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No. 100.

CONTINUATION OF THE EXAMINATION BEFORE THE POLICE COMMITTEE.

POLICE COMMITTEE,
Saturday, Dec. 17th, 11 a.m.
Present:—Aldermen Rodden, chairman, Leclaire, Councillors McGibbon, Leduc, McCreedy, Devlin, Labelle.

The Chief through his attorney, Mr. Laflamme submitted the following reply to the charge preferred against him for refusal to execute a warrant for the arrest of the raiders after the judgment rendered by Judge Coursol, viz:

The Chief of Police in answer to the second accusation brought by B. Devlin, Esq., against him respecting his refusal to execute a warrant, &c., begs respectfully to state, That he is not a constable or in any manner subject to the orders of the Superior Court or Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench, and never received any since he was appointed, but is solely the Chief of Police of the City, bound to see to the execution of warrants and orders issued from the city authorities. That nevertheless he never did intend to refuse to execute the warrant in question, but merely asked for three quarters of an hour to ascertain how he could legally execute a warrant issued by a judge and not by a governor, when a competent court of criminal jurisdiction had a few hours previous declared every such warrant null and void. That if such judgment was to be respected, and if the principle therein expressed was admitted, he had, and could have no authority to arrest or order the arrest of the parties, and they would be entitled to resist by all means in their power.

Under such circumstances he was bound to ascertain whether he could execute such a warrant legally, and three quarters of an hour, the delay demanded, could not be considered more than was necessary and could not be refused him.

GUIL. LAMOTHE.

Montreal, 17th Dec., 1864.

The Counsel for the Chief also submitted the following declaration.

That no other party than the discharged prisoners preferred to him any claim to the amount deposited in his hands, that no attachment had been issued to stay the delivery of the said securities, nor any notice given to him not to deliver nor any order or judgment entitling any other person to the property or possession thereof was ever made. That the Chief is entirely willing to abide the judgment of the judicial tribunals as to his course, and to encounter any and all liability therefor. That so believing as he does he further adds that he has been informed that those who have represented the Confederate Government, in whose service and in whose behalf the said accused claimed to have acted in capturing such securities, have offered to the party complaining to deposit in any banking institution or judicial tribunal, the whole amount or its equivalent in value to abide the result of any such judgment against the Chief, to be delivered to the party entitled to recover it in the hands of the Chief of Police, and have been refused. That after such declaration the Chief can be no more subjected to any investigation without such complainant having previously shown the order of the judge and established the refusal on the part of the Chief of Police to deliver over the amount.

Therefore, the said Chief through his Counsel, respectfully demands that this, his declaration, be submitted to the Council, and that all proceedings be stayed until such order or judgment be rendered.

R. LAFLAMME,

Counsel for Chief of Police.

Montreal, Dec. 17, 1864.

The Chief stated he desired to make a statement under oath, and asked the Committee to be allowed to do so, to establish certain facts in connection with this investigation.

The application was granted.

STATEMENT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

Guillaume Lamothe, Chief of Police, being sworn, deposed and saith:—

The public, at this stage of the proceedings, having been led to believe that I have refused to take the oath on the first day of the investigation, because I felt that I was guilty of the accusations brought against me, I think I owe it to the Committee and the Council to state emphatically that I have never received, neither was I promised anything directly or indirectly, or have I benefitted in any way by the delivery of the moneys in question; that when I did deliver these moneys it was after having the advice of competent lawyers, corroborated by conversations with Judge Coursol and Edward Jarter, Esq., and consequently I considered myself perfectly justified, under the circumstances, to act as I have done. I further state that I received the order for the delivery of these moneys after the judgment was rendered by Judge Coursol.

And further deponent saith not and hath signed.

GUIL. LAMOTHE,

Chief of Police.

The Chief on signing the above declaration stated verbally that having made that declaration he wished to submit his resignation in writing, as Chief of Police, which he did, and which is as follows:

The question as to the legality of my conduct in delivering over the money heretofore in my custody as having been taken from the persons commonly called the St. Albans raiders being a purely legal question, I have offered to submit it for decision to the highest legal tribunal of the land, and have stated that satisfactory security can be furnished, that if the judgment of that tribunal be adverse to me the value of these moneys will be paid over to their owners. This offer having been refused I am not disposed to submit to any further discussion of the question before this committee, which cannot be

supposed to be familiar with questions of law, the member who is my accuser being the only lawyer but one on the committee; and feeling that personal motives and enmity do not allow me to expect fair justice from the Committee, I therefore resign the office of Chief of Police.

GUIL. LAMOTHE.

The Chief having been called on by Councillor Devlin to submit to cross-examination, he declined doing so at present, whereupon Councillor Devlin called upon the Chairman and members of the Committee to enforce the authority vested in them by law to require him to answer such questions as shall be legally submitted to him by the members of this Committee. The Chief having been called upon to state if he was disposed to answer such questions, he said he was not prepared to do so at present.

Moved by Councillor Labelle, and be it resolved,—That, considering that the accusations brought by Councillor Devlin, that the Chief of Police, having on the 13th of December instant, without authority and by design, dispossessed himself of a considerable sum of stolen money, amounting to about \$80,000 or \$90,000, which had been placed in his hands for safe keeping, to await the result of legal investigation, which sum the Chief of Police is also accused of having delivered to a person or persons who were not the legitimate owners of it, and that to the great injury and damage of the persons to whom the said money belonged.

Considering that the said accusation resolves itself into a purely legal question, viz., if the Chief of Police was legally justifiable under the circumstances in which he was placed to return the money in question to the persons from whose possession it had been taken, and considering that that question can only be decided by a Court of Justice, therefore the Committee declares itself incompetent to inquire into such a question and to continue this investigation.

The Chairman declared the motion out of order as tending open the question of legality of a point which the Committee had previously determined not to refer to the Attorneys of the Corporation, and as tending to declare the incompetency of this Committee to proceed with a subject which they have under consideration by order of the Council and with which they have already proceeded.

Councillor Labelle moved an appeal from the decision of the Chairman upon which the Committee divided.

For the decision—Messrs. Leclaire, McGibbon, McCreedy, Leduc.

Against it—Mr. Labelle.

The Chief through his Counsel objects to any further proceedings in this matter inasmuch as the same are directed against him as a public officer, he having resigned his office and this Committee having to await the decision of the Council upon the said resignation before they can proceed any further.

The objection was overruled.

EXAMINATION OF MR. PORTERFIELD, BY MR. DEVLIN.

John Porterfield of the City of Montreal, gentleman, being sworn deposed as follows:

Q. What is your occupation?
A. I am not engaged in any business at present.

Q. Are you in any capacity the representative in Canada, of the Confederate States?
The question was objected to by Mr. Laflamme as irrelevant. The objection was maintained on the following division; for the objection, Leclaire, Leduc, Labelle; against McCreedy, McGibbon.

Q. Do you know Guillaume Lamothe Chief of Police, and of so how long have you known him?
A. I know him since Monday or Tuesday last.

Q. Had you, at any time before Monday or Tuesday last any conversation with the said Chief of Police touching the arrest or discharge of the prisoners lately discharged by Judge Coursol and known as the St. Albans Raiders?
A. None whatever.

Q. Were you introduced to the Chief of Police, and if so by whom?
A. I was introduced to him by George N. Sanders.

Q. When and where were you introduced by Geo. N. Sanders to the Chief of Police?
A. At my office some time in the middle of, I believe, Monday last, but I am not certain.

Q. Were you upon that occasion informed that the prisoners would be discharged the following day, and if so by whom?
A. I was not informed that they would be by either of the parties.

Q. Had you any reason to believe that they would be discharged upon that day, namely, Tuesday last?
A. I have always had reasons to believe that they would be discharged, not on any particular day, but I always believed that they would be discharged.

Q. Is it not a fact within your knowledge, that arrangements were made on Monday last for the escape of the prisoners in anticipation of a judgment being rendered in their favor the following day?
Objected to by the counsel for the accused as being irrelevant, and the witness not being bound to answer such questions as would criminate himself.

Yes—Labelle, Leduc.
Nays—McCreedy, McGibbon.

The votes being equal the Chairman voted in favor of admitting the question as one of the means of getting at the facts connected with the investigation.

A. I was aware of the fact from Lieut. Young himself, that he expected to be released during the week, and he asked me if I would assist him in getting off from the city immediately after his discharge.

Q. When were you informed by Lieut. Young of the fact?
A. On the eighth December instant.

Q. Permit me again to ask you if it is true that you were aware that arrangements were

made on Monday last, and on the following day, Tuesday, for the escape of the prisoners in expectation of a judgment favorable to them being rendered in the afternoon of the latter day?

Objected to by the counsel for the accused as being illegal and irrelevant, and unconnected with the charge brought against the Chief, and for the sole purpose to obtain information from other parties not connected with this investigation, and for entirely different charges from those mentioned in the complaint.

For the objection—Leclaire, Leduc, Labelle.
Against—McGibbon, McCreedy.

Q. Were there to your knowledge any arrangements made on Monday or Tuesday last for the escape of the prisoners?
Same objection made and sustained by the same division.

Q. Had you any conversation on Monday last with the Chief of Police when introduced to you by Mr. Sanders, respecting the delivery to you of the moneys alleged to have been stolen by the St. Albans raiders from the St. Albans Banks, and which moneys were then in the possession of the Chief of Police?

A. The Chief called on me to know if I had any authority to receive the moneys in case the prisoners should be discharged.

Q. I ask you to state the particulars of that conversation to this committee?

A. The conversation took place in a room where there were several persons. We went to a corner of the room and spoke in an undertone. His, the Chief of Police's object was to know if I had any authority to receive money or property; I replied that I would bring an order for it when the raiders were discharged. I do not know that he made any particular reply; there was none required and that was the end of the conversation.

Q. State what moneys were referred to in this conversation?
A. It was money in his hands that was captured by the raiders.

Q. Did the Chief of Police inform you how much money he had in his possession?
A. I did not ask him nor have I any recollection of his mentioning anything of the kind.

Q. Did he not tell you where the money was then placed, and did he not say that he would have it removed and deposited or left in the Ontario Bank where delivery could be promptly made to you?

Objected to by counsel for the accused as illegal, the same being a leading question.
Mr. Devlin waived the question.

Q. In the conversation referred to were you informed and if so by whom, where the moneys were then deposited?
A. No sir; I do not recollect having been so informed.

Q. Were you in that conversation informed that the money would be left or deposited in the Ontario Bank for the purpose of delivery to you?

A. I suggested to Mr. Sanders, the gentleman who was present and who introduced me to Mr. Lamothe, to have it placed in the Ontario or some other Bank.

Q. Was the money deposited as suggested by you in the Ontario Bank, and if so state when it was deposited and when you were informed of the fact?

A. I have no knowledge of the time of its being deposited in the Bank; and when I heard that the Court had adjourned, and that the prisoners would probably be discharged on a legal technicality, I then called at the bank to see whether the package was there, and I was told by Mr. Starnes that it was.

Q. When you speak of the adjournment of the Court have you reference to the time when Mr. Justice Coursol took the application made to him on behalf of the prisoners *en delibere*?

A. I do not understand the nature of the proceedings in the Court, but it was between eleven and twelve o'clock, I think.

Q. Were you not informed on Tuesday that the prisoners would be discharged?
A. I was not aware of it before the adjournment of the Court referred to, and it was then reported by the Southerners and friends of the prisoners that they would be discharged.

Q. Did you receive the money deposited in the Ontario Bank, and if so, at what hour did you receive it, and by whom was the delivery made to you?
A. I received it at about half-past three o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, it was handed to me by the book-keeper or clerk of the Bank.

Q. Had you any order for the delivery of this money, and if so, when was this order given to you, and whose order was it?
A. I had an order for it; it was given to me after the decision was rendered, and it was Chief Lamothe's order; it was given to me by himself in the lobby or aisle of Court Room where I was standing. I had my sleigh at the door and I drove immediately to the Bank and got the package.

Q. Had the prisoners left the Court Room before you received this order from the Chief?
A. I do not think they could have left the Court Room, I was the first man out.

Q. Were you in Court when I addressed a request to Judge Coursol not to dispose of more than one of the charges against the prisoners?
A. I cannot say, as I did not know Mr. Devlin nor any of the other members of the bar present. There were several talking.

Q. Is it not true that you received the order from Chief Lamothe the very moment Judge Coursol rendered his judgment, and before the prisoners had actually left the Jury Box in which they were sitting, and before they had separated?
A. I was standing behind the Jury Box where the prisoners were, but could not hear the language of Judge Coursol; but as soon as it was repeated to me by the by-standers that the prisoners were discharged, I went immediately

to the Chief and demanded the property. He was in the outside passage of the Court Room, and there he gave me the order.

Q. Were you informed that in the even of a favorable judgment being rendered, you would find the Chief waiting for you in this passage to give you his order for the money?
A. No sir; I did not know he was in the Court Room or in the house.

Q. Was there a place of meeting between you and the Chief agreed upon before the rendering of judgment?
A. There was not.

Q. When you received the order from the Chief for the delivery of the money, did you give him any discharge, or acknowledgement, or receipt of any kind therefor?
A. I gave him a receipt perhaps in the shape of an order, signed by Lieut. Young and others, perhaps all the others. This was the only acknowledgement I gave.

Q. At what time did you receive this receipt signed by Lieut. Young and others?
A. It was after two o'clock and before the judgment was rendered.

Q. How much money did you receive, upon the strength of Chief Lamothe's order, from the Ontario Bank?
A. I do not know, it was in a sealed and labelled carpet bag, which I did not open.

Q. Is this carpet bag still in your possession or custody, or under your control, together with its contents?
A. No, sir.

Q. To whom have you delivered it, and when?
A. I delivered it to the owners that night as soon as I could find them.

Q. Who do you call the owners?
A. Lieut. Young and party.

Q. Was this carpet bag opened in your presence?
A. I was present in the room when it was opened.

Q. Can you now say how much money it contained?
A. I cannot say directly; but there were several raiders present. I heard them remark that there were eighty-five or six thousand dollars that should have been in the carpet bag, and that there was more than they expected.

Q. Was Chief Lamothe present when it was opened?
A. No, sir.

Q. Have the raiders taken with them the contents of the carpet bag?
A. I cannot say what they carried with them. I did not see them start.

Q. Did they divide the money amongst themselves, or did they restore it to the carpet bag after having examined it?
A. I cannot say, as I left the room before they got through the examination.

Q. Was George N. Sanders, who introduced Chief Lamothe to you on Monday last, present when the carpet bag containing the money which had been stolen from the St. Albans banks by the raiders, was opened, and when the division of the spoils took place?
A. He was not.

Q. Have you any reason to believe that the carpet bag and its contents are now in the possession of any person or persons in the City of Montreal?
Objected to by the counsel for the accused as illegal and unconnected with the subject of this investigation.

The objection was overruled by the following vote:—Yeas, Labelle, Leduc, Nays, McCreedy, Leclaire, McGibbon.

A. I do not know that it is in the city, nor have I a right to believe anything about it.

Q. Is it within your knowledge that the carpet bag or its contents have been forwarded to any place outside of Montreal?
A. Not within my knowledge.

Mr. Devlin declared that he had no more questions to put to this witness.

By Councillor McGibbon.

Q. When Mr. Lamothe called upon you to know if you had authority to receive the money, what answer did you give him?
A. I told him that I had.

Q. From whom did that authority come?
A. I had it from the chief of the raiders, who had made arrangements with me to receive it.

By the Chairman.

Q. Had the Judge left the Bench at the time you got the order from the Chief of Police?
A. I suppose not I could not see from the place I was in.

Q. You say there was not a place of meeting agreed upon between you and the Chief before the rendering of the judgment; will you then state to the Committee how you knew where to find him on the instant the Judge rendered the judgment?
A. I went to the Court House to hear the decision, and intended if the prisoners were discharged, that I would send for Mr. Lamothe for an order, and I did not expect to find him in the Court House, and I did not know how to find him.

Q. If you did not know how to find him, by what means did you so speedily find the Chief of Police, and by whose assistance?
A. Having had an introduction to him I knew him by sight; I saw him standing in the lobby, and I went to him without assistance.

Q. Who was present with the Chief of Police or with yourself when he gave you the order on the Ontario Bank for the money?
A. I do not remember of any person in particular being present.

Q. Am I to understand you to swear that you did not know any of the persons then and there present with yourself and the Chief?
A. I went there by myself and I spoke to all the Southerners I met there present; the room was crowded.

Q. In this answer you do not state who was present with yourself and the Chief on that occasion; will you do so?

A. I am not aware of any particular person being present; the lobby was crowded.

Q. Was the order delivered to you by the Chief written in your presence?
A. It was not written in my presence.

Q. Did the Chief ask for time to consider the matter and make the order, or was it ready?
A. He handed me the order as soon as I went up to him.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. LAFLAMME.

Q. Were you not made aware of the nature of the objection that was to be made on behalf of the prisoners? Was it not considered by their counsel and so stated to be decisive? and was it not from that fact that they expected their discharge?
A. So I understood; I did not learn the fact until the adjournment on the morning of the trial.

Q. Did not the raiders declare to you that the amount and ever more than the amount which was mentioned as taken from them, was in the bag in question?
A. They did.

Q. Are you not aware that the Chief received no consideration whatever and was promised none to your knowledge for the delivery of the said money, and if such had been the case would you not have been cognizant of it?
A. I am perfectly satisfied that he was promised, and got nothing, and it is impossible that he could have got anything without my knowledge; and I think it was impossible for any body to approach him having authority from the raiders to bribe him.

Moved by Councillor Labelle that the Committee do now adjourn until Monday next at three P. M.

Yeas—Leclaire, Leduc, Labelle.
Nays—McCreedy, McGibbon.

Councillor McGibbon then moved, to reconsider the vote just taken, and that the Committee do stand adjourned until eleven A. M.

Yeas—Leclaire, Leduc, McGibbon, Rodden.
Nays—Labelle.

Adjourned until eleven A. M., on Monday.

HOW THE \$90,000 WAS OBTAINED FOR THE RAIDERS—RESIGNATION OF CHIEF LAMOTHE.

In the course of the evidence of Mr. Porterfield, who has been under examination all day by Mr. Devlin, it has transpired that the Chief of Police, Mr. Lamothe, was introduced on Monday last by G. N. Sanders to Mr. Porterfield, and that at that meeting the Chief asked Mr. Porterfield if he, Mr. P. had authority to receive the money. Being answered in the affirmative, Mr. P. suggested that the money should be left at the Ontario or some other bank for convenience, which the Chief promised to do, and which was done. It is further proved that upon Tuesday, the day of the rendering of the judgment, Mr. P. went to the Ontario bank between 11 and 12 a. m. to verify that fact, he knowing then that the prisoners would be discharged. At the hour fixed for rendering judgment he was in court, and the moment the judgment was rendered, before the Judge left the bench, or the prisoners left the box, he received from the Chief an order to get the money, and jumping into a sleigh which he had at the door waiting for him he drove rapidly to the bank and got the money. Mr. Porterfield gave an order to the Chief, which Mr. P. had received from Young before the rendering of the judgment; he did not read the order and could not say by how many it was signed. The evidence of this witness is most important, as showing the arrangements that had been made, before the rendering of the judgment, for the delivery of the money.

Major LAMOthe, Chief of Police, made a written statement on oath, declaring he had no personal interest in the matter of the disposal of the money. He refused, however, to be cross-examined by Mr. Devlin, and tendered to the Police Committee his resignation of his office as Chief Constable.

STEPS TO RE-ARREST THE RAIDERS.—So soon as it was ascertained that Mr. Coursol intended to release the prisoners and before he had concluded his judgment, steps were taken by the Counsel employed for the United States Government to have them re-arrested. Accordingly papers were made out, and a warrant issued upon them by Mr. Justice Smith. The High Constable could not be found, and one of the counsel in company with some of the American gentlemen interested proceeded to the office of the Chief of Police. Upon seeing the warrant, though told it was signed by one of the Judges of the Superior Court, he declined to execute it until he had had three quarters of an hour for reflection. As that seemed to involve a chance for the late prisoners to leave by the evening train, another attempt was made to find the High Constable, and this time with success. As, however, one man could not arrest 13, a question arose whether the City Police could be called in to assist. For this purpose another visit was made to the Chief of Police, who again asked for time to reflect. The High Constable then said that the Water Police might aid him. They, however, could not act without the order of Mr. Coursol. Mr. Coursol was, therefore, applied to at his residence and at once gave the order for the Water Police, and four or five of them, with the High Constable, proceeded to search the cars of the Western train, and not finding the men, to take other steps to arrest the fugitives. All, however, proved to be unavailing. We understand that as soon as Mr. Coursol was informed of what had taken place, he directed officers to be sent in every direction to re-arrest the fugitives; but up to last night we had not heard of any having been laid hold of.

