

# MONTREAL WITNESS,

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR.  
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MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1 per annum.  
DAILY WITNESS, \$3 per annum.

HON. L. S. HUNTINGTON.

On Wednesday, 25th inst., a public dinner was given at Waterloo to Hon. Mr. Huntington. Mr. W. R. Meath occupied the chair, and amongst the guests were many well-known advocates of Canadian Independence. Mr. Huntington's address was of extraordinary length, and in it he pointed out the political position which he assumed in his last address to them in that place. In that address he was speculative; in the present one he would be practical. The question of Independence was not a party one at all, he said; and having shown this by examples of even Conservatives advocating it, he went on to take a review of the present troubled state of Europe, adding that England's position, without allies, would be a dangerous one, should she, with such vast colonial interests to defend, be involved in war. The condition of Canada would not be improved by the entanglement of the mother country. The English Liberals were in danger of losing power, but they were the only reliable promoters of Imperial and Colonial reform.

Speaking of the status of the Dominion he said:—

"We are not a nation. We have no immediate treaty-making power, and diplomatically speaking, we have no foreign relations. But we have intimate commercial, and, I might say, political complications with our neighbors on the south of us, and our relations with them have become delicate and embarrassing in the extreme. Our best markets are within their borders, and our readiest access to the ocean, and we ought to enjoy the most unrestricted intercourse and a perfect reciprocity of trade. I am sorry to add that we are not two friendly peoples, and that we have drifted into mutual recriminations and ill-will. To some extent our relations with England subject us to the animosities of Americans; and to a like extent, perhaps, our antipathies are stimulated by our sympathy with the controversies of our mother land. Perhaps, too, in all the future, as in all the past, the competitions of trade, the numberless conflicts of commercial interests, will multiply the causes of estrangement between great rival powers."

He then depicted the unfriendly attitude towards the Northern States assumed by the ruling powers in England during the civil war in the States; and referred to the confessed change of views which a better knowledge of the question then at issue had since wrought in public men at home. But, said Mr. Huntington, "with us there continues the same blind disregard of consequences—the same display of ostentatious rancor. Our Government, urged on by their supporters, are pushing every issue of dangerous controversy, satisfied if they can make a case of technical right, but parading their unfriendliness and courting a war of tariffs if not an appeal to arms. When they inaugurated their retaliatory policy, we told Sir Francis Hincks, amidst the defiant jeers of the Tories, that he was inviting the repeal of the Bonding system. The threat has come from the American Executive. I do not think it wise, but I think it need not have been provoked. Then again as to the Fishery disputes we are technically right; but we hurried forward a dangerous dispute in bad temper, which may lead to our utter humiliation."

The Tories of Canada, he declared, had, by their acrimony towards the States, caused themselves to be hated and despised by the Americans; but "in England the great question of the hour is, how shall we accommodate our differences with America, so as to avert the dangers of prolonged and increasing irritation? Only now the news comes to us across the water of a newly organized association, which already embraces some of the best men in England—the Anglo-American Society—which is to be aided by sister societies in the United States, with the object of fostering good-will or, in the words of the prospectus, to obtain the best possible securities for the continuance of peace and amity between England and the United States."

Mr. H. in the course of a long address, drew the political portraits of Sir G. E. Cartier, Sir J. A. Macdonald, and Sir Francis Hincks, putting in many strong touches. He then indicated the hazard of our present irritating position in regard to our neighbors, and, in so doing, said:—"We are on the brink of a precipice, and a false step may precipitate us into the yawning abyss. The war of 1812 was preceded by embargoes and the obstructions of non-intercourse. A war of tariffs is the natural forerunner of an appeal to arms. The danger arises, not from the unreasoning passions and convictions, but from the unreasoning passions of the people; and the first step in the right direction is, removing all obstructions and imitating the noble example of the Government and people of England, to strive for the creation of a safer and a more Christian international feeling. The influence of Canada might have done much to remove unreasonable irritation in both countries. We might have been pacificators instead of promoters of ill-will. We have taken terrible risks, and the consequences may be disastrous if we cannot avert them. Let us remove the first danger by upsetting the present Government of the Dominion. Whatever may be their local merits, they are incapacitated, as I have shown, to deal with these great international questions. Then let us make a friendly appeal to the Americans, proving that neither are the British nor the Canadian people their enemies. We will not forgo the right to criticize their public acts, but we will treat them as men and as Christians, neither fawning on their greatness, nor hissing our hatred in their ears. Pursuing such a course, we may expect and shall

receive a reasonable and just consideration. Let us own that we have all been at fault in disturbing the world with the noise of a family quarrel. Life is too short and friendships are too precious for the cultivation of internal animosities. Let no one sneer, as at a poetical dream, at our hopes of lasting good-will between England and her children. Let us be true to our great mission as exemplars and propagandists of freedom and Christianity; and as differences must arise between two great countries, whose relations are so often affected by vast rival and conflicting interests, let us cultivate an abiding spirit of forbearance and good-will, and may our young country, at all times and in her relations to both parties, enjoy the honor and fulfil the duty of a wise pacificator and a faithful friend."

## ERIE MANAGEMENT.

The following letter, which appeared in a late number of the *New York Tribune*, unveils some of the tricks by which railroad managers can enrich themselves whilst impoverishing the stockholders:—

(To the Editor of the *N. Y. Tribune*.)

Sir,—In your issue of the 11th inst., you printed a statement of the earnings and expenditures of the Erie Railway, said to have been verified by the affidavit of the President of the Road, Mr. Jay Gould. In it we are told that the earnings of the road for the year 1868 amounted to \$14,414,653, while the total expenditures were \$16,519,104. Deducting from the latter sum the extraordinary items of \$1,000,000 paid to C. Vanderbilt, and \$429,250 paid to Richard Schell, for the discontinuance of suits, there is still an excess of expenditure over earnings amounting to \$675,201. In accounting for this apparent deficiency for the year '68, and the probable still greater ones for the years '69 and '70, stockholders and others interested may find light in the following statement of facts not generally known:—

1. The President and Controller of the Erie Railway, with others of the "Erie Ring," formed a stock company, bought the rolling mills at Elmira, and made a young man of that city the Superintendent. He, by virtue of his position, makes arrangements with the directors of the Erie Railway to run the mills to their utmost capacity, rolling new and re-rolling old rails for that road. Precisely how much the item of expense for repairs of track (\$2,474,243) is swelled by this and similar means, the stockholders do not learn from Mr. Jay Gould's statement verified by his affidavit.

2. The same men effected a long lease, or purchased, as the case may be, some coal mines at Towanda, Penn. The men of straw put forward as officers of this company then contract to deliver coal to the Erie Railway Company. Naturally, the arrangement is remunerative. Since these mines came under this management the use of wood as fuel has ceased along the entire line of the road, and coalwards have been opened at many of the principal stations, the agents at these stations selling the coal.

3. The persons mentioned above formed the Brooks Locomotive Manufacturing Company, bought the Erie shops at Dunkirk, made Mr. James Brooks, who was then Master of Motive Power and Machinery for the Erie Company, President of it; and he, in his official capacity, makes a contract with the Erie Directors to furnish 25 new locomotives per year, besides repairing old ones. As collisions and like accidents are not infrequent on the Erie, and manufacturing companies like to make money, it is not strange that the items for repairs of passenger and freight engines combined should show a total of \$1,240,000. At least we may, in all charity, make that inference when we consider the character of the men forming the company mentioned here.

4. James Fisk, jr., is the principal owner of the drawing-room and sleeping-coaches now in use on the Erie and the Atlantic and Great Western Railways. These cars are built at the Company's shops in Jersey City. Just how he pays the Company for the cars, or upon what terms they are drawn back and forth upon the Erie and its connections, is not explained by either Mr. Jay Gould's statement or affidavit.

5. There is an Oil Car Company with franchises similar to Col. Fisk's Sheping-Coach Company.

6. There is a Coal Car Company, with franchises similar to the above.

7. There is a Company owning the Lake Erie steamers, which bring freights from the lake ports during navigation to the Erie Railway. This company, as we see by the statement, does this for a consideration. It is needless to say that it is formed from the same material as the others mentioned.

8. There is a Transportation Company, formed as above, incorporated in Ohio, if we remember correctly, with important privileges. By the means of this organization the best paying freights reach this city—at a profit to the Company.

9. The recently formed Express Company, which is to carry express matter from Boston to Cincinnati over the Erie Railway and its connecting roads, is of the same character. And, in addition, we may call attention to the Narragansett Steamship Company, of which James Fisk, jr., is President, and the remodelled Long Dock Company.

In these cases, as a general thing, contracts are made for a term of years, and as binding as skillful lawyers can draw them. Should the stockholders gain possession of the road, they would either find themselves under the necessity of paying tribute for years to this "Ring," or of instituting suits in almost every court in three or four States.—H.C.F.  
*New York*, Jan. 12, 1870.

Upon these revelations and others the *Tribune* remarks in the following stinging but well merited style:—

## HOW TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.

Mr. Jay Gould, in compliance with a pressing invitation from the Courts, recently exhibited the balance-sheet of the Erie Railway Company; and we can imagine that, as he held it up for inspection, he exclaimed to the stockholders: "There is our statement; now make the most of it!" It was indeed a difficult matter to make anything of it at all. Mr. Gould controlled a good, well-equipped road, doing a very heavy business; and, according to all ordinary maxims of railway management, there ought to have been large annual profits. Yet, according to this statement, whatever the Company may have earned during the year 1868 was paid to Messrs. Vanderbilt and Schell, in settlement of stock-jobbing suits, and to the forty lawyers who conducted the great Erie litigations. For the shareholders, there was nothing at all. A correspondent calls our attention to a peculiarity in the management of the road, which explains not only how the stock is kept down and the profits are absorbed, but how Messrs. Gould, Fisk and Tweed are enabled to collect fortunes every year out of a road which does not pay other shareholders a dollar.

The whole secret lies in the duality of Mr. James Fisk, jr. We have had several brilliant examples of Mr. Fisk's ability to change parts at a moment's notice, and take money out of the treasury with one hand while he put it in with the other. We know, for instance, in what an astonishing manner he manipulated his diluted stock so as to vote for himself with shares that did not belong to him; and how, by pretending to be two or three persons at one and the same time, he managed—if we may use the expression—to eat his cake and have it too. But his talent for being somebody else has being underrated. It seems that Mr. James Fisk, jr., is his own best customer, and he has made so many fat contracts with Fisk, the Controller of the Erie Railway Company, that even if the stockholders should at last regain their rights and come into possession of the road, they would find nothing but debts and bother. When we say Mr. James Fisk, jr., we beg to be understood as alluding to the Ring of which that resplendent warrior is the conspicuous and effulgent centre.

The Erie Road has a contract with the Elmira Rolling Mills to furnish all the rails those establishments are capable of producing; Mr. Fisk, and Mr. Gould, are the rolling mills. The Erie Company has a coal contract with a mining company at Towanda; Mr. Fisk and Mr. Gould are also the Towanda Mining Company. The Erie Road has a contract with the Brooks Manufacturing Company to furnish twenty-five new locomotives every year and repair the old ones; Mr. Fisk and Mr. Gould are also the Brooks Manufacturing Company. Mr. James Fisk, jr., is a sleeping car company, a palace car company, an oil car company, a coal car company, a transportation company, an express company—to say nothing of being likewise a Lake Erie steam company, a Long Dock company, and a Narragansett admiral; and with each of these separate and independent Fisks the Erie Road has heavy contracts, greatly to the aforesaid Fisks' profit. Now we can see how it is all done, and how a railroad can make money while its receipts are running about \$2,000,000 a year behind its expenses. Mr. Gould's system of accounts is not so frank as it might be; but to the initiated who hold the key we presume the items are clear. We dare say now it is understood that a certain percentage of the amounts paid to these different companies which we have enumerated shall stand for the private and personal plunder of the President and Controller. When we find \$1,327,402 charged for fuel—a first cost and handling—we read between the lines that here is an entry of the first cost and handling of an Erie engine. A million and a quarter for engines represents the expense of the Grand Opera House, and two millions and a half for rails helps to keep up the Ninth Regiment. Mrs. Lawlor is included in the charge of oil, and the purchase of an independent newspaper appears as "waste." It is an admirable scheme; and now that it is in complete working order we see no reason in the world why Fisk should not repeal the Erie bill and allow the shareholders to vote. He has eaten the oyster, and he might as well graciously give up the shell.

A friend in England sends us an extract from the *London Times* of the 9th January respecting our Grand Trunk Railway, requesting us to publish it. In it the *Times* deplores the condition of the English stockholders, who get nothing at all out of this road and see no prospect of getting anything, notwithstanding its large income, as pitiable. Perhaps the perusal of the foregoing articles will afford a clue as to what became of Grand Trunk income, in the past, at all events.

## CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The ordinary quarterly meeting of this Presbytery was opened in the usual form on Wednesday morning in Erskine church, Rev. A. C. Gillies, Moderator, in the chair. After reading of the Scriptures and prayer, the roll was called and confirmed.

Rev. W. Grant, of Vankleek Hill, was appointed Moderator for the next six months; but in his absence Mr. Gillies remained in the chair.

It was unanimously agreed to continue the meeting in Erskine church, this place having been intimated by the *Home and Foreign Record* instead of Cote street church, the place appointed at the last meeting of the Court.

It was moved by Rev. Dr. McVicar, and seconded by Rev. Dr. Burns, that Messrs. Gorbun, Burns, Conisart, and Mr. Ross, elder, be a Committee to examine applicants for admission to the study of theology.

The Presbytery then took up a circular from

Rev. W. McLaren anent Foreign Missions, particularly asking whether one Mr. G. Mackay, a licentiate, should, in the judgment of the Presbytery, be sent as a missionary to the foreign field.

The Presbytery recommended that Mr. Mackay should be sent to labor as a missionary in China.

A petition was received from Knox church, Montreal, asking for the moderation of a call for a minister, also a similar petition from the congregation at Rockburn.

A most unanimous call to Rev. Mr. Bethune was received from Inverness, which he has accepted, and his induction was ordered to take place on the 15th of next month.

In the afternoon sederunt Rev. Mr. Grant, having arrived, took his place as Moderator.

The Court took up the report of the Committee appointed to erect into a congregation the station of Mile End, Montreal, and a session for the place, of which Rev. Dr. Taylor was named as Moderator, was appointed which was authorized to dispense the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at an early day. The supply of the pulpit was left for the present in the hands of the session.

