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## SOMERVILLE LECTURE.

On Thursday night last, the fifth Somerville lecture was delivered in the Society's Lecture-Room, by W. E. Bessey, M.D., the subject being, "The races of men, their peculiarities, and probable origin, with the influences of physical causes in their modification." There was a large audience present, and the lecture was illustrated with a number of photographic views. We shall give a summary of this interesting discourse:—

The lecturer said, the natural history of man dealt chiefly with two great questions; namely, the relations of man to the rest of creation, particularly to other animals, which is entitled Anthropology, or the science that determines man's place in nature; and the relations of the different types of man to each other, comprising an account of the peculiarities by which each race is characterized, and their physical difference and probable origin,—which constitutes Ethnology proper, and is one that has given rise to much controversy, and has furnished materials for the speculations of many a dreamy theorist.

On the present occasion, they had nothing to do with the first division of the subject; and, after showing the different modes of classifying the races of man adopted by naturalists, the lecturer observed that to Dr. Pritchard, however, belongs the credit of having been the first to bring to bear upon the subject a competent knowledge of the science of Physiology, and Philology or the science of language,—and he may be said to have been the founder, in reality, of the science of Ethnology.—

Proceeding, then, upon the similarity of language, which he deemed as of prior significance to physical likeness, he subdivides the Caucasian variety into two independent groups, which he fixes upon a radical difference of language. One he styles the Siro-Arabian, or Semitic race, speaking languages akin to the ancient Hebrew; the other the modern Arab, inhabiting an area in South-western Asia, having belonging to it the Syrians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Phœnicians, Carthaginians, Edomites, Jews, Arabs, the Berberines of Egypt, and the higher caste of the Abyssinian races.—

These people are of a light olive or brown color, have capacious elongated skulls, jaws projecting or prognathic, nasal profile straight or prominent. Their influence upon the world has been moral and educational. They have originated the use of letters, and have given to the world a written language, as well as at a later period the most beautiful system of religion the world has ever seen, Christianity. The other is the Indo-European race, embracing most of the nations of Europe, the Brahmans of India, and inhabitants of Afghanistan and Persia. In the languages of all these, there is a marked affinity traceable to the ancient Sanscrit, or sacred language of the Hindoos. The Mongolian variety Dr. Pritchard calls the Turanian, and describes them as the five great nomadic races, viz., the Turkish, Mongolian, and Finngian races, forming a central group, and Finnish or Sogrian races to the North, and a South-eastern group containing the mountain tribes of Northern India. The Ethiopian variety he divides into two distinct groups, the Hottentots and Bushmen forming one group, and the Negro and Kaffir tribe another. The Australian natives he considers as distinct from the Papuas of Polynesia, and classifies them accordingly, thus greatly increasing the number of the primary varieties of the human family. Dr. Pickering, of the United States Exploring Expedition, estimates the number of distinct varieties at eleven. "I have seen," says he, "in all eleven distinct races of men, and although I am hardly prepared to fix a limit to their number, yet I confess, after having visited so many different parts of the globe, that I am at a loss where to look for others." Dr. Latham reduces the number to three great divisions, admitting of subdivisions, but still possessing general characteristics established by a similarity of anatomical structure and affinity of language. These divisions correspond essentially to the three varieties of Cuvier. He designates them by the technical names Mongolidae, Atlantidae, and Japetidae. The first are the traditional descendants of Ham, whose influence upon the world has been essentially material rather than moral. The second are the traditional descendants of Shem; these he also terms the Semitic nations, whose influence upon the world has been of a decidedly moral character. They were the first builders of cities and organizers of empires, and from them sprang the Christian and Mahomedan religions. The third, or Japetidae, are the traditional descendants of Japhet, and are sometimes called the Indo-European race, the physical characteristics of which are those of the so-called Caucasian. In this classification, the Mongolian variety is divisible into the Asiatic or leading type, the Polynesian or Malay type, and the American. These several classes, although exhibiting many minor differences, yet nevertheless possess the same character of skull among them, which, being universal, gives individuality to every member of this branch of the human family.

The skin is subject to great and varied contrasts in point of color in the human species. Thus we have the fair, ruddy, and beautiful Saxon, the jet black negro, the olive brown Mongolian, and the red or copper-colored Indian of America. Each of these colors has been considered distinctive of race, but further observation has shown that in each well-authenticated division of the human family we have every gradation of color, from white to very dark, and Albino frequent. Thus, in the Circassian, of Indo-European race, we have the fair Saxon and German, the darker Frenchman, the browner Spaniard and Arab, and the still darker Abyssinian and inhabitant of Northern India. And in the American, from the white races of the North-West coast, the fair Menominees, the Village Indians of New Mexico, and the olive-complexioned Chippewas, to the dark Pawnees, and the Kaws of Kansas, who are almost as black as negroes; and among the Asiatic borders every variety is to be found, from the fairest Chinaman to the darkest Sepoy or Malay. Next to the color and softness of the skin, the human hair is of interest in an ethnological point of view, and presents itself to us in every varied color and form, from the crispy, woolly hair of

the negro, to the black, glossy, straight hair of the North-American Indian, and the coarse flaxen hair of the North German; but neither is the color or quality of the hair or skin any distinguishing characteristic of race, sufficiently accurate to be relied upon, as all shades of complexion and color of hair have been observed among every race. The texture has been thought to afford a valid ground of distinction, and it is commonly asserted that the substance that grows on the heads of the African and Pelagian races is wool and not hair. This, however, is altogether a mistaken idea; microscopic examination having very clearly demonstrated that the hair of the negro has exactly the same structure as the hair of the European, its only resemblance to wool being in its crispness and very great tendency to curl; and this is not a universal feature by any means, for there is found to be a great variety among the negro races in this respect, who present every gradation, from the very crisp or woolly hair to the slightly curled and flowing locks; and similar observations hold good with respect to the natives of various islands of the Indian Ocean, where, in the same race, are to be found individuals who possess hair very crisp, and others, in all other respects the same, with flowing hair. We should next turn our attention to the human skeleton, in the hope that some permanent and enduring peculiarities may be discovered, and to this end attention has been directed particularly to the human skull (or craniology) as affording such characters. A fundamental principle has been generally laid down, that all these nations found to resemble each other in the shape of their heads should be considered more nearly related than the tribes of men differing in this respect, and it is generally acceded that the skulls of the different varieties of mankind possess certain peculiarities whereby they are distinguishable, and the variation or form of those different crania has always been the principal basis for the classification of the races by ethnologists.—Dr. Morton, in his *Crania Americana*, has designated three principal varieties of skull upon this continent, indeed, we may say four; viz., the Brachiocephalic, or round head; the Dolichocephalic, or long head; and the Pyramidal, or Esquimaux head; also, the small round skull of the Ohio or Peruvian Mounds. Dr. Carpenter agrees with Dr. Pritchard in believing that climate, not so much as the peculiar habits and modes of life of the different races, has an influence in producing changes in the configuration of the body. Hence, in accordance with this view, he has made a classification of human crania into three principal types. Among the rudest tribes of men, hunters and savage inhabitants of forests, dependent for their supply of food upon the accidental produce of the soil or the chase, among whom are the most degraded of the African tribe and the Australians, a form of head prevails which he distinguishes by the term prognathous, indicating a prolongation or extension forward of the jaws. This character is very strongly marked in the negroes of the west coast of Africa, having skulls so formed as to appear laterally compressed, cheek-bones projecting forward not outward, both jaws projecting so far forward as to give the teeth an oblique direction, being set at an obtuse angle to each other, and also remarkable for the great development of the parts connected with smell and hearing.

A second type of skull, very different from the former, he styles the pyramidal, belonging principally to the nomadic races, who wander over vast plains with herds, or spend their lives in fishing along the shores of the icy seas, and live upon the seal and other fish, and flesh of the reindeer. It is typically represented by the nations of Northern and Central Asia, and in an exaggerated degree in the Esquimaux. In this type, the upper part of the face is remarkably flat, the nose also flat; and the nasal bones, as well as the space between the eyebrows, being nearly on the same plane with the cheek-bones, it follows that the triangular space bounded by these lines may be compared to one face of a pyramid. The orbits are very large and deep, and the peculiar formation of the surrounding bones gives to the eye an oblique cast, the whole face being lozenge-shaped, instead of oval, as in the European variety.

From the great length of the lecture, we must omit the latter portion. Suffice to say that the lecturer considered that, with all the present varieties of the human race, there was no reason to disbelieve that they had all sprung from one common origin, both as to time and place.

## LECTURE AND CONCERT.—THE NEW DOMINION.

A lecture and concert were given on Friday night in Great St. James street Wesleyan Church, in aid of the organ fund of Point St. Charles Wesleyan Methodist Church. The lecture was delivered by the Rev. George Douglass, the subject being, "The Dominion of Canada." The Hon. Jas. Ferrier presided, and the vast church was nearly filled.

After prayer by the Rev. J. Borland, the national anthem was sung; also Handel's "Hallelujah chorus," and the solo and chorus, "The Marvellous Work," from Haydn's "Creation."

These pieces were given with great effect, and received the applause their performance so well deserved.

The Rev. GEORGE DOUGLASS then rose and delivered the first part of his lecture. It began by referring to the duty of acquiring a knowledge of one's own country. He then glanced at the ideas of the ancients concerning the "West," which, by a play of their imagination, they presented to themselves as a region of bliss; a land on which the gods looked down with infinite approbation. The irruptions of the barbarians put a stop to these speculations during a thousand years, until dawned what might be called the era of discovery. The Scandinavian sea-rover had, early in the Christian era, discovered Greenland; but it was not until Columbus came, in the fifteenth century, that American discovery really began. But if the honor of discovering America belonged to Spain, the credit of discovering the northern part of this continent be-

longed to England, and that discovery was only six years after Columbus planted his cross on the Bahamas. Jacques Cartier, on the part of France, soon followed in Canada, standing at length upon the Royal Mount which gave its name to this city. Samuel Champlain was the most brilliant of Canadian statesmen, and a skilful diplomatist amongst the first French governors of Franco-America, and a man of daring and resolute soul; and the Jesuit fathers were a class of men whose feats and adventures stand as monuments of all that is great in powers of endurance and illustrious in achievement; while the name of La Salle would be held in remembrance as one of the grandest men that ever trod this continent. When Canada was first discovered by Jacques Cartier, he found two powerful and opposing forces. The Hurons or Wyandotts, who lived north of the great lakes and Ottawa country, and the Iroquois who spoke the Algonquin tongue, and were a confederacy of five nations with the Mohawks as chief. The Iroquois dwelt south of the lakes, and along Lake Champlain and the Richelieu. Subsequent to the coming of Cartier, the hereditary hatred of the Iroquois against the Hurons broke out in a dread war of extermination. The Hurons were fierce and terrible, but no match for the irresistible Iroquois. From the Hudson's Bay to the Carolinas, from Quebec to the far west of Lake Superior, they swept like a destroying tornado till the mighty Huron race were utterly broken, wasted, and destroyed. Early in colonial history the Iroquois became the allies of the English, as the Hurons were of the French. At length came the fall of Quebec and the conquest of Canada by the British. Let them, then look at the magnificent heritage then won for them; in other words, the geographical proportions of this Dominion of ours. And here, said the lecturer, I start with the assumption that if our Dominion is to live and be perpetuated through the years, it must comprehend the whole of British North America. Every statesman that has given attention to the subject accepts the situation that—if British Columbia, by diplomacy or otherwise, be yielded to the American Government; that if the great North-West is colonized (as there is imminent danger) by American instead of Canadian emigrants; and if a wise and far-sighted statesmanship cannot redeem the blunders of the past, cannot secure the loyalty of Nova Scotia,—the future of our Dominion is problematical, indeed. Every loyal citizen must hope that the day is not far distant when representatives from the Atlantic to the Pacific will take their places in the Commons of Canada. I know that there are some that repudiate the idea, on the ground that the population is inadequate to the task. But if the four millions south of the line could cast off the yoke of Britain, and sustain thirteen States,—who will say that the four millions north of that line are inadequate to take possession of the land? Hide that man his head that will say it. Assuming that the Dominion will comprehend the whole of the continent north of the 45th parallel, I now ask you to look at the magnificent proportions of this land.

The lecturer then, to show the enormous area comprehended within what either now was or eventually would be, the boundaries of the "Dominion, instituted a comparison between these provinces and some of the well-known kingdoms of Europe. Having done this, he continued:—If the territorial area of our land is so grand, the water system is equally worthy of admiration. First comes our own St. Lawrence, for purity and plenitude unequalled on the face of the earth. (Applause.) Rising in the Lake of the Woods, it sweeps on its way 2,300 miles. A few facts relative to the Great Lakes may supply information to some. Some 150 miles from the Lake of the Woods we have in Lake Superior the greatest fresh-water sea that is known to exist. It is 1,750 miles in circuit, 1,200 feet deep, and covering an area of 40,000 square miles. Next comes the great Lake Huron, which is only second to that of Superior. This lake is 1,200 miles in circuit, and 900 feet deep. It is divided by the great Manitoulin Isle, that covers 1,600 square miles. This lake is pre-eminently the lake of many isles. It is said by a competent authority that it contains some 30,000 islands, principally along the north shore. Descending the Detroit River we come to Erie, the terror of Western mariners. It is 700 miles in circuit, and is so shallow that the storms raise billows which affright the hardiest sons of the sea. Descending the Niagara River, we take the awful leap of the world-renowned Falls, over which there pour 700,000 tons of water every minute. We now enter Ontario, which is 600 miles in circuit and 500 feet deep. The area of these fresh-water lakes is 100,000 square miles. Leaving the lakes, onward the river sweeps through the famed Thousand Isles for 800 miles, still with a mouth 80 miles wide it opens the Gulf, and thence into the North Atlantic. In the course of these 2,000 miles, this river and these lakes are fed by 200 tributaries, but of these I will only ask your attention to three, remarking that all the great tributaries come from the North-west side of the great river. First, the Saguenay, which Montgomery Martin pronounces one of the most wonderful freaks. When it emerges into the St. Lawrence it is only 150 feet deep; a few miles up it goes down to the amazing depth of 900 feet. By some throes of nature, the external rocks have been rent asunder. For six hundred miles this river stretches through a region of utter desolation. Coming up the St. Lawrence 200 miles, is the evident mouth of the St. Maurice; and for my information here I am indebted to a trust-worthy and wealthy lumberman, who has spent twenty-five years on the river. For 540 miles this river stretches away northward. It has four large tributaries, drains 30,000 square miles, which is equal to the half of England, leaps down 120 feet at the Sawnegan Falls, and, after a picturesque course, in its spring flood, it pours out more water than the Nile in its ordinary level. Then last and greatest of them comes the Ottawa, which stretches to the north west 800 miles. This river is fed by 30 tributaries. The Ottawa is longer than the Rhine, mightier than the Danube, and pours forth more water than the sacred Ganges of the East. The valley of the

Ottawa is eight times the size of Vermont, twelve times that of Massachusetts, and comprehends 80,000 square miles, with the finest forests in the world. I will hardly venture on the river system of the North-west; the Red River of the North, the Assiniboine, the great Saskatchewan, that pour their waters into Lake Winnipeg and the Fraser. What a heritage this is of which I am speaking! If I have not said enough to make one proud of his country, I know not what can kindle national pride. This Dominion is a belt of this continent 4,000 miles in length; one-sixth of the earth's circumference. (Applause.) It is as large almost as the whole of Europe, and comprehends four millions of square miles. If you reflect that China, with a population of 450,000,000, has only a territory of one million of square miles, then tell me, if you can, the plenitude of manhood that shall, in the coming ages, throng, let us hope, this Dominion of Canada.

This closed the first part of the lecture, and the musical part of the programme was again proceeded with.

Mr. Douglas then resumed, glancing at some of the economic and social features of the Dominion, showing that it possessed all the material elements essential to national greatness. There are, said he, two sources of wealth to be derived from land,—that which is taken off the land by the skill of the agriculturist, and that which is taken out of the earth by the skill of the miner. That we possess land for national wealth, I think we have fairly established, when a fragment, a mere fragment of our territory, can give millions of surplus in cereals, and our forests lumber to the annual value of \$10,000,000. Look for a moment at the distribution of our mineral wealth. Newfoundland, though only partially explored, gives ample promise of copper, iron, gypsum, and slate. Nova Scotia is rich in quartz gold and copper; and her beds of coal, the thickest in the world, will make Cape Breton and Pictou the Eastern Newcastle of the Dominion. I observe by a recent paper that gold and silver are found in New Brunswick. In the Province of Quebec we have the magnetic ores of the Moisie River, gold of the Chaudière, silver and copper of the Eastern Townships, and an untold wealth in the Laurentian rocks of the north. In the Province of Ontario, we have already the lead mines of Ramsay, the gold fields of Madoc, the vast petroleum, copper, silver, and other mineral wealth of the Lake Superior country. Advancing into the great north-west, on the testimony of a competent authority, Rev. W. MacDougall, who has lived years in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains, I am able to say that there is not a river whose head waters rise in the mountains, that is not rich in auriferous dust, and must attract thousands speedily to this newest Eldorado. And for three hundred miles on the banks of the great Saskatchewan, he has seen the coal cropping out which will give light and heat to the hearts and houses of far-off generations and times. With British Columbia and Vancouver's Isle you are familiar. I will only add that the coal deposits of Nainimo are speedily making it the Newcastle of the Pacific coast. I think we must all be persuaded that to this Dominion there has been granted a wealth of resources which no mind, however gifted, can adequately comprehend. Finding ourselves possessed of the territory, I think we may safely assert that there is promise of labor and commercial ability. Already the sons of Canada have made their mark in the roll of achievement. Our ship-canal is unrivalled; we have the longest railroad in the world, and, in proportion to population, a greater extent of rail and telegraph line than any other people; we stand second among nations for inland tonnage, and fourth for sea-going tonnage, and the brain and strong right arm of the citizens of the Dominion of Canada have done it all. Passing from the material aspect of our country, we now look for a moment at its civil and social condition. What is to be the condition of society? That a feudal or landed aristocracy will ever plant itself on this land, we cannot believe; the irresistible genius of the continent forever forbids it.—Since the time that Guttenberg started his lumbering printing-press, and Luther fought and won the battle of free thought, the death knell of feudal aristocracy has been sounding, and its utter destruction is felt to be only a question of time. I take it, therefore, the society of this Dominion will be, as it has been, essentially democratic. There will, and ever must be, distinctions existing in society,—the distinctions which intellect, culture, and executive ability confer; but I believe it shall ever be the glory of our land, that the low-born here, however lowly, shall be eligible for the highest distinctions which the Dominion can confer. If there is any clause that is vulnerable in our constitution, it is that which would place any man independent of the suffrages of his countrymen.