Montreal Herald.

—The Hamilton Evening Times says that on Saturday night a dastardly assault was committed on a Mr. Hargrave of that city. He was knocked down two or three times.

—The same paper says that on Saturday night a burglary was committed on the premises of a Mr. Gunner—\$190 in silver being stolen.

CONTINUATION OF THE EXAMINATION BEFORE THE POLICE COMMITTEE.

THE RAIDERS' BOOTY—\$90,000. WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14, 3 o'clock, P.M.

The Chief called upon to cross-question the witness, stated he would do so when he had the assistance of his Attorney.

Chas. J. Coursoi, Esq., Judge of the Sessions of the Peace, said:

Q. Is it true that by your order or authority, Chief Lamothé was directed to retain in his custody the monies taken from the persons charged with murder and robbery at St. Albans, by you discharged yesterday?

A. The Chief of Police was entrusted with the safe-keeping of all the monies, pistols and other effects taken from the raiders and produced in Court during the evening, and the different witnesses who were taken and there examined; such monies and articles to be kept by him until judgment should be rendered in the case of the prisoners.

Q. It is true that the monies so entrusted to the Chief of Police, were placed in his custody by other parties than the raiders?

A. The articles being produced in Court before me were handed over to the Chief. He did not believe them from the raiders, with the exception of one whom I understood he arrested himself in Montreal.

Q. At what hour did you render your judgment yesterday in the raiders' case?

A. I believe it was a few minutes before three o'clock, but cannot swear positively.

Q. At what time did you leave the bench?

A. About half-past three.

Q. Did you inform Chief Lamothé at any time before the rendering of your judgment, that you would discharge the prisoners on Tuesday, the 18th inst.?

A. As I have been informed this day that at a meeting of the City Council held last evening it had been reported that I had made known my judgment to the Chief before it was rendered, I shall answer the question to vindicate myself from such calumnious ascription. Otherwise, I should consider it an impertinence to ask such a question. I never at any time before the rendering of the judgment, informed the Chief or any one else what would be my judgment, as my mind was only definitely made up on the point raised after I left the Bench to consider the objection made by the Counsel for the defence. I had no conversation with the Chief, nor even saw him on that day after half-past 3 in the morning, when I asked him for certain information concerning a shop-lifting case which I had seen published in the papers, and which had not yet been brought before me to be investigated.

Q. On Monday or Tuesday last in the morning, Mr. Lamothé left in the Ontario Bank, a carpet bag sealed, contents unknown, for safe-keeping, and to be delivered to himself or his order.

Q. Did the Chief of Police inform you of the contents of the said bag at the time of its deposit or since?

A. He did not inform me of the contents at the time or since.

Q. At what time was that bag left with you, and did any person accompany the Chief at the time of the deposit?

A. I think it was after ten o'clock, and to the best of my knowledge he was alone.

Q. Have you delivered the said carpet bag to any person since the deposit, and if so, state when the delivery was made, and to whom?

A. I delivered it on Tuesday last after three o'clock in the afternoon, to John Porterfield.

Q. Who is John Porterfield? Where does he live, and what is his occupation?

A. He is an American gentleman and exchange broker on the Place d'Armes, I think, and I believe he resides in Prince of Wales Terrace.

Q. Is this Mr. Porterfield known as a Southern sympathizer, and is it to your knowledge that he has been aiding and assisting, in any way, the persons who stood lately accused of the crimes of the murder and robbery at St. Albans, and who have been discharged from imprisonment by Mr. Justice Coursoi?

casions at St. Johns and elsewhere, I did not insist upon such steps being taken to secure those monies as I otherwise would have done. On the same day the Chief stated to me that one of the gentlemen representing one of the St. Albans banks came to him, and had in his hands an instrument for punching, and in conversation in regard to the monies belonging to the bank this person represented, he inferred that he would like to punch a hole through them for the purpose of identification, although that gentleman said nothing directly on the question. While at St. Johns, I was told by Judge Coursoi that the monies had been entrusted to the Chief of Police, and he gave us the assurance that the monies would be safe in his hands.

And further deponent saith not, and hath signed. EDWARD A. SOWLES.

Ordered, That the proceedings, so far as submitted to the Council this evening, and that the Committee stand adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

After Mr. Devlin had given notice that he would move at the next meeting of Council that steps be taken to complete the widening of St. Catherine Street, by acquiring a portion of the lot belonging to Mr. F. X. Beaudry, the Council adjourned.

It may be stated that there was a good attendance of members, and the galleries, as well as the seats, immediately behind the members, were filled, whilst many persons outside were unable to gain admittance.

THURSDAY, Dec. 15. Present: Aldermen Rodden, Leclaire, Councilors McCready, McGibbon, Devlin and Leduc. The Chairman stated that he had received an application from several members of the press for permission to be present at the investigation.

Resolved.—That the press be not permitted to attend the meeting, but that the proceedings be communicated to the gentlemen of the press as they go on.

The Chief appeared with his Attorneys, Messrs Abbott and Laflamme. Kirkman Finlay Lockhart, of the City of Montreal, Accountant in the Ontario Bank, being sworn, deposed as follows:

EXAMINED BY MR. DEVLIN. Q. Is it within your knowledge that Mr. Guillaume Lamothé, Chief of Police, deposited in the Ontario Bank, in which you are accountant, at any time during this month, and if so upon what day, any parcel, sum of money, or other effects?

A. On Monday or Tuesday last in the morning, Mr. Lamothé left in the Ontario Bank, a carpet bag sealed, contents unknown, for safe-keeping, and to be delivered to himself or his order.

Q. Did the Chief of Police inform you of the contents of the said bag at the time of its deposit or since?

A. He did not inform me of the contents at the time or since.

Q. At what time was that bag left with you, and did any person accompany the Chief at the time of the deposit?

A. I think it was after ten o'clock, and to the best of my knowledge he was alone.

Q. Have you delivered the said carpet bag to any person since the deposit, and if so, state when the delivery was made, and to whom?

A. I delivered it on Tuesday last after three o'clock in the afternoon, to John Porterfield.

Q. Who is John Porterfield? Where does he live, and what is his occupation?

A. He is an American gentleman and exchange broker on the Place d'Armes, I think, and I believe he resides in Prince of Wales Terrace.

A. I don't keep the deposit ledger, but I think he does keep an account with the bank. Q. Has it come to your knowledge that that gentleman (Mr. Porterfield) deposited any amount of American money since Tuesday in the Ontario Bank, and to what amount?

Question overruled. CROSS-EXAMINATION. The Counsel for the Chief of Police declines cross-examination, and further the deponent saith not and hath signed. K. F. LOCKHART. Judge Coursoi being sworn: In answer to the question held over yesterday afternoon deponent.

He answered by saying: A. Those words do not form part and are not included in the judgment, I mean the words, "and disposed of the said monies and bills was illegal."

Q. You have stated it as your opinion in answer to a question by Mr. Laflamme, that the Chief would be liable in damages if he retained the money after your judgment; I therefore ask you to whom you think he would be liable?

A. He might be liable to the parties from whom he had legally kept the money; I mean the parties having a claim on the money.

Q. You allude to the persons who were arraigned before you upon charges of murder and robberies, and who have been discharged by you?

A. I can make no distinction between these prisoners or any others, and if such a right of action existed, the Civil Courts of Justice would have decided whether the claims were right or wrong.

Q. I wish you to state definitely whether you wish the Committee to understand, that in your saying that the Chief would be liable in damages if he retained the money, he would be so liable to the raiders, who were accused before you of having stolen the same from the Banks of St. Albans?

A. The members of this Corporation will form their own opinion on that point; as they see the matter in their own eyes.

Q. Do you decline to answer the question?

A. I have already answered the question in my answer before last.

Q. Do you seriously believe that the thirteen persons who were before you upon the charges of murder and robbery, and from whose possession the money in question was taken, upon the ground that it had been by them feloniously stolen from the St. Albans banks, would have any legal claim to damages against the Chief of Police, if knowing, as you know he did, that there were other claimants for the monies entrusted to him, he refused to deliver the same to the said thirteen persons until their right to it was established by a solemn judgment of a Court competent to determine upon the legality of their claims to such money?

A. On the assumption that such a case would have been brought before the Court and legally tested, it is impossible for me to give an opinion as to the decision that might have been given by the Judge or the jury.

Q. As you have already given it as your opinion that the Chief of Police would have been liable in damages, if he retained the money after your judgment, do you wish the Committee now to understand by your former answer that his liability would have been doubtful?

A. Being called upon to give opinions as I have already been, which course I believe, with due reference to this Committee, to be extremely irrelevant, I have said that the Chief might have been liable in an action of damages, without expressing an opinion as to the result of such an action.

Q. Your judgment having been pronounced between the hours of three and four of the clock of the afternoon of Tuesday last, permit me to ask you if it is your opinion that the Chief of Police would have rendered himself liable to the raiders to deliver to them the money in question before the opening of the Bank in which the money had been deposited, the said Bank having been closed before judgment was rendered?

A. I am not aware whether the money was deposited in the Bank except from hearsay since the opening of this investigation; but if the prisoners were legally entitled to the money they had a right to be put in possession of it as soon as possible after their discharge.

Re-examination postponed. SUPERIOR COURT. December 15th, 1864.

Before Mr. Justice SMITH and a special jury. New City Gas Company vs. The Mutual Insurance Company. This was an action to recover about \$450 stg., amount of insurance on the cargo of coal and fire clay contained in the "Colleen Bawn."

Mr. Rose, Q.C., and Mr. Ritchie, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Abbott, Q.C., for the defendants. Mr. Rose in opening the case, stated that the pretension of the defendant was that the vessel was not on Lloyd's register as A. E. 1, and that there was a breach of warranty. He submitted on the part of the defence that many vessels which would be entitled to rank as A. E. 1 on Lloyd's register, were excluded from being placed on the register at all on account of the stringency of Lloyd's rules as to the build of the vessel. He said a number of gentlemen had been examined at Sunderland and elsewhere; and they proved that the vessel had been put in the dock at Sunderland and thoroughly overhauled, and everything done to make her a first-class vessel, 2000 stg. and upwards had been expended in repairs. The vessel was rendered fit to carry any cargo to any part of the world. It was proved that the reason why she was not put on Lloyd's register was that she did not come within the scope of his rules; but that she was in many respects superior to vessels rated as A. E. 1 on the English Lloyd's. When she left Liverpool she was well equipped and seaworthy in all respects.

His Honor suggested at the close of Mr. Rose's speech, that a verdict might be taken at once on the facts, about which there appeared no difficulty, and the question of warranty be reserved for argument before the Court. It was accordingly admitted, first, that the vessel was not classed at Lloyd's at all, and secondly, that she was equal to a vessel rated as A. E. 1 at Lloyd's. There remained the question as to whether the risks had been accepted by the defendants. Mr. Robson, Secretary of the Company, was called, and stated that Mr. Downey, clerk and book-keeper of Mr. Hart, had accepted the risk unconditionally, and without any reserve being made. The first intimation he had that the defendants repudiated the loss was after the loss occurred.

Other evidence was taken. About four o'clock the jury found a verdict on the points submitted, finding that the defendants had accepted the policy unconditionally.

THE POLICE AUTHORITIES OF MONTREAL (From the Toronto Globe.) The public were astonished to learn yesterday, through our columns, that the Chief of Police of Montreal had given up to the raiders the money stolen from the St. Albans banks. To day they will be still more surprised to learn that this same Chief of Police, whose name is Lamothé, refused to enforce fresh warrants placed in his hands before the discharge of the prisoners by the legal agents of the Crown. There seems to be no room for doubt that Lamothé knew in advance that Mr. Coursoi intended to release the prisoners, and that if he declined to serve the writs, they would make their escape. How did Coursoi come to communicate to Lamothé what his decision would be? The circumstances are exceedingly suspicious, and trench upon Coursoi as well as Lamothé. There is certainly great room to doubt whether all the money was returned to the prisoners. If it could be found now, it would, doubtless, throw light upon the case.

The whole circumstances cast disgrace upon the city of Montreal, and upon the Province at large. The facts will be made known over the whole civilized world, and men will form a pretty opinion of our system of administering justice, if they have no other means of judging it than are afforded by the conduct of Coursoi and Lamothé. The only way to improve the state of matters is promptly to punish whoever has done wrong, by dismissal from office and prosecution, if the facts justify the latter proceeding. We are sorry that an attempt was made by the City Council of Montreal to prevent the facts becoming known! They may rely upon it that that is an impossible task, and that the slightest regard for their good name demands full enquiry, and instant punishment of the guilty.

THE ST. ALBANS' CASE. (From the N. Y. Tribune.)

Mr. Justice Coursoi of Montreal has discharged absolutely the St. Albans' raiders. He has denied jurisdiction in the case in which he had assumed it, and has therefore released these scoundrels from six other different indictments for arson, for robbery and murder. Assuming that all the other cases were equally before him for adjudication, he declined to hear the protest of counsel for the United States. In a word, Mr. Justice Coursoi has announced that so far as the Judiciary in Canada is concerned, the resident Rebels in that Province have full license to descend upon the territory of the United States, to rob, burn, and murder, at their own discretion.

It is not worth while to waste much indignation on this Mr. Coursoi, but we remark that the case before him was put off some weeks ago, on a petition of prisoners' counsel, to get evidence from Richmond as to their Confederate commissions. Upon the calling on of the case at the adjourned day, no word is whispered of the expected evidence, but want of jurisdiction of the cases is assumed, and the judge and the counsel for the Rebels vie with each other in indecent haste to consummate the scheme of rescue on which they had agreed.

We know nothing of what action the Canadian authorities may now be disposed to take, but the Administration at Washington may now, perhaps, inquire of Great Britain whether she justifies this refusal of one of her judges to try a case of arson and robbery committed by men within her jurisdiction, because the acts were perpetrated within our borders; and whether, if the refusal is to rest on the ground that these were the acts of belligerents, she means to permit war to be waged upon the United States from her territory and by men amenable to her laws?

APPLICATIONS TO PARLIAMENT. Application will be made to the next session of the Legislature for an Act to revive and continue in force the Act to Incorporate the Marjora and Belleville Railway Company.

For an Act to incorporate the Toronto and Georgian Bay Canal Company.

For an Act to consolidate the debt of the town of Lindsay.

For an Act to Incorporate a Theological College at Montreal, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church.

For an Act to Incorporate the Academy of Music of Montreal.

For an Act to amend the Acts relating to the Ottawa and Prescott Railway.

For an Act to Incorporate the Montreal Investment Company.

For an Act to Incorporate the Mount Royal Railroad Company.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REVENUE LAW. The recommendations in the important report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue are understood to be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. They are principally:

First: That the tax on distilled spirits be not reduced one iota.

Second: That the tax on the whole tobacco product be laid on the leaf.

Third: That if it be not, that the tax on cigars be laid on an ad valorem scale.

Fourth: That a tax of one-half of one per cent be levied on scales of merchandise and products which amount to \$11,000,000,000 a year and which would yield \$55,000,000 of revenue.

Fifth: That the Reciprocity treaty with Canada be rescinded because it lets in a vast amount of coal—this year half a million—free of revenue duty and free of the excise duty of three and a half cents a ton, and because it draws away from us to Canada vast quantities of corn—this year four and a quarter millions of bushels—to be distilled into spirits and smuggled back here in fraud of our revenue, and because it tempts the fraudulent exportation to Canada of our tobacco in the leaf—this year one million two hundred and thirty-seven thousand dollars' worth—there to be manufactured into cigars, and smuggled back over the frontier.

Sixth: That to save revenue the business of assaying gold and silver be done by the Government, and not at private establishments; and that the present license fee for assaying be made so large as to be prohibitory.

Seventh: That crude petroleum be taxed two or three cents a gallon, and the tax on refined reduced to fourteen or fifteen cents.

Eighth: That the tax on publications be laid on the press-work and binding.

Ninth: That the tariff on iron, particularly rails, of which 120,000 tons were imported from Great Britain last year, should be raised at least a dollar and a half a ton.

Tenth: To make the test of the yearly income derived from real estate its rental value.

Eleventh: To provide for summary and inexpensive processes to recover small penalties, and procure forfeitures of small lots of contraband goods.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue estimates that the Excise as it stands, and if not cut down and tinkered by Congress on the pressure of lobby delegations, will yield three hundred millions a year on the present business of the country; that it will pay the current expenses of the nation, including interest at six per cent, on the war debt, and pay off the debt itself within ninety years.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO A POOR WIDOW. EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, November 21st, 1864.

Dear Madam:—I have been shown, in the files of the War Department, a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts, that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours, very sincerely and respectfully, A. LINCOLN.

To Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass.

—Farin, the hero of Niagara Falls rope-walking fame, is said to have married a fortune of \$30,000 in Halifax.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The following telegram has been received at the War Department: Hilton Head, S. C., Dec. 12, via Fort Monroe, Dec. 14.—To Major-General Halleck, Chief of Staff:—Gen. Duncan of Gen. Howard's scouts has just come in from Gen. Howard, having descended the Ogeechee River in a small boat. He left the army on the evening of the 9th. Gen. Sherman's whole army was then within 10 miles of Savannah, advancing to attack it. The enemy's works, 5 miles from that city, were probably attacked yesterday, as heavy firing was heard in that direction. Capt. Duncan represents the army to be in the best spirits possible, and in the most excellent condition. Very little opposition had been met with on the march, as the enemy could not tell what routes were to be taken. The army has lived off the country, and has accumulated a considerable number of horses and cattle. The following is a copy of the despatch brought by Capt. Duncan:—Headquarters Army of the Tennessee, near Savannah Canal, Dec. 9th, 1864. To the Commander of the United States naval forces in the vicinity of Savannah, Ga.—Sir,—We have met with perfect success thus far. The troops are in fine spirits and near by.—Yours respectfully, (Signed,) O. O. Howard, Commanding right wing of the army. Another despatch brought by Capt. D. directed to the Signal Officer of the fleet from General Howard's chief signal officer, requests a good look out to be kept for signals. I have the honor to be very respct, &c. (Signed,) J. G. Foster, M. G. C. New York, Dec. 15.—The Richmond Sentinel of the 12th says:—Gen. Longstreet on Saturday morning made a reconnaissance on the Darlington and Williamsburg Roads for the purpose of discovering the strength and position of the enemy. The reconnaissance was satisfactorily accomplished, and General Longstreet now occupies his old position. Gen. Lee makes the following reports concerning Warren's expedition:—Headquarters Army of Northern Va., Dec. 10; To Hon. James A. Shedd, Secretary of War.—About noon yesterday the 1st division of the 2nd corps of the enemy, supporting the cavalry, forced back our cavalry pickets on the Vaughan Road, south of the Appomattox, and advanced towards Dinwiddie Court House. To day our cavalry, reinforced by infantry, drove them back across Hatcher's Run, capturing a few prisoners and re-establishing our lines. (Signed,) R. E. Lee, Headquarters Army of Northern Va., Dec. 10.—Hon. James A. Seddon, Secretary of War.—Gen. Hampton after driving the enemy's cavalry upon his infantry on the afternoon of the 8th recrossed the river, and reached Bellfield at daylight yesterday. (Signed,) R. E. Lee, General. New York, Dec. 15.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 12th says, the latest news from Sherman is, that on Saturday he was at Bloomingdale, on the Central Georgia Railroad, 15 miles west of Savannah. It was not absolutely certain whether it was in his programme to attack the city—to elide away down to the coast, or endeavor to force a passage of the Savannah River en route for Port Royal. Our position at Savannah is difficult, as involving the necessity of protecting both the city and some 10 miles of the Savannah and Charleston R.R., which leaves the city on the west curve to the north, and crosses the river 8 miles above. Sherman since he left Millen has been filling timber behind him, and otherwise obstructing the roads to protect his rear from the remorseless ravages of Wheeler, who has hunted and following upon him like a blood hound. The Herald's Hilton Head correspondent of the 8th says:—By rapid and strategic movements from right to left, we have succeeded in obtaining a position from which we can command, as soon as our heavy guns go up, two bridges and some miles of the Savannah Railroad, even if we do not occupy the road itself. New York, Dec. 15.—From rebel papers we learn of the success of a Union cavalry force in Louisiana, under Gen. Davidson. They were estimated over 5,000, having with them two pieces of artillery, and about 100 loaded wagons. They reached Tangipahoa from Baton Rouge on the morning of the 30th ult., broke up a conscript camp, and captured valuable property, and then left in the direction of Pearl River. The rebels, who had before the Union troops in a state of great trepidation, seemed to think their destination was Mobile. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 14.—The cavalry of General Thomas' army crossed a few days since to the north side of the Cumberland River, yesterday they recrossed again to the south side with the exception of a sufficient force to pursue and route any rebel force on the north side of the river. The defenses on the railroad have been so strengthened that no danger is apprehended. New York, Dec. 15.—The Herald's Hilton Head correspondent of the 9th says:—Our casualties at Hovey Hill has been found to be 740, a considerable reduction from the number first stated. WASHINGTON, Dec. 15th.—The following telegram in cipher was received in Washington from Fort Monroe last night:—To Hon. Gideon Wells, Secretary of Navy:—I have just received a communication from Sherman's army. He is a few miles from Savannah, and is in fine spirits. I shall bring all my available force into connection with the army. A despatch is forwarded with this. Very respectfully, J. A. Dahlgren. A bearer of despatches from Admiral Dahlgren arrived in this city this morning with the following important despatch for the Secretary of War:—Flag steamer "Philadelphia," Port Royal, Dec. 12th.—Hon. Gideon Wells, Sec. Navy.—Sir, it is my happiness to apprise the Department that Gen. Sherman, with his army, is near Savannah, and I am in communication with him. In view of his probable arrival, I had stationed several steamers at different points, and had come down from the Telfair yesterday; in order to be at hand. I had not to wait many hours. This morning about 8 o'clock the "Dandellion" arrived with Capt. Duncan. He states that our forces were in contact with the rebels a few miles outside of Savannah. He says Sherman's army is not in want of anything. Perhaps no event could give greater satisfaction to the country than that which I announce, and I beg leave to congratulate the Government on its occurrence. It may, perhaps, be exceeding my province, but I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that the Department will commend Capt. Dun-