Rev. Mr. Stewart was appointed clerk of the session at Dalhousie Mills.

The deputation appointed to visit the congregation at Cote des Neiges, reported.

A communication from the Presbytery of Montreal of the Church of Scotland was taken up, requesting a committee of conference to be appointed by this Presbytery to meet a similar committee of the sister Presbytery anent missionary work within the bounds of both Presbyteries. The Court appreciated the spirit of brotherly love manifested by the Presbytery of the Established Church and appointed a committee.

The report of the Committee anent candidates applying for admission to the study of Divinity was adopted, and the applicants, seven in number, were certified to the Board of Examiners of the Presbyterian College.

Rev. John Morrison, of Waddington Springs, N. Y., was nominated as the next Moderator of the Synod of Montreal.

The Presbytery, after the pronouncement of the benediction, adjourned until the next (Thursday) morning.

### THURSDAY'S SEDERUNT.

The Presbytery met at 10 a.m. and was constituted with praise and prayer.

It was resolved that Rev. W. Gregg be nominated for the Professorship of Systematic Theology in Knox College.

Commissioners for the General Assembly of the Church were appointed.

The appointment of Elders was proceeded with, and the Presbytery heard Mr. Alexander Thomson's lecture on Isaiah lv., 1-3 inclusive, after which the Presbytery adjourned till three o'clock in the afternoon.

### AFTERNOON SEDERUNT.

After prayer by the Moderator, touching the injunction of the General Assembly anent the state of religion, the Court agreed to require sessions to send in their returns to the Clerk of the Presbytery before the end of March next.

The lecture delivered by Mr. Thomson was sustained as part of trial for license.

The quarterly report of the Home Mission was received and considered *seriatim*.

Rev. J. Gibson was appointed Moderator of the Session at West Farnham.

Rev. Professor McVicar gave in and read answers to reasons of dissent and complaint of Rev. Dr. Taylor against the motion condemnatory of the establishment of a Presbyterian university as a basis of union between the two Presbyterian churches of the country. The answers were adopted, and Rev. Dr. McVicar and Rev. W. B. Clarke (of Quebec) were deputed to represent the Presbytery in the case at the bar of the Synod of Montreal.

It was resolved that the next meeting of the Presbytery be held on the first Wednesday of April next.

The Court then adjourned.

### FRIDAY'S SEDERUNT.

The fifth sederunt of the Montreal Presbytery of this Church was held on Friday morning in Erskine Church, Rev. Dr. Taylor, Moderator *pro tem*, in the chair.

A petition from Hervey's Church, Lachute, to moderate in a call, was granted.

The rest of the morning's business was mainly of a routine character and the Presbytery adjourned 12.30 a.m., to meet in the same place for the despatch of business on the first Wednesday of April next.

### RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—It is stated that there are 220 Israelite congregations in the United States.

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—Four Evangelical churches have been organized in Florence, Italy, the last one in what was formerly a Roman Catholic convent.

—Three millions of dollars have already been raised for the Presbyterian Memorial Fund in the United States.

—The Christians in Damascus are again suffering persecution, and a general massacre is feared.

—The largest and most beautiful Methodist Church in Cincinnati has 222 pews, of which every fifth one is free.

—The Baptists have seven young colleges in seven different States at the South, devoted to the education of the Freedmen.

—Eighty-nine Congregational churches have been formed during the past year in this country.

—Rev. Mr. Duhard, a Methodist minister, was recently murdered and robbed near Columbia, South Carolina.

—A law has been enforced throughout Italy for the removal of the numerous shrines of the Madonna. The British and Foreign

Bible Society, having secured a suitable locality in the Corso, Rome, have opened a Bible depot, with the sign over the door "Sacra Bibbia in Diversa Lingue."

—During the Christmas vacation two of the students of Trinity College, Conn., renounced the Episcopal Church, and gave themselves to the Church of Rome. It is said they that are soon to be baptized at one of the Roman Catholic churches.

—It is stated that Dr. Pusey is founding a new community of Anglican nuns, who are to be entirely clad in habits of pure and spotless white. It is also reported that Father Ignatius has received from one of his admirers £4,000 towards building his monastery in Wales. The greater part of this sum is to be expended on the chapel.

—A Boston lecture committee recently invited Olive Logan to lecture on a Sunday night. Whereupon Olive replied as follows: "Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work; but the seventh is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work."

—The Old Testament Company of the Revisers have begun their third session under the Presidency of the Bishop of St. David. The Bishops of Llandaff, Ely, and Bath and Wells, with fourteen others, were also present. One member of the company, the Rev. Dr. Jebb, has withdrawn since the last meeting, on the ground that he objects to working with a body in which Nonconformist scholars are placed on the same footing as those of the Church of England.

—The Rev. A. Buckenham arrived at Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope, on Saturday, Nov. 12th, on his way to the Free States, Orange River, to which he has been appointed as a missionary. He states that he met with several emigrant Primitive Methodists in Cape Town who had joined other religious societies, and that they were very anxious to have an earnest minister sent to them from England. They are ready to rally round such a one, and predict the speedy establishment of a prosperous church as the result of his labors.

—We have another proof of the difficulty connected with the high-handed way in which those who manage the Church of England make their appointments. The Rev. H. R. Baynes, vicar of St. Michael's, Coventry, was "some time ago appointed Bishop of Madagascar, a step wholly uncalculated for. So bent were the promoters of this measure upon its fulfilment that they paid no attention to the remonstrances by the best friends of missions in Madagascar; and the Church Missionary Society at last had to issue a circular, in which they renewed their objections to the scheme, and intimated their intention not to place their missionaries under the jurisdiction of the new bishop. Mr. Baynes has now issued a circular to his present parishioners in which he announces his determination "to withdraw altogether from the office of Bishop of Madagascar," and it is stated that he has taken this step with the sanction of the Bishop of Worcester.—*Christian World*.

—The crystallizing of the real religious element in Mexico is going on rapidly about that solid centre—an open Bible. In spite of every obstruction by priests, infidels, and others, more than 40 congregations of Mexican men and women—23 of them in the City and Valley of Mexico alone—meet every Lord's Day to search the Scriptures and worship God through the one only Mediator. Two special features mark this work: 1st. It originated from within, rather than without. Its rapid growth and results are traced more to God's working, and a deep, conscious, spiritual hungering among the people, than to any mission from abroad. And still this last came in as a necessity. It was the office of faithful men and women to bring and break the "True Bread" to these prepared hearts. 2d. It has been a work among the common people. Some years since we heard of 100 or more priests leaving the Roman Catholic to organize an Evangelical and Mexican church. They seem to have disappeared. But here is something that begins and spreads among the people. This can proceed from no mere ecclesiastical dissatisfaction or official pique. It means spiritual hunger. Says one writing from there: "Very many, on rejecting the Roman Church, abandoned also the Gospel, from not understanding it; but did so with deep sorrow, for they felt a void in their hearts. Many among them, and others who from ignorance continued in the Roman Church, on entering our houses of worship are often moved to tears of tenderness and joy on being able to speak directly with God as a loving father, without the mediation of any of the demi-gods, or of those who have tried to usurp the name of priests—a name belonging to Christ and his people. Blind, indeed, must one be not to see that the great movement here is really among the people."—*Exchange*.

—A sad calamity happened to a family at Dover, N. B., on the night of the 26th ult. A fire broke out in the house of a man named McFarlane, who with his wife attempted to save their two children upstairs. The wife stood below waiting for the children to be handed down to her; but, to her horror, neither husband nor children were ever seen again. They perished in the smoke and flames.

—Gen. Von Moltke is made the recipient of numerous requests for locks of his hair (he is quite bald), his autograph, &c.; but the most impudent of all was the request of a New Yorker, which ran something as follows: "About one hundred Chassepots would be very acceptable for my show, and one of each of the different French uniforms is absolutely necessary; all new if possible. As you have so many mitrailleurs, you might perhaps spare me a few; I guess they would be very acceptable." The letter went the rounds of the German Officers, and created no end of merriment.

Cotemporary Press.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON THE RETIREMENT OF MR. BRIGHT.

The country will hear with regret that Mr. Bright has been obliged to resign his office. No public speaker of our time has hit so hard as Mr. Bright, but Englishmen like hard hitting so long as it is straightforward; and in spite of Mr. Bright's vehement denunciations of the Tories, they grew at length to like him far better than less outspoken adversaries. Both parties, therefore, felt that he ought to be in the Ministry, and welcomed his accession to office. Even Mr. Gladstone's hold on the country was materially augmented by the popular confidence reposed in Mr. Bright, and he was not less powerful in the House of Commons. The Ministry have peculiar cause to lament his loss; for in the difficult decisions they have to make they can ill afford to dispense with the support of Mr. Bright's authority. Meanwhile, we must all feel a personal regret when a man of Mr. Bright's powers succumbs under the task of serving us. At the best such a man receives but scant reward for his labors. He had no object of his own to serve. For the benefit of his country he has lavished the best energies of a singularly fine intellect, and he has done so at a grievous personal sacrifice; but he may be assured that few public men have been followed into retirement by more earnest good wishes from all classes of their fellow-countrymen.

(Manchester Examiner.)

Yesterday the London press was even more unanimous than in former times, but it was in paying a generous tribute to his capacity as a statesman, and gratefully recognizing the eminent services he has conferred upon this country. Yet Mr. Bright has not changed one whit. He has not bartered his principles for office. He has not toned down his advocacy of the popular cause. All that has happened to him is the felicity of having lived to see that cause adopted by the Legislature, and the triumph of his principles through the conversion of his opponents.

(Birmingham Gazette.)

Let us at the outset confess, that we, with many another to-day, mourn for John Bright. Not as a politician—for in politics we have scarcely ever during his career held a single point in unison with him. Not as regards his influence upon the masses—for we believe it to have been of the very worst effect. But whenever an honest man—be he wise or be he unwise—be he judicious in his honesty or injudicious in his activity or inactivity, we mourn for the loss of his example of honesty. And we believe John Bright to have been an honest man. One great testimony to the prima facie probability of his honesty lay in the fact that he has always been, by the generality of people, either adored as a demigod or detested as a very agent of evil. We presume that no man of mark and ability ever threw his whole energies into what he conceived to be the work of truth without encountering a similar estimation for his present reward.

THE PROVISIONING OF PARIS.

Long after the siege of Paris is at an end, the story of the feeding of its two million inhabitants will be regarded as one of the most remarkable events in a war which is continually baffling the nice calculations made upon previous experiences. The new number of the Food Journal contains a letter from its Paris correspondent, dated December 15, which enters very minutely into this question. Referring to the census taken at the end of last month of the animals within the city, none of which could afterwards be killed or sold without notice, the writer remarks that special arrangements had to be made in the case of cows, on account of the importance of milk to children and invalids. Paris then had 4,217 milk cows, so that an actual failure in the supply of milk is not imminent, while 1,720 more were declared forfeited to the State, either because their owners had made no return, or else had not sufficient provender to keep them. The bones of slaughtered animals are now given up to the State, which pays at the rate of one shilling per cwt. for them, and these bones are turned into nutritive preparations, though of what description we are not informed. At first the authorities undertook to distribute animal food, but the plan worked so badly that the butchers are now entrusted with the task. In the writer's district, the ration of meat is now reduced to 40 grammes each person daily, so that a family of five gets a piece of meat weighing less than 2lb. for four days' consumption. What is said about the lack of horses gives a more favorable impression than it is possible to extract from the batch of letters, generally of two or three days' later date, to which we referred yesterday.

When the enemy arrived before Paris (it is observed) we had more than 100,000 horses within the limits of Paris. We have eaten upwards of 30,000 of them, and allowing a reserve of 20,000 of them for the army, and half as many for general purposes, we have about as many more to consume. This should supply some 10,000 tons of meat, or sufficient for three months. But, then, we are told that horse-beef is one-sixth more nutritious than ox-beef.

It is admitted that the feeding of the poor has become a serious matter; and to meet it the Government has set aside an additional sum of £20,000 for the establishment of economic kitchens. The one grand point, according to this writer, is that "bread is plentiful, and bestowed where required with a liberal hand." Only brown bread is now made for distribution, and it is pronounced "better than usual, there being no potatoes in it." Some people, however, turn up their noses at it, and to pacify them a committee of the central Hygienic Commission have issued a notification to the effect that to make bread without bran is to rob it of "a notable portion of its alimentary principles, and causes a regrettable loss." Brown bread, the public are reminded, "is far from being injurious, as many people imagine, is more wholesome and nourishing than white bread." The other articles enumerated as being "plentiful" are tea, coffee, chocolate, wine, and spirits.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

(From N. Y. Tribune.)

The indications are increasing that the designs of Russia upon Turkey are likely to meet not only with no resistance, but with positive acquiescence on the part of the threatened Power. The especial kindness and cordiality with which Gen. Ignatieff, the Russian Ambassador, was received by the Sultan on his return from St. Petersburg; the apathy with which the Ottoman Government regards the industrious operations of the Imperial Navy-Yard at Poti; the unconcern exhibited in Constantinople in regard to the fleet lying in such ominous readiness at Nikolaieff—all indicate plainly enough that the feeling of hostility and distrust so long existing between the two contiguous Empires has given way to something like a cordial understanding.

The whole purpose and scheme of the Russian Government appears to have been most thoroughly and adroitly changed. England is treated with contempt. She is not consulted before the issue of the Gortschakoff circular, and her protests are regarded with cold politeness afterward. No attempt is made to conciliate Austria. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg relies upon her fears to keep her quiet. France is for the moment out of the question. The efforts of Russian diplomacy have been directed exclusively, and it would appear successfully, to gaining the passive co-operation of Prussia and to soothing the coy fears of Turkey. Recent letters from Constantinople show that the Sublime Porte is not in the least startled by the talk of war raised by the Black Sea question. It has not even called out its reserves, or done anything by way of patching up its tattered army. The able and well-informed Hungarian correspondent of the London Times reports with some surprise the prevalent impression in Turkey that the maintenance of the neutrality of the Euxine is not a matter of any special importance.

The evidences of this contemplated change of protectors on the part of the wayward sister by the Bosphorus have already produced some effect on public opinion in England. There is a natural feeling of resentment at Turkish dishonor and ingratitude, and some uneasiness at the prospect of giving up a long-cherished tradition of the Foreign Office. But there seems to be combined with this a certain feeling of relief that a vicious and troublesome ward is to be taken out of the nation's hands. And it is probable that this sentiment, reinforced by the powerful arguments to be drawn from the force of actual circumstances, will be sufficient to prevent any war as a result of Russia's new attitude on the Black Sea.