The lecturer here made a brief digression; expressing his belief in, and approbation of, the probable future fact of women being allowed to have a direct influence in the political guidance of the country. He also referred to the educational systems established in the Canadas; eulogizing that of Upper Canada as comprehending the best portions of the American, Prussian, and English high-school systems; and, whilst allowing due denominational claims, yet tending to wield all those who attended school into one homogeneous body of loyal Canadian citizens. The stability, he continued, of this Dominion is, after all, dependent on the growing virtue and moral worth of her citizens. All history establishes conclusively the point, that national degeneracy of morals is the sure precursor of national ruin. Rome was invincible till Roman virtue was lost. The republic of Venice, which lifted up her head for a thousand years, fell only when her Doges became sensual and corrupt. Spain, once mistress of the New World, has gone down to the last depths of national degradation, because her Castilian virtue is long gone. If our Dominion is to be great, she must be virtuous, and the sanctions of our Christianity must be respected over all the land. Who is the truest friend of this Dominion? The man that is waging war most manfully with the hydra-headed monsters of intemperance,

Vice, and Public Demoralization. Let there be a pure press; let statesmen be untainted by suspicion; let Canadian houses be the abodes of virtue and religion, and I think we may safely face the contingencies of the future. (Applause.) I have confidence in the men of the northern clime. For 1600 years, the men of the North have been influencing the destinies of the world. Out of the North came the Vandal hosts that overthrew the Empire of Rome; out of the North came the irresistible hosts of Tamerlane, that swept the south of Asia; out of the North came the valiant men who hurled back the English invader, and disdained all national alliance but that of equality. And what power is that which hangs incumbent over the troubled principalities of Europe,—whose breast throbs with the energies of innumerable tribes, and whose empire holds the bones of the Siberian mammoth and the valleys of Circassian flowers. I have confidence in the men of the North, that, if the sacred soil of this Dominion is touched by the foot of the oppressor, they would repel to the death. But the Dominion of Canada is, I believe, destined to be an empire of peace. In spite of the stinging, festering vampire press of the New York Herald school; in spite of the unprincipled politicians, and the irritations of international diplomacy, I think I can see in the future that the one blood, the one language and literature, the one common cause and instinct of liberty, and, above all, the Christianity, will bind in one the grand old Saxon race over all the earth, and twine the red-cross flag of England, with the star-spangled banner of the U. States, as the symbol of abiding peace. (Applause.) Let us have a citizen militia; but no standing army; let taxation be kept down; let honor and good faith be in high places, and our ship of state may fling out her pennant to the breeze, and square her canvas for a voyage of peace. (Applause.) In bringing my remarks to a close, I think I only re-echo the sentiments of all here, when I express the ligature which binds us to the mother-land will not soon be severed. I have the highest admiration for the neighboring Union, for its equal laws, wide-spread education, and triumphant Christianity, but I want to live under the old flag. (Applause.) Britannia, with all her faults, and she has many, we love her still; Britannia!

"They may laugh at her name, and publish her shame, But there's life in the old land yet." (Applause.) Forty colonies, and, as we have seen, some of them as large as empires—one-sixth of the habitable globe—forty colonies lift up their hands in benediction, and pronounce the benign augur of England blest, while three hundred millions of loyal subjects, one-fourth of the world's population, join us in praying that England's widowed Queen may sit on the proudest throne on which the sun ever shone—

"Happy and glorious,  
Long reign over us"  
God save the Queen. (Loud applause.)

The lecture being concluded, the soprano solo "With verdure clad," was given with taste and feeling by Miss Parslow, and received a not undeserved encore. An organ solo and the chorus "Hallelujah," from Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," finished the musical programme, the execution of which, during the evening, did great credit to Mr. Torrington and the choir, also to the other ladies and gentlemen who lent their services on the occasion.

## CANADA ECCLESIASTICAL NEWS.

EPISCOPALIAN.—The congregation of Trinity Church, Cornwall, have subscribed \$8,000 towards the erection of the Strachan Memorial Church, in that town.—On the 31st of Jan., a surprise-party met at the residence of Rev. A. Spence, Newboro. The contributions to the pastor amounted to about \$50.—On the 20th of Feb., a new church was dedicated at Port Credit, and named "Trinity Church."—An Episcopal church is about to be erected at Stratford, at a cost of \$10,000.—A new church is contemplated at Glencoe.—At a meeting, held in London recently, of a number of prominent clergymen and laymen of the English Church, an association was formed in that city, called "The Church of England Young Men's Association." The Society's object is the improvement of young men and the furtherance of the distinctive principles of the Church of England.—Rev. H. S. Wainwright has resigned his charge at Shelburne, N. S. A very flattering address was presented to him by his parishioners.—The Bishop of Nova Scotia is at present in England, where he has been preaching on behalf of missions to seamen.

BAPTIST.—The Alexander Street Baptist Church, of Toronto, is clear of debt, some \$3,000 having been subscribed since the annual meeting on the 31st Jan. This church and congregation, not yet one year old, have expended on their church property, \$8,900, all of which has been contributed by themselves, with the exception of a little over \$300.—Eighteen persons have been added to the church in Windham since June last. Rev. W. Osborne is pastor.—The Baptist Church Edifice Society for the Province of Ontario has been recently established. The object of the Society is to aid Regular Baptist Churches to build, repair, or purchase meeting-houses, by loan or grant from its funds.—The congregation at Woodstock have presented their pastor, Rev. John Bates, with a gift of \$110.—Rev. E. Rainboth has established a church of twenty-six members in the Upper-Ottawa region.—On the 16th of Jan., at Toronto, Mr. George Anderson was ordained to the work of the ministry.—The Literary Institute, at Woodstock, is filled with students. The young men's department is filled to overflowing.—The church at Mt. Brydges now numbers thirty members. It was organized in June last by Mr. Mulcahy, a student, when it consisted of ten members.—Seven persons have recently been baptized into the church at Ottawa.—On the 5th ult., the church at Howick held a tea-meeting, at which the proceeds amounted to \$68, which were appropriated to building improvements.—Revivals have been experienced by the churches in Hillsborough and Harvey, N.B., at each of which a number were baptized.

Contemporary Press.

MR. BRIGHT ON SUNDAY CLOSING.

A deputation of licensed victuallers waited upon Mr. Bright, at Mr. Sturge's residence, at Birmingham, on Thursday week, to get an expression of his opinion upon Mr. Abel Smith's Bill for further restricting the hours during which public-houses may be opened on Sundays.

Mr. Bright, in reply, said,—The evil of which you have just complained seems to be one of the unavoidable miseries of your position, that you have to submit to this kind of harassing and worrying attack, because there is, in the country, as we all know, a very large, and, perhaps, increasing party of great activity, who think you ought to be extinguished altogether.

Mr. Wadhams.—We demur to that. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bright.—Of course, you demur to that. The question is, what is to be done with regard to the matter? You cannot prevent Mr. Abel Smith bringing forward this, because there are so many persons who back him and you know that with the exception of your own trade organization, there is no portion of the public that takes any direct interest in defending your side in Parliament. You have to fight your own battle unaided by any large or active portion of the people, and to fight it against a great organization, which appears to be continually increasing, and becomes every year more determined and more clamorous. Well now, you propose that these little bills should not be brought in, and that Government should bring in a general measure; but you know what that means, and I know it too. Why, the moment they brought in a general measure, which I believe they will never do, you would set yourselves with all your organizations to oppose it, and any material change from your present condition you would resist.

If the Government brought in a general measure, this very question of the Sunday Bill would either be omitted from the bill altogether, or if it were included, would receive from you exactly the same organized opposition that you now offer to the bill of Mr. Abel Smith. If you tell me this,—that in case the Government bring in a bill like this of Mr. Smith's, we shall be glad to make concessions to meet the views of a large portion of the public, I could understand you; but you object altogether to this measure,—that it is a bill invading your rights, by telling you that you should have your hours of business on the Sunday curtailed at all; and therefore we come no nearer a settlement of the question by getting rid of this bill and waiting for that very distant time when the Government, which is already in a minority in the House, should undertake to introduce a general measure.

Therefore I do not see a way out of the difficulty at all, so long as licensed victuallers resist every proposition that meets the view not only of the teetotaler, but of an enormous number of people who do not belong to teetotal societies at all, and do not reject the notion that the use of intoxicating liquors in moderate quantities may be right and beneficial. You have made known your intention to grant no concession, and you fight valiantly, and with a most admirable organization, against all the propositions which emanate from the class of people to whom I have made allusion; and I must say that I know of nothing equal to the power you possess of managing and marshalling your forces; but you have outside your own ranks a public that insist every year more strongly upon something being done, and I, for one, feel certain that in the long run you will be beaten. Nobody is more opposed to interference with trade by legislation than I am; but then your trade, as it at present exists, is a creature of law; you have no manner of right to open your places at all on the Sunday. I cannot open my place of business on the Sunday, and a photographer in New street, pursuing his most innocent avocation on that day, would be brought before the mayor for so doing, and would get into trouble. Therefore your keeping your places open on Sunday is a creature of law, and it is not, in any degree, a right as compared with the other portions of the population. One thing that has astonished me almost beyond anything else in this matter has been that there is not in any town in England, so far as I know, any licensed victualler sufficiently—I am afraid of the exact word I should use, lest I should be misunderstood—but I mean sufficiently elevated in his views, sufficiently disinterested, regarding the interests of the public and his own interests and the interests of his family, as to propose voluntarily, if it could not be done by law, (and if done voluntarily it might afterwards be done by law), to close to a large extent those houses of business. There is no teetotal family, there is no drunkard's family, that is in truth so much interested in the closing of public-houses on Sunday as the families of the licensed victuallers themselves. Some of them have spoken to me on the subject; and I recollect one man who kept an inn in a most charming, retired vale in the North of England, telling me that he should leave the trade, as he did not like his family, and particularly his daughters, disturbed as they were disturbed under the circumstances of the trade which he carried on. Now, I have always been astonished that the licensed victuallers have not, among themselves,—there are good, bad, and indifferent among you as among all other classes,—combined for the purpose of discussing and considering whether it might not be immensely to their interest to promote a partial, and in some cases, I would say, an entire, closing of their houses on Sunday. Anything they may get out of what is sold on the Sunday cannot for a moment be put in the balance against the enormous gain that would come to their families if they could have the whole of that day as a day of instruction, of rest, and of recreation. I grieve, beyond expression, that nobody has arisen in the trade itself to lead the trade, and the families engaged in the trade, out of the sort of captivity in which they are, by the practice of opening their houses on the Sunday, and carrying on on that day a trade which is not always of the most pleasant character. If this were done, licensed victuallers might enjoy themselves quietly in the bosoms of their families, and share the tranquillity and the rest of the day of rest with those persons engaged in other trades. What are we to do? I will tell you my opinion,—not as unfriendly to you at all, because I am not unfriendly, but with the view simply to ascertain what we are to do—what Mr. Dixon and myself

are to do—in this contention. As public opinion grows in favor of the partial or entire closing of public-houses on the Sunday, Parliament will, of course, follow the inclination and the dictation of that public opinion, and I think you ought to find out something that you would concede, and ought to let Mr. Abel Smith, or somebody else, or the Government, know, that if some fair proposition were made that might—perhaps for a considerable number of years,—save you from further irritation and harassing, you would be willing, on your part, to make a concession. If you do not do this, I am afraid that the worrying of which you complain will continue, and that you will always be in the lobby of the House of Commons—about the most hateful place I know of except the inside; and there will be this unpleasantness going on perpetually. Now, I should like to do what is exactly right in the matter if I knew it. I have not voted for these bills; there are many other members who have not voted for them, but would have done so if they had not feared the power of your organization in their boroughs; but you must bear in mind that under the new Reform Bill your power in the boroughs is very much diminished; that at present every man has a vote who pays upon a £10 rental; but, under the new bill, the constituency being doubled, tripled, and in some instances quadrupled, your political influence will diminish in that proportion, and, in point of fact, will in many places be extinguished. Therefore you cannot expect in future to force men in the House of Commons to vote against their convictions in order to take your side. I can only say that the subject has given me great anxiety many times, and that I have never confessed a confident opinion upon it in one way or the other; and at this particular moment, although there are very few questions on which, if my opinion were asked, I could not give a very distinct answer as to what I should do in a certain case, I prefer, in regard to this question, and in the present state of opinion, not to give a specific reply; but I may say that I am rather fearful no legislation upon it is possible for some time to come. I have been very candid, and I have been giving you advice upon the subject. You yourselves understand how much it would be to your advantage, and to the advantage of your families, and I feel this strongly; therefore you must forgive me for what I have said. It has been said, because it was dictated by the most clear conviction of the propriety of what I have suggested, and by the most earnest hope that, some time or other, there will arise, from among the licensed victuallers themselves, men who will help the public in some degree to abate the evil which the universal mind—I am not speaking of teetotalers, but of the universal public—feels to exist in the continued opening of public-houses on a Sunday.

[It will be seen, from the above, how perfect the organization of the licensed victuallers is in England, to contend against the conscience of the country; and how much members of Parliament are afraid of them, even to the extent of voting against their convictions. Do we wish to see such a state of things in Canada?—Ed. Wit.]

A FEW FACTS ABOUT IRELAND.

(From Pall-Mall Gazette.)

The general impression on the public mind—an impression which Irish newspapers and so-called friends of Ireland are sedulously endeavoring to strengthen—is that the sudden revival and marked exacerbation of Irish discontent and disaffection which has afflicted us for the last twelve months is the consequence of prolonged and aggravated distress, which that patient people can no longer bear; that their sufferings and grievances have been long on the increase, and have at last reached a culminating point. It may be well, therefore, to ask ourselves whether there is any real ground for this impression, and to call attention to a few facts about which there can be no controversy, and the bearing of which upon the actual condition of both farmers and laborers, and the working-classes of Ireland generally, cannot be disputed. It is customary, we know, to admit that in some points there was a material improvement after the famine, and that this improvement continued, with certain fluctuations, up to 1860; but since that date, and especially during the last three or four years, matters have taken a wrong turn, and that cultivation, comfort, prosperity, are, and have been, declining; so that the strongest and promptest measures are needed to arrest the downward progress of the country. We can discover one statistical fact, and only one, which at all bears out this allegation,—the total acreage under crops of all kinds, though larger than in 1847, has dropped since 1860 from 5,970,000 to 5,460,000 in 1867, or about 84 per cent. All other figures, with scarcely an exception, point in an exactly opposite direction.

First of all, if less land is cultivated, the cultivation would seem to be better, and the yield to be larger, for the total value of "enumerated crops," which averaged £25,000,000 in 1860 and 1861, reached £28,300,000 in 1865 and 1866. The annual average value of all crops in the last three years has exceeded £30,000,000. Next, agriculture seems to have been directed to the channel for which Ireland is best adapted, and which will always there yield the largest returns. The live stock of farmers and cotters is increasing steadily, both in number and in value. The number of cattle has risen from 2,600,000 in 1847, and from 3,470,000 in 1861, to 3,700,000 in 1867; sheep, from 2,186,000 in 1847, and 3,559,000 in 1861, to 4,826,000 in 1867. Pigs and poultry have also doubled their numbers. The total value of live stock, which in 1851 was £28,000,000, has increased as follows:—1861, £33,400,000; 1864, £38,270,000; 1865, £41,278,000; 1866, £45,440,000. This strongly corroborates the statements made by Mr. Mowatt in our columns a few days since as to the general prosperity of Irish farmers. The amount of their produce has risen, and prices have risen still more.

So much for agriculture. For manufactures we can obtain no equivalent statistics, but the only figures accessible point to a similar result. The exports of linen from Ireland reached £16,292,000 in 1862, £8,984,000 in 1863, and £10,327,000 in 1864. Railways, too, offer a fair measure of the general prosperity of a country. Their traffic represents business done, and, to a great degree, labor employed and paid. The aggregate receipts of Irish railways have risen

from half a million in 1851, and nearly a million and a half in 1861, to nearly a million and three-quarters in 1865; and the increase is regular and continuous.

But, it will be objected, these returns may prove that the middle and upper classes are doing well, but tell us nothing of the state of the peasantry or really poor working population. It is well known, and not denied, that wages have risen at least from 50 to 80 per cent. since the famine, and, with a few local exceptions, are still rising, though no perfectly unassailable statistics on a great scale can be quoted. But we are not left without a few very significant figures to indicate that, in spite of wet seasons, and recently of agitation, the condition of the masses is decidedly improving. First, they are better housed than they were. The number of inhabited houses in Ireland is classed under four heads: the fourth class comprising merely wretched mud-cabins, with only one room, the third also built of mud, but of better description, and with more rooms. Now, notice the following figures. It will be seen that the very badly housed have decreased by two-thirds, the poorly housed have slightly decreased, and the well-housed have increased by more than one-third:—

Table with 3 columns: Year (1841, 1851, 1861), First class, Second class, Third class, Fourth class, and Total. Shows a significant decrease in the number of poorly and badly housed individuals over the period.

Crime, again, is diminishing steadily. The proportion of convictions at assizes and quarter sessions to the population before 1850 used to be 1 in about 500; the last three years it has been 1 in 2,000. The committals—perhaps a surer indication of the offences actually committed—have gradually dropped from 6,666 in 1862 to 4,326 in 1866. Pauperism certainly is a test of the condition of a people. Well, the total number relieved in Ireland has not only fallen off two-thirds since 1851, but even in the last four years, which we are told have been years of so much distress, has steadily decreased, as follows:—1863, 317,624; 1864, 295,835; 1865, 288,996; 1866, 270,173.

Finally, emigration, which some point to as the effect, the proof, and the measure of Irish destitution, has decreased, and is decreasing regularly (the return for 1867 is calculated on the ascertained numbers in the first seven months of the year):—1863, 117,229; 1864, 114,169; 1865, 101,497; 1866, 99,467; 1867, 72,200. Surely, in the face of these facts and figures it will be impossible to maintain the position either that Irish distress is increasing, or that its increase can be the cause of the present outburst of Irish complaint or discontent.

NASBY.

(From the Toledo Blade.)

Post Office, Confederat X Roads (which is in the State of Kentucky), Feb. 17, 1868.—There is located at the Corners about 12 or 15 sons of the Green Isle of Erin, which is called the green isle, I suppose, because of the ease with which the great majority of us are managed by the Democracy. To fasten these voters and hold em to us, it wuz considered advisable that some skeshen be taken by the Democracy of the Corners, in the matter of Irish liberty and English oppression. The idee originated with Deekin Pogram; and Bascom, Capt. McPelter, and I consented. We met at the church, and I made, ez is the custom, the leadin speech. It wuz a subject that is easy to speak upon, and I flatter myself I did it justis. It's easy to talk uv liberty, for ther's suthin inspirin in the word. That's the reason why the Abilishists hev allez hed the advantage uv us in the matter uv speakers. They hev all the advantage uv sentiment; but, however, uv wat avail, is sentiment when you buil it on a lazy man? Uv wat good is it to talk uv liberty to a man who don't like to work; who hez a taste for draw-poker and mint gooleps, and who kin force 50 or a 100 niggers to work for him? You m't ez we'll fire paper wads at a iron-clad. That's where the Democracy hev em in Kentucky. Everybody here hez a dislike for work, and a likin for mint gooleps, but nobody haint got no sentiment.

Still, we hev no objection to talk'n uv liberty at long range. We hev no objection to it in Ireland. In fact, we are willin to admit that in Ireland it is a pretty good thing.

I spoke elokently on the subject. I held up sich uv the wrongs endoored by the Irish ez I cood conveniently remember; spoke feelinly uv wat they had suffered, wuz a suffin, and probably had yet to suffer, and demanded that the Corners unite in an expression uv sympathy with em, ez those most certainly entitled to it. I wuz applauded to the eko, and Bascom riz. He hed a series uv resoluoshens, wich he begged to submit, ez follows:—

Resolved, We hev red in the noosepapers, or hev hed red to us, wich is the same thing, solemn accounts uv the horrors now afflictin Ireland on account uv the oppression and tyranny practiced upon em by the English; and

Resolved, The Corners feels for the victims uv oppression, and weeps at their woes, therefore be it

Resolved,—That the holdin uv the Irish in bondage in Ireland by the English is a reproach onto the civilizashen of the 19th century.

Resolved,—That the taxin uv the Irish without givin uv em a voice in the Government, the forsin uv em to support a Government in the runnin uv wich they hev no voice, and the other outrages too tejus to menshun, wich is bein continously inflicted onto em, stirs our blood with indignashen, and we hereby extend our sympathy to em.