can and his companions to the Hon. Gideon Wells, Secretary of War, for some mark of approbation for their success in establishing communication between Sherman and the fleet. It was an enterprise that required both skill and courage. I have the honor to be very respectfully your obedient servant. (Signed,) J. A. DAHLGREN, Rear-Admiral. New York, Dec. 14.—The World's Washington special, in its account, from a loyal resident of Richmond, of the battle in front of Savannah, states that the Federal troops pursued to Telfair, on the South, and a corresponding distance along the Upper Railroad. Here our troops rested, finding the enemy's works very strong, and our men, from a heavy march the night previous and the severe fighting, being worn out. The loss was severe on both sides, 2,500 Union and between 3,000 and 4,000 Rebels, among whom were fully 1,200 prisoners, including many officers of rank; colors, cannon, small arms, waggons and caissons were captured. The rebels' loss at first was less than ours owing to their protection; but at the close of the action they suffered tremendously. It is believed all the rebels at the head of the inlet, 4,000 or 5,000, would be captured. The facts, says the correspondent, have been carefully concealed by rebel authorities. The greatest consternation prevailed at Charleston. The last account left Sherman close to the coast either able to form a junction with Foster and the fleet, or to attack Savannah with prospects of success. New York, Dec. 14.—The Tribune's Washington special says:—Congressman Washburn who returned to-day from Grant's headquarters, represents Warren's movement as a perfect success, and that Grant is confident of the whole situation. Mr. Washburn himself feels more confidence of the future from this visit than from any previous one. Warren's mission was to destroy the Weldon railroad bridge as far as possible, and to discover and destroy the new Cross Road from the Weldon to the Danville, which Grant knew was in process of construction, and was designed to serve to Richmond her supplies from the South. This was ruined by Warren. The Tribune's army of the Potomac special thus sums up the results of Warren's expedition. Making a rapid march of 50 miles, he destroyed three important bridges, over 20 miles of railway, a large amount of forage and other stores, burned Sussex Court-house, captured a score or two of prisoners, and will reach camp to-morrow, having sustained but trifling loss. NASHVILLE, Dec. 13.—Intelligence from Grapeville states that an advance was to have been made by our forces to-day, but only some skirmishing transpired in the Harding Pike, and several guns were dislodged from Fort Nigley. No results are reported. The slippery state of the ground, renders locomotion impossible, and hostilities will be postponed till a change in the weather. WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Richmond papers of Monday assert Sherman moving on, and in close proximity to Savannah. WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Passengers by the mail boat to-day report that while on the James River yesterday morning, 6 or 8 miles from Dutch Gap, they heard heavy firing in the latter direction. All of Gen. Warren's command are now safely back to their quarters from their late expedition. WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Acting Rear-Admiral Lee reports to the Navy Department, under date of Dec. 8th, that Lieut. commanding Fitch defeated and drove the left wing of Hood's army on the Cumberland River on the 4th inst., with heavy loss to the rebels, including several of their prominent officers, and also recaptured two transports from the enemy. No casualties are reported on our side. New York, Dec. 14.—A special to the New York Commercial, dated Washington, Dec. 14, says:—Richmond papers of the 12th contain no news of Sherman, but there are rumors that Union prisoners report Kilpatrick killed, also that a Union cavalry force had left Baton Rouge destined for Mobile. BALTIMORE, Dec. 15.—Augusta, Ga., papers, received at the American, afford the following:—Beauregard arrived at Augusta on the morning of the 6th. The Constitutionalist of the 7th says:—The Yankee prisoners report that Kilpatrick was shot through the head and mortally wounded in the fight on Sunday at Walker's Bridge. The Chronicle, of the 7th, says passengers by the Savannah train on Monday p. m., reported all quiet in the neighborhood of Pocotaligo. Another report states the enemy were advancing their main column to Coosawatie. It is also reported the enemy captured two guns on Fleetapur Creek on Sunday. Nothing definite was obtained. WASHINGTON, 15.—There is no positive news of the fall of Savannah. It is merely probable. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 14.—The rebel Gen. Lyon, on entering Hopkinsville on Monday, conscripted every one he could find, and burned what he could not carry away. Siege of Charleston, 615th day.—All has been quiet since last report. No prisoners were taken down on Thursday, the train conveying them having failed to arrive in time. The following extract of a letter from Gen. Sherman, written before he started upon his march, shows not only that he received the point at which he aimed at, but that he accomplished the difficult work some ten or fourteen days earlier than he expected:—KINGSTON, Ga., Dec. 3; 9 P. M.—To Capt. Pennington, U. S. Navy, Mound City.—In a few days I hope to meet my old friend Porter again. Will you be kind enough to write him and tell him to look out for me about Christmas, from Hilton Head to Savannah. (Signed,) W. F. SHERMAN, Maj. Gen. That Sherman had captured Savannah before the steamer which brought the above despatch had fairly got out of the harbor of Beaufort, is probable from the fact that a messenger who reached here this a. m. says, when coming out of harbor, and when too late to communicate by signals, the whole fleet began to fire a salute, being looking toward the vessel they were being gallantly decorated with flags in honor of some great victory. The opinion that prevailed on board the steamer was, that since she left the wharf, news had reached the admiral of the fall of Savannah. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—The Evening Telegraph has just received the following special:—Washington, Dec. 15.—Another scout has arrived from Sherman's army with despatches to the President. He reports Savannah captured on 10th inst. FORT MONROE, Dec. 14.—The steamer "United States" arrived here this morning from Port

Royal with about 700 or 800 returned prisoners. The exchange of prisoners under Col. Mulford was progressing favorably. Nothing definite in relation to Gen. Sherman's movements could be learned by the prisoners who came off the steamer, but the firing of his guns in the direction of the Savannah River was distinctly heard for several days prior to her sailing from Port Royal, and the forces that the rebel Government have been able to assemble have been placed in the entrenchments surrounding Savannah and Charleston, so that Gen. Sherman will meet with very little resistance until he reaches the suburbs of Savannah, where great preparations have been made to give him a bloody reception in case he assaults the city. Savannah News of Wednesday says:—We learn that a fight occurred yesterday at the front, in which the enemy were defeated and severely punished. It is said that a strong column of infantry and cavalry attacked the command of Col. Fleen, which is stationed on the outposts, who had not more than quarter the number of men opposed to him, but handsomely repulsed the foe, who thought no doubt to run over him with his little squad of men. From Pocotaligo we learn that on Tuesday a force of the enemy advanced towards Coosawatie burning Tillafany bridge. They were attacked by General Garret's command, and driven back. On Wednesday morning a portion of our forces, among which was a company of Citadel Cadets, under Captain T. Johnson of the 47th Ga. regiment, had a sharp fight with a heavy force of the enemy near Tillafany bridge, about five miles below Pocotaligo. They advanced toward the R.R., and were driven back. The Cadets, who were first deployed as skirmishers, fought them for five hours, and behaved like veterans. Among the Georgians I was killed and 7 wounded. The enemy has landed a large force at Mackay's Point, and were reported advancing toward Pocotaligo. They will be taken care of. The force which landed at Boyd's Landing had disappeared. The Savannah News of Thursday says: Day before yesterday the enemy again made an attempt to take the Charleston and Savannah R.R., but were repulsed and driven back. Yesterday fighting continued nearly all day, and had not ceased at dark. Our force had driven back every assault, and the enemy had made no progress whatever. The steamer "Laurel," with Colonel Hatch on board, proceeded down the river, and had an interview with Colonel Mulford during the p. m. The "Cele" will leave the Gas Co.'s wharf this morning with 300 prisoners. We learn of quite a gallant achievement of our cavalry in front of Osterhaus' corps on Sunday last. A marauding party of Yankees, 200 strong, who had been robbing everybody within their reach, and were returning loaded with plunder, were attacked by our cavalry, and after a severe engagement routed. The Memphis Courier of the 9th contains the following:—A report prevailed in the city yesterday that Gen. Hardee had met and attacked the enemy at station No. 293. The portion of Sherman's force engaged was reported to be Slocum's corps. No results were given. The Augusta Chronicle of Thursday says:—Our only advice of the progress of the enemy consist of rumours that they are crossing the Savannah River at Lester's Ferry, Jeffersonham Co., about 50 miles above Savannah. Our scouts yesterday brought in several prisoners, captured near the river, some 40 miles below this city. One of them was a Captain, and a dashing-looking fellow. FORT MONROE, Dec. 15.—The blockade-runner "Emily Hendrix," arrived in Hampton Roads this morning, having been captured on the 8th, in long 74 43 W., lat. 34 15 N., while on the way to Bermuda with a cargo of 610 bales of cotton and a large quantity of spirits of turpentine. Official—War Department, Washington, Dec. 15, 4:30 p. m.—Maj. Gen. Dix: The department has just received unofficial despatches from Nashville, announcing that Gen. Thomas, with the forces under his command, attacked Hood's army in front of Nashville at 9 o'clock this morning, and although the battle is not yet decided, the whole action to-day is described as splendidly successful. Our line advanced on the right 5 miles. The enemy were driven from their entrenchments from the range of hills on which their left rested, and forced back on their right and centre, and the centre was pushed back from one to three miles, with a loss of 17 guns and about 1,500 prisoners, and their whole line of earthworks, except about 7 miles on their extreme right, where no serious attempt was made to dislodge them. Our casualties are reported to be light. Hood's whole army, except the cavalry and a small force near Murfreesboro, were engaged. (Signed,) E. M. STANTON, Sec. of War, Dec. 15.—The Lawrence Tribune says that the notorious brigand Quantrel was removed in an ambulance, in Price's retreating army, sick and beyond the hope of recovery. The Democrat's Fort Scott, Kansas, special, dated the 2nd, has the following:—Yesterday a courier arrived from Fort Gibson with despatches causing apprehensions for the safety of a large Government train, which left the camp on the Dry Wood, 10 miles from this place, on the 22d of Nov. The train consists of 120 Government waggons, five yoke of oxen to each one, and 30 sutler waggons, with six mules to each, all heavily loaded for Fort Gibson, a distance of 180 miles, guarded only by a few dismounted cavalry and a section of artillery, about 25 men. The train is said to be canal on Neash River, about 100 miles south of this place, and the men were throwing up defences, being closely invested by the rebel General Canby, with 7000 men and 5 cannon. Col. Moonlight is reported to be moving to the assistance of the train. It appears that the Roanoke River is full of torpedoes. Beside the "Osage," the steamer "Higley" and "Hickel-latch" No. 5 have been destroyed by them. A resolution in Congress yesterday, demanding of Great Britain indemnity for Anglo-rebel depredations upon our commerce, was referred to Committee on Foreign Affairs. New York, Dec. 15.—General Thomas has achieved a great victory over Hood in front of Nashville. New York, Dec. 16.—There has been little firing of late along the front of armies resting on James River. New York, Dec. 16.—The Times has the following:—Off Cape Henry, Tuesday, Dec. 13.—A large naval fleet, accompanied with land forces in transports, left Hampton Roads this morning, starting in a southerly direction. The larger portion of the army transports left during the night. At this writing the flag ship "Malvern" and

several of the larger vessels of the fleet are in roads, but as the sailing orders have been signalled, they will probably get under way in a short time. The monitors attached to the fleet were the first to move. The single turreted monitors go out in tow of steamers. The ironclads and the double turreted monitor "Monadnock" propel themselves. Our place of destination will be made known to the public at the proper time.—Suffice it to remark that ample preparations have been provided to warrant a vigorous and formidable attack on the enemy's works. In all probability a few days hence will give me an opportunity of sending you full and interesting details of the expedition. New York, Dec. 16.—The World's Washington special says, Richmond papers of yesterday, Wednesday, Dec. 14, came up to-night from the army. The Examiner indulges in speculation and puts its faith in Beauregard, admits that Sherman is close upon Savannah, and believes a battle has been fought ere this. The Sentinel and Enquirer are silent, and the Dispatch professes to have no later news than that in Tuesday's papers. It is quite evident from the tone of the papers that there is no communication either by rail or telegraph south of Millen. Special to the World:—Albany, 15.—It is understood that Mr. O. A. Dams, of the War Department, had been offered by Gov. Fenton the post of Adjutant-General. He has not yet accepted. G. S. Batchelder, of Saratoga, will be Inspector-General. New York, Dec. 16.—Bragg in an official despatch of the Waynesboro fight, shows that Wheeler fell upon a small party of our cavalry, who fell back upon the main body when Wheeler retired. Bragg then called for a concentration at Savannah and Grapshusville, and urges the people to put all the obstructions possible in Sherman's path. New York, Dec. 16.—The Richmond Examiner of the 13th says they are without the receipt of definite advices from Georgia. It has no doubt Sherman holds the same position before Savannah that Hood does before Nashville. It then appeals to the War Department for news, whatever it is. Whatever Sherman may do now will have little effect on the fortunes of the war. His campaign may yet furnish additional material for Yankee brag, but has attained no strategical object beyond the ruin of a belt of country a couple of miles wide. New York, Dec. 16.—The Richmond Why has another article in reference to the rebel incursions in the North. It professes great pleasure in observing that the Yankees are about to make their country too hot to hold the Southern refugees who have come hither to keep out of the reach of danger, and hopes Gen. Dix, if he cannot find a law severe enough to suit their cases, will make one. War Department, Washington, Dec. 16.—To Major-General Dix: The official report of the battle before Nashville has been received from Major-General Thomas:—Nashville, Tenn., 15th.—Attacked the enemy's left this morning and drove it from the river below the city, very nearly to Franklin Pike, a distance of about 8 miles. I have captured Chalmer's headquarters and train, and a second train of about 20 waggons, with between 800 and 1,000 prisoners and 16 pieces of artillery. The troops behaved splendidly, all taking their share in assaulting and carrying the enemy's breastworks. I shall attack the enemy again to-morrow if he stands to fight, and if he retreats during the night, will pursue him, throwing a heavy cavalry force in his rear to destroy his trains if possible. (Signed,) GEN. H. THOMAS, Major-General. WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Charleston and Savannah papers of the 9th and 10th have been received here, they are evidently but imperfectly informed as to the movements of Gen. Sherman's army. Gen. Beauregard arrived in Charleston on the 7th inst, and immediately left for the scene of hostilities on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad. The Savannah News says that on the 6th inst. the Union forces made an attempt to take that railroad, but were repulsed and driven back on the 7th; they were reinforced and renewed the attack, and the fighting continued all day, and had not ceased at dark. The News adds:—The movement is no doubt a determined effort on the part of Foster to open a way for Sherman to escape. On the 9th a skirmish with the rebel outposts, five miles from Savannah, is mentioned; that official despatches report that Gen. Sherman has developed near Savannah. Gen. Hardee is in command of the defenses of Savannah. A report is mentioned of fighting at Coosawatie. The article closes by saying that the report was probably correct, and that the enemy have persistently endeavored to make a lodgment on the road. Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Dec. 15.—Unusual quiet has prevailed along the lines in front of Petersburg the last few days, scarcely a shot being exchanged, excepting in the evening on the right of the line. A report is current that a number of pickets watching the rear of our lines were taken and murdered the night before last, and that in consequence the force of men on this side have been doubled. DAYTON, Dec. 16.—A terrible accident occurred on the Grand Trunk Railroad last night, caused by collision with a Westward-bound passenger train with a freight train, near this city. After the collision several wounded passengers failed to extricate themselves from the weight and were burned to death. 2 persons are known to have suffered death in this manner, and it is reported that several others died the same way. The full extent of the loss of life is not yet known. New York, 16.—The Tribune's special:—Washington, 16.—It was stated in conversation to-day on the floor of the Senate, that the President has said that Sherman had come out at Savannah with 40,000 more men, black and white, than he started with. FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 15, via Baltimore 16.—The Charleston Courier of the 10th inst. says, Sherman's army is still moving towards Savannah. We learn that the affair at Station No. 2 was simply a slight skirmish. From the Charleston Courier of the 9th we take the following:—The Augusta Chronicle says a report was in circulation yesterday that on the arrival of Sherman's forces at Station No. 2, he had hurried off in the direction of Sisters' Ferry, which would indicate an intention to cross into South Carolina. The enemy near

