Johnson, Orange Secretary, refuses to accept the offer of release from his sentence of imprisonment on the terms proposed by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

LONDON, March 9.—There has been a general change in the Turkish Cabinet. All the ministers have resigned except the Grand Vizier, Mehmed Ali. Ali Pasha and others have been appointed to succeed them.

PARIS, March 9, evening.—In the Corps Legislatif, to-day, the debate on the bill for the regulation of the public press closed, and the bill, from time to time, amended, was passed with remarkable unanimity, the vote standing 242 affirmative to 1 negative. The Ministerial budget for the ensuing fiscal year, ending in 1869, was laid before the Corps Legislatif to-day. The following are the totals of the receipts and expenditures, as estimated by M. Mauguier, Minister of Finance:—Receipts from ordinary sources, 1,699,000,000; receipts from extraordinary sources, 93,000,000; total estimated receipts, 1,792,000,000; expenditure ordinary, 1,627,000,000; expenditure extraordinary, 184,000,000; total estimated expenditure, 1,811,000,000.

LONDON, March 9.—In the House of Commons this evening, in reply to an inquiry from Mr. J. Harvey Lewis, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, the Home Secretary, stated that the police had been previously informed of the plot for blowing up one of the walls of the Clerkenwell prison, and thereby effecting the release of the Fenian prisoners. Their informer, who was within the prison, was to give them notice when the conspirators approached to light the fuse by throwing a white ball over the wall, whereupon the police were to seize the guilty parties. On the night before the explosion, a cask of powder was seen in the street, but as no attempt was made to blow up the wall that night, the preconcerted signal was not given. The powder was allowed to remain, and no arrests were made. The police supposed that the execution of the plot was postponed to the following evening, and were off their guard when the explosion took place, unexpectedly, during the day.

Lord Stanley informed the House that an exhaustive investigation had been ordered in the case of the vessel "Lizzie Line," seized in the Chesapeake.

LONDON, March 10.—J. McLeary Brown left the British Legation in China, and was accredited to act as Secretary of Legation to Mr. Burlingame on his mission for the Chinese Government, with full consent of the British Ambassador at Peking who indorsed his credentials.

PARIS, March 10.—It is reported to-day that the Emperor Napoleon will pay a visit to St. Petersburg in June.

ST. PETERSBURGH, March 10.—The Nicolay railroad is to be disposed of to a newly formed Russian company. The terms of the sale have already been settled. The property rights of Americans on the material and rolling stock of the road are protected by provisions of sale.

BERLIN, March 10.—A commercial treaty between the Zollverein and the Austrian Government has been concluded and signed.

LONDON, March 10.—The Prince of Wales will soon make a visit to Ireland, where he is to be made a Knight of the Order of St. Patrick.

The Fenians who were captured at Merthyr Tydvil in Wales have been indicted for treason, and will be tried at the Swansea Assizes.

Despatches from Annesley Bay say that King Theodore had arrived in the immediate neighborhood of Magdala with his troops and war material. The advance of the British expedition was steadily pushing ahead under Gen. Napier, and at last accounts was within two days' march beyond the village of Altegrat.

COOK, March 10.—The Grand Jury yesterday presented an indictment against Capt. McKay for murder, and against Manix and Walsh as being accessory to the crime.

COOK, March 11.—The trial of McKay has concluded with a verdict of not guilty.

BERLIN, March 11.—A treaty has just been concluded between the North-German Confederation and the United States of America, providing for the protection of naturalized citizens, and was to-day unanimously ratified by the Federal Council.

It is reported that a proposition was recently made to Lord Stanley to submit the "Alabama" claims to the arbitration of Prussia, and that he was willing to entertain the proposition so far as it applied to the question as to indemnity, but he refused to submit the other points in dispute.

LONDON, March 12.—Gen. Dix, the American Minister to France, has arrived in this city, and will remain two or three weeks. It is said, he came on business connected with the question of the "Alabama" claims.

LONDON, March 11.—In the House of Commons last night, a warm debate took place on the condition of Ireland, and the following resolution was introduced, but further consideration thereon postponed till to-morrow:—"That the discontent of Ireland is a source of uneasiness to the empire, and must be remedied; that laws for Ireland should be framed to suit the wishes of the people; that the present church, school, and land-tenure systems are unjust; and that, in the opinion of this House, these wrongs should be righted."

ROME, March 11.—One hundred Canadian Zouaves, who volunteered for the Papal service, have arrived here.

LONDON, March 12.—The House of Commons, last evening, in Committee of the Whole, agreed

to report for the passage of the bill introduced by Mr. Gladstone for the abolition of church-rates. Mr. Waters, recently arrested, has been discharged. The case of Mullaney is to be brought up in the House of Lords next week.