Resolved,—That we demand uv the Government of the Yonited States, that steps be immediately taken to release the Amerikin citizens of Irish descent, now languishin in English prizens, and that, if needs be, to assert the dignity uv the Republic, we go to war in this coz.

The resoluoshens wuz about bein yoonaniously adopted when that miserable cuss, Joe Bigler, riz. He hed hez a remark to make. He approved uv them resoluoshens. He believed in em. Taxashen without representashen was ojus,—it was tyranny,—it cood never be endoored, and he cared not wher it wuz practis, it wuz abhorrent to every lover uv liberty. He shoed cheerfully vote for them resoluoshens, but he desired to make a little addishen to em. I remarkt that amendmets wuz in order.

"Very good," sed Josef. "I move to add these:—

Resolved,—Also, that ez taxashen without representashen is unjust in Ireland, it is in Kentucky, and that whate this Convenshen haz her pocket hankercher out: a weepin over the woes uv the Irish, it slings a teer or two over the unforchnit black citizens of this State, who are bin t'ed like thunder, but who aint permitted to vote at all.

Resolved,—Likewise, That while moistenin up over the Amerikin citizens uv Irish descent, now in prizen in England, we give down a trifle over the four Amerikin citizens uv Afrikin descent now in jail in this county, who wuz imprizined for no coz watever, ceptin knockin down impudent white men who aboosed their wives.

Resolved,—Moreover, That while we condemn England for imprizenin Amerikin citizens uv Irish descent without coz, and for tyrannizin over em generally, we shel take sich steps ez shel prevent the same thing bein done to an alarmin extent to Amerikin citizens uv Afrikin descent at home.

"These resoluoshens," sed Josef, "I move ez a amendm. Uv course no one will object, for the principle is the same here ez there."

I replied briefly. There wuz a distinkshen. I feared Mr. Bigler did not understand the matter. There wuz a distinkshen, and it wuz not altogether on akkount uv the Afrikin's bein a black man either. Ef there wuz a strong emigrashen from Afrika to America, and the Afrikin emigrant cood git a vote after he hed been here five years, the Democracy woud hev no difficulty in gettin up sympathy for em. "But it aint so, end hence I see no practical good in the amendm. I mildly but firmly object to addin these resoluoshens to the reglar ones reported by Mr. Bascom. The nigger is —"

Bigler sed he expected that it would be objected to. But he wuz so well satisfied that it ought to pass, that he felt he must take extraordinary measures. He wanted every one to vote on the amendm ez he pleased,—he wanted every man to exercise his judgment; but he sho' take the liberty uv puttin the moshen, and shood feel called upon to bust the head uv every man who votes against it.

Uv course that settled it. We all hev a regard for Josef, for he does allus ez he says. Every man in the room voted for it, and the Corners stands committed to nigger suffrage. Good Heavens! Can't this cuss be got rid uv?

PETROLEUM V. NASBY, P. M., (Wich is Postmaster.)

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

GOLD AND SILVER MINES.

On the 3rd instant, Hon. Mr. Richards moved the second reading of bill No. 117, relating to gold and silver mines. In doing so, he referred to the principal provisions of the bill, stating that the bill of 1864 was chiefly confined to gold mines. It was not then supposed that there were silver mines; but the discoveries on the north shore of Lake Superior showed that there was a large amount of wealth there. The Government found it necessary to make some provision for the gold-mining regions of the county of Hastings. The act of 1864, instead of a royalty, imposed a fee, under which parties were allowed to work gold mines. This had been practically a failure. They now proposed to substitute a miner's license and royalty. The act also applied to both gold and silver mines. Regarding the question of royalty, he was aware there was a difference of opinion,—some holding that mineral lands should be put on the same footing as agricultural lands. He held, however, that there were material differences. When they gave grants of agricultural land, they expected permanent benefit to the country; but with regard to mineral lands, no such advantages were looked for. They had fixed three per cent., or five cents an ounce, as the lowest standard. That was the same as fixed in Nova Scotia. In regard to the mode of working, he stated that two classes of persons were likely to be engaged in the work. These were the miner and the capitalist. The latter class would purchase considerable tracts of territory, and would be able to invest funds, which the poor miner had not in his possession. They proposed to divide the territory and allow privileges to both classes. They proposed to give the miners a miner's lease to allow them to prospect and have the right to work anything they found in the claim. With regard to quartz, they proposed that no person shall be allowed to crush quartz without taking out a license.

Mr. McKellar said it was very important that the Government should have a policy on this mineral question; but it was also very important that before the house was asked to indorse that policy, they should be sure it was a good one and not such as would practically close the territory to capitalists and miners.

Hon. J. S. McDonald said that it made no difference to the gentlemen on the other side of the house what policy was introduced by the Government, they opposed it. With regard to the royalty, he asked, were they to be told, after they had parted with all their lands, and the Government had made nothing from them, and that the farmers of the country had made nothing from them, that they must part with their mineral lands, too, on similar terms?

Mr. Pardee thought the royalty would frighten people, and drive miners away. Would miners go into the country with a millstone like this about their neck? It was true that in Victoria in Australia there was an export duty, but there they had alluvial mines. In the other sections, New South Wales, the duty was not so large. California had no taxes on miners, and the result has been that the liberality has made the State one of the most prosperous in the Union. It would be quite impossible to develop our mines unless with foreign capital. This must be encouraged, and yet the Government said to the miner that if anything was found he must at once pay a heavy royalty on it.

Dr. Boulter thought 10 per cent. too much to charge as royalty. The miners in the Hastings district demanded that something be done, but he knew that half the proposed royalty would make the present Bill more acceptable.

Mr. Gow thought it reasonable in the Government to come down and say, that, until they were in possession of more information, they would have no policy; but to bring down a bill of this kind on the last day of the session was very objectionable.

Mr. Oliver was entirely opposed to any royalty being exacted from miners. His experience in oil-mining was that speculators lost money, while the country was benefited. And the same would be the case in reference to gold-mining operations.

The motion resolving the House into Committee of the Whole was then carried, and Mr. Shaw called to the chair.

The preamble, first and second clauses, was adopted without debate. A slight verbal amendment was made to the second sub-section of the third clause. All to the 5th clause, regarding the appointment and power of officers of working divisions, passed without debate. In regard to this, some explanations were given as to the qualification required, and the clause was adopted. The subsequent clauses to the 8th were passed. On the latter prescribing that the miners' license shall be \$5, and last for one year, not transferable, it was suggested that the license be made transferable. The Commissioner answered that, seeing the peculiar privileges granted, allowing a miner to go to any section, it would not be advisable to make these transferable. On clause 27, which placed the royalty at not less than three, nor more than ten per cent.,

Mr. Blake said that one of the objections he proposed to this measure was that it proposed to inflict what might possibly be a very considerable burden on parties who had no reason to expect it. If a very productive gold mine were found, according to the present act, all the owner could be called on to pay was \$1 per month, so long as the land was being worked. But by this act, in such an event, the owner would be compelled to pay to Government an enormous additional sum. He objected to the measure before the House, because without rhyme or reason it imposed a substantial fetter on transactions. Under it, Government took power to increase their rate of duty fivefold. They assumed the right of dealing with any mining land they pleased, and swept off the old act by one avowedly temporary in its nature. By and by the people might look out for the adoption of the policy which would increase the royalty still further. It would, he thought, be far better to fix the rate—say 3 per cent as in Nova Scotia, as that Province was quoted as a paragon—and leave no power for an increase.

Hon. J. S. McDonald was not willing to accept the proposition of the honorable member for South Bruce, and defended the proposition of the Government to take a margin of from 2 to 3 to 16 p. c., as the most equitable arrangement that could be made. It was at best an experiment, one for the good working of which the Government held itself responsible.

The clause was then adopted, and also the remaining clauses, and the committee rose, and reported the bill with amendments.

THE LATE W. L. MACKENZIE.

Mr. McKellar moved that an humble address be presented to the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to recommend an appropriation of \$4,000 to be paid to Mrs. Isabel Mackenzie, widow of the late William Lyon Mackenzie, Esq., for her own sole use and benefit, as representative of the claims of her husband, referred to in the report of a select committee to this House. Having read the report of the committee, Mr. McKellar proceeded to explain the circumstances under which the claim had arisen. He read a report by a Committee of the House of Assembly in 1835, recommending the payment of certain sums borrowed of Joseph Cawthra and Alexander Montgomery, amounting to £500, for the purpose of sending Mr. McKenzie to England, to represent the grievances under which certain large constituencies labored. The committee in 1835 also recommended that Mr. Mackenzie should be paid his wages as a member during the period of his improper expulsion from the House. The committee of this session, on examining Mrs. Mackenzie's learned that Mr. Mackenzie himself had paid those parties, Cawthra and Montgomery. It appeared, also, from the evidence of Mr. Lindsey, that a number of years afterwards, Mr. Mackenzie devoted a portion of the homestead money contributed by his friends, to making remittances to England, to pay some of the debts contracted during his mission to that country in 1832. As regarded the wages recommended by the committee of 1835 to be paid, Mrs. Mackenzie stated that these wages had been paid by the County of York. Such were the facts ascertained by the committee. Now, whatever might be thought of some acts in Mr. Mackenzie's career, one thing was certain, that no public man ever appeared in Canada who was more self-sacrificing or who did less to promote his own private interests by his public position. He for one felt disposed to do an act of justice, even at this late day, to his widow and family, whom he left in comparatively poor circumstances; while, if he had chosen to accept various lucrative positions offered him, the case might have been very different. He had submitted this resolution, after consultation with the Attorney-General, who had been associated with Mr. Mackenzie for many years in public life, and who knew him better, perhaps, than any other man in this House. He would now leave the matter to the House.

Mr. Rykert regretted that they were called upon to consider a question of this importance at this late period of the session. He thought this House was not prepared to entertain old claims of any description, and to investigate questions which had been long since dead. If this were to be done, the veterans of 1812, some of whom were still living in his county, had a bitter claim than this. He thought a clearer case should have been made out to justify such a motion, and was prepared to vote against it.

Hon. Mr. Cameron said that when the House was called on to vote away the public money, it was absolutely necessary that some good, satisfactory reasons in favor of that course should be shown.

Mr. Lount would not be doing justice to the memory of that good man, W. L. Mackenzie, or to the name he (Mr. Lount) bore, did he give a silent vote. It had been urged that Mr. Mackenzie had done nothing for Canada. The records on the statute-book and all they knew of his history were sufficient to disprove these assertions. Who was not aware of his struggles for British justice to his fellow-settlers before 1837, and since that period? No man had fought in the cause of justice with a more honest heart and from more thorough conviction than had Mr. Mackenzie.

Mr. Galbraith narrated the facts, as they had appeared to him as a member of the committee. He stated Mr. Mackenzie had been eighteen months in England, rendering the services in question. For this he had received no remuneration, and this money was borrowed simply to pay his expenses, and, according to Mrs. Mackenzie, was repaid by himself to the parties. Other expenses left unpaid in England, he sub-

sequently paid. This country was largely indebted to those services for the responsible Government it now enjoyed; and, whether this was regarded as a just debt to Mr. Mackenzie too long unpaid, or a small recognition of his services, he thought the matter should be made.

Mr. Corby opposed the motion. Many of his constituents had suffered much trouble and hardship in consequence of the rebellion, and, if he should support such a grant as this, his people would give him the right-about when he went back amongst them.

Mr. Scott (Ottawa) claimed that this country was Mr. Mackenzie's debtor.

Hon. Mr. Cameron said, members were not meeting the matter squarely. It would not do to endeavor to take the money by pretence of a debt due, whereas the evidence was against the existence of such a debt. If the hon. gentlemen were in earnest, then let a subscription list be opened, and he would head it with \$100, and if honorable gentlemen each subscribed half the amount, the \$1,000 would be made up. (Cheers.) It had been said that the country was indebted to Mr. Mackenzie to a great extent for its present liberty, Constitution, and Government. He (Mr. Cameron) knew there were very many honest men in the country who questioned very much if their present Constitution was a boon. If the country was governed in a different way, honestly,—if they were under a different Constitution altogether,—they would, perhaps, be much better off than, under the present popular form of government, they ever would be.

Hon. Mr. Richards said, the service in question was rendered by Mr. Mackenzie, and the expenses of his time alone would amount to a very large sum. Again, there was no man in political life in this country whose services dated further back or were more pure, self-denying, and patriotic. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Richards) had, in 1852, suggested to Mr. Hincks that Mr. Mackenzie should be appointed to the postmastership of Toronto. Mr. Hincks assented; the offer was made (when the office was worth £500 or £600 a year), but it was flatly refused, on the ground that it might be construed into an attempt to buy him off. He continued in the Legislature and died in poverty. (Hear.) Now, in all the history of Canada, he did not know of any such deserving claim as this preferred here; and, entertaining this view, he had listened with extreme pleasure to the very handsome, noble sentiments of the member for Ottawa that evening. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Richards) would vote for the resolution.

The question was then put and carried. Yeas, 35; nays, 31.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN NEWS.

—Mr. Lowe, M. P., has accepted an invitation, signed by 240 undergraduates, to become a candidate for the representation of the London University.

[Considering Mr. Lowe's sentiments on the education question, this action of the undergraduates is significant.—Ed. Wit.]

—On the 9th, in all the Roman Catholic churches throughout Scotland, the Glasgow Free Press—a Roman Catholic organ which has lately been devoting its columns to the propagation of pro-Fenian sentiments—was publicly denounced from the altar, in accordance with instructions received from Cardinal Barnabo, Prefect of Propaganda.

—In Norway every child is obliged to attend a national school for at least twelve weeks every year after it is eight years old. The law is suspended only when sufficient evidence is adduced that the child is being educated at home or at a private school. The national system in that country dates back as far as 1780, but it has been thoroughly revised within the last ten years.

—Mr. Lowe has issued an address to the graduates of the University of London, who have invited him to become a candidate for the representation. He accepts the invitation. The substance of his address is as follows:—Let us accept the recent change, and try to adapt ourselves to the new condition of things. Give distinguished merit a freer passage to the House of Lords. Preserve mixed education in Ireland, and abolish the State church; but do not interfere between landlord and tenant. Make education accessible to all; and reform the universities, and do away with their religious tests. Reduce the English laws to a code. Assimilate the laws of real and personal property. No meddling diplomacy, and no forcible acquisition of territories. Introduce economy into the public service by reorganizing the departments.

—The Financial Reform Association has adopted a resolution, declaring:—That in order to secure the full benefits of Reform, there must be a large reduction of expenditure, an extension of trade and manufactures and employment, and that the application of any surplus thus obtained shall be applied to the reduction of duties on articles of general consumption, especially those on tea, corn, coffee, sugar, and other necessities. It has also resolved to hold at least one meeting in every parliamentary borough, "in aid of the objects of the association."

[Would this not be wise policy in Canada?—Ed. Wit.]

IN MEMORIAM.—A monument, in the form of an Iona cross, has been erected over the grave of the poet, Alexander Smith, in Warriston Cemetery, Glasgow, by some of his personal friends.

BAPTIST MISSIONS IN AFRICA.—Intelligence has been received by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, from its missionary in Central Africa, Mr. Phillips, of Abeokuta, that he, with all the other missionaries laboring in that field, have been expelled from that city, and have suffered the entire loss of all their property. They have saved nothing from their even scanty supply. Mr. Phillips is now at Lagos, in a destitute condition, suffering even for the things necessary to sustain life and make it comfortable. The native Christians of Central Africa will doubtless be severely persecuted, and will suffer much at the hands of their enemies.

EXAMINATION OF WOMEN AT THE LONDON UNIVERSITY.—The supplemental charter to the University of London, admitting women to the University examinations, was adopted at a meeting of the convocation on the 20th. The important clause of the charter is as follows:—"Now know ye, that we do, by virtue of our prerogative royal, and our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, by these presents,

for us, our heirs, and successors, will, grant, and ordain that the said chancellor, vice-chancellor, and fellows shall have power to cause to be held from time to time, as they shall deem expedient, a special examination of women, being candidates for such certificates of proficiency as hereinafter mentioned; and on every such examination such female candidates shall be examined by examiners appointed for the purpose by the said chancellor, vice-chancellor, and fellows; and women shall be admitted as candidates to every such examination on such conditions, and shall be examined in such subjects in literature, science, and art, as the said chancellor, vice-chancellor, and fellows shall, by regulations made in that behalf, from time to time determine."

[When shall our Universities in Canada be as sensible?—Ed. Wit.]

A FORTUNATE YOUNGER SON.—The term, "a younger son's fortune," is usually held to imply a scanty provision, very far removed from anything like competency, still less the possession of wealth. But the phrase has just now earned for itself quite another distinction in the person of "a younger son"—in fact the very youngest—of Mr. Crawshaw, the millionaire, so well known as the proprietor of the extensive iron-works at Merthyr Tydfil and Cyfarthfa. This gentleman, it is reported takes, under the will of his father, property to the value of about two millions by absolute bequest; and, being named residuary legatee and in remainder to certain reversions, it is computed that he will eventually be entitled to something very little short of another million! All this sounds quite fabulous, but it seems that Mr. Crawshaw, instead of possessing property to the value of about four millions only, as was understood at the time of his death, has, in reality, died worth nearly seven. Supposing such a capital yielded an average interest of 6 per cent,—by no means an exaggerated interest,—there would be an income of £400,000 a year in the possession of one man, and the manner in which such a rent-roll must needs accumulate can easily be imagined. It would seem, however, that Mr. Crawshaw, though he had "invested" in every possible "eligible" security, had, nevertheless, a due respect for the three-per-cent. He appears to have been one of the largest individual holders of consols in the kingdom, and it is narrated that, a few days ago, on the transfer of funded property becoming necessary for testamentary purposes, it was found that a signature or two was changing the proprietorship of £300,000! A broker's commission on such transfers is reckoned at half a crown in £100, which, in the present instance, would yield just £1,000 for about ten minutes' easy work. Despite, however, his thus choosing to exhibit a marked preference in the distribution of his wealth, Mr. Crawshaw is understood to have provided in a most liberal manner for all who had recognized claims upon him.—The Cambrian.

DRINK AND SHOCKING DEATHS BY FIRE.—A shocking catastrophe took place on Saturday at West Bromwich, about three miles from Birmingham. About four o'clock in the morning, two police-officers who were on duty in High street, perceived a smell of fire as they passed the house of a coal-carrier, named William Hares. On looking up, they saw a light in the front bedroom window. The officers knocked at the door, and, receiving no reply, a ladder was placed against the wall, and it was ascertained that the front bedroom was on fire. The door was immediately burst in, and the fire, which was raging in the two bedrooms, was soon extinguished. A frightful spectacle, however, was then presented. In the front bedroom, an old lady, 79 years of age, mother of Hares, lay on the floor, having fallen through the bed, which was almost burnt away. Her body was charred almost to a cinder, and blackened stumps were all that remained of her legs, the feet and burnt lumps of the legs being found in a room below, where they had fallen through a hole burnt in the floor of the bedroom. In the back bedroom, the body of William Hares lay across the bed, also frightfully burned. Both were quite dead, and the bodies broke away when touched. The man had evidently gone to bed without undressing, as part of his clothes were found sticking to his body. He was very much addicted to drink, and went to bed on Friday night in a state of intoxication.

AMERICAN NEWS.