Pocotaligo was reported shelling the road on Friday. About 100 prisoners from Sherman's army arrived in this city. WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Acting Rear Admiral Stebbens, commanding the east gulf squadron, reports to the Navy Department, under date of Dec. 3rd, the destruction of a set of salt works on Rocky Point, Tampa Bay, by detachments from U.S. steamers "Stars and Stripes," "Nita," "Hendrick," "Hudson" and the "Ariel."—Several boilers and everything of value connected with the works were demolished without a single casualty on our part. New York, Dec. 12.—The Commercial's Washington special says: Savannah is known to have been fortified in its rear by a triple line of earthworks. It may, therefore, demand a brief siege ere its fall. The internal revenue department has detected the collector at Detroit in appropriating large sums of money for private speculations. The government will not be a loser as his bonds were ample. BALTIMORE, 16.—The American has just received a despatch from Annapolis, stating that the steamer "Verona" had just arrived from Charleston with the news that General Sherman had captured Savannah, with 1100 prisoners, after 8 hours fighting. WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON 15, 3:15 p. m.—To Major General Dix: Official despatches from General Canby have been received to-day, showing the complete success of an expedition sent by him from Vicksburg, to co-operate with Gen. Sherman's operations and cut-off Hood's communications with Mobile. Gen. Canby reports the probable success of another expedition from Baton Rouge, under the command of Gen. Davidson, the details and object of which it is not prudent now to disclose. When last heard from, Davidson was reported as having caused quite a panic in Mobile, and to be devastating the country generally. Lieut. Colonel Carl commanding a special party, was severely wounded and fell into the hands of the enemy at Fayette, Miss. The Richmond papers of to-day confirm the reported capture of Bristol by an expedition supposed to be under command of Stoneman and Burbridge; also the surprise and capture of the Grande Spring Depot on the R.R., 18 miles south of Abington, Va. They contain General Hood's official report of the battle of Franklin, in which he acknowledges the loss of many gallant officers and brave men, among whom he enumerates Major-General Cleburne, Brig-Generals Williams, Adams, Getty, Strodtman and Granberry, killed; Major-General John Brown, and Brig-Generals S. Carter Manigault, J. M. Maullin, Cockerell, and Scott wounded. They also state that Gen. Sherman carried Fort McAllister, commanding the entrance to the Ogeechee River, by storm, and that the capture of this position puts Sherman in communication with the Yankee fleet, and necessitates the reinforcement of Savannah. The despatches of General Canby, so far as is proper for publication, and the extracts from this Richmond paper, giving Hood's official report of the battle, and our success in South Western Virginia and Georgia, are subjoined:—Up to this hour, 8 p. m., nothing has been heard from Nashville since last night, and nothing from Gen. Sherman later than the Richmond papers report of the capture of Fort McAllister on Wednesday. New Orleans, Dec. 9.—On the 23rd I reported that movement co-operative with Gen. Sherman's operations would be made from Vicksburg and Baton Rouge for the purpose of cutting Hood's communications with Mobile. The expedition sent from Vicksburg, and consisting of about 3000 cavalry and 8 pieces of artillery, under command of Gen. Davidson, left the 2d inst. and returned on the 4th inst. having met with a complete success. I have admirably executed this movement on Jackson, on the 24th, the expedition started for the Big Beach, Bridge on the Miss. C.R.R. which was reached on the 27th, and after a stubborn resistance captured and destroyed it. This cut Hood's army off from the large quantities of supplies and stores accumulated at Jackson, Miss., and makes that railroad, which was his main reliance, unavailable to him for months to come. Besides this important bridge and trestle work the following property was completely destroyed:—Thirty miles of track, including 20 engines, the wagon bridge over the Big Black, Vaughan, Pickett and Goodman stations, with all the railroad depots and buildings, 2,000 bales of cotton, two locomotives, 4 cars, 1 stage coach, 20 barrels of salt, and \$15,000 worth of stores at Vaughan's station. The expedition was considerably harassed on its return, by large bodies of the enemy's forces, but suffered no material losses. They brought back more recruits than their entire loss in effective men. Maj. J. B. Cook, commanding the 3rd colored cavalry, distinguished himself and his regiment by the gallantry with which the force guarding the Big Black Bridge were driven from behind their strong stockades on the opposite side of the river. Our men had to charge across the bridge dismounted, with nothing but their bayonets for a partial check of a sharp fire. I have announced Major Cook in general orders, and promoted to the vacant Lt. Colonelcy of the regt., subject to the approval of the President. (Signed,) G. R. S. CASWELL, Maj. General. NASHVILLE, 15th Dec., 2:15 P. M.—Hood has fallen back, and is apparently doing his best to get away, while Thomas is pressing him with great vigor, frequently capturing guns and men. Every thing, so far, is perfectly successful, and the prospect is fair to crush Hood's army. There is nothing since my last despatch from any other quarter. (Signed,) E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War. BALTIMORE, 16th Dec.—The steamer " Crescent" arrived late last night from Port Royal, and proceeded on to Cape Annapolis, Md., the Charleston Courier of the 10th U. S. Cavalry, escaped from Cumberland, and was within five miles of Sherman's army when he was captured in a most favorable condition. FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 15.—The steamer "Crescent" arrived late last night from Port Royal with 780 recaptured Union prisoners. New York, Dec. 16.—The Herald's Newbern correspondent gives the particulars of the disasters from torpedoes in the Roanoke River. The "Osage" was a double-ender. Richmond refers to another Union expedition in North Carolina in addition to one up Roanoke. They left Sunday 300 men from gunboats in Chowan River, destroyed all rebel commissary stores at Murfreesboro, and carried off horses and mules. Board and lodging is advertised in Richmond at \$25 per day.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We have given up the plan of sending separate notices to each subscriber, a fortnight before his time expires, as an expense which we can ill afford; and believing that the numbers attached to the names of subscribers in the address upon their papers, will answer the same purpose. We, therefore, respectfully request subscribers who find the figure 12 after their names to observe, that their subscription expires with this month; and, that all papers, of which the subscription is not renewed, are necessarily, according to our system, discontinued. They are, therefore, requested to remit in time, and they will confer a great favor by endeavoring each to send another name or two with his own.

THE WITNESS.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21, 1864.

Will the subscriber who wrote to us from Grenville on the 15th inst. furnish us with his name?

RENEWALS.—Our friends whose subscriptions expire with the present month will greatly oblige by renewing their subscriptions as early as convenient. Those who can send the names of new subscribers will confer a favor.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Hood's army has been broken in two parts with a range of hills between them.

There has been a meeting at Troy, New York, aimed at the dismissal of the St. Albans raiders. The action of the authorities was denounced; but, at the same time, the hope was expressed that the same would not be endorsed by the Canadian people.

The President of the United States has disapproved of that portion of Dix's order which authorizes the following of raiders into Canada, consequently it has been revoked.

The "Hibernian" has arrived.

Prussia and Austria are said to be at log-heads.

There was some rioting at Bristol at a meeting called to celebrate Mr. Lincoln's re-election.

There has been a successful expedition from Wickburg to cut the line of rail by which Hood's army on the Tennessee was mainly supplied. It is said that this was done so effectually by burning bridges, that the line cannot be in working order again for months.

A great battle was fought yesterday near Nashville, and Hood was retiring, according to an official despatch.

In future all persons travelling to the United States, unless emigrants, will require a passport.

Savannah is closely besieged by Sherman.

A recent engagement with Morgan's old brigade resulted in a Federal victory.

Thomas' victory over Hood before Nashville has been a very decided one apparently.

Hardee with 15,000 men is in Savannah.

Lee is in favor of arming the blacks, and the Richmond Enquirer is of opinion that if European help is to be asked, the governments of that portion of the world must be met on their own terms—which are—the emancipation of the slaves.

All is quiet in the Shenandoah Valley.

Dahlgren is preparing for an attack on Savannah in conjunction with Sherman.

It is thought that the expedition that recently left Hampton Roads is intended for Wilmington.

The President calls for 300,000 more troops.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

Parliament has been summoned by proclamation to meet for despatch of business on the 30th January.

A large force of Volunteer militia has been called out by proclamation to maintain order on the frontier and prevent raids from Canada.

The managers of the Canadian railroads have been summoned to Detroit to make satisfactory arrangements for the prevention of raiding, failing which, the travel of Americans through Canada is to be stopped.

Now, that the consequences of the etanic bitterness for years past against the United States of some of our papers, are beginning to be only too clearly seen, they are attempting, with a meanness which is simply sickening, to depreciate those consequences, and to condemn the very acts they have been mainly instrumental in bringing about.

It will be seen that on the Police Committee of investigation all the French Canadian members vote steadily against the questions which are most likely to throw most light on the business. It will be seen that Capt. Lamothe has resigned, for the express purpose of evading the proceedings that are taken against him as a public officer.

We record with very great satisfaction the unanimity of public opinion here in condemning the conduct of Judge Coursol and Captain Lamothe in the matter of the raiders, especially

the giving back of the money. Indeed, we do not think there is an individual who justifies the latter act, unless it be those who profited by it. This unanimity on the right side in a question of integrity and morality, is the best indication that has occurred for a good while of a healthy state of opinion in Montreal. The public mind has been so debauched and infatuated by the sophistries and calumnies of Confederates and Confederate organs, that any symptoms of return to a sound mind are of exceeding great value, and we trust this whole nefarious business of the raiders will yet be overruled for great good,—especially if the Government of the country and city act promptly in repairing the wrong done.

Councillor Edwards, of Toronto, writes us to say that he in no manner complained that the Roman Catholics should be accused of having destroyed the Orange regalia. We read the report of the Council proceedings at the time with much interest, and our impression is strong that Mr. Edwards was the councillor who, as reported, objected to the blame of the act being laid on Roman Catholics when there was no proof that Roman Catholics had done it. We may, however, have erred in the name of the party who thus spoke.

On Wednesday Fort McAllister, at the entrance of the Ogeechee River, was stormed and taken by Sherman, who is consequently upon the coast, and in communication with the fleet. This point is within a few miles of Savannah, which was probably invested. This intelligence comes from Richmond papers, which say that Savannah is well defended on the land side, but will require reinforcements. A few days will bring the particulars of Sherman's extraordinary march from Atlanta to Savannah, a march which appears to have met with no serious check. If a later report may be credited, Savannah has been taken with 1,100 prisoners, but whether these were Federal prisoners liberated, or Confederates captured is not clear.

THE RAIDERS.—So certain, it is said, were the Raiders of their release, that they provided beforehand furs for their winter journey. Their friends anticipated their release, but not perhaps on the precise grounds upon which Judge Coursol gave them their liberty, and careful arrangements were accordingly made for their flight or concealment. If the Raiders left Montreal they were probably driven out by sleigh to some country railway station. If they succeeded in reaching Detroit, they would probably find their way by the underground railroad to the South. It is, however, a matter of doubt in some minds whether they are very far from this city. There are plenty of sympathisers here to shelter them, and they could probably, nowhere be safer than secreted in Montreal—of course the secessionists and those journals which sympathise with them, will endeavor to put the police off the scent. A large reward should be offered for their apprehension.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?—The Canadian Government specially selected Mr. Coursol to go out to the Townships to take the raiders, who had been arrested, out of the hands of the magistrates there, and bring them and the money, of which they had robbed the St. Albans' banks, before him; and if that government homologates Mr. Coursol's extraordinary course in setting them free by a coup de magistrat, and authorizing the return of the stolen money to them; if, we say, our Government acquiesces in this conduct of its stipendiary magistrate by retaining him, it will be fully responsible for the whole transaction from first to last.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND THE RAIDERS.—A very important statement is made in Le Pays, which, if corroborated, will throw a new light upon the transaction by which the raiders were liberated. That paper asserts that the technical objections upon which Judge Coursol dismissed the suit, were known fourteen days in advance, and that it is impossible that the government should not have been made aware of it through the Crown officers or otherwise. Mr. Cartier was himself in Montreal, and must have been perfectly aware of what was coming. It could not have taken place without his assent; and indeed, he must have advised it either from the sympathy he felt for the South, or from a desire of thus evading the trouble and responsibility which a surrender of the raiders would have implied. It is the Pays which is responsible for these statements and opinions.

As to the decision of Mr. Coursol, Le Pays remarks that "No Judge has a right to declare that a law passed by Parliament is unconstitutional, and should not be obeyed. The law of 1861 is formal, and only alters some dispositions of that of 1848, without abrogating it. Being found in the Consolidated Statutes, no authority can lay it aside, except that of Parliament itself."

If the statement made by Le Pays can be sustained, it is evident that our Government has assented to a mean and sneaking evasion of the law, derogatory to the dignity of the great nation they are about to make us, through their much-vaunted confederation. If they did not give their assent, then the carelessness of the Attorney-General is unpardonable. Again, if the statement of Le Pays is well founded, it follows that the Judge only enacted a comedy, when he expressed surprise, and took recess in order to deliberate. Take it as you please, the whole thing is exceedingly discreditable to Canada.

A SKEDADDLER CONVERTED.—The French papers chronicle, as a great triumph, a ceremony which took place at the Catholic church of La Prairie, on the 8th inst., the day of the immaculate conception of the Virgin, under the following circumstances:—A young American gentleman, in order to escape from the conscription, was sent to Canada, and has boarded for a year past with the family of a habitant near La Prairie. He has at last become so well identified with his new French home, that the priest has prevailed upon him to go publicly through the most imposing ceremonies of recantation. Moreover, he was re-christened, and changed his former name to that of Joseph Horace. The devout French Canadian farmer and his wife, with whom he boarded, stood as godfather and godmother.—Notwithstanding the stormy weather, the church was crowded to witness the performance. A subsequent episode of this conversion which may not prove so satisfactory to all parties concerned, will be the time when the war closes, and the young skeddaddler must return to his Protestant home. The habitants who have become his new spiritual parents, are bound by a religious pledge to look after their ward, and secure his steadfastness; but he who has skeddaddled from his country, and once again from his religion, may easily enough once more, and for the third time, desert his friends and his professions.

NEW PAPAL INDULGENCES.—We learn from the Courrier du Canada that the Holy Father, by a decree of the 24th September, 1864, and at the request of several bishops, has revived an old privilege. He grants fifty days of indulgence to all the faithful who salute those they meet with these words:—"Praised be Jesus and Mary;" and he who answers, "Now and forever," gains the same amount of indulgence. This salutation need not be made in Latin, it retains the same value through all the languages in which one may choose to utter it. Each time these simple words are repeated at meeting a person, it saves fifty days of purgatory. Those moving in crowded cities can thus in a morning-walk gain thousands of years, but those less fortunate who live in lonely country parts cannot make much use of this privilege. But, as Scripture says nothing whatever of a purgatory and indulgences, and omits that fundamental doctrine of Romanism, the cheap privileges so liberally granted must prove quite illusory. It cannot fail, nevertheless, to introduce a new custom amongst us, and in our thoroughfares, if any considerable portion of the people really put much reliance on these new Papal indulgences.

ONE ADVANTAGE OF DEAFNESS.—St. David's Church, at St. John, New Brunswick, is furnished with a useful piece of mechanism. A tin tube passes from the pulpit to two pews, and connected with the tube are several gutta percha pipes for the use of deaf persons. By applying the pipe to the ear the preacher is heard distinctly with ease. The Colonial Presbyterian says:—"One of the gentlemen who used the apparatus last Sabbath, states that he regarded the discourse as if he preached directly to himself, which, it seems, is not a very common experience among hearers." It might, perhaps, be an advantage to have such a contrivance to reach the ear of many in our congregations. There are too many of us who forget to hear for ourselves, in other words to be deaf in the sanctuary, and the voice of the preacher coming through a pipe direct to an individual's ear, would sometimes bring the truth with startling vividness and force.

CONFEDERATE REFUGES.—The Toronto Globe has an article to show that some remedy is needed to prevent aliens from making this Province a base for hostile proceedings against our nearest neighbour. If the Confederates now in our jail cannot be surrendered, the Globe thinks the penalty attending an infraction of the neutrality laws too slight to deter reckless men from seeking to attain their unlawful ends. The Globe thus suggests that measures be taken to deprive aliens of the benefit of habeas corpus, and to give the Government power either to require them to remain within certain limits or to leave the country. Such a course has more than once been pursued in England, and may, therefore, be safely followed here. If we find it necessary to enact laws which may appear harsh towards aliens, the Confederates have only themselves to blame, when they are so wanting in gratitude, and so indifferent to the moral obligation incurred in seeking for asylum and protection from a foreign government.

FURTHER RAIDS.—The raiders' organs have confidentially communicated to the public that their friends will make no more raids,—that the game does not pay, &c. In other words, being complacently let off this time, the raiders give their word of honour to be good boys in future. Now, we have no great confidence in raiders' word of honour, and we think the authorities on both sides of the lines cannot be too vigilant. The reports of threatened raids formerly were ridiculed by the same papers; but the reports turned out to be correct, and the organs to be wrong.

Since the declared intention of the American authorities to follow raiders into Canada and arrest them there, to be taken back to the States for trial, it appears to us the danger of raids is enormously increased; for, to embroil Britain and the States, is exactly what the raiders want; and their organs may be just lulling the vigilance of our authorities to sleep, in order that the

diabolical plot to embroil two mighty nations, and make Canada a battle-ground, may be carried out.

The Habeas Corpus Act should, as the Globe suggests, be suspended at once as regards aliens.

THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.—In the United States House of Representatives on Monday a resolution was adopted unanimously, calling on the President to give notice to Great Britain of the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty. This resolution differs from the one which was before Congress last year, inasmuch as the latter contemplated the appointment of Commissioners to meet British Commissioners with a view to extending the reciprocity principle to a future treaty. This contemplates its absolute abrogation. The resolution to have effect will require the assent of the Senate; but we imagine that that will be only too certainly given.—Herald.

[Nothing less could be expected to follow the action of Judge Coursol and Capt. Lamothe.—Ed.]

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.—According to Le Dérivicheur, business is stagnant in the Eastern Townships, and the winter opens under very discouraging circumstances. At Acton, the work in the copper mines is almost altogether suspended; the trade of the place is correspondingly depressed, and the population decreasing. In Durham and Wickham the copper mines are closed; also the mine of antimony at Ham. In Chester very limited work will be carried on during the winter in the copper mine owned by Mr. Labrèche-Viger and others. This suspension of copper-mining is due to the depreciation of the United States currency, which checks the expenditure of American capital in Canada. The lumber-trade is also inactive, and there is scarcely any preparations made to work in the woods during the winter. Moreover in the newly-settled townships a great portion of the agricultural produce has been lost. In the older townships the case is better; but, after all, the result is below the average. Oats, which to a great extent are raised for the American market, have not yet come into demand, owing also to the currency. Under these circumstances, the people would gladly resort to the opportunity of preparing for the market a large supply of cordwood; but the terms of the Grand Trunk—\$4 for transportation from Durham to Montreal—are considered as prohibitory, and, therefore, that branch of business is abandoned. Altogether, there is a prospect of hard times in that region for the winter; and Le Dérivicheur recommends the people to practise great prudence and economy, in order to weather this crisis.

ENCOURAGEMENT.—The result of teetotalers making efforts to secure the election of Temperance men to Municipal Councils in England, is full of encouragement to the friends of Temperance in Canada. The town of Leeds has had for one of its Councillors a consistent teetotaler. This year the liquor-sellers made great exertions to keep him out, but they were defeated. In that town, out of sixteen Councillors, eight are in favor of a Permissive Bill. The town of Swansea has rejected two publicans who were in the town Council, electing in their place temperance men. At Warrington two publicans and a brewer were candidates. The total abstainers set to work on the day of election, and succeeded in returning two individuals favorable to Permissive Legislation. The brewer, one of the rejected candidates, had been in the Council for nine years. Great Horton elected a Permissive Bill man in preference to a publican. In Bridgewater also a licensed victualler was rejected from the Council. These facts show that the temperance reform is making progress in the old country; but success has only been obtained by patient and persevering effort.

THE RELEASE OF THE ST. ALBANS RAIDERS.

The more the case of the discharge of the St. Albans' raiders is investigated into, the deeper becomes the conviction that there has been a disposition on the part of the authorities, or those acting for them, to sympathise with the accused and to get them freed from punishment. There are circumstances about the case so suspicious that there ought to be the most rigid inquiry into the matter, and these circumstances, as they appear to us, indicate strongly the good feeling of some of our officials towards the raiders.

There is more than one indication of an intention to set the accused free. Mr. Lamothe stated he knew on Monday that the prisoners would be discharged the following day. Then Mr. Coursol on a point of very great importance gives his decision in a few hours, reading that decision from a document, which must have taken some time to write, to say nothing of the research and deliberation required on a matter so momentous in its consequences. Now there was either want of due care in preparing the decision or the decision was already arrived at before the Court met on the morning of the thirteenth. It is not unimportant to ask, When was that document prepared, and by whom was it written?

Then, again, there is the unseemly haste displayed, and the unwillingness to give a hearing to the counsel for the prosecution. When an objection was made to Mr. Carter acting for the Crown, in the beginning of the enquiry, Mr. Coursol took a day to decide the point; but when an objection is put in as to the legality of the arrest, the same individual is ready in a few hours to give a decision which may prove to be as incorrect as his decision in Mr. Carter's case. Surely a judge who was resolved that justice

should be done, would have taken longer time to consider; would have asked the opinion of the other judges; would have sought advice from the Attorney-General; and, at all events, hold the accused in custody, against whom there was such strong evidence, either of crime against the State of Vermont, or of breaking our neutrality laws, till the alleged necessary warrants for their arrest could be obtained.—If Mr. Coursol thought that the prisoners had been illegally arrested, could he not have taken sufficient time to consider the matter, and then have telegraphed to Quebec for the necessary warrant? Does not his course look more like sympathy for the accused than a tender regard for the liberty of the subject? Then, with respect to Mr. Coursol's unwillingness to listen to the counsel for the prosecution, does there not appear a most unseemly anxiety to give the prisoners every opportunity to make good their escape, before ulterior proceedings could be taken. The precipitated haste with which Mr. Lamothe obtained the stolen money from the Bank—gaining access by a side door after bank hours, and handing the money to the raiders a few minutes after their release, which he had no authority for doing, thus enabling them to flee from the city the same night—seems to sustain the idea of a concerted and determined plan to secure them from the consequences of their raid upon St. Albans.

As to the alleged invalidity of the Canadian Laws—what proof is there of it? Has the Canada Gazette been examined to ascertain whether the proclamation, said to be necessary to give effect to that law, has not been made? An objection like that made by the prisoners' counsel, required a good deal of time for proof, and the only ground on which we can account for the objection being so quickly sustained is, that the matter must have been decided before Tuesday morning.