THE CASE OF THE "GRANADA."

The case of the seizure of the "Granada," which has been so loudly denounced by Butler as "a violation of the rights and privileges of American fishermen," is thus clearly and circumstantially stated by the Montreal Gazette of the 23rd inst:—

The "Granada," licensed as a United States fishing vessel, belonging to Barnstable, Massachusetts, cleared under a general fishing license from the Collector of that port to go on a cod and herring fishing voyage to Bay of Islands, as her owner alleges. The vessel put into Port Hood in the Strait of Canso, where he found several American fishing vessels bound eastward through the Strait on a homeward voyage, waiting for a change of wind—the police vessel "Ida E." being also in port watching them. The weather was moderate, and blowing in a favorable direction for proceeding to the Bay of Islands. The "Granada," without any sufficient cause, while professing to be bound to the Bay of Islands, and though the wind was favorable and the weather moderate, came to anchor. The duty of Capt. Torrey, as a Customs officer, was to board every vessel that came into port, examine her papers and ascertain her character. This he did, not in an overbearing or objectionable manner, but with courtesy and discretion. He learned that the professed destination of the "Granada" was the Bay of Islands for fishing. Captain Torrey then examined the hold of the vessel and discovered that though the vessel was partially loaded with cargo for trading purposes, she had no clearance papers, and had been actually trading along our coast in violation of our Customs laws.

The quantity of cargo on board, comprising large quantities of flour, oil, molasses, gin, chests of tea and other goods out of all proportion to the requirements of a fishing vessel, excited suspicion as to the object of the voyage, and when it appeared that the ship's manifest did not show that the vessel had any cargo on board, and as she made no entry as required by our Customs laws and persisted in refusing to proceed on her voyage, though the weather and wind were fair and moderate, the officer felt it to be his duty to seize her. Such is the history of this case, divested of the misstatements and buncombe which Ben Butler and his friends have thrown around it.

The vessel was taken to Halifax and placed in the Vice-Admiralty Court. While the suit was progressing, the owners being anxious to get the use of the vessel, offered to lodge the penalty of \$800, which the Customs laws provide in cases of smuggling, and which, as an act of favor, was accepted by the agent of the Government, subject to the decision of the court. The court found the vessel to have been guilty of an infringement of the Revenue laws, and imposed a fine of \$800. In this case there was no hardship—no storm urging a vessel to go into port for shelter—no reason for it, inasmuch as the wind was fair, and no pretence put forward of requiring wood, water or repairs, nor even at the time, shelter; while on the other hand, she had no clearance papers, refused to leave the port and proceed on her voyage without sufficient cause, and was loaded with a cargo evidently for a smuggling or trading voyage. What course would United States officers have pursued in a United States port under such circumstances? Why, clearly seize her for a violation of the Customs Laws, as they have done in hundreds of cases in the past three years.

If the voyage was an honest ordinary voyage, how easy it would have been for the owner or master at the trial to show the facts, and why had he not his cargo on his manifest as the law requires. The records of the trial show that no evidence was offered on the part of the

owner to remove the suspicious circumstances before referred to. In this matter we have acted simply as Americans themselves would have done; and the duty has been performed—Butler to the contrary notwithstanding—in a courteous and proper manner.

THE ALBANY EXPRESS ROBBERY.

On Saturday last Halpine the wounded express messenger at Albany, N. Y., was brought face to face with Filkins, the alleged robber, and recognized him as the perpetrator of the terrible deed. Fuller particulars of the interview are given below:—

"Halpine was sitting in a hospital chair, leaning back, with his head supported on a pillow, looking very feeble, as if prostrated by severe illness. His young wife was standing by his side leaning upon his chair, her face white as marble, and her eyes fixed upon her husband. There were present District-Attorney Peckham, Chief Detective Hale and his assistant, Dr. Armsby, his attending surgeon, and Dr. Wm. Hailes, resident physician of the hospital. Filkins walked quickly into the room and stood before Halpine, who had watched, intently, every movement he made from the instant he entered the door. After standing thus a moment, Filkins stood seemingly unmoved before Halpine. Halpine requested him to change his position, so as to turn his face first to the right and then to the left. Halpine looked steadily at Filkins for one or two minutes, in the several positions he had assumed, and said: 'You are the man who said to me your name was Jones.' Filkins: 'I am not the man.' Halpine: 'Have you ever seen me before?' Filkins: 'I have never seen you before. Have you ever seen me before?' Halpine: 'I never saw you but once before, and that was two weeks ago to-night.'

Filkins at this moment sank down in a chair. After a pause Filkins said: 'I think I saw you once before in the Central Railroad yard.' Halpine: 'Were you ever in those express cars?' Filkins: 'Yes; I had charge of the express cars for the Merchants' Union Express three years.' Halpine: 'Did you know Woodward?' Filkins: 'Yes; I knew Woodward, Smith and Weatherwax. I did not know you.' After a pause of five minutes or more, during which time Halpine fixed his steady, searching gaze upon Filkins, he called Dr. Armsby to his side and said: 'I am satisfied. I do not wish to have him remain any longer.'

Considerable criticism as to the manner in which this interview was arranged is indulged by people experienced in such matters. Gov. Hoffman is reported as saying that the right way would have been for the police to have made a number of persons enter Halpine's presence, one after the other, so that he could have examined each at leisure. No hint or word that could give him an idea as to which of the men was the suspected party should have been allowed to reach his ears, as this matter of identification is a very uncertain thing.—Boston Journal.

DOMINION ECCLESIASTICAL NEWS.

EPISCOPAL.—The annual festival of the Sunday-school of St. Thomas Church, Montreal, was held on Thursday last, and was highly successful.—On Saturday the 14th inst., an induction service was held at St. Stephen's church, Inverness, P. Q., on the occasion of the institution of Rev. Chas. Briggs Washley, of Islington College, London, Eng., lately ordained and licensed to that parish by the Lord Bishop of Quebec.—The congregations of St. Mark and St. John, Pakenham, Ont., recently presented their pastor, Rev. C. P. Emery, with a purse of money and several other valuable gifts.—On Wednesday, the 11th inst., the St. George's church, Harrison, Ont., was dedicated to public service by several officials of the Church of England, with appropriate services.

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.—Rev. J. Fetison, pastor of St. Andrew's church, of Kincardine, Ont., has placed his resignation in the hands of the Presbytery with the view of demitting his charge.—The Montreal Presbytery met on Wednesday morning, and after holding five sittings, adjourned on Friday noon to meet in April next.—A few of the Ivy congregation of the Canada Presbyterian church, called on their pastor, the Rev. George Burnfield, and presented him, on behalf of the congregation, with a handsome silver-mounted set of harness, &c. This is the fifth time within the space of three months that Mr. Burnfield has been the recipient of handsome gifts from his people.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.—The results of the services already held in the new church at Maple, Ont., are very satisfactory, quite a number having been converted.—The Iroquois congregation have been presenting their pastor with a series of valuable gifts.—The pastor at Albion, Ont., has been the recipient of two purses, an address and a surprise party from members of his congregation.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.—On Tuesday evening last, a Sabbath-school and General Festival was held in the M. E. church in Strathroy, Ont. Admission was free, and the church was crowded. At the close of the evening's proceedings, a sewing-machine and a sum of money were presented to Mrs. Elliott, the wife of the pastor.—Anniversary services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church, Goderich, on Sunday last, and a missionary meeting was held on the Monday following, which realized well.—The new brick Wesleyan church just erected at Rockford, Ont., was dedicated on Sunday last.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION.—The annual missionary services of the Methodist New Connexion Church in Hamilton, Ont., were held on Sabbath, the 22nd, and last evening. The Rev. Mr. Williams, of Hespeler, preached appropriate sermons, and liberal collections were made in aid of the mission fund. The missionary meeting was largely attended, and proved to be one of considerable interest and profit.—On Thursday last, Rev. D. Smith, the pastor of the church at St. Marys, Ont., was presented with \$120 and an address.

—The Plymouth Church trustees have renewed their request to Mr. Beecher to accept \$20,000 salary for the ensuing year, and have raised that of Rev. S. W. Hilday, assistant pastor, from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

ONTARIO PARLIAMENT.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

TORONTO, JAN. 26.

Mr. Cameron presented returns showing the minutes of the meetings of Council of Public Instruction for 1870.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill to regulate the sale of poisons, and also respecting chemists, druggists, and apothecaries, Mr. Coyne in the chair.

The House proceeded to forward several private bills.

Mr. Scott (of Grey)—A bill to incorporate the North Grey Railway Company was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Coyne—A bill to incorporate the Streetsville and Port Credit Railway Company was referred to a committee and amended, and then read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Carling moved the House into committee on the bill for the distribution and settlement of the estate of the Hon. George Jervis Goodhue, deceased.

Messrs. Cumberland and Boyd opposed the bill, which was supported by Messrs. Beatty, McGill, McKellar, and Scott, of Ontario.

A vote was taken with the following result:—Yeas, 13; nays, 60.

The committee reported the bill with several amendments.

TORONTO, JAN. 27.

Mr. Blake called the attention of the House to the fact that typhoid fever prevailed in the London Lunatic Asylum, and that one of the nurses had died, and another had been unwell for several days.

Hon. Mr. Carling said that a drain had been blocked up and its contents had run into the well. One of the attendants had died, but he could not say from what cause. Five or six of the patients had been ill, but were now recovering. An officer had been sent to report on the matter, and the difficulty had been removed.

The House then went into Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to election petitions, and for providing more effectually for the prevention of corrupt practices at elections for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

Attorney-General Macdonald moved an additional clause, providing that the Clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench should be paid a salary of £1,000 a year for his services in connection with this act.

The clause was adopted. Mr. Blake said he would move an amendment on concurrence.

The House went into Committee on the resolution as to Stipendiary Magistrates in the territorial districts of Parry Sound and Thunder Bay. On the motion of Attorney-General Macdonald the salary of the magistrates was fixed at \$1,200 per annum.

The House went into Committee on a bill to provide for the organization of the Territorial District of Thunder Bay.

Hon. Mr. Cameron presented the annual report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, and accounts for 1870; also, the amended return referring to the Arbitration expenses, showing three additional payments amounting to \$250.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. Carling the House went into Committee on the Education Bill, Mr. Williams (Durham) in the chair.

Mr. Cameron then moved that clause 35 be expunged and the following be substituted:—The public schools in cities, towns, and incorporated villages, shall be under the management of the Board of Public Schoolmasters, and each School Board shall be a corporation under the designation of the Board of Public Schoolmasters, &c.

Several private bills were passed, and the House adjourned at 11 o'clock.

RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS.

FRENCH-CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY—THIRTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

The third of the Union Anniversary meetings, being the thirty-second anniversary of the French-Canadian Missionary Society, was held Thursday evening in the St. James street Wesleyan church. Notwithstanding that admission was by ten-cent tickets, the church was crowded, and the audience seemed to take great interest in the proceedings.

The Rev. W. Taylor, D.D., of Erskine Church, occupied the chair; and on the platform were ministers of the various denominations in the City; also the Rev. Prof. Coussirat, and several ministers connected with the French Evangelical Church, Craig street, besides missionaries and laymen.

The meeting was opened with the singing of a hymn by the audience, after which the Rev. Mr. Wells, of the American Presbyterian Church, led in prayer.

The next part of the programme was the singing of a hymn by a class of over forty pupils of the Pointe-aux-Trembles Institute. The pupils were seated in the front pews of the west gallery, and as they stood up and sang the hymn "Oui, pour son peuple Jésus prie!" they were the objects of special attention to the large audience.

The Chairman in his opening remarks said that they were met to celebrate the thirty-second anniversary of the French-Canadian Missionary Society. I regard the large audience now present as an evidence of the sympathy of the Christians of this city with the mission. The past year has been a memorable one in the history of the world. That system which an Apostle described as the system of the wicked one, had reached the meridian of its ambition and had met with an appropriate fall. In conclusion, he said that the progress made during the past year was astonishing, and the funds of the mission were in a satisfactory state.

At the request of the Chairman, Col. Haultain then read the

ANNUAL REPORT.

of which the following is an abstract:—There are three distinct classes that form the objects of the Society's care: viz., Roman Catholics, converts from Rome, and such Protestants as are too much scattered and isolated or divided to obtain the oversight of any denomination, and in most instances by associations and inter-marriage are gradually but certainly falling from the faith of their fathers. In order to meet the wants of such a work as is carried on by this Society, three distinct and yet co-operating agencies have been called into

existence and have been prosecuted according to the means placed at the disposal of the Committee. These are Colportage, Education and Evangelization.

COLPORTAGE.

Ten colporteurs have been employed during the past year, besides several occasional teachers. The spheres of labor of these brethren, commencing from the western extremity of the field, extended over the whole Province, and into French settlements in Ontario. Their labor has been carried on as usual with varying result. Where priestly influence prevails the colporteur is shunned, insulted and occasionally maltreated; but thanks be to God, there are not a few who gladly receive God's Word and its messenger. During 1870 there were circulated by colporteurs 1,299 bibles and testaments, 600 gospels, 13,000 books and tracts; for Ottawa and lumbermen 1,627.

EDUCATION.

The important department of Education has continued to engage the earnest attention of the Committee. Real education cannot but be viewed with suspicion by a system like that of the Church of Rome, which discourages the free enquiry of the human mind. To the nuns is wholly committed the education in Lower Canada of the female portion of the community, and an order of friars carries on the common education of the other sex. Amongst a people so situated it is almost impossible to overestimate the importance of the establishing of efficient schools, where earnest Bible-teaching shall form a part of the daily instruction; and this can only be done in direct opposition to the active hostility of the priests. It is not always possible to obtain qualified teachers, but this difficulty will be removed by judicious selection and training of our most promising pupils. Besides the institution at Pointe-aux-Trembles, where upwards of one hundred male and female pupils are boarded and educated, other important centres of Christian education have been established by the Society. Mission day and night schools are now in operation at Ste. Cecile, on the Gatineau, Grenville, on the Ottawa, Belle Riviere, Montreal, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec and Three Rivers, besides Sabbath-schools at Riviere du Loup en bas, Joliette and Berthier. About 250 pupils are thus obtaining a good common education, based on the Word of God.

POINTE-AUX-TREMLES.

During the session of 1869-70, there were in attendance 68 boys and 41 girls, an increase of 14 as compared with the previous year. At the public examination at the end of the session, a report was presented by Rev. Dr. McVicar, which we published at the time.