—The records of the metropolitan police show the following number of arrests made for intoxication and disorderly conduct on Sundays, during the months of October, November, and December, 1865 and 1867:—

Table with 2 columns: Date/Period and Number of Arrests. Rows include Four Sundays in Oct., 1865 (old system) 472; Four Sundays in Oct., 1867 (new system) 240; Net reduction 232; Four Sundays in Nov., 1865 (old system) 358; Four Sundays in Nov., 1867 (new system) 186; Net reduction 172; Five Sundays in Dec., 1865 (old system) 336; Five Sundays in Dec., 1867 (new system) 209; Net reduction 127.

The income for the sale of licenses since the law has been in operation is \$2,555,658. In 1864, under the old system, the income was only 12,450. A law which is thus marked by a decrease of 50 per cent. in the number of arrests, intoxications, and petty offences, should be sustained.—N. Y. Tribune.

—Reports from all parts of Italy leave no doubt that the country is in great danger of the outbreak of civil war. The expelled princes, and in particular the ex-King of Naples, have of late been very active in preparing insurrections in favor of their restoration. The ex-King of Naples has even re-appointed his entire Cabinet. Cardinal Antonelli, ordinarily noted for his reserve, has been heard to express his conviction that Napoleon has lost all sympathy with Italian unity; that there will soon be a war between Italy and France, and that this war will result in the re-establishment of the expelled princes and the union of the several Italian States into an Italian Confederation.—Ibid.

HAVANA, March 3.—The latest advices received from Mexico represent that the Government was actively prosecuting an investigation of the recent conspiracy to assassinate the President. Juarez has postponed his intended visit to the United States, and will not leave Mexico until all particulars of the conspiracy are brought to light, and the parties implicated brought to trial.

GIFT ENTERPRISES.—It is a mortifying instance of the perversity of mankind that, notwithstanding the frequency and completeness with which they have been exposed in the public press, the Gift Enterprise swindles still flourish and appear to gather renewed boldness with every fresh conviction of fraud. Not a day passes that we do not receive complaints from the injured victims of these nefarious enterprises. The Gettysburgh Asylum scheme, notwithstanding the recent developments concerning it both in Congress and in the Tribune, still lifts its brazen front and lures the ignorant to pecuniary sacrifice. We have done our duty in the matter, and with this final word of warning purpose leaving the fools to the consequences of their folly.—N. Y. Tribune.

CARLETON ABROAD.—The Constantinople correspondent of the New York Tribune thus alludes to a visit of our correspondent "Carleton" to that city on his tour "round the world":—"We are favored this week with a visit from 'Carleton,' of the Boston Journal, on his way to India, Japan, California, &c. He is travelling with his wife, and writing letters of a 'Tour Round the World,' for the Journal. He has made a very favorable impression here. I had the pleasure of hearing him speak on Monday, at a meeting of the Evangelical Alliance at the chapel of the Dutch Embassy. The more such representatives are sent out by the American press, the better for America and for the reputation of American newspapers abroad.—Boston Journal.

ROYAL INSURANCE CO. BOND ROBBERY.—In the General Sessions Court, yesterday, before Judge Russell, the two indictments against Daniel Noble, accused of stealing \$250,000 worth of bonds from the Royal Insurance Company in this city, were ordered to be quashed. The first indictment accused Noble of stealing the bonds, and the second that he received the bonds knowing them to be stolen. Judge Russell said that the fact of the second indictment being found against Noble legally rendered null the first. The question, then, before the Court was whether the testimony upon which the second indictment was founded was sufficient to sustain it. That testimony was entirely relative to and directly supporting the indictment, accusing Noble of stealing the bonds, without containing any evidence that he had received the bonds as stolen. Neither of the indictments sufficiently describes the property stolen under the statute, and the indictment for the criminal receiving could not be sustained in consequence of alleging that the thieves were unknown. He therefore directed the clerk to enter an order quashing both indictments. The Daniel Noble case before the General Sessions Court, yesterday, is the same that occupied in examination so long a time in the Tombs, before Justice Hogan some time since, and which was then dismissed. A civil action to recover \$80,000 worth of the bonds is now pending against Noble.—N. Y. Tribune.

THE FIRE AT BARNUM'S MUSEUM.—At twelve and a half o'clock this morning a fire was discovered on the third floor of Barnum's Museum. The fire was first discovered in the southeast corner of the building in the apartment occupied by Van Amburgh's menagerie. The flames had attained such headway before they were seen, that with the limited means at hand it was found impossible to extinguish them, and attention was at once turned to the task of rescuing those in the building, and getting out whatever property could be readily moved. So rapidly did the flames spread that it was found impossible to save any of the large animals of the fine collection known as Van Amburgh's Menagerie. The yells of the animals as the flames reached them were appalling, and they bounded from side to side, or darted madly against the bars in their vain efforts to free themselves. A few of the animals on the Broadway side, among them a kangaroo, a small leopard, a few monkeys, together with the pelican, and a variety of other small birds, were got out. The electrical machine, the property of the exhibitor, was also saved. On the Merc street side the police and others were more successful. The giraffe, two camels, and a pair of Japanese hogs, a Burmese cow, a lama, and a variety of small animals, were got out. Many of them had narrow escapes, however, and a few were slightly singed.—N. Y. World, 3rd.

NO CIVIL WAR.—The Newburyport Herald (Conservative) says:—"Post No. 39 of the Grand Army of the Republic, in Lawrence, has tendered military services to Congress. The Springfield City Guards have done the same. Ever so many friends of President Johnson have proposed to fight in his behalf. This is nonsense; worse than that, it is crime, morally, if not legally. It tends to prevent just action on a great question in which the whole country, and the rest of mankind, have an interest. It is an invitation to inaugurate civil war. In heaven's name, have we not had enough of this in the seven years past? Are not the new-made graves on a hundred battle-fields, warning enough? Are not the vacant seats in a half million homes—the widows' weeds and the orphans' tears, warning enough? Is not the desolation that now covers one-third the States of the Union—not the unpaid national bonds, piled heavenwards, "Alps on Alps"—are not the tax bills, and the prowling assessors, and the army of tax-gatherers,—are not all these warnings enough? We have a constitution; we have laws; we have courts; let them exercise authority. They are sufficient for the case. If these fellows, to whichever side they belong, are anxious to spill their blood, let them pitch in and fight each other, till not a soul of them is left on earth; but the people have suffered and are suffering enough, and have neither blood nor money to throw away foolishly.

CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO. —In Toronto, a public institution has been opened for the free treatment of the poor afflicted with diseases of the eye and ear. —Brampton has been legislated into a town; but will not assume the dignity until January, 1869. —A new post-office has been opened about half-way between Castleton and Norham, near Coborne. The name is Morganston. —Ingersoll and Woodstock are exterminating the canine race, hydrophobia prevailing to an alarming extent in that part of the country. —The Brockville Town Council remitted Dr. Sparham's taxes and voted him \$20 for attending patients who had the small-pox.

—The County Council of Prince Edward County have again adopted the Dunkin Temperance Act, and it is to be submitted to the people in April.

—The lodge of British Templars, at Trenton, have addressed a letter of commendation to Hon. Billa Flint, for his long and consistent advocacy of the temperance cause.

—The Police Commissioners of Toronto have refused to grant licenses to any of the taverns on the island, in consequence of the frequent rows at that retreat last season.

—A few days ago, the son of Mr. Robert Fleming, Aberfoyle, fell into a pail of hot water, which had been left on the floor by the servant girl, and was scalded to death.

—On the 23rd ult., a lynx visited the sheepfold of Mr. John Robinson, Eramosa, and succeeded in killing 15 sheep before he was despatched.

—Mr. Alexander Somerville, the Whistler at-the-Plough, at present residing in Hamilton, intends proceeding to England shortly, with the design of publishing a book on Canada, calculated to influence emigration.

—The Cayuga Sentinel says:—Two men, named Young and Mitchell, were arrested for counterfeiting American silver in Caledonia on Tuesday last. We understand the mould, dies, &c., together with about a peck of unfinished coin, were secured by the detective.

—The first anniversary of the Kingston Young Men's Christian Association was held on Monday evening. The Association numbers 37 active and 14 associate members. The receipts for 1867 were \$274.19, and the expenditure, \$277.31; showing a deficit of \$3.12.

—At the last meeting of the Stratford Town Council, the License Committee strongly disapproved of permitting minors and apprentices to sojourn in the billiard-rooms, and enjoined the keepers of such rooms to prohibit their admission under severe pains and penalties.

—The Colborne Express says that in January last, the Crambaine Town Council repealed the Dunkin Temperance Act; but on the 25th of February their action was submitted to the people, and disapproved,—the Dunkin Act being sustained by a majority of 50. This is the fourth year of the law's existence in that town.

—The Council of the township of Carrick, county of Bruce, advertise a reward of \$200 for the apprehension of the person who robbed and murdered Stephen Newbecker, of Carrick, on the night of the 15th February, on the road between the vill ges of Wroxeter and Belmore. No description of the murderer is given.

—The number of persons this winter injured or killed while chopping trees has been alarming. Every week we hear of deaths from falling trees. The last victim is Mr. C. Merrifield, of Buckhorn, Kent, who, on Thursday last, received such injuries from a falling tree that he died in a few hours. His age was fifty years.—London Free Press.

—On the 24th ult., the question of repealing the Dunkin bill in Darlington was put to a vote of the rate-payers. On account of the storm but thirty-eight votes were polled, 21 in favor of repeal and 17 against it. The repeal was carried by a majority of four, and licenses will be issued for the following year. The prohibitory clause had been virtually inoperative, the magistrates siding with the unlicensed liquor-sellers.—Oshawa Vindicator.

—The snow which fell at Sarnia during the late storm was strongly impregnated with smoke; and so much so was this case that, when melted, the water had an ink hue, which it retained even though allowed to settle. In other localities the snow was impregnated with fine sifting sand,—a subject for the attention of meteorologists.

—At a large public meeting of the citizens of St. Catharines, it was resolved that, in order to encourage emigration to this Province, and the settlement of our wild lands, we should have a liberal homestead law, of at least \$1,000 worth of property registered to the family for ever, free from all debts and executions, and that every person who is desirous to do so may have a grant of 100 acres of land, including all mines, minerals, and timber thereon.

STABBING CASE.—Two young men, named Simmons and Elliott, were at work together in a grist-mill, in the county of Bruce, when they had an altercation about a girl. They fought until they were tired, or until they were parted; and we are told that, in an hour afterwards, Simmons came behind Elliott, and, with a knife, stabbed him in the back. Four times did he attempt to bury the blade in his rival's flesh; but it struck a bone each time, and no mortal wound was inflicted. Once the point of the weapon was resisted by the shoulder-blade, once by one of the ribs, once by the breast-bone, and once by the cheek-bone, glancing off which it cut Elliott's ear. The young man is severely but not dangerously wounded; while his assailant has been taken to Walkerton, there to have pronounced against him the punishment due to his crime.—Guelph Mercury.

SAD END OF A ONCE WEALTHY MAN.—On the 28th, an inquest was held in London on the body of James Corbin, of the county of Oxford. The deceased was committed to prison on the previous Saturday by order of Alderman Hughes, at the man's own request, he having stated that he had no means of providing for his wants. The deceased was formerly in the drug business, and took his diploma at Montreal. The coroner and several of the jury had known the man for nearly thirty years, and at one time he was one of the wealthiest men in Woodstock. His wife is living, and, when the deceased was in prosperity, he made over to her a living of \$1,000 per annum. When the unfortunate man was taken to prison, he appeared to suffer greatly through want. Several accounts were found on his person for medical attendance, dated from 1848 to 1857. He looked to be about seventy-five years of age. The body presented a shocking spectacle, being covered with sores and frost-bites; the right leg had been broken. Dr. Hobbs, on making a post-mortem examination of the body, stated that the inside was quite eaten away with liquor. The verdict rendered was that the deceased, James Corbin, came to his death from want, through cold and exposure.

ELIZABETH GAGE—HER ANTECEDENTS.—The following, from the Kingston Daily News, may throw some light on the character of the girl Gage and the motive she might have had for telling the story. It will be remembered she first told the singular story to her employer, Mr. Creighton, in Kingston:—"A singular story is told of the girl Elizabeth Gage, who, on the 15th of February, made the statement to Mr. Creighton in relation to the murder, at Montreal, of a young man, a nephew of a Mrs. Hooper, who kept a boarding-house in Wellington street, of that city. About two months ago, she got out of the provincial penitentiary, where she had served a term of two years, for the crime of horse-stealing. She was committed from some Western town, and is said never to have lived or been in Montreal. A lady in this city who had for many years taken a deep interest in the welfare of unfortunate young girls, made arrangements to have her placed in the Refuge at the close of her term of imprisonment, and she was taken there by one of the Penitentiary guards. How long she remained in the Refuge we have not ascertained, but since leaving there she has been a servant in no less than three different families in the city, from two of which money was due to her, which she refused to take until she returned from Montreal. A few days before she made the statement to Mr. Creighton, a woman, said to be her step-mother, brought her a telegram from Montreal conveying the information that her sister was at the point of death in that city. There is no doubt about the girl Gage being in possession of certain facts relative to Mrs. Hooper, and the particular spot where she resided. Having professed to live with M. Hooper at the time of the alleged poisoning, and for some time previous, the Magistrate, Mr. Creighton, thought it very strange that when she made her statement, she should have entirely forgotten the name of the missing young man who is said to have been poisoned. The supposition is that while in the penitentiary she must have come in contact with some other female convict who knew, and acquainted her with all the facts of the murder. Another supposition is that she made her statement at the time she did to obtain a free passage to Montreal to see her sister. It is not to be wondered at that Mrs. Hooper should deny all knowledge of the girl who confronted with her. It is somewhat remarkable that the girl, before making her statement, should have acted like one having a knowledge of some crime on her mind, for it is said that recently she would not go to sleep at night without having a light burning in her room. The facts here stated do not, however, lessen the probability of a murder having been committed.

QUEBEC. —The case Ruel looks as if it would turn out another Provencher affair. Drs. Provost, Girard, and Jacques have found strychnine in abundance in the body of the deceased. The body of Ruel's wife, buried 18 months, has been exhumed, and enough of the viscera found sound for chemical analysis.—Miscellaneous.

SUCKING ACCIDENT.—A man named John Scott, while attending to a threshing-machine, at St. Laurent, yesterday morning, had his hand crushed to pieces by the revolving cylinder, as he was endeavoring to draw out some straw which interfered with the proper working of the machine. He was immediately brought to the Montreal General Hospital, where amputation of the fore-arm was performed by Dr. Howard.—News.

QUEBEC, March 3.—It has been intensely cold the past two days, the thermometer having marked thirty degrees below zero, on Sunday night, at Charlesbourg heights. A soldier of the 30th regt., yesterday, received the severe sentence of six months' imprisonment, for stealing a musical instrument from a store in John street.

NOVA SCOTIA. BURNING OF THE GRAFTON-STREET CHURCH.—About 6 o'clock on Sunday evening, 23rd February, fire was discovered in the tower of the Grafton-street Wesleyan Church. It evidently originated in the tower from a defect in a hot-air pipe, as there was no fire in the body of the church when the flames were first discovered. There being a strong breeze blowing at the time, the fire made very rapid progress, and in a short time the entire building was in flames. The fire-brigade, and also a detachment of Royal Engineers, stationed at the South Barracks, were promptly on the ground. As there was no chance of saving the church, the firemen directed their efforts to saving the buildings in the vicinity; and in this they were successful, the church being the only building destroyed. There was the usual complaint of bursting hose, and there was never more reason for it than on this occasion. At half-past six the tower fell in with a tremendous crash, and at eight o'clock all that remained of the handsome church was a mass of smouldering ruins. The new brick building west of the church, used as a Sabbath-school house, was not injured. The fine organ, nearly new, and almost all the church-furniture, books, &c., were destroyed. Had the wind been from the south, we should probably have to chronicle a much more serious disaster, nearly all the buildings north of the church being of wood. The building was insured for \$9,000 in the London and Lancashire Insurance Company. The church cost \$20,000, and it will require a much larger sum to erect a new one of brick or stone.—Halifax Paper.

NEW BRUNSWICK. THE NEW M. P. FOR RESTIGOUCHE.—It is considered likely that Restigouche will elect W. M. Caldwell, Esq., a gentleman of great intelligence and ability, to represent it in Ottawa in the room of the Hon. John McMillan, resigned.

THE EXODUS.—A number of young men, first-rate mechanics, most of them, left this morning in the "New Brunswicks" for the United States. We know of several others who intend to follow, and the probability is that the coming spring will witness a greater exodus of our people than any we have had for a number of years.—St. John Globe.

THE EXODUS AGAIN.—If employment were not so scarce and wages were not so low in the United States at present, St. John would have lost one-half its population before this. It is deplorable to see the number of empty tenements in Brussels street, and many other streets. This is not what the advocates of Confederation promised the people. Our streets are dull, our shops empty, our factories half employed, our sh'yards silent, our tenement houses half deserted. Will any one explain why a healthy tone does not pervade our industry, why capital does not come into this Province, why activity is not visible in our commercial circles, why our industry is not stimulated, and why the Union does not give us some measure of prosperity, instead of this dreadful dose of bitterest adversity?—St. John Freeman.

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

THE WITNESS.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1868.

AGENTS WANTED FOR PUBLICATIONS OF THE WITNESS OFFICE.

Agents wanted in every city and county of the Dominion of Canada, to canvass for The Daily Witness, (semi-weekly) \$3.00 per an. Montreal Witness, (semi-weekly) 2 00 Weekly Witness, 1.00 Canadian Messenger, twice a month, 25 New Dominion Monthly, 1.00

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

The first thaw of the season is at this date (March 10th) in the fourth day of its continuance. The streets are thereby in a sorry condition, but the snow is disappearing with extraordinary rapidity, and the sidewalks being pretty much laid bare, it is now seen how the different artificial pavements have stood the winter. Upon the whole, they have stood it well, and the experience thus gained may be turned to account by the new City-Council. This new Council met on Monday evening, and Mr. W. Workman was installed as Mayor. The defeated candidate (Mr. J. L. Beaudry) is contesting the validity of the election, chiefly on the ground of its alleged illegality, inasmuch as the first day's polling took place on Ash-Wednesday, which is now a legal holiday. The old suit of the carters of Montreal against the Grand Trunk Company has ended adversely to the carters. They wished to restrict the Company from acting as common carters within the city.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

The Quebec Daily News is to be revived under the old management, and in opposition to the Government. The Quebec ship-builders are looking for government bounty to encourage their business. The Gulf-Ports Steamship Company have obtained the government mail-subsidy of \$750 per weekly trip for four years. The steamship "Lady Head," will probably run, this season, along the North Shore, and attempt to open up a new trade. The Ottawa government has received intelligence, it is said, to the effect that the colony of Vancouver Island desired admittance to the Canadian confederation. An exchange states that the water on Lake Erie and Niagara River is lower at the present time than has been the case for fifty years before. An appropriation of \$4,000 has been made by the Ontario Legislature, for the benefit of the widow of W. Lyon Mackenzie, for services rendered by her late husband to the old Province of Upper Canada, for which the sum of \$2,000 was once voted, but never paid. Mr. John H. Franklin has been gazetted administrator of the Nova-Scotian Government, Gen. Doyle being absent on leave. Sheriff Lawson, of Queen's County, N.B., has been shot by a man whose property he had seized for debt. There is a good deal of excitement in New Brunswick about the unsatisfactory state of the public accounts. They have been repeatedly asked for in the House of Assembly, but are not yet forthcoming. The House seems disposed to refuse to pass the Supply bill, until they obtain the desired detailed information. The Halifax Chronicle denies the statement that the Nova-Scotian members of the Dominion Parliament recently held a caucus, at which they decided to return to Ottawa upon the re-opening of Parliament. No such meeting has taken place, the Chronicle says, and the feeling of the country is decidedly against the N. S. members again going to Ottawa. The Saint John Telegraph states, on the authority of a well-informed friend, that one-half of the members of the present House of Assembly of New Brunswick are teetotalers. With such a proportion of abstainers, and with the assistance that would be willingly rendered by at least a few other members who, though not themselves pledged teetotalers, would still be glad to restrict the rum traffic, the New Brunswick Legislature ought to be able to pass a prohibitory liquor law. The St. John Globe notices a rumor that a Montreal Company has made some offers to the Dominion Government to build the Intercolonial Railway by either the Keswick Valley, the Central, or some more Southern route, for a certain subsidy. Mr. Hartley has also given notice in the House of Assembly of his intention to introduce a resolution that in the event of the Keswick Valley, the Central, via Grand Lake, or a more Western route, being selected, the House will provide the right of way through New Brunswick for the road. Notice has been given in the Commons of a bill to abolish the death-penalty. The Fenians recently captured at Dunganannon have been offered pardon, provided they would leave the kingdom, which they refused to do.