There is another aspect in which the matter may be viewed. The Governor-General gave orders not only to Mr. Coursol to arrest the raiders, but directed the military authorities to assist if necessary. Thus, if His Excellency did not issue a warrant, Mr. Coursol had the Governor's order to make the arrests—and it seems a high-handed procedure to set aside his authority in the matter. If the Government does not disown the acts of the Judge and remove him from office, they must be held responsible for all the consequences—and the fact will be patent to the world that on the great question which divides the United States, the government of Canada is fairly represented by the ministerial press of Lower Canada—without a single exception in its bitter and unjust spirit toward the people of the North and toward their government.

[We are glad to find, since the foregoing was written, that the Government has made a move in the right direction on this important affair.]

WHO HAS THE STOLEN MONEY?

While one fact after another appears to indicate a plot on the part of some official or officials to get the raiders off, there are other facts relative to the stolen money which tend to make the affair still more mysterious.

By law, the only proper custodian of stolen money or goods, is the Clerk of the Peace. It appears to have been usual for that official to leave the High Constable to look after the business. In the present case, the latter official had charge of the money; but in a day or two after coming from St. John's, as we are informed, was directed to hand the money to Mr. Lamothe, who had no more right to hold it than any member of the Police force. By whose order was this money made to change hands, and that illegally, and for what purpose? Where, too, was the money from the time it was received by Mr. Lamothe till he went to the Ontario Bank on Monday or Tuesday last? Why was it that he did not deposit the sealed carpet bag with its unknown contents in a bank till the day on which he knew the raiders were to be set free?

The clerk of the Bank deposes before the Police Committee that the bag was sealed and its contents unknown to him. What, then, were its contents? There is no proof that it contained a single bank-bill. For all any one can tell, its unknown contents may have been waste paper or bricks.

That bag was taken from the Bank by Mr. John Porterfield, on an order given by Mr. Lamothe. Who is this Mr. John Porterfield? Is it the secessionist, who came from Nashville a few years ago, and who obtained an Act of Parliament at its last session to become a naturalised British subject? On what authority did Mr. Lamothe hand over the sealed carpet-bag to this Mr. John Porterfield? The money, if money the bag contained, was not taken from Mr. Porterfield. Why, therefore, and on whose order was the bag given to him?

The law requires that stolen articles must be entered in a book, and when delivered to the rightful owner, his receipt must be written in the same book. Does that book contain the entry of this stolen money, and, if so, whose receipt is appended to it? If not, what receipt has Mr. Lamothe for the money? When was it given and by whom?

We have shown that Mr. Lamothe had no right to the possession of the money—and it is well known that he was precipitate in his haste to hand it, or what is supposed to have been the money, to an ardent secessionist, and we ask here, if a man is charged with stealing a watch,

and gets off through an informality, is it the rule to give him the watch, or to give it to the individual who proves property? In the case before us why was this rule departed from and the lawful owners wronged by giving up the money to the robbers?—that is on the supposition that the money was given up, of which we have as yet no proof.

CONFEDERATE ROWDYISM.

Yesterday the eyes of the people going to church were met in every direction by large posters, around which now and then groups of readers were gathered. They read as follows:—

"BRITONS!

"TO THE RESCUE!

"Several Yankees, some Annexationists, and other silly dupes, intend to hold a PUBLIC MEETING for the purpose of denouncing a BRITISH JUDGE! for the conscientious performance of his duty, as also to express sympathy with ANN LINCOLN and his Despotic Government!

"Will you permit this in free Canada!!

IF NOT,

ATTEND AND VOTE THEM DOWN!"

The above needs no comment, its meaning is plain and significant. The right of free speech is to be invaded. A meeting adverse to the interests of the slave Confederacy and of their Canadian tools, will not be allowed to proceed. A mob is invited to come and interfere. The attempt is thereby made to intimidate peaceful citizens, and prevent their attendance!

This appeal to mob, riot and violence must settle definitely with all law-abiding citizens their opinion of Southern sympathizers in Canada. The cause can be judged at one glance by the means to which it resorts. If it ever had any respectability, it has now degenerated to be that of rowdyism.

INFLAMMATORY PLACARDS.

Nearly twenty years ago an inflammatory placard appeared in the streets addressed to Britons, which led to the burning of the Parliament House, the pelting of the then Governor-General with eggs, and the permanent loss of the seat of Government, and consequently of millions of money. Had all this loss been sustained by the city in a good cause, and on account of just and honorable conduct on our part, we might have gloried in it, and the verdict of the world would have sustained us, but the loss of the honor and emolument pertaining to the seat of government was the smallest part of it. Our conduct disgraced Montreal in the eyes of the whole world, and made it specially a by-word and reproach to the rest of Canada.

Time rolls round in cycles and another similar placard, also addressed to Britons, (that is a favorite title when any mischief is afoot), has been liberally posted up in our thoroughfares. The object of this inflammatory poster is, to deter the citizens of Montreal from giving an expression of opinion concerning the discharge of the raiders, and the restoration to them of the stolen money of the St. Albans' banks; and it is manifestly dictated by the spirit of hatred to our neighbours, which would prevent us from doing any justice to them even by words. The former placard led to the burning of the Parliament House; the present will, if obeyed, very likely, lead to a greater conflagration, namely, that of the city itself. That which occupies the attention of the orators, statesmen, and press of Britain and Canada, namely, the contingency of a war with the States, cannot be regarded as an improbable event; and should such a war take place, Montreal will unquestionably be the chief point aimed at, and, if taken, it will, as it stands at present on the record, be very likely to be burned as an atonement for setting free the St. Albans' raiders, and cheering them and handing back to them with hot haste the stolen money, and refusing to execute a writ for their rearrest till they could get out of the way. All this, unless thoroughly purged away and atoned for now, will come up against us with terrible effect at some future day, and what will the publishers of placards do for us then?

But from whom does this placard emanate? Very likely from two individuals whose influence has been more injurious to Montreal than that of any other two men in the history of the city, but whose influence is now, if we read the signs of the times aright, as much on the wane, as was that of Robespierre on the day he was carted to the guillotine. These individuals could not now, probably, command a following of one dozen of the persons whom they address as Britons; but, less or more, we would like to see in the face of day those who stick up inflammatory placards on Saturday night, that they may distract the attention of church-goers on Sunday; those who justify the sudden and extraordinary liberation of the raiders on our neighbours with whom we are at peace; those who justify the returning to them of the plunder of banks,—we want to see the full force and strength of this unjust and mischievous party among us, and that our neighbours also may see how small it is. The Confederate refugees here, who have already so cruelly betrayed and abused the privilege of asylum will doubtless do their best to hire rowdies to break up a public meeting, and they have allies in the press who would aid them as openly as they dare, and at all events by nocturnal placards—but that opposition will soon be seen to be of the most contemptible kind. It is feared by some, however, that the French Canadians will muster to break up the meeting, because the two functionaries implicated in this

business are French Canadians, and because they generally sympathize with the South,—but in the first place they are not likely to range themselves under the banners of the party which burned the Parliament House and mobbed Lord Elgin; and, in the second place, if they wish to come out to defend this raiding and plundering business let them do so, and let the blame rest on the right shoulders.

If it were doubtful before whether a public meeting should be held or not, we think there can be no doubt now. Montreal should show what ground she really occupies on the plundering business. The result, we confidently believe, will be triumphant for justice and honesty.

CALLING OUT OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

We understand that a proclamation is to be immediately issued calling out a large force of the volunteers for the protection of the frontier. We are glad that the Government has at last resolved to do this, though the inconvenience and expense would not have been necessary but for the abuse of our hospitality by Southern refugees, and the encouragement given them by certain persons in the community. We believe that 500 volunteers from the volunteer corps of this city are to be called out, and double that number from the volunteer force of Upper Canada.

With the present state of feeling on each side of line "forty-five," Americans in Canada in rebellion against their own Government, and plotting to rob and murder,—with the threat of retaliation on the part of Northerners—it is absolutely necessary that the frontier should be protected, or we may be in a war before we have time to think, and Montreal will then be one of the first places to suffer. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our merchants will now wake up and do all that they can to assist the Government in its efforts to prevent further trouble.

Most of the members of the Volunteer corps are in situations, and it is of course expected that employers will grant the necessary leave of absence, and restate their employees after the Government dispenses with their services. The military force is to be sent off this week. This military precaution may only be temporary, for we trust that Parliament will, at its next session, pass such measures as shall be an effectual restraint upon men who are traitors towards their own government, and wanting both in respect for our laws and gratitude for the protection we afford them.

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES.

(To the Editor of the Daily Witness.)

Sir,—Spare a place in your next issue for this brief note. I have just returned from the United States, and have had occasion to learn the extraordinary importance attached to the proceedings in the St. Albans' case by the most respectable and influential merchants in New York and Boston. It was the first question in every interview; and my expressed opinion that Canada was disposed to go to the utmost limit of the law to satisfy them, was, I thought, well-founded, and seemed to satisfy every one. But I cannot express to you the indignation and astonishment with which the report of their escape has been received, nor exaggerate the profound sense of indignant hatred to our country which prevails now. "Liberated, and their plunder restored,"—not after a careful inquiry by influential judges,—but by what seems a result of a legal juggle, if not connivance. We cannot, I think, afford to disregard the unanimous hatred of a powerful people,—nor in a bad cause incur the risk of bloodshed; we shall neither have the sympathy of England nor unanimity in our own country. I anxiously hope our Government will act promptly and publicly, and all respectable classes wash their hands of complicity in this important matter, as I now wish to do.

Yours respectfully, The writer of the above remarks is a gentleman of influential position, but has hitherto been strongly in favor of the South. We have heard from another influential merchant that it is in contemplation to hold a public meeting here to express the indignation of an outraged community at the recent events,—an indignation which, we believe, to be general.

We have noticed with great satisfaction the laudable efforts of our Government to remedy the wrong which has been done here to the United States; but everything else will fail to purge us of complicity with the outrage on public opinion both in the United States and Canada, if the party chiefly responsible for it be not promptly dismissed. The city has also a similar duty to perform in regard to its servant.

Those whose horizon of knowledge and perception is bounded by Canada may think this discharge of the raiders, and returning their plunder, a matter of little importance; but to those who know the proud and gallant nation on our frontiers, no event has ever occurred of more significance to Canada. It means, unless indignantly repudiated by every honest man, the invasion of Canada at the first convenient opportunity, and the aiming at Montreal as an object of special animosity. There is probably not a man in Vermont who would not eagerly shoulder his rifle to-morrow on this mission; and the whole Union feels just like Vermont. We state not these things to make our people swear one hair-breadth from the path of duty and rectitude, but as simple facts which cannot be ignored, and which should not, at all events, prevent us from doing what is right.

Two bounty-brokers are under arrest in New York for crimping a furloughed soldier and selling him to a recruiting officer for \$1000.

Gen. Washburn in his report speaks with justifiable pride of the fact that the colors of no Vermont regiment ever fell into the hands of the rebels.

ORDINATION.

The solemn ceremony of ordination to the ministry of a young man, Mr. John M. Gibson, to act as assistant to the Rev. Dr. Taylor, took place on Friday afternoon in the church, where that gentleman officiated, in the presence of a large portion of the members of the church.

The Rev. Mr. Kemp, having read the edict of the Presbytery authorizing the ordination of Mr. Gibson, called upon any present who had any objection to the same to state it, and there being none, the candidate for ordination, accompanied by the members of the Presbytery, entered the church, and the service commenced by singing the 132nd Psalm, beginning at the 18th verse.

"For God of Zion hath made choice, There He desires to dwell." The 4th chapter of Ephesians was then read, followed by prayer and the singing of the 316th hymn, beginning

"Chief Shepherd of Thy chosen sheep, From death and sin set free, May every under-Shepherd keep His eye intent on Thee."

This portion of the ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Muir. The Rev. Mr. King, of Toronto, after prayer, then delivered a very eloquent sermon from II Corinthians the 8th chapter and 9th verse, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich."

The 216th Hymn, beginning "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear"

was then sung, when the Rev. Dr. Taylor ascended the pulpit, and after stating the circumstances under which Mr. Gibson had received the call, proceeded as Moderator of the presbytery to propound the customary questions to that gentleman and the congregation. All which being answered agreeably to rule, he left the pulpit, and after prayer and laying on of hands of the assembled presbyters declared Mr. Gibson, in the name of the presbytery, to be a minister of the Gospel in connexion with the Canada Presbyterian Church, and as moderator, tendered him the right hand of fellowship.

The Rev. Mr. Kemp then addressed the newly ordained minister, giving him some kindly advice and a few rules for his future guidance.

An address to the congregation was then delivered by the Rev. Mr. McVicar, and the Rev. Dr. Wilkes offered the concluding prayer, when after singing the Doxology and receiving the Benediction from the Rev. Dr. TAYLOR—that gentleman, with the Rev. Mr. Gibson, proceeded to the porch of the Church, where each member, as he or she passed out, shook hands with the old and new pastors.

In the evening a soiree was held in the church and was a most interesting meeting. The attendance was large, and the Rev. Dr. Taylor presided, taking the chair at seven o'clock. During the evening addresses were delivered by the Chairman, also by the Rev. Dr. Wilkes, the Rev. J. M. King, Rev. D. H. McVicar, Rev. Mr. Ross and Rev. Mr. Bonar. At an early stage of the proceedings gowns were presented to the Rev. Dr. Taylor and the Rev. Mr. Gibson by Dr. Dawson, in the name of the ladies of the congregation, and a bible to the latter gentleman by Mr. Copeland, from the young men of the congregation, which were suitably acknowledged by the two pastors.

A number of hymns and anthems were sung, and the most excellent spirit seemed to prevail towards the Lagache-ère Church from members and pastors of other churches, who vied with each other in the expression of fraternal feeling and kindly respect for Dr. Taylor, the venerable minister of this congregation during so many years. The meeting closed with the doxology and benediction; and about 9 o'clock the company adjourned to the lecture room for refreshments.

INTERRUPTION TO RAILWAY TRAFFIC.—In dread of attacks from the Canadian frontier, the American authorities at Detroit propose to take measures to restrain the passage of travellers from our railways by the St. Clair ferries. Mr. Seinyard has gone up to Detroit to see that the business of the Great Western is not interrupted by these arrangements. What a world of trouble and alarm these raiders are giving our people! And yet there are journals foolish or wicked enough to encourage them in their robberies.—Toronto Globe.

—Mr. Thos. Gibbs has become the candidate for the riding South Ontario, in opposition to Mr. Farewell.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

—Brown's Bronchial Troches, for Pulmonary and Asthmatic Disorders, have proved their efficacy by a test of many years, and have received testimonials from eminent men who have used them.

Those who are suffering from Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, &c., should try "The Troches," a simple remedy which is in almost every case effectual.

TWELVE REASONS FOR NO LICENSE.—This tract in favor of prohibiting the licensing of places for selling alcoholic drink is published for general distribution, and offered at the low price of one dollar per 1000.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE. Tuesday morning, December 20, 1864.

Yesterday it snowed all the morning and drifted all the afternoon; but to day is fine though much colder than of late.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—A despatch by Vermont & Boston Line, dated 11 a.m., quotes Gold, 223½ to 224. Exchange, 9½ to 9½.

—Brokers are buying Greenbacks at 55 per cent dis., and selling them at 54 per cent dis. Silver is bought at 4½ per cent dis., and sold at 4½.

—Amount of duties received at the Custom-house, Port of Montreal, for the week ending Dec. 17th, 1864, \$21,443 41; corresponding period of 1863, \$26,270 71;—decrease, \$4,827 30. Total duties collected to date, \$9,907,809 79; to same date, 1863, \$2,962,073 39; increase, \$945,236 40.

—There is some cordwood yet on the wharf. Since our last report it has risen something like a dollar a cord. The current price of maple being from \$6.50 to \$7, according to length, the purchaser defraying the expense of cartage. At this season of the year,

and at the present price of fuel, the poor especially should see that they have full measure with the legalized "frame," if the purchaser should require it, as he has a perfect right to do. To see a working man expending a week's earnings on what should be a cord of firewood, but which is little more than three-fourths of that quantity is a pitiable, but not altogether an unknown, circumstance.

MONEY MARKET.—Foreign exchange rates are very firm, with an active demand. Sterling bankers' 60-day bills sell at 109½ in gold, and 255 to 266 in currency. The amount of gold shipped last week was \$1,072,608, making 46 millions since January 1st. Money is abundant and call loans are making to regular houses in good standing at 6 to 7 per cent, and business notes pass at 10 to 12 per cent.—N. Y. Independent.

PRICES CURRENT OF LEATHER.

MONTREAL, December 20, 1864.

The quantities of Leather inspected in the city during the week ending Dec. 17th, were:—Sides No. 1, 1,965; Sides No. 2, 345; Sides No. 3, 43;—total 2,353. The following are current rates:—

Table listing leather prices for various types: Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 1, Hemlock Spanish Sole No. 2, Hemlock Slaughter, Waxed Upper, light and medium, Do do heavy, Grained do, Splits, Do do small, Kips, City Slaughter, ex quality (whole), Do ordinary, Do Patnas, (per dozen), Calf-Skin (27 to 36 lbs per doz.), Do (18 to 26 lbs per doz.), Harness, Skirting, Stuffed Cow, per foot, Unstuffed Cow do, Patent Cow do, Pebbled Cow do.

TANNING MATERIAL.

Patens Sumac, per bag of 160 lbs..... \$7 50

Leather.—Trade continues the same as at the date of last report, and no improvement is anticipated until such time as the shoe manufacturers begin to make up their Spring stocks. Arrivals of all kinds during the past week have been limited; and owing to the small amount of business doing, quotations are mostly nominal.

JOHN DOUGALL, COMMISSION MERCHANT, 270 St. Paul Street.

MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES.

FOR MARKET DAY December 20, 1864.

Table listing retail market prices for various goods: Flour, country, per qt, Oatmeal, do, Indian Meal, do, Seed Wheat, per min, Peas, per min, Barley, do, per 50 lbs, Oats, do, Buckwheat, do, Flax Seed, do, Timothy Seed, do, Turkeys, per couple (old), Do, do, (young), Geese, do, Ducks, do, Fowls, do, Chickens, do, Turkey, (Wild), do, Pigeons, (Tame), do, Plover per doz, Woodcock, do, Partridges, do, Hares per pair, Snipe, do, Halibut per lb, Haddock per lb, Butter, fresh per lb, Do, salt, do, Beans, small white, per min, Potatoes, per bag, Onions, do, Turnips, do, Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs, Maple Sugar, do, Maple Syrup, per gallon, Honey, per lb, in the comb, Lard, do, Eggs, fresh, per doz, Pork, per 100 lbs, Hay, per 100 bundles, Straw, do, Apples, per bri, do.

REMARKS.—Attendance fair.

WHOLESALE FUR MARKET.

MONTREAL, Dec. 20, 1864.

Table listing wholesale fur prices: Bear, Mink, Muskrat, Fisher, Marten, light, Fox, Lynx, Beaver, per lb.

Prices unchanged. Late advices from Europe say, that the winter which at first set in cold, had become mild, consequently, the prospects for the Fur Trade were not so good as they had been.

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—Dec. 20.

Extra Cattle, \$6.50; First quality, do, \$5.50 to \$6.00; Second and Third, \$4.50 and \$3.00. Milk Cows, \$20 to \$25; Extra, \$35 to \$40.—Sheep, \$8.00 to \$5.00; Lambs, \$2.00 to \$3.00. Hides, dressed, \$6.00 to \$6.75, in silver. Hides, 4c to 4½c per lb. Pelts, 80c to \$1.00. Tallow, 6c.

REMARKS.—Inferior Cattle or stale Hogs dull of sale. Best Cattle and Hogs in demand.

TORONTO MARKETS.—Dec. 17.

The appearance of a thaw caused a very large market to-day. Farmers appeared anxious to hurry in all the produce they could ere the sleighing gave out and the teams were loaded to their utmost capacity. Fall Wheat is in good supply at 85c to 92c per bush. Spring Wheat active, with a good demand at 75c to 82c per bush.—Barley in better demand at 60c to 65c per bush. Oats steady at 38c to 41c per bush. Peas in demand at 55c to 60c per bush. Dressed Hogs in large supply, and sold freely at quotations:—Common to good, \$5 50; good to extra \$5.75 to \$6 00; superior as high as \$6 10.

NEW YORK MARKETS (By Telegraph) Dec. 20.

Flour 25c better and quiet; receipts 6,101 bbls. Wheat 2c to 3c better and quiet; receipts 220 bush. Corn dull and nominal; receipts 2 985 bush. Rye quiet. Pork dull. Lard quiet. Ashes quiet. Oats 1c better. Barley quiet. Pens nominal. Freights dull.