During the year M. and Mme. Moret resigned their connection with the Society, and have returned to their native country; advancing years and long services demanded relief from labors perseveringly sustained in the cause of the spiritual enlightenment of a benighted people. The Committee would put on record their sense of the value of Madame Moret's services as directress of the Girls' School, and also of M. Moret as teacher and colporteur.

The present session opened in October last, and there are at present 64 male and 32 female pupils attending the school.

The Committee have replaced the loss caused by Madame Moret's retirement by Miss Wythe, a lady whose lengthened educational experience would have secured her more remunerative employment, had she not preferred work of a decided missionary character. Miss Lea Roudan supplies the place of Miss Cadieu, whose services the Committee lost with much regret. That lady reports much improvement in the present session among the pupils. There are several quite thoughtful on religious subjects, and three of them have expressed a wish to profess their faith publicly. The pupils have a prayer-meeting among themselves every Sabbath evening, and quite a number of them take an active part in the exercises.

At the beginning of the session of 1869-70 Rev. Prof. Coussirat, with his class of three, removed to Montreal, where his services became available at the Presbyterian College. Messrs. Rivet and Dionne completed their studies on the 15th May, at which date the engagement of Prof. Coussirat with the Society terminated. His services are now wholly given to the Presbyterian College, where the only remaining student of the Society will complete his studies.

The Committee, in parting with Prof. Coussirat, express their appreciation of his high scholastic attainments, and of the faithful and successful manner in which he has discharged his duties. Messrs. Rivet and Dionne, after passing a creditable examination, were ordained in November last. Mr. Cote was employed in the Saguenay district, and promises to be of much use among his countrymen. The other educational establishments of the Society at Grenville, Ste. Cecile, Montreal and Quebec deserve more than passing notice, and the Committee hope, during the year, to give more detailed information in regard to them.

EVANGELIZATION.

In addition to its work among the Roman Catholics, the Society ministers to the spiritual wants of not far short of a thousand French Protestants, mostly amongst the less wealthy classes, too feeble in numbers and ability to form a sufficient nucleus in any one locality for the support of a settled pastor. This estimate, probably, does not form a fifth part of the number of those who but for the existence of the Society, would be under the influence and teaching of the Church of Rome.

Whilst every effort is made by the priest to discourage the emigration of the Romanist, no sooner does one declare himself a Protestant than he becomes the object of priestly denunciation, and every effort is made to rid the community of his presence. The earliest days of this Province witnessed the same policy on the part of the Church of Rome, and the Huguenots of to-day are driven by Romish intolerance from their own country to swell the population and enrich the revenues of another.

An independent Synod has been formed, connected with which are all the French Evangelical Churches called into existence as the result of the operations of the Society, and the mission has thus been enabled to retain its marked original undenominational

character. The necessity of doing their utmost towards the support of Gospel ordinances has been earnestly pressed upon our French brethren, and a greater liberality in that respect is being called for.

The ordained ministers employed as missionaries during the year, were; Rev. Messrs. Chiniquy, Vernon and Duclos; also Messrs Rivet and Dionne, since November last.

Rev. C. Chiniquy cordially and promptly responded to the invitation of the Committee, and labored for several months in connection with the Society. His labors were chiefly confined to the City of Montreal during the first four weeks of his stay in Lower Canada, where hundreds of his countrymen continued to listen to his addresses, in spite of the strenuous efforts of the priests. Much excitement was caused at the time, and angry mobs assembled; but, owing to the firm stand taken by the police authorities, no very serious disturbances took place. The Committee would thank Dr. Bernard, Chairman of the Police Committee, for his endeavors on their behalf. Day after day many sought interviews with Rev. Mr. Chiniquy on the subject of the Gospel, and the errors of Rome, and but few left him without expressing their determination to leave that Church. It is impossible to say in all cases what prompted them to this decision, and doubtless many of them simply joined the reformed priest, wearied of the tyranny of their own priestly rulers. Through Mr. Chiniquy's instrumentality, public renunciations of Rome's errors have come from Montreal, St. André, Grenville, Ste. Cecile, and last, though not the least interesting, from 252 Indians of the Algonquin and Iroquois tribes, residing in the County of the Lake of Two Mountains. Illness obliged Mr. Chiniquy to relinquish his labors for some time during the summer, and in September he was again called to Kankakee, to counsel and assist the French Church there, on the occasion of the destruction of their church and school by fire. Did space permit, it would be interesting to relate the incidents that occurred during Mr. Chiniquy's labors. (A number of accounts have already appeared in the WITNESS, including those mentioned in the report.)

Rev. J. A. Vernon, a long tried and faithful missionary, has pursued his labors, visiting, as Superintendent of Colportage, the greater part of the field occupied by our laborers, preaching the Gospel, administering the sacraments, performing the ceremonies of marriage and burial, and encouraging and counselling the ministers in their important and difficult work. Mr. Vernon reports that Mr. Chiniquy's bold and faithful work has encouraged and resuscitated the French Protestant Church throughout Lower Canada.

Rev. P. P. Duclos, residing in the important town of St. Hyacinthe, makes it his centre of evangelistic work. A small but increasing church of 48 members meets regularly at the above place. At their last communion, four converts from Rome sat down for the first time. The Sabbath-school is under the special care of Madame Duclos. The dissentient day school is in part supported by the Society. During the fall Mr. Duclos extended his visits to Riviere du Loup, en bas, a town which is a striking instance of the spiritual and educational destitution of a few French Protestant parties in a French-Canadian town. For ten months in the year, there are no religious services, and the only educational institution for the young is Roman Catholic. There is every hope that both day and Sabbath schools will be sustained, and occasional ministerial supply maintained. Their great need at present is a place suitable for chapel and school.

FINANCIAL.

The Committee would express their thankfulness to Him whose is silver and gold, that they have been enabled to report a diminution of the Society's indebtedness by \$2,500, and since this statement was made up, a gift of \$500 has been received from Mr. Lennox of New York. The Society has also received during the year \$1,260 from an anonymous contributor.

The Treasurer's account shows that the receipts have been:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Subscriptions (Quebec and Ontario \$13,637.40, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 779.79, United States 2,215.69, Great Britain 6,361.15, Switzerland 2.31) and Expenditure (Education \$6,813.72, Colportage 4,695.64, Salaries 3,897.94, Miscellaneous 1,553.23, Evangelization 3,203.33). Total receipts \$20,163.86, Balance 2,832.48, Balance due Treasurer last year 4,427.64.

Balance due Treasurer \$1,595.16

After the reading of the report which was received with applause, the first resolution, which was moved by the Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D., seconded by Rev. G. M. Des Islets, Principal of Pointe-aux-Trembles Institute, supported by Mr. Russell, deputation from Halifax, N.S., was as follows:—

Resolved,—That this meeting desires reverently to record its thankfulness to Almighty God, for the openings that have been made of late years in Roman Catholic countries for the declaration of the Gospel. Also, for the measure of success that He has vouchsafed to the French-Canadian Missionary Society; and resolves that the Report, an abstract of which has now been read, be adopted, printed, and distributed; and that the following gentlemen be the Officers, bearers and Committee for the ensuing year, with power to add to their number:—President, Rev. Wm. Taylor, D.D.; Vice-Presidents, Rev. H. Wilkes, D.D., Hon. Jas. Ferrier, J. Dougall, Esq., Wm. Lunn, Esq.; Joseph Mackay, Esq.; Treasurer, Jas. Court, Esq.; Hon. Secretaries, Rev. Professor McVicar and Rev. A. Young, Secretary and Superintendent, Lieut.-Col. Haultain. Committee—Revs. J. M. Gibson, J. Fraser, Jun., G. Douglas, G. Brown, Messrs. R. Anderson, J. C. Becket, W. Rowan, G. Rogers, Laird Paton, Geo. Childs, W. F. Lighthall, S. H. May, R. Holland, A. Ferguson, James Holiday, P. D. Browne, John Watson, P. W. Wood, A. S. Wood, Warden King, P. S. Ross, T. M. Bryson, W. Clendinning, John McLennan, Geo. Cruickshank, D. Morrison, Adam Stevenson, W. D. Mcburn, David Aikman, James Shearer, Robert Cowan, Hugh McLennan, Thos. Robertson.

Rev. Dr. Burns said that in connection with the French Canadian Missionary Society, he had some pleasant reminiscences of gentlemen present at the meeting. He said: Some twenty years ago, when in Kingston, a gentleman came to me and expressed his wish to join my church. He did so, and a year afterwards I baptized his first child. That gentleman was our worthy

secretary, Col. Haultain. Shortly afterwards, in Belleville, I met a young French-Canadian, whom I now recognize as the Rev. Mr. Des Islets, Principal of Pointe-aux-Trembles Institute. When I was a little boy I remember how, now some 31 years ago, two gentlemen—Rev. Dr. Taylor and Mr. James Court—had called on my father at Paisley, Scotland, on behalf of this same French-Canadian Missionary Society. I have also at home a report of the same year showing Mr. E. P. Wilgoss as President, Mr. G. Wenhlan 1st Vice-President, and Hon. James Ferrier 2nd do. I have also a letter dated 6th December, 1839, which was addressed to my father, in which they requested him to attend as a minister of the Church of Scotland, a meeting which was to be held in aid of the Montreal French-Canadian Society. With regard to the subject of the recent openings in Roman Catholic countries for the introduction of the Gospel, Mexico was one of the most noted. The labors of the Rev. Henry Riley, whom I had recently met in Brooklyn, had been very successful. No country was so priest-ridden as Mexico; at one minute you would see the poor laborer counting his beads, and the next minute he would plunge his dagger into your breast. There were one Archbishop, eight Bishops, and a church revenue of three million of dollars annually, with a capital of \$115,000,000. In the City of Mexico, however, a great change for the better is progressing. There are now in that city 40 Protestant churches, and 120 throughout the country; while the preaching of the Word of God was uninterrupted. Some of the Catholic churches were turned into Protestant ones, while the staff of priests, who, not many years ago, numbered 13,000, is now reduced to 6,900. The Government had Protestant tendencies, and even the priests said they expected that in ten years more Mexico would be a Protestant Republic. The son of a wealthy Mexican had abandoned his father's home, and every Sunday preached the Gospel to a congregation of several thousands in what was once one of the principal Catholic churches in the City of Mexico, but is now Protestant. In the United States last year the sum of \$40,000 had been raised to assist the mission work of Mr. Riley and Miss Rankin in Mexico, and greater results were anticipated. With regard to the openings in Spain, I have some interesting original details to give, and to the Rev. Mr. Potts will I leave the handling of the Pope. It certainly did appear as if the bark of St. Peter had slipped from its moorings and was drifting to Malta, or into the arms of that respectable man W. E. Gladstone; but more likely he was following the popular melody, "Oh steer my bark to Erin's Isle, for Erin is my home." For centuries past the Bible has been proscribed from the Peninsula of Spain and was only introduced clandestinely. After the revolution of 1808, when Queen Isabella was dethroned, 40 cases of Bibles were imported into Spain from the United States, but the Censors' Board, composed of priests, interdicted them. Last year, however, a law was passed admitting the Bibles on the payment of the ordinary customs duties, and that field was now crowded with colporteurs, of whose work he gave many instances. One young man, converted to the light of the Gospel in New York, had circulated 500,000 portions of the Word during the short interval which had elapsed since it had been admitted—half the amount that had been circulated in India in ten years. During the last eighteen months over 1,000,000 portions of the Bible had been circulated in Spain. Many strange incidents were occurring in connection with the work. The partially charred bones of Protestant martyrs had been dug up recently in Madrid. In Seville a prominent Spaniard recently, standing on the tomb of an old inquisitor, preached the Gospel to a large audience; while at Toledo, where the truth of the Bible's teachings had been questioned, enquiry had been instituted and the result was that the colporteur sold, in one week, 60,000 copies of the Scriptures. At Madrid, Prof. Knaap had established a theological school, which was attended by 20 students; in the city were 1,000 children attending Sunday-school, 300 of whom had shown evidence of having found the Saviour. Many other incidents might be adduced, but the establishment of training schools in Spain was one which might with profit be copied in Canada. I pray that the day may soon come when we in Canada shall have training schools for our young women.

Dr. Burns, in his concluding remarks, denounced the custom which here prevailed of sending Protestant girls to Catholic Seminaries, and said that he believed that his affection for his daughters was as great as that of any father, and yet he would rather see them in their grave than in a convent. The education given at these schools did not tend to enlarge the intellect, but rather to shrivel and dry it up. It was to the mind what the Chinese shoe was to the foot. The real object of these Catholic Seminaries was to steal away our girls and bring them under the influence of the Church of Rome. Over 400 Protestant girls attended R. C. convent schools, and the popish doctrines were inculcated although not openly taught, to their children. Some weak Protestants might say that they could see no substantial returns of this mission. He would ask if the distribution of thirty thousand copies of the Bible, the teaching of two thousand children, and the conversion of as many more, were not substantial returns? And was not the effect of the twenty-three conversions to Christ a good result?—the more so when we considered the inexpressible value of one single soul. Oh, that they might imitate those very Jesuits that they were accustomed to revile, who in their burning zeal visited all climes, no matter what the privations they might have to undergo, that they might do their master's work.

Rev. Mr. Des Islets, in seconding the motion, remarked that it had been said that in ten years Mexico would be a Protestant republic. Certainly in ten years this Dominion would not be a Protestant Dominion. It behooved them therefore to concentrate all their energies upon the evangelization of the French-Canadian.

Mr. Russell, of Halifax, N. S., spoke in support of the resolution and said that in France during the last 60 years, in forty localities where Protestant Missions were established, they were due and could be traced to the introduction of a single Bible in the district.

In a part of Belgium where in 1832 there was no openly avowed Protestant, there were now 20 places of worship.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and adopted, after which the collection was taken up while the pupils sang a hymn.

Moved by Rev. J. Potts, seconded by Rev. H. Wilkes, D. D., LL. D., supported by Rev. Mr. Latheur, and

Resolved,—That inasmuch as the Church of Rome, by the late addition to its creed of the new dogma of Papal Infallibility, gives fresh proof of its ever widening departure from the "faith once delivered to the saints," this meeting resolves, with God's help, to persevere in its efforts, by every lawful means, to disseminate the Word of God amongst the Roman Catholic inhabitants of this Province, and to make known to them its contents.