A summary of the debate in the House of Commons upon the "Alabama" question, which took place on Friday evening, is telegraphed in the midnight despatches. Mr. Johnson, Grand Orange Secretary, who was imprisoned for leading an illegal procession, has been released by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. The civil war in Japan, between the Tycoon and the Daimios, is continued with great fury. The foreign ministers have all left the newly-opened port of Osaka in consequence. The London Christian World, in an article which is highly laudatory of the Rev. Donald Fraser, of Inverness (formerly of Montreal), suggests him as a fitting successor for the late Dr. Hamilton of London, more especially as his views concerning Presbyterian union would suit England, perhaps, better than Scotland. The impeachment trial has commenced. Chief-Justice Chase took his seat in the Senate at one o'clock yesterday, when the necessary formalities were observed. The "far west" has been visited this season with the severest winter, and the deepest snows, that have been experienced in that region for many years. Thirty U. S. soldiers, and a number of Sioux Indians, were recently frozen to death on the road between Forts Sully and Rice, in Dakota Territory. It has been a bad hunting season for the Indians, and they have been driven to the necessity of eating a large number of their horses. EDUCATION.—We have received a copy of the second edition of a rather bulky pamphlet, on the subject of the education of the deaf and dumb, by John B. McGann. It is printed by the Globe Printing Company, and contains a good deal of interesting information on the above subject; also upon the treatment of infants and children. Mr. McGann is one of the highest authorities, we believe, in Canada, upon the education of the deaf and dumb. PRESERVED FRUIT.—The trade in fruit, preserved in its natural state, has latterly assumed extensive proportions in the United States; and we are glad to see that Canada is following in the same branch of business. Messrs. Kitchen & Smith, of Grimsby, Ontario, have sent us through Mr. Wm. McGibbon, grocer, of this city, sample-tins of the following fruits, viz.: Cherries, blackberries, strawberries, raspberries, peaches, pears, apples, and tomatoes. Several of these we have tried, and find that they possess pretty much the original flavor, and nearly the original color of the fruit. We therefore cordially recommend this branch of industry to public favor, as one calculated to promote health and comfort. IRREPARABLE LOSS BY FIRE.—Science and literature have just sustained a terrible loss in the destruction by fire of the immense establishment of the Abbe Migne, at Paris, with its treasures of erudition. There were in it manuscripts worth their weight in gold; and compilations, the result of thirty or forty years' labor of the best known savans of France. The stock was valued at twelve million francs. This was an ecclesiastical library and printing establishment, the largest of the kind in the world; and manuscripts of the first ages of the church have been destroyed in it. The fire took in the type foundry. Eight hundred persons have been thrown out of work by this catastrophe. The establishment was insured for six millions of francs in thirty-three insurance companies. SALARY FOR JAIL-CHAPELAINS.—The Daily News a few days ago had a paragraph calling for salaries for the overworked Catholic and Protestant chaplains of the jail, which the Nouveau Monde, the R. C. Bishops' journal, warmly seconds. Will the Daily News kindly give us a statement of the number of visits usually paid in a week to the jail; the number of sermons or other addresses preached; the number of copies of the scriptures, good books, and tracts circulated; and any other particulars showing the efficiency of the chaplaincy? We cannot expect him to give these returns for the Roman Catholic chaplain; but doubtless he can ascertain them so far as the Protestant chaplain is concerned, and they will give the public and the Government the means of judging of the wisdom of his recommendation. THE PARISH OF ST. HUBERT.—The Minerve learns from St. Hubert that Messrs. Bonneville and Hodges have bought a peat-bog in that parish of 11x32 acres, on which the peat averages eight feet in depth. This bog will be very easily worked, and it is only forty acres distant from the Grand Trunk, and eight miles from Montreal. The macadamized road from Ohambly to Montreal crosses it. The same parish is to have a model farm under the management of the Belgian Friars, recently established in Montreal. The model farm consisting of 200 acres round the church of St. Hubert, will be commenced as soon as these friars can get out a first-rate Belgian agriculturist. They are also going to take out a portion of the inmates of their Montreal House of Industry to work on it. The means for this effort have been furnished by M. O. Berthelet and Madame Montmarquet, of Montreal. IMPRICHMENT.—One of the most striking passages in the history of the United States is now taking place at Washington. Yesterday the

Senate was, according to the terms of the Constitution, resolved into a High Court to try the President upon the impeachment of the House of Representatives. Should two-thirds of the senators find President Johnson guilty, he will, from that moment, become a private man, incapable, we believe, of holding any office; and Benjamin Wade, President of the Senate, will become President of the United States at the same instant. Nor will Mr. Johnson have any power to resist this conclusion, for he has already done all in his power to obtain the control of the army without success; and if he did not succeed whilst wielding the Presidential power, it is not likely that he will do so when deposed. The fact appears to be that all parties are heartily tired of him.

A GREAT WANT IN LOWER CANADA.—Why do not our French-Canadian friends get up a newspaper? All their present journals seem to be chiefly intended as vehicles for the publication of long essays by priests, lawyers, doctors, and politicians, and the supply of news is absolutely homeopathic. Only think of the Minerve (which calls the other French journals "small papers")—the Ministerial and authoritative Minerve—never even attempting to give the debates in the Quebec Legislature further than they were supplied in meagre telegraphic reports and a general editorial comment. One would have expected the debates of the Parliament of Quebec to be a speciality with the leading political paper in the French language.

There must surely be some one or more among the million of French-Canadians capable of making a good newspaper in his own language; and if independently and vigorously conducted, and giving plenty of fairly selected news from France, Italy, Britain, the United States, Canada, &c., &c., it could not, we think, fail of success. It must be the lack of independence to select what is really interesting to the people, and the constant fear of an ecclesiastical censorship, which have hitherto prevented such an enterprise. But is there to be no emancipation from this state of pupillage?

LEGAL HOLIDAYS.

Le Nouveau Monde says that the laws setting apart legal holidays have always been in a muddle, which has been increased by the addition, at the instance of the Protestants, of Ash-Wednesday and Easter Monday. This addition was made in the Dominion Parliament last December, and in the Quebec Parliament, on the 24th February; and now the question arises whether this last act has not made Wednesday, the 26th Feb., a legal holiday, in which case the Montreal election that commenced on that day did not extend over the last four lawful days of February, as the law requires, but only over three of them. The Nouveau Monde protests against changes involving such important consequences being made without allowing time for all to conform, and we join in the protest. Suppose the recent Montreal civic election be declared illegal by the Courts, then all the subsequent proceedings of our Corporation will be illegal also, and endless litigation may arise out of them.

As a specimen of the blundering of previous legislation respecting holidays, we give the following particulars from Le Nouveau Monde.

Previous to the union, there was no law in Lower Canada on the subject, except that of the church, but, in 1849, an Act of Interpretation was passed, which enumerated the legal holidays as follows:—Sundays, New-Year's-Day, Epiphany, Annunciation, Good-Friday, Ascension, the Fete Dieu, St. Peter & St. Paul's, All-Saints, and Christmas, besides all days fixed by proclamation as days of fasting and prayer. Another Act which was passed in the same session, added Conception Day, and the Queen's Birthday, but left out the Sabbath-days, which, thenceforth, ceased to be legal holidays, as the Act declared absolutely that no days should be legal holidays but those enumerated. And, even yet, whilst the civil code omits Conception Day, and the Queen's Birthday, the code of procedure includes them both. Then comes the last great blunder; namely the adding of Ash-Wednesday and Easter-Monday suddenly to the list of holidays, with what consequences we have seen.

The legal holidays stand at present as follows:— All Sundays, 52 Days in the above lists, 13 65

Leaving three hundred days for business, unless some other denomination or nationality shall lay claim to a day or two.

Dominion day will henceforth probably be added to the list; and St. Jean Baptist, St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick's days have a claim for legislative sanction, which, if allowed, would bring up the holidays to 70.

One important point now brought out is, that no promulgation of the laws is required, unless so specified in the acts themselves. Many have thought that a law did not come into operation till published in the Official Gazette; but, according to our system, the Governor's assent is all that is required in the way of promulgation, and the law is from that moment in force.

Now, the law making a holiday of Ash-Wednesday was assented to on the 24th, and the day itself occurred on the 26th, so that no sufficient

interval was left to advertise the 25th as an election-day instead of the 26th; and therefore this act, if strictly construed, vitiated our election under any circumstances. But this was not all; notes protested on that day may turn out not to be protested at all, and yet no one could have protested them on any other day without knowing when the new law came into force.

Altogether, we do not remember of a greater legislative and executive mistake than this act, and the only help for it appears to be, to hold an extra session of the legislature forthwith, if even that could remedy all the evil.

We cannot, however, admire Mr. Beaudry's position of first carrying on an election contest, and then, when beaten, trying to prove the election null and void.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

The Boards of Trade throughout the country are passing resolutions upon this important subject,—which seem, from their uniformity, to have emanated from some common centre,—with a view to influence the legislation of the coming season.

In this question—which, in its scientific aspect, is a very complicated one—there are three parties whose interests are, in some respects, antagonistic. The smallest of these is that of the sugar refiners who are only two or three in number, and whose interest is evidently to have the tariff so arranged as to afford them more or less protection. The next in importance is that of the large importing grocers and wholesale merchants, numbering, perhaps, some thirty or forty firms, whose interest is to have the tariff so arranged as to stop the refineries, and throw the whole business of importing sugar into their own hands. The third, and most important interest, is that of the public, which may be fairly considered as represented on this question by the retail grocers and country merchants, all of whom wish to procure sugar to the best advantage for their customers, and care not a straw whether it comes from importers or refiners.

The refiners claim either that they should have a similar protection to that enjoyed by other manufacturers in Canada, or at the very least, that they should have a free-trade tariff; that is, a tariff which shall leave all parties in the same relative positions as if there were no duties on sugar at all.

The importers claim that a portion of the duty shall be specific and uniform on all grades, thus taxing the low grades imported by sugar refiners as much as the high grades imported by themselves. Such a measure would go far to extinguish the refineries, for a cent a pound on a four-cent sugar, such as is imported by refiners, would be a duty of 25 per cent,—whilst a cent on an eight-cent sugar imported by merchants, would be only 12½ per cent.; and refiners could not stand this discrimination against them. The importers, however, are willing that fully half of the duty should be ad valorem, in the operation of which half, the sugar-refiners would obtain some protection and this would besides be a means of throwing the trade into the hands of large importers from the West Indies, instead of into the hands of small importers from New York or Boston.

The public interest is to obtain the cheapest sugar after it has yielded a given revenue to the government. Now this, it will be seen, is a pretty complicated question, and it will take great wisdom on the part of the government to do what is just and right by all parties.

The thing that is most apparent just now is, that the Boards of Trade which are passing resolutions in favor of one cent a pound specific and twenty per cent. ad valorem on all grades, are controlled by the importers. The one cent specific would go far to kill off the refineries, and the twenty per cent. ad valorem would give importers from the Islands an advantage over importers from the States.

We cannot say that we fully understand this question in all its bearings; but, so far as we do, the only correct plan that we can see is to make the whole duty ad valorem on the value at the place of purchase, and thus leave our refiners and importers to fight out, on equal terms, the battle of supplying the public to the best advantage. This plan would also have the incidental advantage of increasing our external and internal carrying trade, instead of that of our neighbors of the United States.

The difficulty in the way of ad valorem duties is the door which they open to fraudulent invoices. It is easy to ascertain the number of pounds in a lot of sugar imported, but not so easy to ascertain its value at the place where it was purchased, and this difficulty is greatly aggravated by the large number of ports of entry all over Canada. It is impossible to place thoroughly competent and reliable collectors and valuers at every one of these; and it thus happens that, at some small port of entry somewhere in the Dominion, or it may be even a large one, there is an official who will let in sugar or anything else at a lower valuation than elsewhere, and thus give the importers through that port an advantage in the market. The remedy for this would be to have fewer ports of entry and an efficient custom-house staff at each.

There is a plan in New York to receive from all the prominent points of the West quotations of the labor market, so that emigrants may be sent at once to the points where their services will be most in demand.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

The months of January and February in the present year have been distinguished by an unusual stringency in the money market of this city,—a somewhat unusual state of things when taken in connection with the high prices of produce all over the country, and the consequent prosperity of the farming interest.

The reason, we apprehend, is to be found in the immense burden of over-importation which now presses upon a leading branch of our commercial business, and which, in a lesser degree, makes its influence felt in all parts of the country. Merchants, considering the constant fall in the price of staples, have used extraordinary efforts to reduce their stocks, and have forced off goods upon the country merchants far faster than they could be legitimately got rid of. Remittances, consequently, have not kept pace with sales; and there is now standing over, perhaps, a larger mass of indebtedness than was ever previously known. Meantime, remittances required to be made to English houses, and every possible effort was consequently made to raise money on "paper." Bank accounts became "full," managers were pressed, until refusal became decided to extend accommodation, and then resort had to be made to the "street," where money is always to be had at some rate or other, and the harvest of whose dealers is in tight times such as these. The fortunate borrowers have, consequently, had to pay as high as 12 to 20 per cent. for the discount of customers' paper, and for loans of a different class, where nothing but accommodation paper was available, even more.

Such has been the condition of the money market for a couple of months back, and this while money in London was going a begging at two per cent. But then London is not Montreal; and, even if it were nearer than it is, it is certain that no money would be forthcoming for our relief except on far better security than could be given.

Were the country not so sound and prosperous at its foundation, there might be reason for very serious apprehension at such a state of things. An excessive tightness of money sometimes precedes a general collapse, and there never has been a revulsion without that as a precursor. In this case, however, there need be no apprehensions of this character entertained.

It is a mere temporary difficulty, and largely confined to one branch of trade. The country storekeepers, as a whole, have been doing well, and making money for several years back, and the country itself, beyond all question, is much richer than it was a year ago. We have realized a heavy price for last year's crop so far as it has been exported, and what is now being exported, is still doing well. Canada can never suffer a general mercantile revulsion except from bad harvests; if these are good, nothing can prevent prosperity.

It is true, there are threatening signs that the present high prices cannot continue long. There are immense consignments of grain from the Mediterranean to England; and, in addition, we hear of large shipments from California. Similar shipments from the same region confounded the calculations of speculators last year, and it would not be at all a matter of surprise if the same thing occurred again.

That country now exports more wheat than gold, and its markets can never safely be left out of consideration in an attempt to calculate the chances of supply. Holders of stocks of grain in the West do so at very great risk, and prudence would dictate that attempts should be made to realize or divide the burden of speculation. There are immense quantities of grain locked up in the Erie canal, all of which, it must be remembered, must find a market before any of that now held in Canada can be got forward.

It is fortunate that we have now, to some extent, a winter outlet for produce. There are being shipped, by Grand Trunk, thousands of barrels of flour from the West, which find a market in the Lower Provinces and the States. And there is a considerable trade in cured hams and bacon for the English market, which only requires fostering to develop into one of the most important interests of the country. The trade, of course, finds a winter outlet at Portland.

This, to some extent, mitigates the effects of our long winter, with its suspended navigation, and heavy accumulations of produce, and diminishes to that extent the risk of millers and corn merchants, and of the banks who supply them with funds. It not only diminishes their risks, but keeps them comparatively easy during winter from the returns received for shipments.

The auditor's statement of the condition of the Banks is still unfortunately very incomplete. For some months back we have had the names of the banks of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick entered in detail, but only a few of these Banks have ever made returns. At present, only one bank in Nova Scotia, the Bank of Yarmouth, makes a return, and only two in New Brunswick; viz. the Bank of New Brunswick and the St. Stephen's Bank. A complete statement of the banks of the Dominion has never yet been procurable; and the returns for different months not having been of the same number of banks, it would answer very little purpose to give the totals as they appear in the Gazette.

We purpose, therefore, for the present, confining our attention, as heretofore, to the banks of Quebec and Ontario, and shall thus be able to

make comparisons between one period and another, which may yield some result. The only drawback is, that the Bank of British North America now includes its New Brunswick and Nova Scotia business in the return of its assets and liabilities.

Taking the statement, therefore, on this basis, we find the result as follows:—

Capital authorized.....\$37,466,666  
Capital paid up.....28,763,372

Table with columns for Jan. 31 and Dec. 31, 1867, showing circulation, deposits, and due to other banks.

Table with columns for Jan. 31 and Dec. 31, 1867, showing assets including specie and provincial notes, and notes of other banks.

The circulation of Provincial notes at the same periods was as follows:—

Table with columns for Jan. 31, Dec. 31, and Jan. 31, 1867, showing circulation of provincial notes.

The progress of the redemption of Bank of Montreal notes, from the time it adopted the Provincial currency, can be seen from the following statement of its circulation during each month, from September, 1866:—

Table showing monthly circulation of Bank of Montreal notes from September 1866 to January 1868.

It will be noticed how rapidly the redemption fell off, after the lapse of the first few months, until now the amount of notes presented is only about \$30,000 per month. The ratio of redemption will probably go on decreasing, and it is likely that many years will elapse before presentation ceases.

The amount of redemption to 31st of January was \$2,700,000. The amount of Provincial notes in circulation was \$4,247,000, as above stated. There are from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 at all times in the hands of the banks; and if the notes held by the Bank of Montreal for its ordinary business are considered to be in circulation, which they undoubtedly are, so far as the Government is concerned, the amount in circulation amongst the community cannot be more than has replaced the bills that would otherwise have been issued by the Bank of Montreal.

The bank circulation during January increased some \$330,000. The increase at the same time last year was \$150,000 only. This should indicate a much greater activity of business in the West this year than last, but facts do not bear out the assumption.

Deposits have decreased \$938,000, the larger part of which is in the accounts of the Bank of Montreal, and is, doubtless, owing to the payment of interest in England for the Government. We have often pointed out with satisfaction how steadily the deposits of the banks have gone on increasing year by year, and how regularly the increase has been maintained, even in spite of the withdrawal of deposits temporarily placed in Canada by Southerners during the war. There can not be a better evidence of growing prosperity and progress than this, and to enable that progress to be seen at a glance, we append a statement of the deposits of the banks at intervals for the last twenty-five years.

This statement is approximately correct, though it is very possible that the exact figures in the earlier years would be somewhat different. At all events, the figures are sufficiently near the truth for purposes of comparison over such a lengthened period.

Table titled 'DEPOSITS OF THE BANKS OF CANADA FOR THE YEARS SEVERALLY NAMED' showing deposits from 1842 to 1859.