—Traffic receipts of Grand Trunk Railway, (including the Montreal and Champlain at Buffalo and Lake Huron Railways) for week ending Dec. 19th:—Passengers..... \$40,361 00 Express freight, Mails and Sundries..... 8,124 00 Freight and Live Stock..... 76,983 00 Total..... 124,468 00 Corresponding Week of 1863..... 120,975 00 Decrease..... 3,493 00

FORSYTH, BELL & CO'S ANNUAL CIRCULAR.

The season now closing has been one that, on the whole, has been unsatisfactory to the manufacturer, arising from the great and continued stringency in the money market in England, and consequently in these Provinces, as well as from the large stocks that remain over in Liverpool and the Clyde from last year and over production here. The civil war in the States unfortunately still continues, and the great demand for Canada wood that for years has existed there has almost died away.

Our stock wintering is unusually heavy, and unless great moderation is shown this winter in manufacturing, our markets may not recover for a long time.

Winter Pine.—The stock is very large and some rafts winter over in the Ottawa, which, but for the lowness of the waters, would have reached this market; and we shall be near the mark if we estimate the quantity wintering at nearly 18 millions of feet, amply sufficient for an average year's export, if none came down next season.

Of really prime timber, however, the quantity is not excessive, the great quantity of what winters over being fair ordinary wood. The loss on the manufacture of inferior timber has been so great that we recommend parties above to cease sending it to market.

Prices of superior timber from the Upper Lakes have been high all the season, varying from 10d to 12d for large averages—while 60 feet from the Ottawa has ranged from 6d to 7d, 70 feet 7d to 8d, and 80 feet 8d to 9d. For inferior wood from 8d to 11d.

Red pine has been dull and difficult of sale all the season except for 50 feet and upwards, and even this closed heavily except for very prime lots, which closed as high as 15d to 16d for 55 to 60 feet; 40 feet 8d to 10d, but anything under 40 almost if not altogether unsaleable, and stocks here and in England are so heavy of this description that we do not recommend a foot to be made.

Oak was scarce in spring, and the market opened at 2s to 2s 3d; but prices have gradually given way, owing to the unusually large supply, and closed at from 18d to 20d. Although the stock is nearly 1,800,000 feet, there is a great portion of it poor and badly made.

The shipments to Liverpool from New York were large, and prices have fallen there from 3s 3d to 3s 6d last February to 2s to 2s 3d.

Elm is unusually abundant, being 2,332,101, against 1,595,000 last year, and a very great quantity winters over on the upper lakes, so that we do not recommend any to be made this winter. The closing prices were 8d to 8½d for 32 to 34 feet; 10d to 11d for 40; and 1s 1d to 1s 3d for 50 feet and upwards.

Ash was almost unsaleable all the season. Tamarac has also been very difficult of sale the price of new vessels being anything but encouraging, and our quotations have been realized where sales have been made, but the demand has been most limited.

Standard staves have been saleable all the year at from £47 10s to £50, but closed at the former rate without being much asked for.

Punchons are heavy in stock, as they were last year, and closed dull at £12, at which sales were made in small lots. The price in Liverpool is so low that purchases at that price would entail the loss of the shipper; and as the whole export this year was only 3,564 M, and the stock entering as 3,766 M, it will be seen that there is very little encouragement for the coming season, especially as there is a quantity remaining over at French Cro-k and Garden Island.

Bright pine deals have been unsaleable all the season, at prices ranging from £15 to £16 10s for 1sts, and corresponding prices for 2nds and 3rds. Floated have been also in fair request, but in spruce there has been no animation, the quantity manufactured in New Brunswick and the State of Maine fairly glutting the English markets.

Freights have varied but little, being for Liverpool 28s to 28s 6d in spring, 30s to 31s in summer, and 29 in the fall. The amount of tonnage has been much less than last year, as will be seen by the arrivals from sea.

CORN EXCHANGE REPORTS.

[Furnished by the Corn Exchange exclusively to the Witness.]

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES.

MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE, December 20, 1864.

FLOUR, per brl. of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$4.70 to \$4.90; Extra, \$4.50 to \$4.55; Fancy, \$4.30 to \$4.35; City-Brands of Superfine, \$4.20 to \$4.30; Superfine from Canada Wheat, \$4.15 to \$4.20; Super. from Western Wheat, \$4.10 to \$4.15; Western States' Flour, \$4.10; Super. No. 2, \$3.90 to \$4.05; Fine, \$3.60 to \$3.75; Middlings, \$3.30 to \$3.50; Pollards, \$3.20 to \$3.10; Bag-Flour, \$2.30 to \$2.35 per 112 lbs. Market quiet,—very little flour offering. Sales since yesterday's Change hour include some lots of Extra and Fancy at exceptional prices.—Rates for Supers are nominally unaltered; common Canada Superfine was sold at \$5.20 at the Point; and prices for selected parcels of strong Flour ranged from \$4.22½ to \$4.80,—well-known favorite brands bringing more money. A lot of choice Bag-Flour changed hands at an extreme rate.

OATMEAL, per brl. of 200 lbs.—Very few wholesale transactions; \$4.75 to \$5.00, according to quality.

WHEAT, per bu of 60 lbs.—The few car-loads of U. C. Spring at present arriving are nearly all on Millers' account.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—The market continues active; First Pots sold at \$5.37½, and Inferiors at \$5.65. Pearls \$5.40.

PORK, per brl. of 300 lbs.—Recent operations have sufficed the market; no sales reported this forenoon.

PORK, per 100 lbs.—Receipts have increased; choice lots sell readily at good prices, the average of recent transactions being about \$6.50; a lot of over 100 very choice brought considerably over that rate.

BUTTER, per lb.—No strictly wholesale transactions reported.

CHEESE, per lb.—Good Dairy about 9c to 10c. FINANCIAL.—No alteration to note in Sterling Exchange. Counter or credit-rate for 60-day Bank-drafts on London 10½ to 11 prem; cash price 9½ prem. Private nominal at about 9 to 9½ prem. Exchange on New York, about 65 dis.

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

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 19.—Wheat, \$1.71 in store, receipts 5,000 bushels. Flour \$8.00 dull. Mess Pork, \$37.50.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Wheat \$1.70 in store, Corn, 95c. to 92c. in store. Mess Pork, \$38.50

Family Reading.

THE MAELSTROM.

[Few illustrations of the nature and power of temptation are more impressive than that derived from the Norwegian Maelstrom.]

Just off the coast of Norway, Two tides of ocean sweep, And they make a terrific whirlpool, With vortex fierce and deep. Inward and inward ever The circling waves go round, Swift and more swift, with fearful rush, They seek the abyss profound.

Oh, woe to the hapless ship, That enters that treacherous tide; At first, on the outer circle, It seems secure to ride; But now, in the boiling current, 'Tis tossed like a plaything weak, And the air is rent with the piercing note Of the mariner's dying shriek.

There lieth a treacherous whirlpool, Off the coast of human life, Whose waters are seething and rushing, Like demons of evil at strife; And like the Norwegian maelstrom, The outermost circle seems fair, But woe to him who is hopelessly plunged In its vortex of gall and despair.

Oh, youth, beware of the current— The current of folly and sin, Approach not its farthest circle, Lest you reach the abyss within; For worse than the shriek of the dying, That rings from the Norway coast, Is the wail of a perishing human soul, At last and for ever lost!

BEGINNING THE DAY IN A COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSE.

The Rev. W. G. Blaikie, in the Sunday Magazine, gives the following pleasing account of a visit to a Nottingham Lace Warehouse:

We ask our readers to accompany us to the warehouse of a friend, and mark how the first half-hour is spent inside. The clock is striking eight just as you reach the corner of a massive building, in passing along which you observe a row of windows on the ground-floor of one of the wings, having a slightly ecclesiastical form. Following the current of work-people—mostly females—that are flocking inside, you find yourself in a large room or chapel, capable of accommodating three or four hundred persons. By-and-by, the room is filled in every part. Precisely at five minutes past eight, the chaplain takes his place at the desk. On his left hand you observe a choir of singers, male and female, not dressed in the fantastic costume of cathedral choirs, but in the ordinary attire of the work-a-day world. On the right is a handsome organ, which you afterwards learn cost a hundred guineas, and was the gift of the work-people to their masters' chapel. The body of the room is filled chiefly by young females, whose neat and quiet dress you cannot help remarking. Away on somewhat raised benches at the end are some of the office clerks and warehousemen, and in one of these raised pews are three or four gentlemen, members of the firm. Their presence is no exception, but the ordinary rule. The head of the house, the mainspring of the whole, is hardly ever out of his place, although his presence necessitates a very early breakfast at home, and brings him to the warehouse two or three hours sooner than he would otherwise care to come. The attendance of the people is purely optional; but whether moved by the example of the masters, or the love of the service, or the sense of its value, or the force of the public opinion which has grown up in the establishment in its favour, so it is that out of a staff of five or six hundred workers, about four hundred are in attendance every morning.

The service begins with the singing of a hymn, which is heartily done by all. The prayer that follows is in the form of a series of collects, some of them having a special bearing on the circumstances of the people, and expressing the longings of the Christian soul, in the view of the work, and temptations, and duties of the coming day. At first, we believe, no form of prayer was used, but at the request of some of the people the present collection was compiled and printed, consisting of six services, one for each of the days of the week. After prayer, a passage of Scripture is read, and the remainder of the time is occupied with a simple, earnest exposition and application of the passage. At half-past eight the blessing is pronounced, and the meeting disperses, to begin, in the several departments of the vast warehouse, the work of the day.

The origin and history of this meeting, which has now gone on most prosperously for upwards of nine years, cannot but be extremely interesting. We have some hesitation in even alluding to what is necessarily a delicate subject, but we shall try to do so as carefully as possible. The excellent Christian gentleman to whom it owes its origin, we have understood, had at one time, through no fault of his own, to pass through a very trying and painful ordeal, which almost threatened to wreck his ship. His experience during that most painful time impressed him very deeply with the duty of acknowledging God more openly and emphatically in connection with business, and of taking a paternal and Christian interest in all who sided him in its prosecution. As he was considering and taking counsel how this might best be done, prosperity so flowed in on his firm that larger barns had to be built wherein to bestow their goods. There were partners whose consent to plans so unusual as those which he was led to entertain it was not very easy to obtain, but as a first step it was agreed that in the plans of the new building a large room should be set apart as a chapel. Even when he offered to take charge of the whole arrangements connected with a daily meeting for worship, he was met with the objection, that in that case it would simply be his personal affair, and should be removed, who would or could continue to carry it on? It was wonderful how, before the spirit of calm, earnest prayerfulness, every valley was exalted and every mountain and high place made low. Strangely enough, the partners belonged to the most miscellaneous and diverse sections of religious profession, embracing denominations that it would have seemed utterly impossible to bring together in such a matter. But come together they at last did, very wonderfully; and now the arrangement is so consolidated, so established as an integral part of the concern, that its promoter can feel a moral certainty of its continuance, knowing that even if he were gone, the firm would just as soon think of shutting up the counting-house as of discontinuing the chapel.

Just as in the matter of family worship, there have been times when it has required an effort to devote half an hour to the chapel, but there never has been cause to regret the time so spent, for the business of the warehouse has gone on more smoothly, comfortably, and expeditiously than it would otherwise have done. The effect of the arrangement on the workers generally has been very marked. At one time, quarrelling and angry words might not unfrequently be heard in the different rooms—now, such a thing never occurs. Though about five hundred females and one hundred males are employed, and are necessarily brought into contact with each other, there have been but two instances, in nine years, of a guilty intimacy between any of them. Several of the workers have had cause to bless God for meetings that have brought them the best blessings of heaven. Even the parents of some of those employed have in some instances shared the blessing. Among those, too, where a vital change has not certainly taken place, an elevation of tone and spirit has been the manifest result of the meetings. Young persons of the better sort show an anxiety to be employed in such an establishment, and parents feel thankful that their children are under such influences. Except in the case of Roman Catholics, variety of sect never causes absence from the meetings or coldness towards them. Instead of having a repelling influence, as some foreboded, the practice rather operates the other way, and makes the establishment popular.

We were very desirous to ascertain whether these meetings, and other things connected with them to which we shall presently advert, exercised a perceptible influence in sweetening the relation of the employed to their employers. How much of sourness there frequently is in that relation, as it stands at present, no one needs to be told who knows anything of the condition of the working classes. It is the great blot on our manufacturing system, the continual sorrow of the good, the perplexing puzzle of the wise. In a warehouse, perhaps, the evil is less likely to become intense, than in a factory or a mine. But even there, a sullen antagonism on the part of the servants towards their masters is far too common. So far as we could learn, the establishment of which we have been writing was pervaded by quite the opposite spirit. There was no mistaking the strong, decided tone in which some of the workers expressed their feeling—"Yes, we have a good master—I don't know such another—I don't know what I would not do for my master." We were told of a very touching and tender proof of this feeling that occurred some years ago, when trade was in a wretched state, and even first-class houses, through the necessity laid on them to help houses connected with them over the crisis, were in a very precarious predicament. An address was presented to the head of the firm, signed by a number of the oldest and most responsible of his people, expressive of their affectionate regard and thorough confidence in him, and their sympathy for him in the trying position in which he was placed. To a man of his heart, to whom any catastrophe in business would seem far more terrible for the suffering it would bring to hundreds of industrious workers, than for the loss it would occasion to himself, such an expression of feeling, at such a time, must have been most grateful, and we can readily understand how he would thank God and take courage.

Operations somewhat similar to those which we have been describing have been tried elsewhere, but in instances not a few they have by no means been attended with similar success. The knowledge of this fact made us the more careful to inquire into the causes that had brought such prosperity to the present movement. If this paper has any value it will lie in what we are now going to write; for if any one were to suppose that nothing more needs to be done than simply, on the spur of the moment, to set up a similar meeting, we could almost pledge our word that the result would be a mortifying disappointment and an ignominious defeat.

[For want of space we are compelled to condense the latter portion of the paper.] In the first place, we attach much importance to the singularly prayerful and trustful spirit in which the whole arrangements have been planned and carried out by the head of the firm.

Then, further, the example of the members of the firm, in regularly attending the meetings, has had a great effect. It has shown their earnestness in the matter. It has shown that the spirit of Christian fraternity they have professed to promote is a real fraternity. They have made it apparent that the religious meeting is not an insulting device to check the evil tendencies of the people, but a brotherly fellowship, a united approach to the throne of grace, where all, as partakers of a common nature, may worship the same Father, confess the same sins, and implore the same grace and mercy.

The honorable character of the employers, in their dealings with their people, and in their business relations generally, has greatly aided the success of the scheme. Every one must have remarked how often the efforts of

really earnest men of business to do good are neutralized by some meanness or shabbiness, verging on dishonesty, if not actually touching it, in their business transactions. Another cause of success—indeed one of the very chief—is the excellence of the chaplain. We were about to say that the firm had been very fortunate in their chaplain, but we purposely withhold that expression, because we believe that there was no "fortune" in the matter—that the chaplain was sent in answer to prayer.

One cannot help feeling, as one gets acquainted with the operations of this interesting establishment, what a great work has yet to be done before the merchandise and the hire of Britain shall be "holiness to the Lord." It seems as if the whole labour-employing community of the country had yet to be raised to a higher level, and taught a new application of Christianity. We are very far from urging the example of this establishment for the literal imitation of all and sundry. Obviously that would be impossible, and even if possible, we doubt if it would be desirable. The great value of the instance we have given lies in the proof it affords that the difficulties commonly alleged are not insurmountable,—that "where there's a will, there's a way." And we make our appeal in conclusion to all Christian employers, earnestly asking, Can it be right never to acknowledge God or ask his blessing with those who aid you in the prosecution of your worldly business? If you say No, what we have now written will show you one mode of action that may be followed. In this way, or in whatever other way you may judge most suitable, lose no time in setting about your duty.

EXPERIMENTS IN LIVING. A correspondent of the Boston Transcript makes the following statement: "By repeated experiments in my family I have found that in making domestic bread—using yeast prepared in the house—a pound of good flour will yield very nearly two pounds of bread. The only addition made to the flour was about a table spoonful of Indian meal, water and salt, for two three-pound loaves. A pound of flour never failed to yield a pound and three quarters of bread. Then I made this estimate: A barrel of flour of 198 pounds made 343 pounds of bread—343 pounds of bread if bought from the baker in pound loaves at five cents, would have cost me \$17.15. My barrel of flour cost me at these trials between seven and eight dollars. This is an argument for baking one's bread instead of buying it. Even at the present prices much money would be saved by baking at home.

"But it used to be rare to find a five cent loaf that weighed over 14 ounces. Therefore buying bread was still more expensive than my calculation makes it. In these times loaves weigh about 10 or 10½ ounces, sometimes less, so that the price a purchaser of bakers' bread actually pays for a barrel of flour is enormous. When flour is even \$12 a barrel, the purchaser of five cent loaves is equal to paying over \$26, the loaves weighing 10½ ounces. If you buy the nice tea rolls, you pay \$36 a barrel of flour. These rolls are 12 cents a dozen, and very light. I think sticklers for very white flour make a miss in their domestic economy, if flour with a shade dark is perfectly sweet, and I never buy the highest priced flour, yet I do not see but I have very nice bread."

"In these days it is well to economize in that in which we can 'just as well as not.' If there is money to spare there is suffering enough to use it all up."

NEVER FRIGHTEN CHILDREN. A schoolmistress, for some trifling offence, most foolishly put a child into a dark cellar for an hour. The child was greatly terrified and cried bitterly. Upon returning to her parents in the evening, she burst into tears, and begged that she might not be put into the cellar. The parents thought this extremely odd, and assured her that there was no danger of their being guilty of so great an act of cruelty: but it was difficult to pacify her and when put to bed she passed a restless night. On the following day she had fever, during which she frequently exclaimed, "Do not put me in the cellar." The fourth day after, she was taken to Sir A. Cooper, in a high state of fever, with delirium, frequently muttering, "Pray, don't put me in the cellar." When Sir Astley inquired the reason, he found that the parents had learnt the punishment to which she had been subjected. He ordered what was likely to relieve her; but she died in a week after this unfeeling conduct.

Another case from the same authority may here be cited. It is the case of a child, ten years of age, who, wanting to write her exercise, and to scrape her slate-pencil, went into the school in the dark to fetch her knife, when one of her schoolfellows burst from behind the door to frighten her. She was much terrified, and her head ached. On the following day, she became deaf; and, on the next, so much so as not to hear the loudest talking. Sir Astley saw her three months after this had happened, and she continued in the same deplorable state of deafness.

A boy, fifteen years of age was admitted an inmate of the Dundee Lunatic Asylum, having become imbecile from fright. When twelve years of age he was apprenticed to a light business; and some trifling article being one day missing, he was along with others locked up in a dark cellar. The children were much alarmed; and all were let out with the exception of this poor boy, who was detained until past midnight. He became from this time nervous and melancholy; and sunk into a state of insensibility, from which he will never recover. The missing article was found on the following morning, exculpating the boy from the guilt with which he had been charged.—Ex. Paper.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins."

HOW A LITTLE MISSIONARY SOCIETY WAS FORMED.

A lady attended the meeting of the American Board, which was held in Rochester in October, 1863. Perhaps all the children who read this paper know that the American Board is a great Missionary Society which meets once a year, and several thousands attend. Towards the close of the interesting meeting in Rochester, which lasted several days, all who would pledge themselves to do more than they had ever done before for the cause of missions, were requested to rise.—The lady I am telling you about rose with the rest. But she had been in the habit of dressing very plainly and denying herself many luxuries that she might have money to give to the missionaries, and at first she did not know what more she could do. Our dear Saviour, the Great Shepherd, I think, put it into her heart that she could engage some of his lambs to work for him. So after thinking the matter over till nearly the close of the year, she sent a request to the Superintendent of the Sabbath school, that he would invite all the children who would like to form a little Missionary Society, to meet at the house where she resided at three o'clock on the first Saturday afternoon in January. The afternoon came but was intensely cold, and only twelve children were present. She formed a little society of these. They were to meet once a month, and bring with them to every meeting five cents, which they had earned themselves by work or some act of self-denial, and to tell how they had earned it. They were to spend an hour together, during which each one was to repeat a text of Scripture and she would tell them some interesting anecdotes or read to them from some instructive book connected with the subject of their meeting. You would have been interested and amused had you been present at the second meeting and heard the various ways in which they had earned their money. Some had received the five cents from their mothers, to reward them for putting their things away when they came in from school, some for some act of courtesy, and several others had assisted in the family.