Mr. Potts, after observing that the friends and supporters of this Society were the supporters of almost every other evangelical missionary society, declared that Home missions afforded, perhaps, the finest field of usefulness. Although distance might lend enchantment to the view of foreign missions, it was the duty of Christians to look well at home. The French Missionary Society was a Home Society, and there was no finer field for missionary labor than this Province of Quebec, that was given up to Romanism. The Province of Quebec was the Judea, and the City of Montreal the Jerusalem, where they should first preach Christ. Moreover, there lay in the historical fact of the declaration of the dogma of Papal infallibility, another reason that this Society should redouble its efforts. But notwithstanding this new magnifying of the Pope, Rome never had as little influence over the nations and over the hearts of men as she had now. The horns of the Beast had been broken, and it should never wear horns of power again. Were it not for its awful nature as an insult to the Almighty, he would look upon this declaration of the Pope's infallibility as a ridiculous farce.

He then took up the practical part of the resolution, and affirmed that they were not doing justice to the erring sons of Romanism in this Province, unless they were prepared to use all lawful means to disseminate the Word of God amongst the hungry children of Popery, to whom a stone was given instead of bread. The circulation of the Bible amongst them would meet their case; answering, as it would, all their spiritual questions, and putting a new song into their mouths; sustaining them in all situations in life, and also in the hour of death, nor leaving those hopeless who mourned their bereavement. The Bible would do all this for the French Catholics of the Province of Quebec. Should they have it, or not? Let them have its contents, and they will experience the salvation of Christ without penance and purgatory; let them know its contents, and they would cast away their errors. It was heroic to see this Society daring to raise its head amidst the overshadowing presence of Popery. Let the Society go on; it had nothing to fear; the time must come when universal victory would be proclaimed on the side of this and of all kindred associations.

Rev. Dr. Wilkes, at the hour was growing late, very briefly seconded the resolution; contrasting the present bold denunciations of those who burned the Bible, with the comparative timidity of the utterances of the advocates of the Society at the time of its founding, some thirty-four years ago.

Rev. Theo. Latheur spoke in French in support of the resolution. He said they had all heard that copies of the Scriptures were sold in Italy, Spain, France and Belgium by thousands to Roman Catholics, whilst in Canada it was extremely difficult to sell any. How could this be explained? The people of those countries were very ignorant, and, to a large extent corrupt, and their priests were very corrupt; but here the priests were, generally speaking, respectably moral. This was the result of their contact with Protestantism, which prevented Catholicism from rotting here as it had wherever it was alone. It was, therefore, more difficult to evangelize in Lower Canada than, perhaps, any other Roman Catholic country. But the work should not, on that account, be abandoned; on the contrary, Christians should labor the harder to accomplish it.

The motion was put and adopted; and after the pupils had sung a hymn in French, the Rev. D. Marsh pronounced the Benediction, and the meeting broke up.

TRACT SOCIETY.

On Friday evening the last of the religious anniversary meetings of the week was held in the Wesleyan church, St. James street, Mr. J. A. Mathewson, the President, in the chair.

The Rev. Mr. Bottrell led the opening devotional exercises, after which the Chairman, in the absence of any formal report, made a few statements, showing the present state and past work of the Society, and also read extracts from one or two of the tract distributors' reports. Revs. Drs. Jenkins and Bancroft, also Mr. J. Dougall, were to have spoken, but were prevented from being present by indisposition; but Dr. Dawson would deliver an address on "The Power of the Press on Religion." No formal collection had been taken up for this Society for the last three years; a state of things not desirable to have repeated, and which was a shortcoming that he trusted would be atoned for that evening. It was not well either, that they should be in the reception of free grants of tracts from the Home Society, to the amount of £50, as they had been during the last year. They ought rather to send a large donation to the parent society. There was a debt of \$50 due to the Treasurer, and the number of tracts that had been gratuitously distributed in different languages, during the past year, by this Society was 74,169; besides a very considerable number of large religious calendars. This Society, like the Bible Society, had Unity for its platform, and he commended its cause to the various Evangelical Churches of the city.

After having read extracts from the distributors' reports already referred to, and related several anecdotes showing the saving effects of a few tracts judiciously and silently distributed, the Chairman called upon

The Rev. Mr. Pitcher to move the adoption of a report, simply recommending the names of a number of gentlemen to act as the Committee of the Society for the ensuing year. Mr. P. scouted the idea that we lived in a degenerate age. A hundred years ago such meetings as had assembled in that

church during the present week could not have been held, for there were then none of these Christian societies. The Church had never before witnessed such a union of heart and hand, to work for the salvation of the world. There were now great religious openings, and men ready to enter into them, and God was moving the hearts of His people to sustain these men. This Society met certain wants which no other society could meet. Tracts were silent messengers of mercy, finding their way into sequestered corners, and leading men onward to peruse the Word of God. There was a field of labor for every one, and the humblest might distribute tracts. A minister of Toronto had for several months taken his stand, early in the morning, to catch men as they were going to their work, and gave them a tract, on which was inscribed the name of his church, and by this means his congregation and church membership had been greatly increased.

Rev. Mr. Hunter delivered an animated and earnest address, enforcing the duty and necessity of maintaining this Society by local contributions. He pointed out that there was much latent but wasted talent in our churches, but which might be utilized by the young especially, entering into the work of tract distribution, and in promoting generally the objects of this Society.

PRINCIPAL DAWSON'S ADDRESS.

Principal Dawson said: When I was in London during last summer I one day went into the vast warehouse of the Religious Tract Society, when Mr. Davis, the Secretary, observed to me that we in Montreal were not doing much for the Society. I was compelled, with some degree of shame and regret, to acknowledge that we were not. The remark dwelt upon my mind; but, independent of this, there are other reasons for special interest in this Society; the greater, inasmuch as the Society is allowed to be somewhat cast into the shade amongst these anniversary meetings. On these accounts I would rather at present speak on behalf of this Society than on that of any other.

It has been affirmed in England, with a certain amount of point, and with a humorous alliteration, that popular education consisted of the

THREE R'S—

reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic. Now, I believe these things really have more to do with the spread of the Gospel than we are apt to think. Some say, if common schools don't teach religion they will do more harm than good; but this is absurd and totally untenable. Let us suppose an extreme case; say, of a school in which all religious teaching is excluded. Put sound and wholesome literature before these children—and some form of sound literature they must have—put this before them, and train them to habits of study, and you give them a taste for reading, and the power to know the best thoughts, human and divine, that have been written, and you have thus placed those children nearer to the Kingdom of Heaven. The three R's, then, are religious things. We have formerly found the greater proportion of the older French population of this Province unable to read and write, and we have mourned over them therefore. It was useless to give them Bibles or tracts, for they could not read them. But the younger generation are generally learning to read; yet I do not think that any man, who wants to get a living, would dare to sell Protestant French literature here. Such societies as this are required to supply the want.

ANOTHER TRIO OF ALLITERATION

is "the pen, the pencil, and the press;" three things availed of by this society. It has been said that the pen is mightier than the sword; and so it is. It is sharper than the sword, or the rifle-bullet, or the hundred-pound shot delivered from the mouth of the cannon, since its influence is on the soul, piercing as to the dividing asunder of the joints and the marrow. What kind of pen was that of Moses, or that of David, which inscribed all the thoughts and feelings of which the soul, in joy or in distress, is capable—even those experienced by the Saviour, who, in uttering them, did not disdain to use the Psalmist's words? What kind of a pen was Paul's? In one passage, he says:—"See, in what big letters I have written to you with mine own hand." He had written in large characters because his eyes were weakened by encountering scorching winds in his journeyings. When he wrote these words, his object was to wear the Galatian Christians from the beggary elements of rites and ceremonies. There are lean and withered souls in our days that need the same teaching, and for this use we still have his immortal pen in his Epistles; and the Tract Society is publishing, amongst other works, a journal called *The True Catholic* which will, under the divine blessing, sharpen this old pen. Luther and Calvin and Bunyan, and hosts of other good men, followers of Paul, have wielded great and glorious pens, bringing the world into light and liberty.

The pencil is wielded by the Tract Society. This Society is a Puritan society, yet it largely uses the pictorial art. Besides tracts, it has printed broadsheets, illustrated with engravings, some of them excellently executed, and really standing high as works of art; and thereby giving a training to the taste, whilst attracting the eye and touching the heart. These broad, illustrated sheets are not costly; but are published for a penny; providing for that small coin what is as a mine of artistic wealth to the eye. We have seen the old missals, painted by the monks of the middle ages, and we can imagine the old folios doing their best in their dimly lighted cells, and thinking truly they were serving the devotion and the art of their period; but these illuminations on the margins of their manuscripts, costly and comparatively scarce, were not in intrinsic value to be compared with the illustrations of the Tract Society's broadsheet, which, by multiplication, can be made a household thing for the world.

But the pen and pencil will do little good without the press. Just as the bullet and the shell are harmless without powder, the pen and pencil are powerful only in connection with the press. An eminent Frenchman on a recent occasion said Protestants had an advantage in having a book, a Bible. But what if there were no press to multiply the Bible? The press came opportunely just before the

time of the Reformation. It gave the masses what must otherwise have been the possession of only the few. Let me give another picture. Suppose we were transported back to pagan Rome. We should see a crowd of slaves employed in copying out manuscripts—the producing of forty or fifty copies occupying several months. Old pagan Rome had no literature that could mend the heart; and even if it had, what means had it to circulate it? Look at the great steam presses of the present day, turning off their ten thousand copies an hour. When I look at these presses I see a great power to Christianize and civilize; and those should use this power, who can use it for the holiest ends. It is true that the press may print immorality as well as morality—falsehood and error as well as truth; but after all, its natural tendency is more or less for good. It means light; and it is an alien task for the press to propagate that which is of the darkness; even to the spreading of folly it lends itself unwillingly. I have often watched the gold miners, with their machinery—which, in working, makes a great noise—crushing the quartz, and at length bringing out of a large quantity of sand a few penny-weights of gold. So I have thought that the speeches at these anniversary meetings had often much noise, much sand, but little gold. Not but that they were good in their way; but they required to have the gold picked out from amongst the surrounding sand. But we get the penny-weights of gold segregated from the sand by the reporters. They pick out the gold for us—though they sometimes take the sand by mistake or inadvertence. (Laughter.) We want condensation and pith. What we get in a whole speech would go into a verse of the Bible, or a sentence in Bunyan. Now, the press filters out rubbish, and what the press gives us is generally worth having. It gives you the strong points of a discussion, and tends to work out truth; for what must be read will generally endure only if worth reading.

WHO WANTS TO MUZZLE THE PRESS?

The Pope—Napoleon. You don't find it muzzled in free Protestant countries; above all, not by those who love the Gospel. The Pope, by his inhibitions, acts like the maniac who would starve himself lest he should be poisoned. That is not the principle of the Gospel. A free press, a circulation of all literature, not immoral, should be encouraged. This should be the wish of all; and how much more of such a society as this! It is the oldest of all the religious societies. When it began there was hardly any good, cheap religious literature,—indeed no one could then bring it out. A diminutive periodical, the *Child's Companion*, was the only cheap magazine. There was then no *British Workman* and other similar serials; but we have now a flood of cheap religious literature. The Tract Society originated it, and to this day it actively assists it. We have Mr. Mathewson and others working well here, and much good is thereby being done. But we want more tract distributors; and we ought to take up the question of providing a cheap literature for the French Catholics.—(Hear.) There is but a small chance of providing a good cheap French literature now; yet if a cheap illustrated French periodical of the kind I refer to could be started, it might be of great benefit. But it could not be done by a poor society. There would be required special means to accomplish it. As to the grant of tracts from the Home Society, we should not need this. We are not paupers. We ought not to ask the Home Society for aid. We have plenty of means. We should pay for our own tracts, and publish tracts of our own, and also put forth a cheap French religious literature. Instead of requiring gifts, we ought to send money home to the Parent Society. I trust we shall no longer let our society remain in its present low condition, but come forward and say, there shall be an efficient Tract Society in Montreal.

A collection was then taken up for the Society, and afterward

The Rev. Mr. Marsh, of Quebec, delivered a brief address. He said the three R's were doing their work, and so were the three P's. The Home Tract Society was doing a great and good work, but it was hard that it should do our work also. There should be no idlers, but every member of a church should have his task. They came there year by year and listened to flaming speeches, and went away, being cold and idle in the interval. In Quebec this work of the Tract Society had languished, and devolved on a very few, as was the case in this city, but the last year had shown some improvement.

The Rev. Mr. McKillican, at the request of the Chairman, gave several affecting instances of the blessed results of tracts, casually distributed by persons who when from home on business do the Lord's work as well as their own.

The Doxology was then sung; and the Benediction having been pronounced, the meeting was dismissed.

—There was a disturbance in one of the churches at Hulme Eng., on Christmas Day, arising out of excessive Ritualism. There are two parties in the place—the one known as Protestant, and the other as high Ritualist; and the rector supports the latter. Mr. Andrews, a recently-elected churchwarden, interfered last Sunday to stop an "early matins" procession round the church, consisting of the rector and the choristers with a large cross and figure of the Virgin Mary. A struggle ensued, and in the struggle between the "Protestants" and the "Ritualists" one of the banners was torn from the standard. The aid of the police was obtained, and the upshot is that on Monday the whole affair finds itself in the magistrates' court. One of Mr. Andrews' supporters was fined £2 or 2 months' imprisonment, against which judgment an appeal was taken. A summons has also been obtained against Mr. Andrews himself. It is stated that he and another gentleman had been elected churchwardens for the very purpose of opposing the Ritualistic practices, and that feeling had run so high that even the Christmas decorations had been torn down because they had been placed in the church by the vicar's party.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1871.

**PUBLISHERS NOTICE.**—We announced that any one remitting \$2.25 would get the WEEKLY WITNESS, the DOMINION MONTHLY and the CANADIAN MESSENGER for the money. We also announced that School Teachers would be put on the same half-price footing as Ministers with respect to the SEMI-WEEKLY WITNESS. A teacher, from these announcements, concludes that he may have, not only the SEMI-WEEKLY for a dollar, which is all right, but that he may have the MESSENGER for two friends at the reduced price of 25 cents each. As the postage on each MESSENGER, separately sent, is 12 cents per annum, which we have to pre-pay, this would be reducing these to less than half-price and we can, therefore, only credit the parties for eight months. The object of making a reduction of price in clubs is to increase circulation, but the precise terms of the club must, in all cases, be remembered.

CAPITULATION OF PARIS.