Now, considering what terrible financial reversions have occurred during these periods; how, in 1846 and 1847, the commercial classes of this city were reduced almost to beggary, and every interest paralyzed for years afterwards; and how, in 1857 and 1858, a similar reversion swept over the whole of Western Canada, leaving its brighting influence perceptible almost to the present,—it is remarkable how steady has been our progress in spite of it all. From \$2,800,000 in 1849, to \$28,000,000 in less than twenty years afterwards, is an advance that nobody

could have dreamed of in former times; and if some of those prophets of evil, residents of other countries, who have repeatedly spoken of the country as irretrievably ruined, could but see what its condition now, they would marvel at its recuperative powers, and have more faith in human progress than has been their wont. It was Lord Sydenham, we think, who said, in his day, that "Western Canada was a 'girdled tree,'"—a most apt comparison, this, provided it expressed the truth. A girdled tree, as Canadians know, can grow no more, but is doomed to decay and destruction. Western Canada, fortunately, has disappointed this sinister prognostication.

It is not many years since a very eminent Englishman, who visited Canada West and became intimately acquainted with its condition, expressed a most unfavorable opinion of its prospects. He found it in the depth of the depression brought on by the panic of 1857. Very few mercantile houses were sound, country storekeepers had their books full of bad debts, mechanics in numbers were leaving the towns, farmers were getting into debt and mortgaging their properties; and the great probability was that the country would have to go through a purgation something like that effected by the Irish Encumbered Estates Court before entangled affairs could become straight. Such was the prospect less than ten years ago. How signally events have falsified these predictions we all know.

The amount of Specie and Provincial Notes has increased \$70,000 during the month; but whether the increase has been in specie cannot be told under the present system of making returns. The Bank of Montreal, having the control of the Provincial currency, can at any time, without difficulty, increase the amount of such funds in its possession; but this, of course, adds nothing to the real strength of the banks. The real test of the strength of the banks, as a whole, would be to compare the aggregate of specie in their hands, with the aggregate of notes in circulation, provincial as well as bank. The Bank of Montreal being the agent of the Government, and responsible for carrying out the redemption of its notes, the provincial circulation should be added to its liabilities when this end has to be arrived at.

The proportion of specie to circulation, considered as a whole, is probably about 6 to 11; which is as large a proportion as is needed. The debentures held for the redemption of provincial notes cannot be reckoned as of much value in case of emergency, for gold could not be raised on them in Canada, without its coming out of the general stock held in the Province; and the fact of an emergency arising would inevitably prevent gold being raised on them in New York.

The large reduction in Balances due from other banks, has, no doubt, arisen from the payment of the half-yearly interest on the debt of the Government, for which, of course, exchange on England has to be remitted.

Notes Discounted have increased some \$500,000 during the month. The very large increase under this head, since January of last year cannot fail to excite attention. That there should be a strong demand for more money after such an increase as \$7,000,000 in the discounts during the year is a very remarkable fact, and it proves either that commercial operations—say imports—have assumed most unreasonable proportions during the year, or else, that the increase of discounts has not been wholly in Canada. There may be truth in both suppositions.

There may be another reason for the tightness of money in the uneasiness felt respecting the banking legislation of the future. The present banks will doubtless feel it their duty to keep unusually strong in funds, so as to be prepared for any course that events may take.

If a government circulation, or a circulation based on government securities, is substituted for our present bank circulation, it will necessitate a very large curtailment of discounts to the mercantile community. Such a curtailment cannot take place without embarrassment and disaster, and banks may, even as early as this, be preparing the way by a gradual reduction, so as to make the burden fall as lightly as possible.

TORONTO CORRESPONDENCE.

Toronto, March 3, 1868.

That never-failing topic, when a lack of other subjects causes conversation to flag, the weather, has for the last week or two assumed an unwonted degree of importance; and, in place of being merely a subject for casual remark when "friend meets friend," and the customary salutations are exchanged, has become the uppermost and all-absorbing consideration in the minds of the business community. When mails are delayed for a week, and the communication between the great centres of commerce blocked by the drifted snow, disarranging the commercial system and paralyzing business for the time, it is no wonder that the question, "Will it snow to-day?" carries with it an unusual significance; and that the signs indicative of fair or stormy weather are watched for with a more than ordinary intendment and anxiety. Last week was ushered in with probably the storm of this tempestuous season; a keen, cutting wind, bearing along with it, as it swept the streets, a blinding, drifting snow,—not the large, soft flakes about the size of a ten-cent piece, but minute fragmentary crystals with such an insinuating way about

them, that they whirled and drifted through the smallest apertures, under doors and through windows, and wherever they had the slightest chance of an admission. The snow lay piled in heaps on the streets five and six feet deep, while portions of the ground would be swept quite bare by the force of the wind. The appearance of the city on Monday and Tuesday morning suggested very forcibly the idea that a Fenian or other hostile attack was apprehended, and that the citizens, like good and loyal subjects, were preparing for their reception by throwing up fortifications, so numerous were the workers with the shovel, and the piles of snow at the edge of the sidewalks. As for railway travel, it was out of the question. A train did start for the east on Monday evening, bearing a few undaunted and venturesome souls who dared to brave the perils of the storm; but all their endurance and heroism was needed before they returned. In spite of three detached locomotives preceding them to clear the track, and an equal number following in rear to keep open communication with their "base of supplies," the ill-fated expedition did not proceed further than six miles, before they found themselves unable either to advance or retreat. The passengers passed the night and the most of the following day on the cars, without food, except such as they had brought with them; and it was two or three days before the train could be extricated. Similar detentions took place on the other lines; and, notwithstanding extra locomotives, the unequal conflict between the science of man and the fury of the elements, everywhere terminated in favor of the latter. The post-office was temporarily an obsolete institution, and letter-carriers and mail-clerks found their occupation gone. No mails were received on Monday or Tuesday, and none from the east until Thursday. We were practically enabled to realize the old-fashioned ways of our forefathers, and the days when railways were not, and mails were few and far between, and came by stage. Towards the end of the week the roads were cleared and travel resumed; but yesterday the storm swooped down on us again, and with howls which a vivid imagination might fancy as the shrieks of the snow-demon exulting in his work and defying the puny efforts of man, scattered its whirling flakes and piled up its fleecy drifts, causing a partial suspension of railway traffic. The present tempestuous spell of weather will long be remembered by railway-men and those who have been inconvenienced by the suspension of travel.

In connection with railway matters, the termination of the "battle of the gauges" in favor of the narrow-gauge system naturally suggests itself. The victory of the narrow-gauge advocates has been complete and decisive,—all the railways which asked the privilege having had it granted them. The Toronto and Nipissing, and Whitby and Port Perry Railway bills, as I mentioned previously, succeeded in passing the Standing Committee on Railways, with this feature embodied in their provisions. In the beginning of last week, the Toronto, Grey and Bruce bill was taken up, and, as was rather anticipated, the Committee refused to sanction the adoption of any less gauge than five feet six inches, on the ground that the other lines were experiments merely, and not to be taken as precedents in the matter, and that they were opposed to breaking up the standard railway system of the country by allowing a trunk-line to be built on any other gauge. The vote of the committee was very decisive, being 18 against 9. Nothing daunted by this, however, when the bill, as amended in committee, came up in the House, on Thursday, the 27th ult., Hon. M. C. Cameron, one of the promoters of the line, moved the House into Committee of the Whole, so as to amend the bill by reinserting the clause authorizing the narrow gauge. Mr. Cumberland, in the interest of the existing lines of railway, fought it, tooth and nail, and one of the most exciting debates of the session ensued. The usual arguments, pro and con, were fully gone over. Mr. Cameron was the principal speaker in favor of, and Mr. Cumberland against, the amendment. The galleries were crowded with spectators; and, as the narrow-gauge scheme is very popular with the business men of Toronto, who are more particularly expecting to benefit by the construction of these lines the speech of Mr. McKellar, favoring the amendment, "brought down the house" in a burst of unparliamentary applause. The Premier threatened to clear the galleries if this demonstration were repeated. On a vote being taken at half-past one in the morning, the division showed 34 to 30 for the amendment. The bill came up for the third reading yesterday, and a motion by Mr. Hays to refer it back to committee of the whole, was defeated by a nearly identical vote of 34 to 31, and the bill passed as it stood. The other bills were also read the third time, so that the question may now be considered practically settled, and the promoters of any future railway enterprise will no doubt be permitted the same privilege should they desire it. The Globe exults over the independence shown by the House in passing the bill in spite of the influence brought to bear against it by the ministry, excepting Mr. Cameron, and the Grand Trunk, Northern, and Great Western Railways.

The Government, having reconsidered their determination not to allow of any amendments to the Municipal Act this session, Mr. Rykert's Municipal Amendment Bill passed the third reading on Wednesday. This Bill must not be confounded with the Bill for the amendment of the Assessment Act, also introduced by Mr. Rykert, who is chairman of both the Municipal and Assessment Committees. The last measure is positively postponed. The principal feature of the Municipal Amendment Bill is the lowering of the property qualification conferring the franchise, which has been fixed as follows:—Real property, owned or occupied in cities, of the actual value of \$500; towns, \$300; townships and incorporated villages, \$100. Mr. McKellar's additional clause for conferring the franchise on all having an income of \$60, on which taxes were paid, was struck out. Evidently, the House are very far behind the age and the sentiment of the country, when such a reasonable and very moderate concession as this is refused. There is a vast amount of fossil Toryism yet to be got rid of, even in that comparatively radical body,—the Ontario Legislature. When such illiberal and unprogressive legislation takes place, it is any wonder that our young men leave the country in disgust, and seek their fortunes in a land where they are not doomed to political serfdom? And yet, such is the shortsightedness and unreasoning obstinacy of some

of our statesmen (?), that to-morrow we may hear some of the very legislators who voted down this clause, bemoaning, in pitiful accents, the depletion of our country by the emigration of our energetic and pushing young men to the States, and wondering why more emigrants from Europe do not come and share the blessings of our free and glorious government! When will our law-makers exercise a little common sense, and learn that, to compete with the Americans as a field for emigration, we must make our laws equally liberal? Mr. McKellar's motion, on the third reading, for a re-insertion of the clause, was voted down by 47 to 27,—as the Hamilton Times justly and forcibly remarks, "the most disgraceful vote of the session."

Burglaries have been very numerous of late, and not one-half of those committed get into the papers,—the detectives keeping them quiet and refusing to communicate details, for fear it might put the robbers on their guard. Anything more stupid than such an idea it is difficult to conceive. Burglars, according to these sapient gentry, after making a haul, do not, as a general thing, take any particular pains to conceal their plunder or hide their participation in the offence, concluding that no particular notice will be taken of it by the police. If, however, the affair gets into print, the depredators hastily cover up all traces of their guilt, and leave for that indefinite region to which rascals naturally gravitate; viz., "parts unknown." Wonderful are the workings of the detective mind to which we owe the elaboration of this theory! But, seriously, the notion of concealing from the press and the public the extent of the robberies now daily committed in our midst for such a reason is preposterous. Probably the true cause why the detectives do not wish these affairs to come to light is, that ill-natured and cynically disposed people might begin to inquire how many of the marauders have been captured by the detectives aforesaid, and would not be wholly satisfied with the statement that "the police are on the alert," unless the alertness was productive of tangible results,—which, hitherto, has not been the case.

Another Poisoning Case.—Toronto, March 9.—A woman named Mannion, residing on Ann street, was arrested yesterday on suspicion of having poisoned her family, consisting of her husband and three children. One of the children is dead. The others are not expected to recover.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE, Tuesday, March 10.

The weather to-day is very mild and snow thawing rapidly. The thermometer at 7 a.m., 33° above zero.

Greenbacks bought at 28½ to 29 dis., and sold at 28¼ discount. Silver bought at 4 dis., and sold at 3¼ discount. 5-20's sold at 107½ to 110, and 7-30's sold at 106½.

In Toronto, Greenbacks are buying at 70½ to 70¼; selling 71½ to 71¼ on the \$\$. Silver buying, large, at 4¼; selling at 4½ dis. U. C. Bank Bills, in demand, at 64½ to 65c. on the \$.

The SUGAR DUTIES.—At a meeting of wholesale merchants, held recently in Toronto, the following resolution was passed, after considerable discussion; viz:—

"That we are of opinion that the rate of duty on sugar imported into the Province should be changed from the existing tariff to the following rates:—One cent per lb. specific duty, and 20 per cent. ad valorem on all grades of sugar."

Some thought that the duty should be wholly ad valorem, in order to encourage importers to go to the countries of production, instead of purchasing in New York.

The same resolution has been passed by many Boards of Trade.

NEW INSOLVENTS.—Paul B. Gauthier, Montreal; W. R. Watts, Goderich; P. Perrault, Stanbridge; Anson H. Brown, Woodstock; C. Yarwood, St. Thomas; Germain Leauge, Montreal; Jas. Rankin, Toronto; Henry Hankle, Jr., St. Catharines; John Craig, Ashburnham, county of Fifeborough; Hunter, Duffy, & Johnson, Montreal; Thomas Short, do.; Dion & Frere, St. Cesaire village; Sylvester Fanning, Belleville; Francis Renaud, St. Cesaire; T. Downing, Toronto; W. Higginson, London; John Townsend, Toronto; Ira Lewis, Goderich; Jos. L. Vincent, Longueuil.—Gazette.

WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.

MONTREAL, Friday, March 6.

With the exception of an advance of two cents the gallon on refinery syrups, and of about 10c. to 20c. the 100 lbs. on rice, and a firmer market for sugars, there is little to notice as to groceries. Trade is confined pretty much to orders, with some little local inquiry for teas at generally unchanged prices.

The Tariff question is still absorbing a good deal of attention. There does seem an earnest desire to have a Tariff framed that will give satisfaction as far as practicable, and have the elements of stability as to its provisions and character.

SALT.—Liverpool coarse, \$1.40 to \$1.50; Liverpool refined, \$1.60 to \$1.75; Factory filled, \$2 to \$2.25; Packing, per bush, 30c. There is an inclination to more activity in Coarse and Stoved Salt. Inquiries are made, and small transactions daily tend to strengthen the market, though no change in prices is noted. Indications are that there will be a scarcity and advanced prices.

GRAIN IN STORES IN TORONTO.—The stocks of grain in the city warehouses on the 5th inst. were:—Spring wheat, 91,817 bush., against 86,000 bush. last year; fall wheat, white, 69,369 bush.; midge-proof, 16,849 bush.; total fall, 86,218 bush., and 80,767 bush. last year. Oats, 34,700 bush., against 6,000 last year. Pease, 20,000 bush., against 17,100. Barley, 800 bu. Flour, 11,900 barrels, against 15,800 barrels.—Leader.

Markets Telegram.

LONDON, March 9.—1:20 p.m.—Consols 93 to 93½. Bonds, 71½ to 71¾. A. & G. W. 29½. I. C., 98½. Erie, 50½.

NEW YORK, March 9.—1:20 p.m.—Cotton irregular; Uplands, 10½ on spot; do. afloat, 10½. Orleans, 10½. New Corn, 43s 6d. Beef, 115s. Pork, 77s 6d. Medium Rosin, 12s. Tallow, 43s 9d. Naval stores, dull.

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—March 10.

Cattle, Extra, none; First Quality, \$7.50 to \$8.00; Second and Third, \$7.00 to \$7.50; Milch Cows, \$25 to \$30; Extra, \$35.00 to \$40.00; Sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; Lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.50; Hogs, live-weight, none offering; dressed, \$3.75 to \$7.00; Hides, inspected, 7c.; Pelts, 80c. to \$1.20; Tallow, 5c.

REMARKS.—Roads are now clear, and markets better supplied with all kinds of stock than last week.

MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES

FOR MARKET DAY, March 10, 1867.

Table listing retail market prices for various commodities like flour, sugar, and butter.

REMARKS.—The attendance to-day was fair, and better than for a long time past. The articles offered for sale sold freely.

Corn Exchange Daily Reports.

(Furnished exclusively to the "Daily Witness.")

WHOLESALE PRODUCE PRICES

MONTREAL CORN EXCHANGE, March 9.

Flour, per barrel of 196 lbs.—Superior Fancy, nominal; Extra, \$7.75 to \$8.25; Superior, \$7.55 to \$7.70; Superfine, from Canada Wheat, \$7.40 to \$7.50; Strong Superfine from Canada Wheat, \$7.60 to \$7.70; Super. from Western Wheat, \$7.45 to \$7.50; City brands of Western, nominal; Super. No. 2, \$7.15 to \$7.30; Fine, \$6.40 to \$6.65; Middlings, \$6.00 to \$6.35; Pollards, \$5 to \$5.75; Bag-Flour, \$3.75 to \$3.80 per 100 lbs. Market firmer to-day, and Supers are 5c. per bbl. dearer. Sales of Canada Superior in 100-barrel lots at \$7.45 to \$7.47, and \$7.50; and Strong Bakers' Flour at \$7.60 to \$7.70. A 500-barrel lot of Welland Canal Flour sold at \$7.50. Other grades quiet.

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

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

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

OATS, per bush. of 32 lbs.—Firmer; latest sale at 48c. for May delivery.

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

BARLEY, per 48 lbs.—Scarce, and wanted; good L. C. nominal, at \$1.00 to \$1.05.

ASHES per 100 lbs.—Market quiet; sales of First Pots this forenoon at \$5.65 to \$5.67;—a round lot (66 barrels) sold on Saturday afternoon at \$5.77½; Second, \$4.95 to \$5; Thirds, \$4.65 to \$4.70. First Pearls, \$6.50 to \$6.62½.

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

DRESSED HOGS, per 100 lbs.—Prices are \$5.75 to \$6.00, for ordinary and good parcels.

PORK, per bbl. of 200 lbs.—Mess, \$19.25 to \$19.50; Thin Mess, \$16.50 to \$17.00; Prime Mess, \$14.00 to \$14.50, and Prime, \$13.50.

FINANCIAL.—Sterling Exchange quiet; Bankers' 60-day drafts on London, nominal, at 9½ to 10 premium; counter or discount rate, 11 prem. Best Private, 9½ prem. Documentary and Produce bills, nominal at 9 premium. (The rate for 60-day Sterling Exchange in New York city to-day, as reported by telegraph, was 9½ premium.) Buying and selling of Demand-drafts on New York, 28½ to 29 discount,—the quotation for gold in that city at noon yesterday being 140½. Gold drafts on New York, par,—scarce.

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

MILWAUKEE, March 7.—Wheat, No. 1, \$2.01½ in store; No. 2, \$1.95 in store; receipts, 3,000 bu.; shipments, 1,000 bu. Flour, \$9. Mess Pork, \$23.00.

CHICAGO, March 7.—No 1 Wheat, \$2.00 in store; receipts, 8,000 bush.; shipments, 4,000 bush. Corn steady, 84c.; receipts, 34,000 bu.; shipments, 2,000 bushels. Mess Pork, dull, \$23.50 to \$24.00.

SPECIAL NOTICES

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

S. J. Foss & Co., Sherbrooke, prepare Hunt's Hair Gloss.—Buy a box of Colby's Pills in case of need.—Jacob's Rheumatic Lotion for colds.

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

Family Reading.

[For the Witness.]

WEE MAGGIE.

Pearls gae fiesin' owre the sky,  
Clouds, like blossoms, driftin' by,  
Pure an' sweet an' fair an' high,—  
Could ye no' detain them?

Draw-drops on the skirts o' morn,  
Wi' the fresh-lipped dawnin' born,  
Glistin' bright frae bush an' thorn,—  
Could ye no' detain them?

Wild birds a' the summer hours  
Singin' saft mid leafy bowers,  
Flown ere cauld-rife winter hours,—  
Could ye no' detain them?