Now the Society numbers forty-seven, and our village is not very large. They expect to support a Mission School, which costs twenty-five dollars a year. And now, dear children, why do you suppose I have written this for you? It is because I thought if you knew about this little Society you might like to form one among yourselves. The new year will be a good time to commence. Can you not persuade some aunt or older friend to assist you, and have a society of your own? Who that reads this will make the effort? Perhaps if you ask God's blessing, which I hope you would do, he would permit you to be the means of leading many poor heathen children to know and love the Saviour, who bled for you would have grown up in ignorance and vice, and have gone down to eternal death. Remember, what you do for the heathen Jesus will accept as done for himself.—N. Y. Evangelist.

DONT FRET. When I was settled in Parkville, I had two females belonging to my church whose husbands were unconverted. At length it pleased the Lord to hear the prayer of one anxious wife, and bring a sinner to himself. When the tidings reached me that Mr. Gray had become a Christian, I thanked God and took courage. "Now," I said to myself, "Mrs. Thomas will labor and pray with new hope for her husband, when she hears that her friend, Mrs. Gray, has been so blessed." But alas I was mistaken. "It's of no use for me to labor and pray any longer," was the language of the discouraged suppliant; "my husband's heart seems to grow harder every day. Before Mr. Gray was serious, William and he were quite intimate; but now he will not go near him.—And if I say a word on the subject of religion he walks right out of the house."

Now I had previously heard that Mrs. Thomas wore a sadder and more sorrowful look than Mrs. Gray; and knowing that her husband was much the most correct in outward conduct, and the most inclined to thoughtfulness, I had wondered a little that she should be less cheerful and hopeful than her friend. She had often told me of casting her burden on the Lord; but I began to suspect that instead of leaving it there, she was constantly taking it up again, and staggering under its painful weight. So I gave her such advice as seemed appropriate, and then sought an interview with her husband. I found him in the field. He returned an indifferent answer to my cordial salutation; and when, after a few moments' talk on general subjects, I introduced that of religion, he replied with some asperity, that he had heard enough of that for a lifetime, and must be excused for refusing to listen. Just then his neighbor, Mr. Gray came up; and Mr. Thomas found an immediate pretence for leaving us.

"Poor man," said his friend, Gray; "he feels ill at ease, but is determined not to give up." "What has irritated him so much?" I asked, determined to probe the matter, if possible. "Oh, it's his wife," was the reply, "she frets him almost to death."

"How is that? she seems like an amiable woman." "She is, I suppose; and she loves her husband truly; but she feels so bad and unhappy because he is not a Christian, that she worries about it all the while. And since my wife told her that she hoped there was a change in me, Mrs. Thomas hasn't given her husband a minute's peace."

"If my Harriet had followed such a course, I should have been lost, I'm sure. When she became a Christian, years ago, she told me right off how happy she was and how much she wanted me to join her. But I didn't think much of religion or its professors; and I told her I didn't want to hear anything about it, or be bothered with her

new ways. 'Well, husband,' says she, 'I'll try not to be a trouble to you.' But I shall never cease to pray for you, and I hope the Lord will change your mind.' She has kept her word; and I know often when she wanted to persuade me, to seek the Lord, she feared to fret me with talking, and so carried the case to her closet. She was always happy in her own soul; and when she felt concerned about me, she told her trouble to God, and was comforted. At length He has heard her prayer, and I hope has brought me into the kingdom."

I pondered Mr. Gray's words, and felt that I had solved the difficulty. Would that my voice could reach the worrying Christian everywhere, with this brief admonition—do not fret!—Congregationalist.

TAKE MY HAND, PAPA!

In the dead of night, I am frequently wakened by a little hand stealing out from the crib by my side, with the pleading cry, "Please take my hand, papa!" Instantly the little boy's hand is grasped, his fears vanish, and soothed by the consciousness of his father's presence he falls into sweet sleep again.

We commend this lesson of simple, filial faith and trust, to the anxious, sorrowing ones, that are found in almost every household. Stretch forth your hand, stricken mourner, although you may be in the deepest darkness and gloom, and fear and anxious suspense may cloud your weary pathway, and that very act will reveal the presence of a loving, compassionate Father, and give you the peace that passeth all understanding.

The darkness may not pass away at once, night may still enfold you in its embrace, but its terrors will be dissipated, its gloom and sadness flee away, and in the simple grasp of the Father's hand, sweet peace will be given, and you will rest securely, knowing that the "morning cometh."—Congregationalist.

ADDRESSING CHILDREN.

The editor of the Western Christian Advocate says, that "no man ought ever to address children unless he knows what he is going to say, how he is going to say it, and what he is going to say it for." He lays down a few excellent rules on the subject, which we quote for the benefit of those of our readers who are occasionally called upon to "say a few words to the children."

Always use the simplest, plainest words—monosyllables if possible. Never speak without, like the archer, having a distinct object in view. Allow no side issues to divert you from the object. In your attempt to capture three rabbits, by running first after one, then after the second, and still after the third, you lose all.

Never tell a story because of its having a laugh in it; and, Do not talk a long while, and then ask a vote for five minutes more. Children are too polite to refuse you though your talk may greatly bore them.

Use enough of legitimate illustration or anecdote to hold the attention of the children, but be very careful it is appropriate, and has sense in it. Watch the tones of your voice. Boys can see as quickly as an elocutionist when you have gone from the natural to the false, the falsetto, or the declamatory; that is to say, they know when you are "speaking your piece," and they will at once say to themselves, "I can speak better than that myself." Then it is time for you to sit down.

Never ask children for their attention, nor allow anybody else to ask it for you; for if you do, ten to one the children are not at fault, but yourself. Say something to rivet attention, or stop.—Christian Watchman and Reflector.

CHRISTIAN TREASURY.

Green Pastures for the Lord's Rock, by the Rev. James Smith. The Lord is my shepherd, Ps. xxiii. 1-6. Then David was one of the Lord's sheep. All His sheep know him, love Him and follow Him. They possess His disposition; He was meek and lowly in heart. Are you a sheep of Christ? Are you looking to following of, and rejoicing in your Shepherd?—If so, it is His province to lead you; feed you, protect you, and heal you.—Your person, life, health, comforts, and safety, are committed to His care. He is the good shepherd, He laid down His life for His sheep; He searches and seeks out His sheep wherever they have been scattered; He feeds His flock; He gathereth the lambs with His arms; and carrieth them in His bosom.—He loved His sheep more than His own life; He cares for His sheep more than for all the world beside. He feeds them in the most suitable pasture, and leads them in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Oh, view Jesus as your Shepherd, accept Him to lead you; feed you, fold you, and present you to His Father with exceeding joy. Cleave to Him; let nothing tempt you to leave His feet, His flock, or His fold. He will never leave you, nor forsake you. Jehovah is my Shepherd's name, Then what have I the weak, to fear? My sin and folly I proclaim, If I depend while He is near, In every danger He is high, And will my every want supply.

EVERY CLOUD WILL BREAK.

There is no difficulty so discouraging, no time so dark, but that, if we will bring ourselves quietly to wait and work for its solution, we shall ere long discover the blue sky ahead, and the incipient sunshine of an all-pervading joy.

THE COMING LACK OF PREACHERS.

The educational statistics of the old school Presbyterian Church indicate a decline in the number of candidates for the ministry in that body during the last two or three years of nearly fifty per cent.

The Miscellany.

FAITH.

Rev. J. C. Ryle lately prepared a collection of hymns. After the selection was completed and all in type, he received, from an unknown source, a hymn which he thought so desirable that he cancelled one of his selection to make room for it.

Faith is a very slender thing; Though little understood; It frees the soul from death's dread sting; By resting in the blood.

It looks not on the things around; Nor on the things within; It takes its flight to scenes above; Beyond the sphere of sin.

It sees, upon the throne of God, A victim that was slain; It rests its all on his shed blood; And says, "I'm born again."

Faith is not what we feel or see; It is a simple trust; In what the God of love has said; Of Jesus, as "the Just."

The perfect One that died for me, Upon his Father's throne; Presents our names before our God; And pleads Himself alone.

What Jesus is, and that alone, Is faith's delightful plea; It never deals with sinful self; Nor righteous self, in me.

It tells me I am counted "dead," By God in his own Word; It tells me I am "born again," In Christ my risen Lord.

It that he died, he died to sin; In that he lives—to God; Then I am dead to nature's hopes, And justified through blood.

If he is free, then I am free, From all unrighteousness; If he is just, then I am just; He is my righteousness.

What want I more to perfect bliss?— A body like his own; Will perfect me for greater joys Than angels round the throne.

COLPORTAGE IN IRELAND.

Does Christian Work in the Home Field occupy the place it ought in the progress and efforts of the Lord's people, and in the literature of the Churches? Here is Ireland separated by a narrow channel from the sister country, and yet how many British Christians are there who know almost nothing regarding the state of religion in it, and who seem, if possible, to care less!

In the year 1850, the "Bible and Colportage Society of Ireland" commenced its labours, employing colporteurs to traverse the country with the word of God and a cheap Christian literature.

Sept. 9.—Visited five Roman Catholic families; conversed a long time, and brought a great many Gospel truths before them. One woman, a great devotee, from the way I conversed with her, took me for a spoiled Roman Catholic, as she said. She asked me if I believed in purgatory. I told her that the blood of atonement alone could purge from sin.

This testimony comes from a district where political Protestantism is rampant—Party spirit prevails. This is emphatically Ireland's bane. Recent events, such as the Belfast riots, have contributed greatly to increase it. It is all the more necessary to exhibit, in the character and conduct of our agents, specimens of the living, loving religion of our Master.

ing prayer where permitted; sometimes leaving a tract selling a Bible or other book, where a recognized minister would find no entrance. Take an example from one of our auxiliaries:—

"A little Roman Catholic girl was on a visit in a house of a friend when one of our colporteurs called, opened his bag of books, and displayed its attractive contents. She selected one, 'Janeway's Token for Children,' and bought it, manifesting by her manner and her statements unusual interest and earnestness in one so young.

"A large proportion of the people of Ireland have learned and are learning to read. Last year 840,569 children appeared on the rolls of national schools alone! What an army of young readers into whose hands to put the word of Life—and other books such as the press is daily pouring forth suited to all ages and all ranks!

The Society is non-sectarian and liberal in its constitution. The number of separate publications circulated last year through its depots, book agents and colporteurs (not including tens of thousands of tracts) was upwards of 400,000. All were paid for by those who received them; and this is a security, such as never can be found when the distribution is gratuitous, that the works have been read and appreciated.

"Romanists form a very large proportion of the population, and are generally located in masses, many townlands being almost exclusively occupied by them. They are much on their guard, and closely watched by the priests. Party spirit always prevailed strongly here, and party quarrels were frequent till of late; so that any Protestant agency attempting to operate among them is regarded with jealousy, and is sure to excite hostile feeling.

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MODERN MACHINISTS.—JOSEPH WHITWORTH.

Perhaps the most scientific of the race of machinists formed in the establishment of Maudslay, Field and Co., is Joseph Whitworth, whose fame as a tool-maker is known throughout the world. He has considerably improved upon the planing machine, in his "Jim Crow" machine, so called because the cutter reverses itself and works both ways, and in fact adapts itself to any position to do its work.

for the attainment of that end; among others, he has devised a contrivance by which a variation of a millionth of an inch can be detected! In fact, the engines of all kinds are turned out by him which work with all the precision of a chronometer; and the value of this accuracy of practice is not confined to his workshop, as it extends its influence throughout the profession, and establishes a standard of excellence to which other machine manufacturers, if they would flourish, must also attain.

It would be impossible to estimate the gain to the country brought about by the self-acting tools now coming constantly into use. If we had to depend upon the old hammer and file, and chisel and gauge, it is questionable whether our mechanical art could keep pace with the requirements of our rapidly increasing population; and commodities of all kinds that spring from the skilled hand would soon reach a fabulous price.

SELECTIONS.

FRANKING LETTERS.—The privilege of franking letters by Members of Parliament occurred in the debate on the Post-office Bill in the year 1660, concerning which the following is related in the 23rd volume of the Parliamentary History:—"Colonel Titus, reported the Bill for the settlement of the Post-office with amendments. Sir Walter Earle delivered a proviso for the letters of all Members of Parliament to go free during their sitting."

GUTTA PERCHA.—This substance is the hardened juice of a tree growing in Singapore, Borneo, and other islands of the Eastern Archipelago. In order to procure it, the largest trees are felled, the bark is stripped off, and a milky fluid which exudes from the lacerated surface is collected and poured into a trough, formed by the hollow stem of the plantain leaf.

SMOKE TRANSMUTED INTO GOLD.—In these days when retrenchment and economy are so needful, many might profitably imitate the example of the British workman who gave up smoking, and every week laid aside the amount of money that he formerly spent for tobacco. At the end of the year, on opening the box, he found that he had a sufficient sum to provide himself with periodicals and newspapers for the year, which sum he called

'solid smoke.' A friend asked him if he had found the philosopher's stone. "No," he replied, "I don't turn the smoke into gold, but I prevent the gold turning into smoke."

COFFEE AND ITS SUBSTITUTES.—My wife used to object to adulterated coffee, but when its price went up to 28 cents, I told her that I would drink no more pure. So we tried pease. The pea gave place to the carrot sliced, and browned; and when we next forego the carrot, it will be because pure Java shall be cheaper; better it is not.—Letter from a Minister in the far west in Boston Recorder.

HOW A COLLEGE WAS ENDOWED.—We copy from an exchange paper the following account of the spirited way in which an adequate endowment was recently raised for a college in connexion with the Lutheran Church, at a meeting held at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of advising ways and means for the object. "A resolution was offered to raise \$100,000 for the complete endowment of Pennsylvania College, and no sooner was it passed than the effort was commenced to carry it into practical effect.

READING HABITS.—Good mental habits should be cultivated by a wise supervision of a child's reading when out of school. Most children will read of their own accord if they can get hold of attractive books, and will fly from the comparative drudgery of the school to the interesting volume of travels, tales, or adventures, which stimulates the imagination and requires no effort. This tendency must be turned to good account, and prevented from becoming a source of evil.

CHRIST'S ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.—You heard Mr. Weaver say on this platform—I thought it was a good illustration,—that one day he met a very poor man who was in rags. This man being a Christian, he wished to befriend him; he told him if he would go home with him, he would give him a suit of clothes.

GUTTA PERCHA.—This substance is the hardened juice of a tree growing in Singapore, Borneo, and other islands of the Eastern Archipelago. In order to procure it, the largest trees are felled, the bark is stripped off, and a milky fluid which exudes from the lacerated surface is collected and poured into a trough, formed by the hollow stem of the plantain leaf.

NUMBER ONE.—"I always take care of number one," I heard a boy say one day. "If I don't take care of number one who would, I should like to know?" In one sense, number one was right. Every boy ought to take care of himself. He should take care of his habits, that they are temperate, industrious, frugal.

charge, is it not? But, Boys, if you only take care of yourselves, will that be the whole of your duty? No; you must care for others too. You must help the poor and the weak and the suffering, and those who do not know as much as you. Share your blessings with those around you. Try to make every one happy. Try to lead souls to Jesus Christ and heaven.

HOW NATURE COVERS UP BATTLE-FIELDS.—"Did I ever tell you," says a correspondent of an Eastern paper, "among the afflicting little things one is always seeing in these battle-fields, how, on the ground upon which the battle of Bull Run was fought, I saw pretty pure, delicate flowers growing out of the empty ammunition-boxes, and a wild rose thrusting up its graceful head through the top of a broken Union drum, which doubtless sounded its last charge in that battle, and a cunning scarlet verbena peeping out of a fragment of an exploded shell, in which strange spot it was planted. Wasn't that peace growing out of war? Even so shall the beautiful and graceful ever grow out of the horrid and terrible things that transpire in this changing, but ever-advancing world. Nature covers even the battle fields with verdure and bloom. Peace and plenty spring up in the track of devouring campaigns, and all things in nature and society shall work out the progress of mankind."—Fishkill Journal.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

THE CURA OF CONSCIENCE.—Mr. Bunting, the worthy upholsterer who has become so famous by his successful efforts to grow lean, has published a statement of the sale of his pamphlet on conscience. Exclusive of the first and second editions he has sold 50,000 copies, at the trade price of \$4 per dozen, so that there are at least that number of persons who have the means of changing their diet and think they have too much flesh. The profit, amounting to £171 is divided among four hospitals. The sudden success of this pamphlet is remarkable, but it is trifling compared with the sale of a pamphlet for curing scragginess would be sure to obtain. That, and not fat, is in the opinion of women the evil to be corrected, and anybody who discovers an effectual plan may charge a guinea per recipe without diminishing his sale.

RELIGIOUS CRISIS IN TURKEY.—On Wednesday afternoon a deputation of the British Evangelical Alliance waited upon Lord Russell, for the purpose of bringing under his notice, by memorial, the circumstances connected with the religious crisis in Turkey. Lord Russell, in a letter addressed to the Committee of the Alliance, says:—"Her Majesty's Government have, in my opinion, most rightful and urgent motives for keeping the Turkish authorities to a full execution of the Hatti-Humayoun, and in particular for pressing upon them the bounden duty of not impairing, or allowing to be impaired, that part of the Imperial charter, which provides for the complete enjoyment of religious freedom, and its open exercise without molestation, by all classes and every individual of the Sultan's subjects."

SUSPENDED FOR WORLDLINESS.—The Christian Intelligencer states that the Rev. Mr. Talmage, of Amoy, lately announced to a congregation in this country, to whom he was preaching, that the Consistory of a church in Amoy had recently suspended a member for worldliness, and asked the question whether that would be considered a disciplinable offence among the churches at home?

ANTI-ROMAN CATHOLIC NOVELS.—Two novels have lately appeared in France producing a tremendous excitement. They are written by a Polish priest, who has thus far eluded the most active efforts at his detection. The novels are aimed at the corruptions, the horrid abuses, the avarice and crime that abound in the Roman Catholic Church. The writer is a sincere lover of the Church, its doctrines and order. But his soul abhors the foul wickedness practised in her name and under her protection.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The latest development of the Reformed Catholic invasion of the Protestant missionary field, is recorded in a late English journal, under the head of "Tractarian Emigration."—"On Saturday last a division of the Devonport Sisterhood, of which Miss Sellon is the Superior, sailed on board the West Indian Company's steamship 'Shannon,' for Honolulu. They proceed thither at the express invitation of the Bishop of Oxford, in whose diocese their principal establishment (Ascot Priory) is situated. It is their intention to form a branch sisterhood in the Sandwich Islands. The farewell service took place at Hursley church Friday last."

A MISSIONARY FESTIVAL.—A great Evangelical National Missionary Festival in Holland, on the 14th of last July, was a unique and successful mode of exciting an interest in the cause of Missions. It was held in the wood of Wolfhegan, not far from the handsome town of Arnhem. An immense assemblage, estimated in The Christian Work at ten or twelve thousand, came together of all classes of society and from all parts of the country. Sermons were preached in the morning and evening, and during the day a report was read, and many short addresses were delivered by pastors and foreign delegates. The subjects enforced were chiefly Christian unity; and love, and the claims of Missions; and many earnest and powerful applications of the Gospel to the consciences of the hearers were made. Somewhat like a usual fair on the Continent, this gathering was religious and useful.

MISSIONARIES AND EMBOSSED BOOKS FOR THE BLIND.—The patrons of "Moon's Embossed Fund," for publishing books for the blind, recently held their sixteenth annual meeting in the town hall at Brighton, England. The chairman of the meeting stated that by Mr. Moon's system the Bible had been printed in fifty-three languages. There were also the Liturgy, Collects, the Holy Communion, books of devotion and praise; also works on history and geography, including maps and diagrams, the "Life of Christ," "Eyes and Ears," the "Biblical Dictionary," and he was pleased to add, the "Pilgrim's Progress."