What has long seemed inevitable has at length arrived—Paris has capitulated, and the city is virtually in possession of the Prussians. The terms have been agreed upon, and the Germans have actual possession of the outer forts—the guns of which they have, as a matter of precaution, turned towards the *enceinte*. The terms are, that Paris shall surrender in the same manner, and as fully, as did Sedan and Metz; the garrison, both regulars and mobiles, to lay down their arms, and the National Guards to keep the peace of the city. Alsace and Lorraine are to be ceded to Germany; and there is to be a large money indemnity for the war expenses; a portion of the fleet is to be given up, and the money indemnity guaranteed by the municipalities; and in default of this last, the property of rich individuals is to be held in possession as guarantees. One despatch states that a French colony is also to be ceded, which is less unlikely than may at first appear, as Germany evidently seeks to become a first-class maritime power. There is to be an armistice for three weeks, during which time a national assembly will be called to say whether the war shall be further prosecuted. In the meantime, all the armies will retain their respective positions, and Paris will be allowed to be re-occupied.

These terms are sufficiently stern, but no more so than was to be expected from the tone of all the attempts at negotiations from the beginning. It is some relief to know that useless bloodshed is likely to cease. It is true that the capitulation of Paris is not necessarily the end of the war. But better terms will hardly be wrung from the Germans; and a level country, covered with the results of industrial pursuits, cannot wage a guerilla warfare successfully, nor without descending into the depths of savagery and eventually falling a hundred years behind in civilization. The war would seem in fact, if not in form, to be closed. It was time. The hour had come, too, that Paris should be saved from herself. It has for some time back been evident, that there was much of the spirit of terrorism of the first revolution slumbering amongst the mass of Red Republicans in the city, an outbreak of which took place on Friday last opposite the Hotel de Ville, when, with the Prussians at their gates, the insane cry of "a Berlin" was raised, showing how the madness of despair had blinded the judgment. On that occasion blood was shed, and an internecine struggle seemed about to be added to the horrors of hunger and bombardment. Let us rejoice that the further endurance of these calamities has apparently been spared.

THE GUIBORD AND HOLLAND CASES

The *Minerve* is peculiarly unfortunate in comparing the case of the Rev. Mr. Sabine's refusal to give a somewhat celebrated play-actor, named Holland, a public funeral in his church, with the refusal of the Rev. Mr. Rousselot (under the compulsion, as we believe, of his Bishop) to allow Guibord to be buried in the ordinary French burying ground. The two cases differ in the most material points.

1st. The Church of Rome is established by law in Lower Canada; its adherents being compelled to support it by paying tithes and Fabrique assessments; and in return for this legal obligation its adherents have legal claims upon it for certain offices. The Episcopal Church in the States is not established more than any other—has no legal claims upon its adherents for support, and they have no legal claims upon it for any offices whatever—the whole matter of support and ser-

vice being the result of voluntary arrangements. To intimate, then, that Mr. Sabine stood in the same relation to an Episcopalian of New York that Mr. Rousselot did to a Roman Catholic of Montreal, is absurd.

2nd. Mr. Sabine was not the actor's pastor. The latter did not belong to his parish, nor attend his church. And there were plenty of other Episcopal churches in New York which would probably enough, and one of which did, perform the desired ceremonies. But the Rev. Mr. Rousselot was the pastor of the Parish of Montreal, without whose consent Guibord could not be buried at all in the ordinary Roman Catholic burying ground.

3. Rev. Mr. Sabine did not refuse to bury the actor, or to read over his body at the grave the whole service that the Episcopal Church prescribes. What he refused was a pompous ceremony in church, which is quite an exceptional mode of interment. In other words, Mr. Sabine did not refuse ordinary, but extraordinary, burial for a non-parishioner; whilst ordinary burial was all that was asked, in vain, by the friends of Guibord of his own parish priest.

Cases could scarcely be imagined wider apart than these two, and the attempt to make the one bolster up the other only illustrates the inherent weakness of the latter.

We may add that never did Satan to all appearance make a greater mistake than to rage as he has done, through his press in the United States, against the Rev. Mr. Sabine for the manly stand he took in the case in question.

THE ANNEXATION MANIA.

Many of our readers can remember the "old style" of agriculture. We can call it such only by courtesy. The land was not cultivated but run over. The landowners themselves, anxious of owning large farms, mostly came to grief.

This antiquated and barbarous mode of farming, which we can hardly bring ourselves to believe existed later than aboriginal times, is but a faint illustration of the way in which civilized nations still "husband" their natural resources. There is amongst them an earthliness—a "land-hunger"—an annexation mania, that appears universal and insatiable. To make the parallel at all perfect, we must imagine our bucolic citizens knocking one another on the head in order to hold real estate in fee-simple, and arming retainers to cut one another's throats in lieu of more legitimate husbandry.

To a visitor from some other sphere, this "land-hunger," insatiable as that of the grave, must appear an insanity some way associated with it. It might have been such a one who said: "Ye lust and have not; ye kill and desire to have and cannot obtain; ye fight and war yet ye have not."

To any one of ourselves, such a state of things would appear intolerable, if called by the right name. The diplomacy and political economy of small politicians is, to disguise things by high-sounding words. Imitating them, then, in this respect, we may dignify this absurd mania by the appellation of "land-grabbing."

The insanity grows by what it feeds upon. It assumes many forms and may be known by various symptoms. But we have room for only two or three of the types. There is the Asiatic, for instance: heroic and romantic, it exerts a great influence over the young and sentimental. Its prototype, some noted *land-louper*, overruns—that is, runs over—half the globe as if he had on seven-league boots. A ragamuffin rabble follow at his heels—fast as they can, slashing and wasting. When wearied of this amiable work, they erect a monument in artistic style, consisting of human skulls. A horde following such a Nimrod no more constitutes a nation than hunting does a farmer. Such a kingdom collapses on the death of the king; and that for which the world seemed too small, finds the grave of its chief large enough to contain it. He might say better than Louis the Fourteenth, "I am the State." Yet nations partake largely of this their "original sin"—a lust for conquest; and the Asiatic type of annexation, extended into Europe and the New World, continues into modern times.

The Greeks, who almost alone were wise in their generation, could not understand how the "Great King" who had already too much land to till, should seek more. They threw out some hints to him about owning and occupying downwards towards the centre. With exquisite humor, which they happily blended with their wisdom, they sought to initiate his ambassadors into the mystery of subsiding, by assisting them to experiment in a ditch at the bottom of a convenient well. Asiatics were as incapable of profiting by such a course of instruction as of rivaling their masterpieces in the fine arts. They are to this day merely *landlopers*. Yet the Asiatic type exists, pure and simple, only among Arabs of the desert, and Malays who run a-muck.

We may, therefore, pass on to the European. This is in itself a compromise, as all things European seem to be. Crowded together, things are badly mixed; no one can tell his own hands and feet. They are continually "rectifying boundaries." It there forms a

science. It runs up modern history. It has called into existence endless leagues. These leagues, translated out of the "thieves' slang," usually indicate a system of "log-rolling." Sides are taken—parties are formed. The fluctuations of fortune would be as amusing and edifying a spectacle as a gladiatorial show, were we mere Pagans. Professing to be Christians, we turn away then in disgust. We sigh as we think that those who have already more resources than they can ever hope to develop, must call a European Congress to cover up some vulgar job of "land-grabbing" and "log-rolling." It is only such States as England, Holland, and Switzerland that magnanimously care for no more territory. The disease in its worst form possesses Russia, Prussia, the "sick man" of the Bosphorus, and the "dead man" of Sedan—who doesn't know yet that he is dead, nor how to play the role of a ghost, as he did that of the Sphinx.

The only other type we will mention of this mania is the American. It is not the heroic or romantic, certainly. It is best represented by the old-clothes man purchasing the imperial purple. Instead of Don Quixote on his rambles, we find Sam Slick. He has crammed the North Pole into one of his saddle-bags, and wishes to get at least a part of the Equator into the other "to keep the balance true."

Our neighbors, we are sorry to see, show an old disease in a new and aggravated form. They have had some lessons since Lieutenant Lynch was sent on his memorable expedition to the Dead Sea, to fish up Sodom and Gomorrah, as was supposed, to annex them as States to the Union.

Seriously, it does seem a hopeless insanity when sober and sensible citizens, who will have to "pay the piper," appear mad as the maddest kings. Isn't there ice enough in the Alaska purchase to cool them? They hesitated about accepting the St. Thomas earthquake. Haven't they burdens enough without paying for endless social earthquakes? With universal suffrage, were it not well to take in sail as the ship of state crosses a stormy sea, and not sink her to the water's edge with useless lumber?

Isn't there negro enough in their politics? Does the President mean to divide the Republican party? There is little hope for him since he has caught this "yellow fever."

But one would fain hope that there are a majority of shrewd sensible farmers in the neighboring Republic, as well as substantial citizens, who know that skinning farms isn't farming; and that another richer America lies underneath the America they already occupy.

THE CHURCH OF ROME'S PRESERVES.

The *Nouveau Monde* and other organs of the Church of Rome are waxing furious in their demands for the recall of the Red River Expedition, encouraged thereto, perhaps, by the rumor that Government intended to withdraw a certain number of the volunteers next May. The ostensible grounds on which the withdrawal of the Expedition is demanded, are, that it has fulfilled its object in assisting to establish a legitimate government; that its maintenance is a heavy expense to the Dominion, and that the men composing it have been guilty of violence and every sort of disorder. Considerable stress is laid on the latter reason, and the alleged disgraceful conduct of the volunteers is dwelt upon at length, and contrasted with what is styled the goodness, purity and morality of the half-breeds. The settling of the discharged volunteers in the Province upon allotments of land, as promised by Government, is also objected to by the priest press, which wants to know if the authorities dare incur the responsibility of launching upon a peaceable population a band of infuriated (*forcés*) who have come there with the avowed object of murder and pillage. Finally, the recall of the Expedition is demanded as soon as possible.

Manitoba being looked upon by the Church of Rome as one of her preserves, to be modelled and constituted after the style of Lower Canada, it is no wonder the presence of a force representing British law is annoying to her at this moment, when the future destinies of the Province are trembling in the balance. The talk about expense to the Dominion comes awkwardly from a body that is costing it dearer than half a dozen Red River Expeditions ever could. The cowardly attacks on the volunteers also might pass, if uttered by others than the upholders of Riel and his crew, who, after a winter's orgies of drunkenness, robbery and murder, fled out of the country at the approach of the volunteers. Has Bishop Taché any new work shaped out for his factotum Riel, that the R. C. papers are so anxious for the Expedition to be withdrawn? The outcry raised by them over this matter looks very suspicious.

THE SURRENDER OF PARIS.

The long agony of France is at last drawing to a close—the surrender of Paris being reasonably regarded as the immediate forerunner of peace. This the King of Prussia obviously expects and hopes for; and he will be joined in this hope by the whole world. The heroic and persistent defence that France has made, is only surpassed by the heroic and persistent attack of Prussia; and in this greatest war of modern times we find a fresh illustration of the old proverb: "The mill of God grinds slow, but it grinds exceeding small." France has for nearly two centuries been the terror of Europe, endangering every other na-

tion, and especially those upon her eastern frontiers; and this is the second time within the present century that she has been most signally chastised for her insane passion for military glory—a passion not confined to her rulers, but shared by the people generally. Oh, may she be satisfied now, and instead of nourishing revenge turn to the arts of peace, and especially seek to serve God instead of the adversary!

Prussia, which has suffered nearly as much as France in this war, should also at last seek the things that make for peace, in a liberal spirit. How blessed would be the results if she would only now say to France: "We conquer, but to save"; and your friendship will be more valuable to us than either your provinces or your ships. Pay us merely the expenses of the war that we have been forced into; raze your fortresses, and agree to mutual free trade, and we will retire from your soil and bid you God speed."

Our great hope is that France, after coming through this furnace of affliction—this terribly hard school of adversity, will be educated up to that point of principle and patriotism, that she will be able to sustain permanently the Republic which has for months been the only government of the country.

Certainly, if it came to be a question whether the Republic should triumph or Louis Napoleon, the sympathies of the Anglo-Saxon race would be obliged to change sides in this struggle if it has to go on.

CANADIAN COLONIZATION.

Mr. Carling, in his immigration report to the Ontario Government, proposes to make the experiment of granting pecuniary means to poor but industrious immigrants and others, for the purpose of enabling them to successfully settle on free grant lands. To carry out this idea, he proposes that a township of good lands should be set apart for a settlement on these conditions; and that on every alternate lot Government should clear, say, from three to five acres, the cost of which clearing and the erection of a log house thereon, should be a first charge upon the land, and be paid by instalments before the patent is issued.

The benevolence of this purpose is undoubted, and it is true that the prospect of going immediately on to land which a man may hope to call his own, is likely to be a strong inducement to immigration. At the same time, it may be doubted whether these persons are a really desirable class who would decline to come here at all, if they must first work for a year or two at wages with farmers, thus earning both experience and money. It may also be suspected that residents who are so poor as to require Government assistance, are likely to be wanting in the qualities of energy, self-reliance, and adaptability to a change of condition which make the prosperous pioneer.

The law gives to the settler the right of absence from the free grant land for six months in the year, and during these months he may earn money by working in the front townships, returning to clear his own farm in the less busy season. It may be well to encourage settlers in some safe pecuniary form, but it ought not to be done at the expense of self-reliance.

Speaking upon this subject, the *Gazette* says:—

"The system adopted by the Government in the Province of Quebec has in it the elements of a much better method of inducing settlement. To entrust to Colonization Societies, under careful restrictions, the settlement of the country, is unquestionably the best system that could be adopted. These Societies, bound by the terms of their grant to furnish assistance and advice to settlers, are well calculated to secure successful colonization. It is a remarkable fact that nearly the entire immigration policy of the United States is entrusted to such Societies, to companies of men having control of large tracts of land, and influenced by the strongest of inducements—that of personal advantage—to secure the settlement of those lands. These companies have their agencies in every town and city of importance in Great Britain and on the continent. They distribute printed matter descriptive of the lands they have to offer, and the special inducements they hold out to those who are willing to take them. In this way the United States are kept before the emigrating classes in a manner which scarcely any regular government agency could accomplish; and the result has been an enormous emigration to the neighboring republic. But then these are working societies. They not only have the land, but they seek to secure the settlers upon it."

The value of the Colonization Societies to this Province will depend on the spirit in which they are worked, and the energy put into the measures taken in furtherance of their object. If an energetic, sober and naturally enterprising class of immigrants are sought, irrespective of race and creed, and also the self-reliant, industrious, and those naturally ready in resources from amongst the resident population, these societies may prove a means of settling the country and bringing wild lands more rapidly under cultivation, thereby increasing the wealth and well-being of all.

RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—*La Minerve* publishes the arrangements of Government with regard to the Red River Expedition after the 1st of May next. After that date the force

will be reduced to 86 men of all ranks, divided into 2 companies, to be recruited from each Battalion respectively. The term of enlistment to be for six months, with power to the Government to extend it to one year, but no longer. The commanding officer will probably be a Major, and Manitoba will form the 10th Military District of the Dominion. The *Minerve* also states that it is under consideration to give grants of land to volunteers re-enlisting on the above date; and it is proposed to put in store at Fort Garry all arms, ammunition, &c., that can possibly be left there by the discharged volunteers at 1st May, so as to have in the new Province a military magazine in case of need. The Depot Companies of the Expedition at Kingston and St. Helen's Island, will, of course, be disbanded on the 1st May. Nothing is yet decided as to the formation of a guard for our forts and powder magazines.

In course of its official explanations of the above, it is interesting to observe that *La Minerve* steps aside a little to say what seems a good word for Riel & Co., by observing that he and his gang allowed a lot of arms and munitions of war, the property of the Hudson Bay Company, that were stored at Fort Garry, to remain there, where they were found by Colonel Wolseley when he arrived. It is a pity they were not as scrupulous in regard to the liquor and other stores which they drank and consumed, and for which it is proposed to make the Dominion compensate the Company. The inevitable inference is, that Riel and his followers were too cowardly to make any use of these arms except in murdering loyal and defenceless men like poor Scott.

IS IT A JOB?—At a recent meeting of representatives of the Montreal Corporation, Grand Trunk and the Provincial Government, some important matters were brought up in connection with city improvements. Sir Geo. E. Cartier has a great deal of worthless property at the East End, especially near the Quebec Gate Barracks. At a recent meeting of the City Council a Committee was appointed to confer with Federal and Local Governments to see on what terms they would part with the Government property in the city which had been handed over to them by the Imperial Government. Sir Geo. E. Cartier has promised the Corporation that they can have the Quebec Gate Barracks property for a trifle, provided they make a public square, or keep it for civic purposes and not lease it out for building lots. The Corporation representatives seem disposed to acquiesce, and recommend the plan. In the meantime the G. T. R. Company, as represented by Mr. Brydges, favor the extension of the Grand Trunk line from the canal along Wellington and Youville streets, and along Commissioners street to below Dalhousie Square, where a general terminus would be constructed, and which could be made available for future railways. The Local Government favor the above scheme; and as the track would be laid close to the revetement wall, on property of Harbor Commissioners, the Montreal public could have no jurisdiction except where the line passed through the streets of the city. It is believed that by already existing laws the G.T.R. Company can, on a vote of the City Council, establish a depot within the city limits at Dalhousie sq. or otherwise, but to carry the track through the city would require a new act of the Legislature. On the other hand it is, we believe, held by some of the Grand Trunk authorities, that any change of the depot would have to be made to suit the passenger as well as the freight traffic, and that the better way would be to carry the track from the Bonaventure Depot easterly along Craig street, with a passenger station in a central part and the freight depot near Hochelaga.

THE FISHERY QUESTION.—Aside from the question of American vessels fishing within the prescribed three-mile limit in the Lower Provinces, there is a phase of the American fishing business which has escaped public notice. Not content with infringing the maritime law of nations in general and that of the Dominion in particular, the Americans last summer carried their illegal traffic and system of piscatorial plunder into the very heart of the Dominion. The *modus operandi* was very simple, and no doubt will be repeated next season if not put a stop to. A sharp New Yorker engaged to furnish, daily, a supply of fresh trout to the Saratoga and other leading hotels of resort by summer tourists, and knowing that he could not depend upon American waters for a tithe of the fish wanted, he previously made arrangements for the carrying on of a wholesale system of poaching upon the fresh-water lakes and rivers of the Dominion. Expert American anglers were speedily located on the lakes of this and the Lower Provinces, and several dozens of men who were not specially employed, but were good anglers, were engaged at the rate of a dollar a day to fish for trout—surrendering the result of their day's labors to their employer, who in turn boxed the fish up in ice and sent them off, as per contract, at the rate of seventy-five cents per

dozen. In this way our lakes and rivers were mercilessly drained of their trout. Moreover, when the rod failed to provide what was wanted, the services of the otter were called into requisition, and of course the legitimate rules of angling were entirely disregarded.

THE PRIESTS AND RED RIVER.—La Minerve opens its editorial columns to a communication that noted article upon Red River published in Blackwood's Magazine, and from which we gave copious extracts some time ago. The writer of the communication has settled to his own satisfaction that the article in question is the production of Colonel Wolsley, and labors hard to break down some of the most damaging parts of it, which expose the artifices of the priesthood.

THE SITUATION.—The morning telegrams from Europe show that the plot thickens, and that disturbing elements are rather added thereto than eliminated. Active intrigues for a restoration of the Empire are afoot, and armed riots, in which a body of the National Guard participated, have occurred in Paris, producing a conflict between them and the Garde Mobile for the possession of the Hotel de Ville.

WARNING.—The Arno and Tiber, and other rivers of Italy, are subject to periodic floods, of which a remarkable one is described in this paper. These are attributed by men of science to the lack of forests in the hill country. The spots which visit Scottish streams, changing their depth in a week or two from one foot to twenty, are a similar consequence of denudation, and the same, in increasing measure, may be looked forward to in Canada as the process of baring the land continues.

MR. HUNTINGTON'S SPEECH.—We sympathize to the utmost with Mr. Huntington in his apparently ardent desire for not only harmony, but the heartiest friendship—let us say love—between the Americans and ourselves. He has good ground for his accusation of rancor on the part of the Tory press. We wish, however, he had been a little less general in his denunciations of Government for offences against the duties of forbearance, and furnished us with the proofs and examples which have convinced him of its wrong-doing.

WE wish that Mr. Huntington's eloquent appeals to international generosity could ring through the whole land, as Canada is, perhaps, behind England in learning the lesson of the day and cultivating the things which make for peace.

THE KU-KLUX KLAN.—A telegram recently informed us of a terrible Ku-Klux outrage committed on nine colored prisoners, who were confined in the jail at Louisville, Georgia. Four of them were untried, and all were taken from their confinement, flogged unmercifully,

their ears cut off, and one of the nine shot dead, and as yet none of the marauders have been arrested.

This Ku-Klux Klan seems to be the smouldering embers of the rebellion in the South, which the United States Government has not yet succeeded in stamping out. Terrorism, murders and outrages are waged under this name on Union men, both white and colored, by bands of plunderers and assassins who defy the courts, now that the United States troops, who formerly held them in check, have been withdrawn. The State Governments have been in most cases unable, and in some unwilling to repress these doings; and in many parts of the South it is unsafe to vote adversely to this organization, which seems to stick at no form of barbarity.

It is high time the full truth on all sides were ascertained, and that the Government should finish that which the war and the will of the people has decreed: namely, the protection of every citizen, white or colored, in the exercise of his social and political rights, and a fair trial and righteous sentence, instead of mutilation and murder in the name of Lynch law—or rather, a contempt of all law.

INTENSE COLD IN ENGLAND.—The latest English papers bring intelligence of the great suffering produced by a fortnight's frost in London. It is stated that on one day there were no fewer than thirteen coroners' inquests held on persons who had expired suddenly in consequence of the effects of excessive cold on weak action of the heart. Several also were found frozen to death in the streets or in their houses. The railroad guards suffered severely, one being found dead in his van. There have also been numerous injuries from falls in the slippery streets, and surgeons in the metropolitan hospitals have had a busy time of it attending to fractured limbs and broken heads.

SCARCITY OF FODDER.—We have seen a letter from Little Metis which says that fodder is extremely scarce and dear in that region. Hay is \$20 a hundred bundles, and straw even scarcer. The writer says he has only fodder till first March. He would use grain more largely for feeding stock, but it is also very high. As soon as the navigation opens some of the surplus hay of the Richelieu, which the farmers there were advised last fall to send to France, will doubtless be sent down to Metis, but that may be too late. If fodder be scarce also along the line of the Intercolonial Railway, we fear the construction of that road will be somewhat impeded.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.—Two great struggles between abstract right and vested interests came to a climax in the Council on Friday night; and our readers are referred to the report of the meeting to see which of their representatives are made of independent stuff and which are not.

THE CENSUS.—The Dominion Census Commissioners, recently gazetted, have received their commissions, and will commence on the 3rd of April to take the census, being the same day as they will begin to take the census in Great Britain. For the City of Montreal, which is divided into three districts, more than a hundred enumerators will be employed at \$3 per day, for a few days.

RAILROAD ENTERPRISE.—A correspondent writing from Illinois to the Country Gentleman gives his views of the benefits derived from Railways, and the effect they have upon the country through which they pass. Now that our City Council and the municipalities

throughout the country are discussing the matter, we give the following extract from the letter:—

Railroads are equalizing prices at a rapid rate, and so far as interior towns are concerned, they are equalizing population at a rate still greater. Our considerable interior towns have been fast for, and have contributed largely to, the construction of east and west lines particularly, within the last five years. Now these lines are constructed it is beginning to be seen that railroads afford just as great facilities for getting to a place. Along the line of every new railroad, away ten miles, small towns grow up and the population of these towns, it is observed, is made up not so much from the neighboring rural surroundings, as from the larger adjoining towns. While every mile added to the railroads of Illinois contributes to the growth of Chicago and St. Louis, by increasing their outward and inward commerce, it seems as if second and third rate towns suffered in the same proportion. But there is no question but the farmer gets better prices and better opportunities; and even if the prices of things and the expense of life and the cost of living, are increased as much as the prices of lands and productions are, who will say the farmer is not benefited thereby? Of the influence of railroads, who has ventured to say they have been productive of anything but good?

THE FENIAN WELCOME.—The N. Y. Times thus speaks of the disorderly and quarrelsome scenes enacted on board the "Cuba" by the different and antagonistic parties of Fenians, who went down the bay of New York to welcome the arrival of O'Donovan Rossa and his four companions:—

"Mr. O'Donovan Rossa has seen something before of those dissensions, bickerings, and treacheries, which are the curse of his country, and have always gone so far to ruin every Irish cause. It must have been a melancholy thing for him to have witnessed an exhibition of these same qualities on the very night of his arrival in the New World. The faults of the Irish race are not confined, as he will discover, to Ireland. If a Fenian raid upon Canada is projected here, who are the first to betray it?—Americans, Englishmen, Germans, Scotchmen? No—the information which frustrates the plot is always conveyed to the Government by Fenians themselves. As with great matters, so with small. Those deputations which went off to the "Cuba" had not the decency to refrain from fighting with each other under the very eyes of the exiles. They could not agree—they could not even act like rational men. Probably Mr. O'Donovan Rossa expected to find unanimity in Irish councils here. There is no tyrannical Government, no secret police, no 'British dungeons' to be afraid of. But he has seen already an example of the very faults which he and other intelligent Irishmen have so often tried to combat, and tried in vain."

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL WITNESS OFFICE, JAN. 31.

The cold snap which prevailed during last week came to an end on Saturday, since which time the weather has been comparatively mild. Snow has fallen twice during the last three days, but not in great quantity.

GREENBACKS bought at 10 to 00 dis., and sold at 9 1/2 to 9 3/4 dis. Silver bought at 5 to 00 dis., and sold at 4 to 00 dis. 5-20's sold at 108 1/2 to 110 1/2.

FLOUR.—Market quiet but firm. No report from Liverpool this morning.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—This great and extending business is brisk for the season—orders coming in more freely than is usual in January. The manufacturers are running to the extent of their capacity, and one or two heavy Ontario houses are establishing factories here to make for their establishments in Toronto.

DRY GOODS.—The business is very quiet even for this very quiet season of the year. Spring goods are arriving, but will not be opened till next month. The whole importation is expected to be rather moderate, on account of the great uncertainty which hangs over the price of cotton. So far as is known, the prospects for the spring trade are fair. Tweed manufacturers expect a very good season, partly on account of the diminished supply resulting from the burning of the Hessler factory.

CLOTHING.—The houses engaged in the manufacture of clothing report the business brisk, and that they are fully engaged in filling orders for Ontario and the Lower Provinces. Owing to the mild fall season, there was a great surplus of heavy goods, consequently buyers are cautious; but, on the whole, business is very favorable. Canadian material is quickly and easily disposed of, and seems rising in public estimation, consequently fabrics of home manufacture are being used to a much greater extent by the trade.

FOREIGN TRADE.—We have often called attention to the advantages of trading directly with South America, the West Indies, and other more distant regions, instead of allowing our friends over the lines, to be the general carriers to those countries of the products of Canada, and thus to reap a handsome profit which might quite as well go into the pockets of Canadians. The abolition of the Reciprocity Treaty we felt certain would contribute very materially to this much to be desired object, and we are glad to say that every year's experience goes to confirm the anticipation. In the valley of the Ottawa alone the lumber traffic employs 50,000 men and 15,000 horses, and yet this forms but a part of the vast lumbering operations of Canada. The Eastern States import every year many millions of our lumber, not merely for their own use, but in order to re-export it.

They find that, in spite of the duty, it pays them to manufacture Canadian lumber in different ways, and send it to South America, the West Indies, Australia and Africa. In all these countries lumber is scarce and commands what we should regard as fabulous prices. Canadian merchants never attempted to compete for this trade till 1864-5. Before the former of these years not a vessel went directly from Canada on such enterprise; during last season some sixty or seventy were so employed. In pushing this trade, new markets will be opened up for other Canadian products. A beginning has been made in this direction, but little more. During last season upwards of 200 millions of cubic feet of timber were sent from Canada to Europe, and more than three times that quantity to the States, while 25,000,000 were sent to La Plata, 1,700,000 to Australia, 2,000,000 to Valparaiso, and 39,768 sugar boxes to Cuba. We have no means of determining how much of what was sent to the States was re-exported, but the amount must have been very great and a great part of it might quite as well have gone to its destination from Canada after affording our merchants a profit in preparing it for those markets by manufacturing it into window sashes, doors, flooring, &c.

What is true of the lumber traffic is equally so of that in flour and other commodities; and return cargoes, in the shape of tropical products, will every year find a larger and readier market among ourselves.