Wee bit birdies o' oor ain  
Peep an' chirp an' syne are gane;  
Owre their empty nests we mane,  
But canna detain them.

Little Maggie, weel named "Pearl,"  
Trippit lightly thro' the warl,  
Garred oor hairts gae loup an' dirle,—  
Baith did joy an' pain them.

Siccan' wise, auld-fashioned ways,  
Mounted specs, an' weel-printed claes:  
Heard ye not o' auld-time fays,—  
Wha' did e'er detain t'hem?

Whaur the awesome river ran,  
Sudden curbed her life's bit span;  
Feared she first, then fawn-like sprang,  
Gowden fithold gainin'.

Hame, wee lammie, hame whaur rest  
Safter is than mither's breast:  
Wham the tender Shepherd blest,  
Wad ye seek detain them?

Mrs. J. STREET.

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE-FIELD.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "RECOLLECTIONS OF A CHECKERED LIFE."

In those days of military tastes and of Volunteer Associations, it may interest a few to hear a brief account of some of the singular escapes which occur in battle, by an ex-volunteer who has had some experience in the field. It was my lot to belong to the United States Volunteer Army throughout the late rebellion, and the position which I occupied gave me opportunities of witnessing many singular deaths, and some still more singular escapes. In the following brief paper, I shall relate some of the latter which came under my own observation, or for the authenticity of which I can vouch. But, first, let me say a word about the different methods employed in modern warfare for the destruction of human life. Indeed, I may say that there is only one method: for fire-arms, in one shape or other, are almost exclusively the weapons used, swords or bayonets being very rarely brought into requisition. Still, there are different branches of the military service, each branch having arms more or less different from the others. I have heard the different departments of an army classified in the following manner: cavalry for show, artillery for fright, and infantry for execution. I will not say that this is correct; but there is a great degree of correctness in the classification, at least, as regards the place assigned to infantry. Round shot, commonly known as cannon-balls, are rarely used save in sieges, or in clearing away some obstacle to the advance of an army. Shell, again, are generally employed in discovering the position of an enemy, or at the commencement of an action; but, when the work begins in earnest, the rifle is the weapon relied on; and ugly neighbors those rifle-bullets are, their peculiar "whiz zip," when they pass your ear and strike some object near, having far from a soothing effect upon people of a nervous disposition. The deaths from round shot are comparatively rare, yet those missiles are sometimes alarming enough. On one occasion a down-east or Yankee regiment were employed as skirmishers, as the column neared the enemy's position. A round shot, from a battery, struck in front of a tall raw Vermonter, who had heard that in such a case it was safest to take up a position where the shot struck, from the unlikelihood of two shots striking the same spot. He adopted this theory, but had scarcely taken his position, when a second shot dug up the ground within a foot or two of him. Our hero speedily evacuated his position, afterwards remarking that it did not strike exactly the same spot, but came so alarmingly near that he thought he had better keep moving. On another occasion, our regiment were employed as skirmishers; and while one of the men was crossing a fence, the top-rail, on which he stood, was splintered to atoms by a round shot, without his receiving any injury. At the siege of Atlanta, while our brigade was moving from one position to another, it exposed itself to a rebel battery, which opened on us with shell and round shot. The men were in what is called heavy marching order, that is, they carried all their effects with them; and a corporal of our regiment had his knapsack struck from his back by a round shot, a twelve-pounder, and had all his ward robe scattered to the winds, without himself receiving any injury. The knapsack was old, and the straps somewhat decayed, or he would not have escaped so easily.

Shell are much more deadly, and when dropped among a body of men usually do great damage, besides being very apt to demoralize, or cause panic among troops. The most remarkable escape from a shell with which I am acquainted, occurred in the experience of a Scotch sergeant belonging to our regiment, at the time we were stationed at Fort Pickens in Florida. The fort was on a small sandy island in the Gulf of Mexico, about a mile from the mainland of Florida. On the mainland, the confederates held Fort McRae, Barancus, and the Navy Yard. Besides Fort Pickens, we had several sand batteries, and the company to which our Scotch sergeant belonged was in charge of

one of those batteries. On New-Year's Day, 1862, a bombardment of those forts was commenced by General Brown, the Federal commander. At the close of the first day's bombardment, the sergeant was sitting in his hut behind the battery, making out a detail of men for the following day, when along came a riddled shell from Fort Barrancus; knocking the book on which he was writing out of his hand, demolishing the hut, digging an immense hole in the sand, blowing the sergeant about ten feet in the air, and, taking the leg off a man who stood about fifty feet behind the hut. The sergeant descended into the excavation made by the shell, where nothing but his head was visible, the loose sand having gathered round him. Another Scotchman who lived with the sergeant in the hut came up to gather up the remains of his comrade, and could scarce preserve his gravity, when the supposed dead man greeted him with the exclamation, "I declare, Jock, our shanty's gone!" Strange as it may seem the sergeant had not a scratch, yet the book on which he had been writing was found cut in two diagonally, as if the operation had been performed with a knife.

One of the grandest sights that I remember to have seen during the war, I witnessed at this station some months after the occurrence of the incident above mentioned. The sergeant had got his hut rebuilt; and, as he could tell a good story, sing a good song, and was withal a genial kind of soul, I was in the habit of spending an evening with him occasionally; often you may be sure talking of Bonny Scotland, and the scenes of our early years. One evening I had been with him pretty late, and returned to my quarters when the camp was still as the grave, all apparently being asleep, save the sentries on duty. It was a beautiful night in May, and I was taking a farewell view of the heavens and the beautiful bay before entering my tent, when I saw a most brilliant white light on Fort McRae. Instantly a similar one appeared on Barrancus, and thereafter at the Navy Yard. Evidently, it was a signal of some kind, and the sentries, of course, immediately reported it. Before many minutes, those forts, along with the Navy Yard and Marine Hospital, were enveloped in flames of the fiercest character. It soon became evident that the Confederates were evacuating the forts, and wished to destroy everything before doing so. The forts must have been filled with combustibles, such as tar and rosin, for the flames literally illuminated the heavens, as with living gold. High in the heavens, clouds of lurid smoke formed a canopy to the elemental war below, and soon another element of grandeur was added to the scene. Our commanding officer, rightly judging that the Confederates were destroying the government property, opened on them with shells from the fort. Mortar shells were principally used, and added a new feature to the scene. Mortars are short, wide cannon, and the shell fired from them have a fuse which ignites when the mortar is fired, and is of the length sufficient to burn till the shell reaches the object aimed at. According to the distance of that object, those mortars are elevated; so that at the distance of a mile, the elevation would perhaps be 45 or 50 degrees. The shell therefore describes a parabola, and as it revolves through the air at night, you can watch its course as I did on this occasion; the fuse twinkling like a star of the first magnitude, till the shell burst among the clouds of lurid smoke, illuminating them as you have seen sheet-lightning illuminate a murky cloud, on a summer evening. This grand spectacle continued throughout the night, and I am sure can never be forgotten by any one who witnessed it. The unnaturalness of the contest impressed me very powerfully about this time. Here were two sections of a powerful nation, lately united in the closest amity and prosperity, now endeavoring to destroy the lives of each other, as well as the common property of both. Each faction was perfectly sincere in their belief, that they were fighting for a pure principle; and, above all, for liberty.

But this is a digression, and I must return to my narration of incidents. Another very singular escape from a shell occurred at the siege of Atlanta, in Georgia. Colonel G— of our regiment was commanding the brigade, the regiment being under command of the major. One morning, those gentlemen were to breakfast together in the major's tent, immediately inside the breast-works, which were composed of large trees piled one on top of the other, and banked up with earth. This breast-work formed one side of the tent, and just as they were in the act of sitting down to their repast, a rebel shell came along straight through the breast-work into the tent. Most fortunately for the inmates, it did not explode; but being a conical shell struck between the logs forming the breast-work, projecting about four inches directly in front of the colonel. The concussion upset the table as well as the major and his man, scattering earth and debris all around. The colonel, who was a remarkably cool man, and afterwards lost his life at the battle of Jonesboro, kept his seat, and when order was somewhat restored, exclaimed with considerable warmth, "That stupid Johnny has completely spoiled our ham and eggs!" I must here explain that the Union or Federal soldiers, always called the rebels, or Confederates, Johnnies, and they in turn called all Northern soldiers Yankees, although the term properly applies only to the people of the New-England States; the term Yankee being a corruption or modification of an Indian word, signifying English, as applied by the Indians to the original settlers in the Eastern States.

I shall now give a few instances of escapes from rifle shot, but they must be understood as modified escapes; namely, from death after the man had been wounded in what would seem a fatal manner. I might give instances of men whose lives have been saved, through a ball having been intercepted by a book or other object in a pocket, by a canteen, a cartridge-box, or other appendage; but, in an engagement of any consequence, almost every

one has had so many bullets near him, if not through his clothes, that the escape is not considered wonderful unless he has lost some trifling convenience, such as a toe, a finger, or even a piece of his scalp, admonishing him that, had he been an inch taller, it would have been all up with him. I know more than one, who wear a silver plate in the upper story, to keep the air from their brain, and who yet enjoy tolerable health.

The first escape I shall notice was that of a sergeant at the battle of Jonesboro, a very sharp affair, and which, by the bye, decided the fate of Atlanta. A sergeant was cheering and gesticulating at a great rate, when a rebel bullet literally stopped his noise by entering his mouth, performing an extensive dental operation in its course, and coming out at the back of his neck, narrowly escaping the vertebrae. After having been some time in hospital, and his wound being to all appearance almost healed, it again became much swollen, suppurated, and discharged four or five of his grinders, after which, it very sensibly healed up, and gave him no further trouble.

Another very remarkable case was that of Captain C—, at the same fight. He was struck by a rifle shot in the stomach, the ball coming out at his back, yet he recovered; and, when last I saw him, was as healthy-looking a man as you could wish to meet with. But there is no use in particularizing. The wounds from rifle-shot are so numerous that you can in an hospital, after a battle, see men who have been shot in almost every part of the body, and yet recover. On the other hand, many who seem to have very unimportant wounds die. And here, although it be foreign to the subject with which I commenced, I must say that, during the late war, many of those poor wounded fellows got very poor attendance. It cannot be denied that the government, and even the citizens,—particularly the ladies,—did everything possible for their benefit; but, after one of those large slaughtering, the wounded were so numerous that it was impossible to bestow proper attention upon all. But it cannot be denied that there was a want of medical experience among the army physicians. Too many medical students and apothecaries, without a degree, were admitted through favor, or through want of better, to the rank of army surgeon. I remember of hearing a very good story as a bit at this class. It may be true though I do not vouch for its correctness. A poor Irishman had got wounded in the arm, and had submitted without a murmur to amputation. The surgeon, who was noted for his roughness, complimented the poor fellow upon his great nerve; remarking that, on that account, he would have made an excellent doctor. Pat replied, "An' sure wasn't it meself that was next thing to a doctor afore I jo'ed the army." "Indeed," said the doctor, "you were a druggist, then." "No," replied Pat, but I was a butcher."

Let me, in concluding this short paper, hope that our New Dominion may long be spared the miseries of war; for, though there may be considerable "pomp and circumstance of glorious war" in a field-day or a review, there is precious little of it in actual warfare, as many of our Crimean heroes can tell.

I shall now conclude this rambling paper, with a few verses on the subject of war. I consider them very beautiful, but am unable to give the author's name:—

I looked on the field where the battle was spread,  
Where thousands stood forth in their glancing array,  
And the beam from the steel of the valiant was shed  
Through the dim rolling clouds that o'ershadowed the fray.

I saw the dark forest of lances appear;  
As the ears of the harvest unnumbered they stood;  
I heard the stern shout of the foeman draw near,  
Like the storm that lays low the proud pines of the wood.

Afar the harsh notes of the war-drum were rolled,  
Upraising the wolf from the depth of his lair;  
On high, to the wind, streamed the banner's red fold,  
O'er the death-cloze of hate and the scowl of despair.

I looked on the field of contention again,  
When the sabre was sheathed and the tempest had passed;  
The wild weed and thistle grew rank on the plain,  
And the fern softly sighed in the low, wailing blast.

Unmoved lay the lake in its hours of repose,  
And bright shone the stars through the sky's deepened blue,  
And sweetly the song of the night-bird arose  
Where the fox-glove lay gemmed with its pearl-drops of dew.

But where swept the ranks of that dark, frowning host,  
As the ocean in might, as the storm-cloud in speed?

Where now were the thunders of victory's boast,  
The slayer's dread wrath, and the strength of the sted?

ALL ABOUT LEAVES.

Miss Hattie brought to illustrate this lesson, a beautiful collection of "skeleton leaves," or, as they are sometimes called, "phantom leaves." These had been soaked from two to four months in soap and water, and then all the soft green covering having decayed, it was removed by repeated washing and wiping and picking, all of which had to be done with the greatest care, so as not to injure the delicate lace work or net-work of veins that had supported the green covering or kept it in shape. The result was exquisite skeletons of the leaves. These had been bleached in lime and water for a week after being cleansed. They were white as ivory carvings, and almost as delicate as Jack Frost's fern leaves, which he has such a fancy for sprinkling on country windows in the

winter, and which surpass all the Genoese silver filigree work, as far as that surpasses leaves cast in iron. Miss Hattie was glad to have us admire them, but that was not the purpose for which she had brought them, but rather to illustrate to us the three different sorts of veining in leaves, under which the whole vegetable kingdom could be classed. She said all leaves, like those she showed us, having veins, in a net-work all over the leaf, supported by a middle vein running through its centre, belonged to trees and plants that had tough woody fibre, not easily broken, and hard even to cut. She said these sorts of leaves could not be torn without looking ragged! It was, we found, impossible to slit such leaves, for she gave us some maple and elm leaves to try upon. These, and all leaves like them, belonged to the highest and most complicated order of vegetable life, viz., the exogens, or dicotyledonous plants; whereas all leaves that were veined lengthwise, so as to be easily slit, as palm, corn, lily, and grass leaves, belonged to soft-celled plants called endogens or monocotyledonous plants. These last are found in greater variety and perfection in tropical climates than in the temperate zones. The trees of the order of endogens are in fact only gigantic canes, reeds, and grasses. Besides these two, there is only one more class; viz., the flowerless plants. This last class includes sea-weeds, mosses, and ferns. These have the simplest veining possible, and show very clearly that the leaf is the parent of the whole plant.

The leaves of all such soft plants are called fronds. There are a few exceptional plants. The calla is a monocotyledon, and yet has netted veins. Pine Southern wood and fennel have leaves that are only veins. A very remarkable endogenous plant has been found in Madagascar, called the Ouvranderia Fenestralis, or lattice-leaf plant; it is sometimes called the water yam. The leaves of this are natural skeletons, having no green covering all over their disk of netted lace-work! It grows in running streams. The root is thick as a man's thumb, and from six to nine inches long, white and fleshy inside, and covered with a light-brown skin. It will grow in places that are dry part of the year, and during the drought its leaves die, but when water returns fresh leaves burst forth. It is a sort of yam, and the natives cook and eat the roots. It is singularly beautiful. From the several crowns of the branching root, growing often a foot or more under water, a number of graceful leaves, nine or ten inches long and two or three wide, spread out horizontally just beneath the surface of the water. The flower stalks rise from the centre of the leaves, and the forked flower is curious; but the leaf is just a living fibrous skeleton of a leaf, and looks like a piece of green lace. The leaves rise from the root on a short delicate-looking pale-green or yellow fibre, gradually unfolding its feathery-looking sides and increasing in size as it spreads beneath the water. The leaves in their several stages of growth pass through almost every gradation of color, from a pale yellow to a dark olive green, becoming brown, and even black before they finally decay; air-bubbles of considerable size often appear under the full-formed and healthy leaves. It is hardly possible to imagine any object more beautiful than a full-grown specimen of this plant, its dark-green leaves covering a circle two or three feet in diameter, with the leaves in every stage of size and color. Light as gossamer, and flexible as a feather, still they are tenacious and wiry enough to be raised by the hand to the surface of the water without injury. The leaves of this strange plant are always beneath the water, but the flowering stem rises enough above the water to keep the flower dry.

In trailing plants with tender stalks, the leaves become tendrils to support the vine. In the holly it is remarkable that the leaves growing nearest the ground have spines, while the higher you go the fewer you find, until at the top they have none. There is a law regulating all these varieties. The single flower of the blue-bell goes with the simple undivided leaf. The many-flowered umbel of the caraway and parsley accompanies compound and very much divided leaves. The common geranium has five stems, five flower-stalks, five sepals, five petals, and stamens in multiples of five; and all this with leaves divided into five parts.

Plants are also adapted to the place where they are to grow. In tropical climates, where they need to retain moisture, we find leathery and bulbous leaves, and some are coated with wax and rosin. There is a wonderful tree in Madagascar called the traveller's-tree, each leaf of which, where it joins the body of the tree, has a bulb containing about a pint of water. The stamens and pistils of plants are their vital organs, and the leaves of the flower that encircles them are really what clothing is to the body, protecting it from cold and injury. These flower-leaves are colored so as to attract insects that will scatter the fertilizing pollen, and also to absorb heat and light to ripen the seed. Flowers that have no stamens or pistils, have neither fruit nor seed. When a wild flower is so cultivated as to become double, it becomes also barren; a hint perhaps that excessive cultivation for show rather than for utility, is not without danger of producing sterility in natures of a higher grade than flowers.—New York Evangelist.

—It may surprise many to learn, what is nevertheless a fact, that fully one third of the whole amount of sugar consumed in the world is manufactured from beets.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

ONE DAY.

BY JENNIE HARRISON.

"Oh dear! snowing and blowing, and cold as Greenland!"

Willie thrust his curly head down into the pillow again, but he could not get another nap; for sister May came to the door, calling

to him that it was time to get up, and that breakfast was ready.

So he left his warm bed, with great reluctance; and, in about ten minutes, appeared at the breakfast table, with a very dull, sleepy-looking face.

"Come, Willie, it is Monday morning!" said his mother, cheerfully.

"Oh yes, I know it!—an awful stormy morning too! and such hard old lessons! Say, mother, can't I stay home from school to-day?"

"Why Willie! a boy wanting to stay home because it storms!"

"Oh well, mother, I don't feel a bit like school to-day. It would be so nice and cosy to stay home with you and May and auntie all day. It won't make any difference. Ah yes!"

Willie looked very pleadingly at his mother, but she only smiled and said: "It might make a great deal of difference, Willie."

"What! just one day, mother?"

"Yes; just one day, Willie. One day is a thing of great importance sometimes; one day may change a person's whole after-life; one day, to a boy who has so much to learn, is of too much value to be slighted. What knowledge you gain, or what knowledge you lose in just one day, may make more difference to you than you now have any idea of. What you will learn at school, or what you will fail to learn, by staying at home just this one day, will be so much precious treasure laid up or wasted."

"Just one day!" It was Willie's aunt who spoke then; and oh, what a look of sorrow came over her face. "Just one day! O Willie, never think it a thing of little account! Once I knew a boy like you, with kind friends and good influences around him; but he thought lightly of the little days with their precious opportunities, and when he grew to manhood, just one day brought him to everlasting ruin. His companions had been wild and reckless young men; and he had once resolved to leave them, and to live a better life, when they came to him, urging him to join them in some frolic. He said to himself: 'It is only one day; it can't make much difference, just one day more, and then I'll stay home and attend to business!' And he yielded to the temptation, and just that one day made of him a drunkard, to die a sad death in the midst of his manhood; just that one day, which might have made him a strong and noble man!"

"Was that uncle John?" whispered Willie to his mother, as aunt Ellen stopped, with tears of grief in her eyes.

"Yes; Aunt Ellen's youngest brother."