NEW YORK, March 10.—The Herald's London special says, advices from the army in Abyssinia represent the military situation at the English front remained unchanged. It is said that King Theodore treats the captives more leniently, and that he begins to regard them in a more friendly spirit. Mr. Rassam, the captive official of the Queen, indeed says that he thinks the King detains him merely until the English troops arrive at or near the Royal headquarters, and that he will then be set free.

NEW YORK, March 11.—The Tribune's says, the board of managers of impeachment will file their replication to the President's return to the summons on Monday, and ask that the trial proceed at once. Should the President ask for longer delay, the managers on the part of the House will resist it, and will be prepared to argue the question before the Senate. One of the managers expressed the opinion to-night that the trial could not consume more than two weeks. The President has a plan of his own for the transaction of the business of the War-Department through Gen. Thomas; and Representative Boutwell has prepared a bill, which he will present in a few days, providing that all communications of an official character between the President and Gen. Grant shall pass through the War-Department.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Secretary Seward was in consultation with the Foreign Affairs Committee, urging immediate action in Mr. Bancroft's treaty relative to the rights of American citizens in foreign countries. He informed the committee that it was of the utmost importance that speedy action should be taken, and it would aid the Government in bringing about the negotiation of other treaties under consideration. The members of the committee assured him that action should be taken at an early day.

Hancock is to be relieved in a few days, and transferred to the new division of Washington, which was created a few weeks ago. It is hinted that the President will insist upon his right, as Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the United States, to issue orders to him direct, instead of sending them through Grant.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Panama advices state that the cholera continues to make terrible ravages in the Argentine Confederation. The inhabitants of Buenos Ayres denounce the cowardice of the physicians, and continue to fly to the country. In Cordova, there had been 7,000 victims. Rosario was bombarded on the 9th of January by the steamer "Naciola" without notice. Foreign Consuls had protested against the act. Gen. Balta will be the Presidential candidate of Peru. Another revolution is on the tapis. Yellow-fever was at Lima.

GODERICH, March 10.—The ice went down Maitland river last night, and, being stopped by ice in the lake, piled up in the harbor 20 feet high in some places, throwing the steamer "Bonnie" and the tug "Eliza Fox" entirely out of the water, and landing them on the dock. The gunboat "Prince Alfred" has her bow resting on the dock. The schooner "Ontario" was jammed against the G. T. R. freight-shed, completely smashing the side of the building. Eight or ten fishermen's shanties were carried away, and nearly the whole dock destroyed. No lives lost. Vessels not much damaged.

TORONTO, March 12.—The adjourned inquest in the Manion poisoning case again met last evening. Prof. Croft was examined as to the contents of the stomach of the deceased. He said that no trace of poison could be detected; but the appearance indicated that morphia had been used. Drs. Bovell, Ralph, and May agreed that narcotic poison had no doubt been administered. The inquest was adjourned until Monday.

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

BIRTHS.

WALKER.—In this city, on the 6th inst. Mrs. John Walker of a daughter.

MCDONOUGH.—On 9th inst., at 600 St. Catherine street, Mrs. D. A. McDougall, of a son.

MARRIED.

EDWARDS, MCFEE.—On the 10th inst., at the residence of the bride's mother, Bellevue, Township of Havelock, Province of Quebec, by the Rev. W. Masson, James K. Edwards, M. A., of the Toronto Globe, to Kate, second daughter of the late Lieut.-Col. Alex. McFee.

COPELAND-BLANCHARD.—On the 11th inst., at the Church of St. James the Apostle, by the Rev. Mr. Alnutt, of Drummondville, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Ellegood, Mr. Eugene M. Copeland, to Emma Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. Louis Blanchard, of this city. No Cards.

INGHAM, SPANHOPE.—At Elvaston Church, Derbyshire, on the 13th Jan., 1868, Jas. Penrose, eldest son of James Taylor Ingham, Esq., of Gloucester-square, Hyde Park, and Sugwas Court, Herefordshire, to the Lady Caroline Marguerite Stanhope, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Harrington.

DIED.

BUTTERWORTH.—At Point St. Charles, on the 10th inst. Mr. John Butterworth, formerly of the 39th Foot, a native of Berry, Lancashire, England, aged 67 years.

LAUDER.—In this city, on the 10th inst., Philip, youngest son of George Lauder, aged 1 year and 4 months.

GALL.—On the morning of the 8th inst. William Gall, aged 33 years (late of Barbadoes, West Indies).

HEUSTON.—In this city, on the 10th inst., John Frederick, aged 3 months and 2 days, infant son of Archibald Heuston.

SCOTT.—On the 9th inst., from accident, Mr. John Scott.

BROWN.—In this city, on the 10th inst., Janet Bell, youngest daughter of William Brown, aged 5 months.