THE POPE INVITED TO SPAIN.—The Oms of Seville states that the Spanish bishops and clergy are preparing to send a deputation to Rome to present to the Pope the expression of their attachment to the visible head of the Church, to protest against the spoliation of the patrimony of St. Peter, and to invite his Holiness, in case he should be obliged to leave Rome, to take up his abode in some metropolitan city of Spain. The deputation will also offer to his Holiness a considerable sum of money, which has been subscribed in Spain.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE S.S. "HIBERNIAN." PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—The "Hibernian," Capt. Dutton, left Liverpool at 11.30 a.m. of the 15th inst. via Londonderry on the 2nd, and arrived here at 6.20 this evening. The "Persia," Captain McNaughton, reports heavy gales from the north-west, and having passed a steamer on the 13th bound east, showing a blue light and two rockets, in lat. 47:41, long. 47:47. The "North American" reached Liverpool on the evening of the 29th ult. On entering the Mersey she ran down and sunk a brig, sustaining slight damage to herself. The "City of Baltimore" arrived at Queenstown early on the 30th ult. The "America" arrived at Southampton on the morning of the 1st. Earl Russell made the following reply to the Confederate Commissioners' despatch and manifesto of the Southern Congress:—"Foreign Office, Nov. 25. "To J. Slidell, Esq., J. Mason, Esq., and A. D. Mann, Esq. "Gentlemen,—I have had the honor to receive a copy, which you have sent me, of a manifesto issued by the Congress of the so-called Confederate States of America. Her Majesty's Government deeply laments the protracted nature of the struggle between the Northern and Southern States of the formerly United Republic of North America. Great Britain has, since 1783, remained, with the exception of a short period, connected by friendly relations with both the Northern and Southern States. Since the commencement of the civil war, which broke out in 1861, her Majesty's Government continued to entertain sentiments of friendship equally for North and South. Of the causes of the rupture, her Majesty's Government has never presumed to judge, and anxiously look forward to the period of its termination. In the meantime they are convinced that they had best consult their own interests of peace, and respect the rights of all parties by observing a strict and impartial neutrality. Such neutrality her Majesty has faithfully maintained, and will continue to maintain. I request you, gentlemen, to accept, &c., (Signed), EARL RUSSELL."

Headquarters, Department of the East, New York City, Dec. 17.—General Order, No. 100.—The President of the United States having disapproved of that portion of the Department General Order No. 97, the current series, which instructs all the military commanders on the frontier, in certain cases therein specified, to cross the boundary line between the United States and Canada and directs pursuit into neutral territory, the said instruction is hereby revoked. In case, therefore, of any future marauding expedition into our territory from Canada, military commanders on orders before crossing the boundary line in pursuit of the guilty parties. By command of Major-Gen. Dix. D. F. VANBUREN, Col. and A.A.G. CHAS. O. JOLLIS, Major and A.A.C. New York, Dec. 17.—The Herald's correspondent gives the following account of an expedition up Roanoke River:—A gunboat expedition sent up the Roanoke River, when opposite Jamestown, 80 miles above Plymouth, suddenly came in contact with some torpedoes placed in the channel by the rebels, and three boats were blown up. The flag-ship "Wyalusing," commander Macomb, senr. officer, passed safely through. The "Osage," under Lieut.-Commander Arnold, followed; the bow came into contact with an obstruction, but which was apparently passed until being struck by the stern, proved to be a large torpedo, which, exploding, blew up the "Osage," sinking her in a few minutes. After the blowing up of the "Osage" the remainder of the fleet remained by her until morning, when those vessels uninjured by the explosion pushed up the river. Soon after Commander Macomb despatched on special duty his aid paymaster, Sands, on the steamer "Bagley," with 2 guns. On arriving in the vicinity of the spot where the "Osage" was sunk a torpedo exploded under the "Bagley," blowing a hole through her, causing her to sink immediately. Soon after the sinking of the "Bagley" the Steampacket "Launch," No. 5, was also destroyed. Roanoke river is a perfect net-work of torpedoes. A large number have already been taken up, and a still larger number are supposed to remain. New York, Dec. 17.—The Richmond Whig of the 14th says:—"We again failed to receive our exchanges from Georgia this morning, and are consequently without details of recent events in the vicinity of Savannah, and between there and Charleston; as far as we can learn, Sherman's army has invested Savannah, but beyond the usual skirmishing no fight has taken place. Gen. Hardee is in command of our troops. The Richmond Examiner of the 24th says, up to yesterday forenoon, no fighting had taken place between Sherman's army and the Confederate troops in the defenses of Savannah. Gen. Hardee commands the latter. A contemporary speaks of Savannah being invested, but this is not the case. Savannah is no more invested than Richmond, and we have no evidence that it stands in the least danger from assault or siege. An official despatch of yesterday says that Sherman had developed his army near the town, but that does not signify that he will go into trenches. BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—The correspondent of the American telegraphs as follows:—"The steamship "Verona" left Charleston bar on 14th at 8 o'clock in the morning, and arrived here today. The report had reached there by a rebel flag of truce boat that Sherman was in possession of Savannah, after 8 hours fighting, capturing eleven thousand prisoners. NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 16, 9 p.m.—During last night Hood withdrew his right from the river and took a position covering Hillsboro, Granny White's and Franklin pikes, which line had been carefully prepared for just this contingency. He was driven from the first line, and the second was very stubbornly defended, and was at last heavily assaulted three times before succumbing—it was carried however, and 20 pieces of artillery, 2,000 men, including Gen. Jackson with the remainder of his division, were taken. The enemy was forced back 2 miles, and his army broken into two parts—one on the White Pike, and the other on the Franklin, with a range of bluff hills between them. Steadman and Wood is pressing down the latter and A. J. Smith and Schofield down the former. Small arms lay as thick on the contested line as the rebels had stood there. Hood cannot make another day's fight, while Thomas is in good condition to press him. He captured more wagons; cannot say the number. Everybody, white and black, behaved splendidly. [Signed.] EDWIN M. STANTON. Troy, Dec. 17th.—A large meeting of citizens was held at the Court House last evening to give an expression in regard to Gen. Dix's order. Gen. John E. Wood presided. Speeches were made by Judge Gould, Capt. C. Hughes, Martin J. Townsend, E. L. Barman and G. L. McArthur. They denounced the action of the Canadian authorities, but expressed the hope that it would not be endorsed by the Canadian people. A Committee was appointed to confer with the National, State and local authorities. Copies of the proceedings were ordered to be sent to Congress and to Gen. Dix. New York, Dec. 17.—The President having disapproved of so much of Gen. Dix's recent order directing pursuit of raiders over the border, Gen. Dix has issued an order revoking that part. In the North Carolina rebel Senate, on the 13th, Mr. Henry's joint resolution to prosecute the war till independence was secured, was adopted. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—An official order will be issued directing that except they be emigrant passengers directly entering an American port by sea, no traveller shall hereafter be allowed to enter the United States from a foreign country without a passport. This regulation is intended to apply especially to persons proposing to come to the United States from the neighboring British Provinces.

BIRTH. In this city, on the 16th instant, at 150 St. Charles Barronnee Street, Mrs. Robt. Hamilton, of a son. MARRIED. At Montreal, on 12th Dec., by the Rev. D. H. McVicar, Capt. Wm. Ross, to Margery Bailie, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Bailie, both of Montreal. P. S.—"Northern Ensign" please copy. At Trinity Church, Chicago, on the 4th inst., by Rev. M. Vincent, Mr. G. H. DeGolyer to Miss Jannie O. DeGolyer, of Montreal. DIED. This morning, the 19th instant, at 1 o'clock, Robert Albert, son of Robert Baird, aged 4 years, 5 months and 15 days. In this city, on the 17th inst., Barbara Cook, third daughter of Mr. Wm. Cook, of Hinchinbrooke, C.E. In this city, 17th instant, John King, Esq., of the firm of King & Kinloch, aged 51 years. In this city, on the 15th inst., Eliza Louisa Nichols, third daughter of Mr. J. H. Nichols, aged 4 years, 11 months and 20 days. At 3 o'clock in the morning of the 14th inst., at the residence of her brother, Eliza Anne Cleghorn, daughter of the late Robert Cleghorn, Esq., in his lifetime of this city. On the 16th instant, at his residence, Mountain street, opposite St. Antoine Market, Andrew Nibloe, in the 28th year of his age, a native of Stranraer, Scotland. In this city, on the 15th inst., Margaret, the beloved wife of S. H. Brown, of the firm of Brown & Napier, and youngest daughter of James McLea, Esq., aged 27 years and 9 months. In this city, on the 15th instant, Mr. Thomas Ross, in the 84th year of his age.

ADVERTISEMENTS. JUST RECEIVED:—Bbls. and Hf.-Bbls. Extra Large Lake Huron HERRINGS, (Saunders' celebrated brands. —ALSO— 100 Tins SELECTED DAIRY BUTTER. For Sale by LEEMING & BUCHANAN.

MARRIAGE LICENSES issued by THOMAS SELLAR, "Herald" Buildings, 209 Notre Dame street. Residence 481 Lagachetiere street, four doors east of St. Ursula street.

TEACHER WANTED for the Martintown Common School; one holding a first-class Normal School certificate preferred; must be strictly temperate. ANDREW FRASER. Martintown, Dec. 5, 1864.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—One of C. W. WILLIAMS & Co.'s Celebrated Double Thread FAMILY SEWING MACHINES would be a very useful and appropriate CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR'S GIFT. Every machine warranted. Prices ranging upwards, from TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. Salesroom: 29 Great St. James Street.

IMPORTANCE OF HAVING DAVIS' PAIN KILLER ALWAYS AT HAND. Wonderful Cure of the Rev. D. L. Brayton, Missionary in India, who was stung by a Scorpion. Extract from his letter, published in the "Baptist Missionary Magazine":—"For the first time since I have been in India, I have been stung by a scorpion. I went out this morning to my exercises, as usual, at early dawn, and having occasion to use an old box, on taking off the cover I put my hand on a scorpion, which immediately resented the insult by thrusting its stinging into the palm of my hand. The instantaneous and severe pain which darted through the system is quite incredible! I flew to my bottle of "DAVIS' PAIN KILLER," and found it to be true to its name. The relief was almost as sudden as the pain; after a moment's relief, I saturated a small piece of sponge, bound it on my hand, and went about my exercises, feeling no more particular inconvenience."

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED SABBATH-SCHOOL PAPER.—The "Message for the Young," the only first-class Illustrated Children's Paper published in Canada. It is printed on excellent paper, and each number contains several fine cuts, a piece of choice Music, Scripture Questions and Exercises, a Series of Sabbath-School Lessons, and a large amount of interesting reading matter. It is wholly unsectarian in character. There being no postage on it, it is the cheapest paper of the kind published in or out of Canada. Specimen copies sent to all who desire. Address, post-paid "MESSAGE OFFICE," Toronto.

THE CANADIAN MESSENGER.—This Monthly Periodical, published at the low price of TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER ANNUM, will be found to contain a large amount of reading matter selected from the best sources, and eminently fitted "to blend instruction with delight." Its chief contents are as follows:— RELIGIOUS, MORAL, AND TEMPERANCE TALES; ARTICLES AND EXTRACTS OF THE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE CLASS; EDUCATION, FAMILY TRAINING, AND CHILDREN'S READING; With a department for HUSBANDRY, AGRICULTURE, AND HORTICULTURE.

There will, of course, be nothing of a sectarian or political character in the MESSENGER; and as it PASSES FREE THROUGH THE POST OFFICE, it can neither give news nor advertisements. The aid of all who appreciate the importance of the press as an agency for doing good, is earnestly invited to extend the circulation of the MESSENGER, until it reach, if possible, every home in Canada, however remote or secluded. Terms, 25 cents per annum, with one copy gratis for a club of ten. Cash invariably in advance. A new and enlarged series will be issued on 1st January next, and new subscribers remitting in the meantime will be furnished with the December number gratis. As the MESSENGER is issued from the WITNESS office, subscriptions to both may be sent under the same cover. Address, post-paid, JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

LIVE LEAVES CARPET WAREHOUSE 74 GREAT ST. JAMES STREET. JAMES BAYLIS Has just received extensive importations of the following Goods, selected by himself in the British and Continental Markets prior to the late great advance in prices: CARPETING Of every make and quality. COCOA MATTINGS In all widths from 1/2 yd. to 2 yds. wide. DRUGGERS, FELTS, ROOMS, MATS, SAILS, ROPS, &c., &c. FLOOR OIL CLOTHS. A large variety, of the newest patterns, from the best makers. English, Scotch, American, and French. KAMPTULIUM. Plain, Printed, and Bordered, ordinary and extra thickness of the best quality. Orders solicited on Manufacturers account from Hotels and Public Institutions. CURTAIN MATERIALS In great variety of new makes, with Trimmings to match. —ALSO— CORNICES, LACE CURTAINS and PAINTED WINDOW SHADES of New York Manufacture. PIANO AND TABLE COVERS Embroidered, Plain and Printed 6-4 and 8-3 Billiard Cloths. CARRIAGE AND SLEIGH LININGS. In Drab and Blue Cloths, Plain and Embossed Plush, Fancy Moquet. J. B. respectfully solicits an examination of the above, believing the stock unsurpassed in this city in variety or extent. Importing for his establishments in Montreal and Toronto more extensively of these goods than any House in the Province, he is enabled to offer great inducements to purchasers. WHOLESALE OR RETAIL, JAMES BAYLIS, 74 Great St. James Street, near the Ottawa Hotel.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The following Programme is issued, that arrangements may be made in due time to notify the public in each locality named, to prevent clashing with other meetings, and to secure more general and extensive co-operation in presenting the claims of this important Society:— King.....Wednesday, Dec. 7 Newmarket.....Thursday, " 8 Aurora.....Friday, " 9 Barrie.....Saturday, " 11 Collingwood.....Tuesday, " 13 Meaford.....Friday, " 16 Owen Sound.....Sunday, " 18 Innisfil.....Thursday, " 22 Bradford.....Friday, " 23 Richmond Hill.....Sunday, " 25 JAMES T. BYRNE, General Agent.

THE SUNDAY AT HOME FOR 1865.—One dollar and fifty cents per annum. "WITNESS" BOOK STORE.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL MESSENGER.—On the first of January will be commenced, the first number of a new Sabbath School Paper, entitled "The Sabbath School Messenger." This paper, specially prepared for Sabbath Scholars, will aim to enlarge their acquaintance with Scriptural subjects, and to furnish their minds with sound religious instruction. Each number will be well illustrated with good wood-cuts. The subscription will be 15 cents per single copy. Ten copies to one address for \$1, or \$1.25 including postage. All subscriptions to be addressed to "WITNESS" BOOK STORE, 247 Notre Dame Street.

TWELVE REASONS FOR NO LICENSE.—published as a Tract for the Times at the "Montreal Witness" Office; price \$1 per 1000. Now is the time to circulate information on this most important question. "WITNESS" BOOK STORE, 247 Notre Dame Street.

FAMILY CHRISTIAN ALMANAC for 1865, sent free by mail on receipt of ten cents. "WITNESS" BOOK STORE, 247 Notre Dame Street.

EVANGELICAL CHRISTENDOM, a monthly Chronicle of the Churches, conducted by members of the Evangelical Alliance. Subscription, \$1.75 per annum. Subscribers' names received at "Witness" Book Store, 247 Notre Dame Street.

FOUR ILLUSTRATED PAPERS sent monthly, free by mail, for one dollar per annum:—"The British Workman," the "Band of Hope Review," "The Cottager," and the "Sabbath School Messenger." No family receiving these beautifully illustrated papers will like to be without them. Orders received at "Witness" Book Store, 247 Notre Dame Street.

DRUMMOND'S BRITISH MESSENGER, published monthly, in Stirling, Scotland, supplied to Subscribers in Canada, at 30 cents per annum, at the "Witness" Book Store, 247 Notre Dame Street.

THE COTTAGER, published by the Religious Tract Society, only 30c. per annum. Four copies for \$1.00. "WITNESS" BOOK STORE.

CHANDLERS' SUPPLIES. The undersigned offer for sale:—Tallow, Lard, Palm Oil, Soda Ash, Sal Soda, Caustic Soda, and Candle Wick. JOHN DOUGALL & CO.

WADDING AND BATTING constantly receiving and for sale by JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant, 270 St. Paul Street.

NEW FALL GOODS.—Fifty-one bales and cases just arrived by the "Peruvian," comprising an assortment of WOOLLEN and COTTON GOODS. For sale at a low advance by the invoice, package or piece. JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant, 270 St. Paul Street.

GRAIN BAGS.—10,000 Dundee Hand-Sewed BAGS for sale by JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant, 270 St. Paul Street.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.—The undersigned continues to offer his services to manufacturers for the sale of their goods, which his arrangements will enable him to effect promptly and satisfactorily. Drafts at three months for about three-fourths of net value of consignment, will be accepted in advance. For sale, consignments from various factories of Tweeds, Bonnets and Satinets; also, from Manufacturers in England, of Black, Blue and Brown Ladies' Cloths, Mixed Melton Cloakings and fancy Costings. Orders for Dry Goods, accompanied by Cash or sale factory reference, will receive prompt attention. JOHN DOUGALL, COMMISSION MERCHANT, 272 St. Paul Street.

COTTON WICK for sale by JOHN DOUGALL & CO., Commission Merchant, 270 St. Paul Street.

WITNEYS, P LOTS, &c.—Several Invoices of these heavy FALL WOOLLENS just received. For sale by JOHN DOUGALL.

Canada and European Express Co. The British and American Express Co. have opened an Office in Tower Buildings, 22 Water Street, Liverpool, for the Forwarding of Parcels, Freights and Valuables of every description, by the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company's Steamers. Consignments solicited. Orders promptly attended to. AGENTS: L'pool, A. Blackwood, Jr., Tower Buildings, 22 Water St. London, Hill St. & Meadows, 35 Milk Street, Cheap-side. G. W. Wheatley & Co., 150 Leadenhall Street, E.C. Manchester, Globe Express Co., Market Street. Glasgow, do do Miller Street. Dublin, do do Eden Quay. Edinburgh, Wm. Crouch, North Bridge Street. Montreal, D. T. Irish, Place d'Armes. Hamilton, J. D. Irwin, 1 West-King Street. Toronto, M. H. Irish, Toronto Street. Quebec, W. C. Scott, St. Peter Street. Kingston, J. C. Clarke, King Street. Portland, J. E. Prindle, 90 Exchange Street. And in all the Principal Towns in Canada of whom any information can be obtained. PACKAGES delivered to any Railway Company in the United Kingdom, addressed care of B. & A. EXPRESS COMPANY, 22 Water Street, Liverpool, will be promptly forwarded. Pre-payment optional. J. W. HOWES, Manager.

PRODUCE COMMISSION BUSINESS.—The undersigned continue to offer their services for the sale of all kinds of Produce (intoxicating drinks and tobacco excepted) on the most reasonable terms of Commission, and keeping charges as low as possible. Long experience and extensive business connections enable us to obtain the best price of the market, and accurate sales and returns are made with regularity and promptitude. Short drafts, accompanied by bill of lading, will be accepted for about three-fourths of the net value of consignments, if required. Packages should be marked with our initials and those of the sender, and in the case of Ashes a running number on each barrel; and as soon as the property is sent off it should be advised by mail, with instructions concerning the disposal of the proceeds. The kinds of produce to which we give special attention are Ashes, Flour, Butter, (for which we have excellent Cellars), Pork, Dressed Hogs, &c. Information respecting packing, forwarding, &c., &c., will be communicated on application. JOHN DOUGALL & CO., Successors in the Produce Business to John Dougall.

LEATHER COMMISSION BUSINESS.—The undersigned continues to receive consignments of Leather of various kinds, manufactured in Canada—upon which he makes advances by acceptance for about three-fourths of the value—and he offers these consignments for sale as under:— Calfskin Leather, Slaughter Leather, Moccasin Leather, Harness Leather, Waxed Upper Leather, Grained Upper Leather, Grained Calfskin Leather, Waxed Calfskin Leather, Kips (whole), Kidsoles, Splits, large and small, Enamelled Cow, Patent Cow, Patent Calf, Lacing Leather, Sheepskin Linings. —ALSO— French Calfskins, Shoe Pegs, Beef Boots, Moose, Moccasins, Pure Cod Oil in barrels. The attention of Leather Dealers, Country Merchants, and Shoemakers is invited to this Circular. All orders carefully executed. JOHN DOUGALL, Commission Merchant.

BUSINESS CARDS. DR. A. J. BAZIN, SURGEON DENTIST, 32 GREAT ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.

TERMS. "DAILY WITNESS" \$3 per annum, or \$4 delivered in town.—1/4, each. "MONTREAL WITNESS" (Semi-weekly), \$2 per annum.—24, each. "WEEKLY WITNESS" ready on Thursday, \$1.50 per annum.—34, each. Advertisements inserted in any of these titles at the rate of 7 cents per line first insertion, and 3 1/2 cents on subsequent insertion. The "MONTREAL WITNESS" is printed and published by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Printers, at 246 Notre Dame Street.—House head of Drummond street.