Willie began slowly to gather together his school-books. Then he looked out at the storm, and then he stood for a moment before the warm, pleasant fire.

"And, Willie," spoke his aunt again, "sometimes God, who has waited long, holds out salvation and life just one day longer; and, if the sinner refuses it, that day may close the door of heaven upon him for ever!"

Willie put on his coat, and said good morning to his mother and aunt. "After all," he said to May, as she went to the door with him, "I don't know as I'd care to stay home: Aunt Ellen talks so solemn!"

He spoke carelessly; but all day long the solemn talk lingered in his mind; and all day long he kept thinking how the puzzling sums and the difficult parsing and the pages of history were each so much added to the stock of knowledge which was to be a treasure to him in after life.

My young friends, do you ever think what a wonderful thing one little day is? You say, "A year!—a whole long year!"—and it seems a time of great importance to you;—but do you ever think how the year is made up of these days,—these precious little days that we are so apt to neglect?

Perhaps you said, at the beginning of this new year, "Now I will make it a better year than the last;" and you resolved to do so much. Now, a few weeks have gone by, and how much have you done? Look back and see how much you have improved:—not much, have you?—it looks a great deal like the old year yet, doesn't it? Ah, that is because you keep looking at the year, the long year, and not at the little days, one by one! You must take each day by itself; you must look at its face in the morning when you awake, and say, "One more day sent me by God," and you must begin that very minute to use and improve the precious gift:—be patient that day; be industrious that day; be cheerful that day; be kind that day; be careful that day; be wise that day; be thoughtful that day;—then, when that day goes back to God, He will say, "Well done;" and, though you cannot see His smile, you can feel His blessing in your soul, and His peace around your pillow at night. Such days will make the year good and happy.—Observer.

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

No. 472.

What were the Apostles recommended to do when they were not received in a city?

No. 473.

Where did they do this?

No. 474.

What is the meaning of Beersheba, and why was it thus called?

No. 475.

Of what nation was Ruth?

No. 476.

How was she related to David?

No. 477.

From what circumstance did Mizpah derive its name?

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- No. 467.—Neh. 8:4.
- No. 468.—2 Kings 24:18; 2 Chron. 36.
- No. 469.—Acts 18:6.
- No. 470.—Ezra 9:3-12.
- No. 471.—Heb. 2:9-10.

The Miscellany.

[For the Witness.]

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES.

"Search the scriptures," saith the Saviour, "Search, and find eternal life";

J. E. M.

Beauharnois, Feb. 24, 1868.

THE SCOURGE.

Those who live near Vesuvius, we are told, are so accustomed to the desolation from the volcanic eruptions that they become insensible to the danger except at the moment of actual peril.

What is the result? The report of the New York State Inebriate Asylum contains one answer.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes Clergymen (39), Judges (8), Merchants (340), Physicians (226), Gentlemen (240), Rich Men's Daughters (1,300).

Here are facts. Drunkenness is not simply the vice of the ignorant and the poor. The bloated faces of men in broadcloth, the dissipated expression of the countenances of well-dressed clerks, attest the presence of this great foe.

We ask, then, of all friends of humanity to aid the cause of temperance by giving the force of their words and example against the use of wine and other liquors on festive occasions.

SOLDIERS' GARDENS.

The following admirable circular was promulgated at Aldershot on Wednesday week:—"Soldiers' Gardens. The Secretary of State has decided to allow the issue, at the public expense, of tools for the cultivation of garden ground allotted to the troops under War Office Circular 904, dated 2nd March, 1865.

We rejoice in being able to publish the above order. Thousands of soldiers yearly get into scrapes, and are punished by "kut drill," "cells," &c., through having "nothing to do" in their leisure hours off parade.

[Instead of that, the war-office furnishes canteens. Ed.]

THE GREAT REVIVAL IN TROY, NEW YORK.

The series of revivals in Rensselaer county had its beginning in the city of Troy, about the first of January, 1826. Its origin was somewhat peculiar: it literally began without observation. No special efforts had been made by the churches, nor had any unusual interest or seriousness manifested itself in the congregations.

At a meeting for inquirers, held soon after the preceding facts had become known to the pastor, nearly thirty presented themselves, most of whom were deeply impressed with a sense of their guilt and danger.

TWO MODES OF PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY.

Many years ago I pointed out, in a newspaper essay, what I then thought to be the weak side of the system which educates ministers in theological seminaries.

If he is not already a college graduate, nor a student in college, and is not too old to enter on a classical course, he does not begin with preaching—nay, the prospect of his beginning to preach is a great way off.

Just at the termination of his three years' course in a theological seminary—in the last year, according to the arrangement most honored—he begins the composition and delivery of sermons.

Facts forbid us to hold that either of these methods is altogether and exclusively right. The Wesleyan system has raised up a ministry, not only numerous and zealous, but able, —a ministry as competent, in the average, for the distinctive work which Methodism has done and is doing, as any other ministry for its own work.

Each of these two systems, no doubt, has some advantages over the other. I have set the two in contrast with each other, for the sake of introducing the inquiry whether another system is possible, in which the study of theology, after our Congregational and Presbyterian fashion, shall be combined with something like the constant practice of preaching, after the Methodist fashion.

SEEKING AND SAVING.

This is emphatically the work of the Mid-night Movement. Daily, numbers of unfortunates die; daily, numbers supply their places; daily, the Thames, the canal, and other means of death, receive their victims; and the object of the society is to interpose between these unhappy ones and death—death temporal and eternal.

agencies for vice are in as powerful combination as ever; music-halls, casinos, theatres, and many of the popular amusements of the age, and the unrestrained passions of the human heart, are at work to sap the influence of right principles and destroy the purity of the female heart.

The committee, after seven years' experience, state it as their conviction that the method they adopt is the only method, and the midnight hour the only time when they can get access to these poor outcasts.

AGRICULTURAL.

NETTLES AS A GREEN FOOD FOR HORSES AND CATTLE.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—Some years since, I occupied an old homestead at Soham, Cambridgeshire, England, with about 30 acres of upland pasture adjoining, that had not been broken for 70 years, in a corner of which, nearest the buildings, was an enclosure of about an acre, which had been used as a stack-yard, and some cart lodges thereon.

I see no reason (if the frost does not kill, which is unlikely) why the nettle should not flourish here, feeling sure that any farmer or grazier who will use them as I did must agree that they are about the best crop that can be used as a green crop for stable use.

O. E. TRASK, Grey Nun Street.

CHEESE IN BRITAIN.

The amount of cheese made in the British Islands the current season is, in round numbers, 179,000,000 pounds, an increase over last season of 30,000,000 pounds.

The dairyman in England has been enabled to acquire competence rapidly on account of the high prices his commodity has commanded during the same years.

sources of supply for England are the United States, Holland, and Canada. In 1855, the total import from Holland was 36,000,000 pounds. This increased in 10 years, gradually, till, in 1865, the import was 44,000,000 pounds, or nearly.

How SHEEP DRINK.—There has been some discussion among writers as to how sheep get water in winter. A writer in one of the Patent-Office reports says when sheep come up to the water in cold weather, and they stand by it and do not drink, it is because they are afraid of getting their wool wet around their jaws, and he says he put a plank over the water, with holes in it, and then they would drink.

CHOICE FRUIT.—We are heartily glad to believe, that not only horticulturists, but farmers to a considerable extent, are waking up to the subject of choice fruits. Why should not all cultivators have them? The landless may not be able to purchase them; but the farmer can supply his family with them by a little extra industry, for which the pleasure of seeing the blossoms and the maturing fruits would of itself almost repay him.

TREATMENT OF STOCK.—Other conditions being equal, the cow that has warmed water for drink in severe cold weather will yield considerably the most milk, especially if a handful of meal is added to each bucketful.

HOW TO KEEP HAMS THROUGH SUMMER.—After your hams have taken salt, hang them up and smoke them well, then take them down and dip them in boiling water for a few seconds; that will kill all the eggs of insects, if there should be any on them; then roll them in dry ashes while wet and hang them up again; smoke them more if you choose, I know this to be a good way to keep them, for I have tried it for two or three years; it is cheaper than canvassing, and a great deal better. This will do also for shoulders and sides; also, those who do their bacon in this way will never have any bugs or skippers on their meat.—Cor. Rural World.

EVERLASTING FLOWERS.—It is said at Stirling Castle, Scotland, flowers are still in full health and vigor which were planted by Mary, Queen of Scots, three hundred years ago.

—An exchange wisely says:—"When you find a man writing his advertisement and sticking it up at the post-office, or in hotels, or on the street-posts, or on shade-trees, instead of publishing it in his town paper, look out for him: the very act shows that he is too close-listed to deal with advantage."

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(BY ATLANTIC CABLE.)

DUBLIN, March 5.—The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, the Marquis of Abercorn, has released from confinement Mr. W. Johnson, Grand Secretary of Orangemen, who was sentenced to fine and imprisonment in County Down for leading an illegal procession.

LIVERPOOL, March 5.—South American advices state that the details of news from the scene of war on the Rio Parana are important. The good fortune of the Paraguayans continued and improved. The Brazilians made several attempts to cut off the communications of Gen. Lopez through the forest of Granchase, but their efforts failed, and in the engagement which took place Lopez gained fresh advantages over the allied forces. Gen. Alex. Asboth, Minister resident of the United States at Buenos Ayres, died after a long illness.

LONDON, March 5.—Late despatches from China and Japan have been received via India. The civil war in Japan raged with great violence; several combats had taken place between the partisans of the Shogun and the Daimios, which were attended with heavy losses of life, and great excesses were committed on both sides. In consequence of the insecure condition of the country, the Ministers of Foreign Powers had all left Osaka.

LONDON, March 4, midnight.—In the Commons this evening, Mr. Disraeli appeared for the first time since the resignation of Lord Derby. Upon entering the House, he was received with loud cheers from both the Government and Opposition benches. Mr. Disraeli soon afterwards rose, and, after giving notice of the introduction of certain measures relating to Scotland and Ireland, referred to the retirement of the Earl of Derby, saying his colleagues were loth to sever their connection with such a leader. No language could express their estimate of the character and career of such a chief, and they all most earnestly hoped for his restoration to health and power.

Mr. Disraeli then proceeded to say, Her Majesty had been pleased to entrust to him the task of forming a Government, and he could not decline the gracious offer, accompanied as it was by the generous support of his colleagues. In domestic affairs, the policy of Lord Derby during the last two years of his administration would be followed by the new ministry, and in foreign affairs the policy of Lord Stanley would be adhered to. This would be a policy of peace, not one of isolation, but one of generous sympathy, and regard for our own interests and those of other nations. Such a policy would never lessen the influence or dignity of England, based as it was upon esteem and respect. The domestic policy of the new Government would be a liberal one (cheers and laughter), recognizing national traits as best securing national institutions.

He regretted the necessity of continuing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in Ireland; but, as Lord Derby had said on a public occasion, such action was the only safeguard against unscrupulous foreign confederation. Such a suspension of the privileges of the writ was not incompatible with the gentle exercise of the law, and he was of opinion that the grievances of Ireland should be treated with a tender regard for that country.

After a few more explanations not of general importance, Mr. Disraeli resumed his seat amid applause.

Mr. Bouvier, member for Kilmarnock, said the policy of Lord Derby, referred to by the Premier, was uncertain. It meant retention of office only, the new Government would meet with serious opposition. In the House of Lords to-night, the Earl of Malmesbury said the subject of Irish grievances would come up for discussion on Tuesday next. After announcing the change in the Government, he added that its policy would remain unaltered.

Earl Russell declared that no confidence could be placed in a policy which was always saying one thing and meaning another. He said the Liberals had given their support to Lord Derby on his pledge to bring about a reduction of the franchise, but none had in reality been made. Such a mode of conducting a party was unprecedented.

LONDON, March 6.—Despatches from Annesley Bay say the advance of the British expedition was awaiting at Antalo the appearance of Kasia, Prince of Tigre, who had promised to join General Napier there with a large force of native troops.

LONDON, March 7.—Nearly all leading papers have editorials this morning on the debate in the House of Commons last evening on the "Alabama" question. The Times says that the debate must convince the United States Government that England wishes to settle the law in this case in the American sense, and that the failure of Great Britain to refer the "Alabama" claims to arbitration is due to no desire to show her injustice with regard to those obligations. Mr. Seward has only to meet Lord Stanley in like spirit to end the misunderstanding. The tone of articles in other journals is generally the same.

It is reported that the Fenian prisoners who were captured recently at Duncannon, were offered their pardons on condition that they would give their paroles to leave the kingdom. It is further reported they unanimously refused to do so. A double guard has been placed around Newgate, where Burke, Casey, and Shaw are confined, their trials being set down for next month.

In the House of Commons last evening, Chas. Gilpin, member for Northampton, gave notice of a bill to abolish the death-penalty. Lord Stanley submitted further official papers about Mexico. On an order to go to Committee of Supply, Earl Mayo said he hoped the debate on the condition of Ireland would end by Tuesday next, that the House might be ready to consider the question of Irish reform.

Marquis Pepoli, formerly French minister to Russia, has been appointed to Great Britain in the same capacity.

DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE "ALABAMA" QUESTION.

LONDON, March 7.—In the House of Commons last evening, Mr. Shaw Lafeyvre, member for Reading, called up the question of the "Alabama" claims. He made a long and eloquent speech on the subject, in which he urged the settlement of this vexed question on the plan proposed by the American Government. In

calling for papers on the subject, and in moving the consideration of the question, he disclaimed any feeling of prejudice. All future negotiations, he said, would but add to complications already existing. He sketched the progress of the recent civil war in the United States to its happy termination. He said the fall of Fort Sumter had evoked the famous proclamation of President Lincoln; in less than one month after the appearance of that proclamation, Great Britain had recognized the Southern insurgents as belligerents. They had no fleet, but they purchased their ships at our ports. These ships, notwithstanding vigorous measures of our Government to stop them, eluded our vigilance and went to sea, and were hospitably received at the British Colonial ports.—They captured and destroyed during the war more than two hundred American merchant vessels, and in less than two years the United States flag was literally driven from the seas, while the commerce of Great Britain was doubled. For this reason the speaker thought we ought to treat these claims generously. They were first made in 1862 by the American Minister, Mr. Adams. After a warm eulogium on the course of Mr. Adams, on this and on other questions, Mr. Lafeyvre said an arbitration of the matter had been proposed by the American Government, but was refused by Lord Russell, who repelled the suggestion. Lord Stanley might have taken another course, as the Tories had changed on the question of household suffrage. The question of recognition by England was only as to her right, if there were a right that might safely be referred, but Lord Stanley insisted that the responsibility of England was only a moral one in the "Alabama" case. The speaker thought that the less said about morality in this question the better. He regarded the breaking out of war between England and the United States as extremely unlikely, but thought, on the other hand, that all needless irritations should be shunned.

Lord Stanley then took the floor. He praised the pacific tone of the oration of Mr. Lafeyvre, warmly complimenting Mr. Adams for his conciliatory spirit he had displayed in the subject under discussion. He said we could not make indiscriminate concessions before we could learn the right of the case. There never was a case where there was more need to understand the points; much allowance was to be made to the feelings of the United States. Great Britain, in the same case, with five hundred millions of debt contracted through a civil war in which a million lives had been lost, might appreciate the matter better than lookers-on, only he thought England had been entirely neutral, but no neutrality would have pleased America. What the United States wanted was neutrality, coupled with warm sympathy and support. The Queen was ready to arbitrate and submit all questions but the great point of recognizing the belligerent rights of the South; nobody contends that at no time the South acquired them; if not, why deny the right of Great Britain to recognize them at the time she did. The Confederate ship "Alabama" did not sail from England until 1862, and the battle of Ball Run was fought in 1861. Admitting that it was wrong for Great Britain to recognize the South, would the United States Government say that its case against the "Alabama" would be altered?

Mr. W. E. Forester, member for Bradford, thought that Mr. Seward's view of the question of the recognition of the "Alabama" claims deserved better treatment; and more careful consideration, as being perhaps the view that was right and sensible. He complained of the abrupt disposition of the question which had been made when the universal wish in the United Kingdom was for a speedy settlement. He thought that had any influential statesman been sent to the United States as minister, the point in dispute might be readily adjusted.

Mr. John Stuar. Mill, member for Westminster, was the next speaker. He regarded the present condition of the question as the result of a mutual mistake; the real question was whether England was bound to prevent such expeditions as that of the "Alabama." He denied that the U. S. Government claimed, or could claim, that the recognition of the South was a violation of the law, but only that it was an unwise, rash, and unprecedented act. The American Government only pressed the point for the purpose of showing that but for the friendly action of England, the "Alabama" depredations would not have occurred. Mr. Mill thought that an arbiter between the two countries was needless, and that reparation was fairly due to the United States. He concluded by advising the appointment of a mixed commission for the proper adjustment of the question.

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

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The Impeachment Court commenced its organization to-day, and has given President Johnson until Friday next, the 13th inst., to appear and answer to the charges. The Court adjourned until that day.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—An avalanche at Key Stone, Sierra County, on 4th March, buried 17 men in the snow, 5 of whom were killed.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate waited upon President Johnson at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, and subpoenaed him to appear before the Court of Impeachment. The President replied he would attend to the matter. Impeachment managers on the part of the House have been examining reporters of some of President Johnson's speeches, and other reporters have been sent for to testify before them.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—The Secretary of State to-day sent to the Senate, a communication in reply to a resolution of that body on the subject of alleged interference of our consul in Rome in the late difficulties in Italy, and especially in the attempted invasion of the Roman States. Consul Cashman explains that he accompanied the army for the purpose of receiving reliable information; that he once found himself under fire, and raised a gun in self-defense.

The President transmitted to the Senate to-day copies of correspondence relating to the abduction of Ewan McDonald, a British subject, who was arrested in Canada on a charge of smuggling, and carried into the United States by a sheriff from Michigan, on the 5th Oct. last. After a long correspondence on the subject, Sec. Seward, on 17th Jan., addressed a letter to the British Minister, expressing the disapprobation of this Government of the proceedings in the case of McDonald, and to direct that person to be set at liberty. Mr. Thornton, on Feb. 10th, says he has no doubt Her Majesty's Government will be much gratified and entirely satisfied with the contents of Seward's note; adding, in conclusion, "I hope you will believe that we have no sympathy with crime, nor was the representation made inspired by any wish to withdraw convicted criminals from punishment; but was merely for the purpose of inviting your assistance for the prevention of any conflict between the authorities of our countries."

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

BIRTHS.—On the 4th inst., at 125 Drummond street, Mrs. John Foulds, of a son.

FERGUSON.—In this city, on the 27th February, the wife of D. H. Ferguson, of a daughter.

DIED.—FERGUSON.—In this city, on the 3th instant, Jane Mathison, the wife of D. H. Ferguson.

WALLACE.—In this city, on the 5th inst., Mrs. Elizabeth Vass, wife of Mr. Edward Wallace, aged 42 years.

WRIGHT.—In this city, on the 5th inst., Catherine Finn, wife of Wm. Wright, aged 70 years.

PELLOND.—In this city, on the 3th instant, Mr. Alex. Pellond, aged 39 years.

RUSSELL.—In this city, on the 3th instant, Agnes McMaster, wife of the late John Russell, Esq., of Glasgow, Scotland, aged 65 years.

MARSTON.—Suddenly, at her residence in Hull, Province of Quebec, on Thursday, March 5th, Sarah, daughter of E. S. White, Esq., and wife of G. J. Marston, Esq., jr., aged 23 years.

Advertisements.

NEW DOMINION MONTHLY FOR MARCH. IS NOW READY.

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