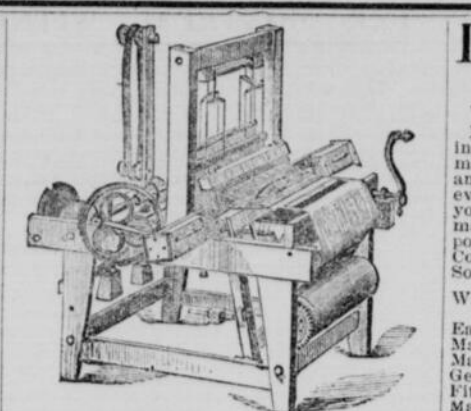
HAMILTON.—In this city, on the 10th inst., William John, infant son of Robert Hamilton, aged 5 months and 8 days.

ANGUS.—In this city, at 1230 this morning, March 10th, Maria Wyeth, wife of William Angus.

CLARK.—At Lochiel, County of Glengarry, P. O., on the 11th inst., Duncan Clark, a native of Kilm, Perthshire, Scotland, aged 92 years.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.—Any one answering to the name of JOHN CAIRNS, a native of the Township of Carnew, near the Town of Dramara, County Down, Ireland, who left that place for America, about the year 1831 or 1832; if still alive he will bear of a near relation by communicating with WM. KEARNS, Chambly Canton, Province of Quebec.



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EXTENSIVE SALE OF FARM STOCK, HORSES, COWS, PIGS, UTENSILS, &c.

1000 bush. POTATOES, OATS, BARLEY, and BUCKWHEAT.—On WEDNESDAY, April 15th prox., the Sub-creeper will sell at the Farm of the late PATRICK MOONEY (deceased), Lower Lachine Road, near the old Catholic Church, the following:— 15 MILCH COWS, all of them near calving, 2 FARM HORSES, 2 MARES with colts, 1 YOUNG MARE, a splendid beast, by "Niagara," 4 years old, 2 three-year old COLTS, 1 SOW, 10 Spring PIGS, Attached to 1 Mill and Fanners, with Circular Saw attached; one Buggy Wagon, double seat, 2 Scotch Carts, 2 Hay Carts, Market Cart; 2 Iron Ploughs, best make; 2 Double Harrows; Double and Single Sleighs; Double and Single Harness; 1,000 bushels Potatoes (good); a large quantity of Oats, Barley, and Buckwheat (best seed grain); and a large quantity of Farm necessaries, all useful, but too numerous to mention. Mr. ARNTON directs the attention of Farmers, Dairy-men, and others to this sale, as the cattle are in splendid condition, and are equal to any on the island; the young Mare, by "Niagara," is well broke, and a fine traveller. As the above is to close an extensive sale, the whole will be sold without the slightest reservation. Sale at TEN o'clock. JOHN J. ARNTON, Auctioneer.

SW

SALE BY AUCTION.—On WEDNESDAY, March 18th, on the premises, the Farm Stock of ROGER MARSHALL, St. Francois de Sales, Isle Jesus, consisting of 1 Mare in foal, 3 Colts, rising 2 and 3 years, 6 Cows and Heifers in calf, 2 yearling Heifers, a Mowing Machine, 5 Carts, 1 Double Sleigh, Ploughs, Harrows, Cultivator, Fanners, Root-cutter, Harness, Dairy Utensils, Cooking and Chamber Stoves, and some Household Furniture. SW

CIRCULAR SAW MILL.—The Subscriber offers for sale, cheap for cash, a very superior Circular Saw Mill, or Board Machine, Carriage, and Head-blocks, with a Tyler Water-wheel and Shafting, Spur-Wheel and Pinion, Pulley and Belting, all in order. Also, on easy terms of payment, his Saw and Grist Mill Property, located six miles from the Town of Sorel. JAMES ALLEN. Sorel, 2nd March, 1868.

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Waterville, Saturday and Sunday, March 14th and 15th. East Hatley, Monday, March 16th. Massawippi Village, Tuesday, March 17th. Magog, Wednesday, March 18th. Georgeville, Thursday, March 19th. Fitch Bay, Friday, March 20th. Marlow, Saturday and Sunday, March 21st and 22nd.

Griffin's Corners, Monday, March 23rd. Beebe Plain, Tuesday, March 24th. Stanstead Plain, Wednesday, March 25th. Rock Island, Thursday, March 26th. Cavendish, Friday, March 27th. Barnston Corners, Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th.

Cotticook, Monday, March 30th. Compton, Tuesday, March 31st. Martville, Wednesday, April 1st. Johnson, Thursday, April 2nd. Cookshire, Friday, April 3rd. Eaton Corners, Saturday and Sunday, April 4th and 5th. Sawyerville, Monday, April 6th.

The friends of the Temperance cause in each locality are respectfully requested to make the necessary arrangements for effective meetings; and it is especially hoped that Ministers of the Gospel will take an interest in these meetings and address them.

A collection will be taken up at each meeting to aid the Montreal Temperance Society in this effort; and it is hoped the friends of the cause will respond liberally in this way, as well as in diminishing, by their hospitality, the travelling expenses of the Agent.

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