We are glad to see that, though the Government has not followed up the report made by its Commissioners a few years ago, the merchants of Canada are gradually pushing their way to what we hope in some years more will be a very large and profitable branch of trade. If it pays the Americans to buy our lumber, even though the duty is twenty per cent., and then to manufacture and export it to foreign countries, it ought surely to pay us to take the manufactured article, minus the twenty per cent., to common markets, and there to compete with our sharp cousins on equal terms. Five years ago, the trade of which we speak had no existence; five years hence, we make bold to prophecy, will see it reach, if no unforeseen calamity take place, what would now be regarded as gigantic dimensions.—Globe.

LUMBER.

(From the New York Bulletin.)

As usual at this season of the year, the lumber business of this city is confined principally to the distribution of stocks from retail yards, the wholesale movement embracing only such straggling cargoes of spruce as may happen to drop in from the Eastern coast, and the regular call for yellow pine, both of which grades are steady, though the latter is by far the cheapest to consumers and rapidly growing in favor. There is an occasional sale of white pine to exporters from parcels in bond and duty paid, but shippers only buy through necessity, preferring to await the opening of navigation and send their supplies direct from the St. Lawrence, particularly as the foreign markets are not just now in a very encouraging condition. From Albany we learn that the receipts at that point during 1870 were 452,363,900 feet boards and scantling; 116,800 cubic feet timber, and at tide-water 768,067,800 feet boards and scantling, and 3,795,700 cubic feet timber. Many of our dealers are already making preparations for next season's supplies, and some have taken their departure for the interior to commence purchases, though as yet we learn of no important contracts, and probable values are doubtful. The lumbermen now have their gangs in the woods hard at work, and the crop of logs is being rapidly cut, with snow enough to bank the felled timber, though much will, of course, depend upon the spring freshets as to the quantity run to the booms. Most reports agree that spruce and hemlock are likely to prove scarce, but there seems to be no doubt that pine must be plenty; indeed the reckless cutting away of the forests indicates an over production and probable weakness and depression of values. Only a short time ago we took occasion to call attention through this column to the rapid disappearance of our valuable standing timber before the remorseless axe of the Western lumberman. Chicago alone in 1870 received over 900,000,000 feet of lumber, and the Canadians also began to feel alarm on the same score, as the following extract from a circular published at Quebec will show.

"The Directors of the Bank of Toronto, having obtained from the best sources information as to the position and prospects of the sawed lumber trade, have come to the conclusion, after full consideration, that it would be to the interest of all parties engaged in it to curtail operations.

"The valuable forests which cover large portions of our territory are being so rapidly cut away that the supply in the course of a few years must be entirely exhausted. To continue to produce for a market which has the appearance of being already over-stocked, has the simple result of giving away the timber of these forests without recompense. It is questionable, indeed, whether in some cases even the cost of labor has been obtained for lumber shipments.

"This consideration has doubtless presented itself to parties who had made large investments on limits, and the directors trust that all their customers engaged in this important branch of industry may meet the circumstances existing with that foresight and prudence which will carry them safely through a period of depression, and enable them to take advantage of an altered state of things whenever it may be brought about."

The advice given above is sound and judicious, and will apply equally well on this side of the boundary line. Our lumbermen should at once check their work of destruction and dispose of some of the surplus accumulations of lumber already on hand, bring prices up to a more remunerative level, and in future preserve a greater degree of uniformity on values by cutting accordingly to the outlet, while at the same time the magnificent pineries of Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, etc., could be made to hold out many years longer. If some such course is not adopted the next generation, and possibly the present one, will be under the necessity of importing lumber from Europe, if it can be obtained, for there the ruling powers appreciate the importance of taking care of their forests, and have stringent laws with that end in view.

MONTREAL CATTLE MARKET.—Jan. 31.

Cattle, First Quality, \$8 to \$8.50; Second and Third, \$7.50 to \$8.50; Milk Cows, nominal, \$30, \$40, \$50; Sheep, \$4 to \$6; Lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.50; Hogs, \$7 to \$7.75; Hides, 8c. to 9c.; Pelts, 80c. to \$1; Tallow, 6c.

REMARKS.—Arrivals of cattle are short for the week, so far, and sales brisk. Sheep and Lambs, none offering. Hogs in demand.

MONTREAL MARKET PRICES.

TUESDAY, JAN. 31, 1871.

No change in prices since last market day. Attendance small.

Table with columns for RETAIL and WHOLESALE prices for various commodities including Flour, Wheat, Corn, Beans, etc.

CORN EXCHANGE DAILY REPORT.

(From Montreal Herald.)

MONTREAL, Monday, Jan. 30.

FLOUR, #1 of 196 lbs.—Superior Extra, \$7.00 to \$7.25; Extra \$6.90 to \$7.00; Fancy, \$6.70 to \$6.75; Fresh-ground Super. from Canada Wheat, \$6.50 to \$6.60; Western States Superfine, nominal; Medium Strong Super. from Canada Wheat, \$6.65; to \$6.70; Strong Bakers' Flour, \$6.70 to \$6.80; Supers. from Western Wheat (Welland Canal) nominal; City brands Superfine (from Western Wheat), nominal; Canada Superfine No. 2, \$6.10 to \$6.15; Western States No. 2, nominal; Fine, \$5.50 to \$5.60; Middlings, \$5.00 to \$5.25; Pollard's \$4 to \$4.15; U. C. Bag Flour, \$3.15 to \$3.25; City Bags (delivered), \$3.35 to \$3.40. Favorable advices from the English and Western markets, coupled with the news of the capitulation of Paris, have caused a much firmer feeling in the Breadstuffs market here; and Superfine Flour is quoted ten to fifteen cents higher, some holders demanding a greater advance, but without effecting sales. The rise checked business, and purchases were but sparingly made. A parcel of strong Bakers' Flour went at \$6.70; a good brand was offered at \$6.75, but without inducing a purchaser, while the same price was offered and refused for a round lot of Choice. Medium Strong is scarce. Ordinary Superfine is offered at \$6.50 to \$6.60. Choice No. 2 brought \$6.30. Low grades are firm. A parcel between Fine and Middlings moved at \$5.30. A couple of lots of Middlings going at \$5.25 to \$5.27 1/2. Bag Flour has also participated in the advance, and holders now ask \$3.40, (delivered.) Receipts reported this morning by G. T. R., 400 bris.

OATMEAL, per brl of 200 lbs.—Quotations are \$5.70 to \$5.90.

WHEAT, per bush of 60 lbs.—Market firm. No transactions to report.

CORN, per bush of 56 lbs.—Steady at 85c to 90c, duty paid.

PEASE, per bush of 60 lbs.—Quiet. Quotations are 87 1/2c to 90c.

OATS, per bush of 32 lbs.—Firm. 47c to 48c has been paid for car loads.

BARLEY, per bush of 48 lbs.—Steady. Quotations are 62 1/2c to 65c.

DRESSED HOGS, per 100 lbs.—Market steady. \$7.50 to \$7.75 is now paid; all offerings are quickly bought up.

BUTTER, per lb.—Firm. Medium qualities 16c; Fair to Good, 18c to 20c; Fine, 21c to 22c.

CHEESE, per lb.—Market quiet. Fine qualities, 13c; Good, 12 1/2c; Inferior, 10c to 11c.

SEEDS.—Timothy, per 45 lbs.—Steady, at \$3.75 to \$4.00. A recent sale reported at latter rate.

LARD, per lb.—Market steady. Quotations are 12c to 12 1/2c.

ASHES, per 100 lbs.—Pots quiet. Firsts, \$5.87 1/2 to \$5.92 1/2; Seconds, \$5.00 to \$5.10; Thirds, \$4.55; Pearls, steady; Firsts, \$6.10; Seconds, \$5.90.

PORK, per brl. of 200 lbs.—Market steady; Mess, \$22.00; Thin Mess, \$20.00; Prime Mess, nominal.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20, 11.20 a.m.—Flour quiet; holders firm; Extras, \$5.50 to \$6.75. Wheat, unsettled and active; No. 2, \$1.31 1/2 cash; \$1.31 1/2 seller Feb; \$1.32 1/2 to \$1.33 half. Corn, firm and fairly active; No. 2, 53 1/2 cash; 54c seller Feb; 61c seller May. Oats, steady; No. 2, 47c bid. Barley dull and nominal; No. 2, \$2.80 to \$2.90, according to location. Provisions quiet. Mess Pork easier; sales at \$23 seller March; nominally \$22 1/2 cash bid. Green shoulders, 7 1/2c; rough sides, 9 1/2c; short ribs, 10c; short clear, 10 1/2c; hams, 12c to 13c; dry salted shoulders, 8c. Cooperage pork barrels, \$2.75. Lard tierces, \$2.90. Dressed Hogs—Receipts, 7,680; shipments, 3,790.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 30, 10.10 a.m.—Wheat unsettled at \$1.33 and \$1.31. Receipts, 31,000 bush; shipments, none. 10.30 a.m.—Wheat firm at \$1.33 and \$1.31 1/2.

Family Reading.

[For the WITNESS.]

"MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE."

How weak is our nature, how tempted to stray From the path that we ever should tread!

How oft sin and folly encircle us round, And into temptation we're led. But when in our weakness we faint by the way,

How feeble the pen of the poet to paint All the beauties of faith and of love!

Rise up weary pilgrim, nor let us allow The tempter our souls to betray, And if we will hear His voice, let us now Attend to the heavenly way.

By faith we may see all the martyrs who've bled, Enthroned with their Saviour on high, Where pain and affliction no more shall prevail,

Then let us not falter, however we're tried; Nor ever a doubt or a fear Shall darken our pathway, or lead us away From the faith to our spirits so dear.

"My grace is sufficient for thee," saith our God; We are weak but our Saviour is strong; Let the young and the old then engage in the cause

DIARY OF A NEW ENGLAND PASTOR.

Jan. 29. Hired \$17.00 to pay for a stove which I bought two months ago. Two weeks before I applied to the collector, telling him for what purpose I needed it.

Feb. 16. Gave credit upon my book, at his own request, to a member of the church, for the use of his horse and harness,—using my own sleigh,—amounting to 10 cents.

April 5. Received from the collector \$10.00. May 1. Quarter's house rent been due one month; no money; applied to the collector and to several other members of the church, but none comes.

July 13. Gave credit to brother—for paper, 8 cents. Have just written a letter to the church tendering my resignation, to take effect in twelve weeks from the present time, unless there can be greater punctuality in meeting the wants of my family.

July 27. Informed by a committee that the church has voted not to accept my resignation, and that it is proposed to make an assessment on the members for the purpose of extinguishing the debt, and to be more punctual in future.

Sept. 6. This morning my wife was in want of a little thread and tape; no money. Ashamed to borrow so little as I needed, I laid aside my pen, and going to one of the members of the church, solicited the loan of half a dollar. Seeing considerable reluctance to give it, I waived the request. As I was leaving, he drew a half dollar out of his pocket, but saying at the same time that he expected to be called upon within a week or

two to make out a considerable sum of money. I declined the loan. Called on another brother; he was sorry to say that he was entirely out of change. Called on a third and received the same reply; called on a fourth and succeeded.

A female member of the church, worth some property, and caring more, doubtless, than any other female member of the church, subscribed when I first moved into the town, \$7.00. Repeated applications were made by the collectors and by others, for the payment of her subscription. All the applications were unheeded for nearly two years. At length she received from a wealthy relative the gift of between \$100.00 and \$200.00. In the month of July 18—, she paid me \$3.00, and put \$100.00 upon interest. The remaining \$4.00 she has not yet paid.

Oct. 5. Though the church refused, three months since, to accept my resignation, though a committee was chosen to make an assessment for the purpose of liquidating the debt, and though a determination was expressed to be more punctual for the future, yet I have received on the quarter just ended only \$43.73, not one dollar of arrearage has been paid, and not even the promised assessment has yet been made.

Oct. 15. Hired \$10.00 to pay a store bill—applied to the collector three weeks ago for that amount but have received nothing.

Nov. Informed the collector that I propose to relinquish \$50.00 of last year's salary. Dec. 29. Borrowed a box of flour of a neighbor for breakfast.

Jan. 11, 18—. The collector called again, and having no papers of his own, desired me to aid him in determining who had paid their subscriptions, and how much those who had not paid were owing.

Feb. 2. Began a journey of a hundred miles to visit relatives of my wife. Spoke to the collector a few days ago for \$19.00. Yesterday received \$3.00, not from the collector, but from another member of the church. The collector promised me last evening that he would bring me \$7.00 this morning. He did not bring it, and I was therefore obliged to start on my journey without it.

A few days ago offered to give, and did give, my landlord a note on interest for a quarter's house rent. Applied several weeks ago for the necessary funds.

March 1. Have just been casting up the sums which I have given to the Sabbath-school, and find the amount \$7.00. This has been paid for books and freight. Named this matter some time ago to a member of the church whose children attend the Sabbath-school and read the books, but nothing has been done about it. Almost the entire expense of the school has been sustained by myself ever since I became the pastor of the church.

March 13. Have been requested to settle a note of \$50.00, hired about three years ago to meet the current expenses of my family. Need, also, about \$30.00 to pay store bills, and \$25.00 to pay to the Missionary Board which I pledged last June. Thus I need immediately more than \$100. The church is owing me nearly \$300.00.

My past experience teaches me the utter impossibility of securing over a quarter of what I need for my immediate wants, unless some vigorous measures are adopted. I have accordingly resolved to inform the church that I need \$100.00, and that I do not feel it my duty to preach to them another Sabbath till it is paid.

March 22. The church has had one or two meetings for the purpose of raising the \$100.00. All their efforts, however, have failed. The sum just deposited in my hands is \$28.00.

March 26. Persuaded that I have borne my pecuniary trials to such a degree that endurance is no longer obligatory, I have written my resignation of the pastoral oversight of the church, to take effect whenever the arrearage is paid.

April 4. Waited upon by a committee who informed me that the church had voted not to accept my resignation, and that it is proposed to make an effort to liquidate the debt, and to be punctual in time to come.

April 14. After looking at my duty in every possible light, and after consulting, as I trust, the will of God, have written a third letter of resignation.

April 19. The church voted not to accept my letter of resignation.

April 25. Sent in for the fourth time my resignation of the pastoral office, urging its acceptance. The church is now owing me \$103.16 on the last seven months. They have been owing me \$80.54 for two years and a half, and \$30.00 for three years and a half. Were they to refund the interest money which they have obliged me to pay to others, amounting to nearly \$17.00, the entire sum now due me would be \$230.70. This accumulation of arrearage has been made though I have relinquished nearly \$200.00 of my stipulated salary; and notwithstanding this voluntary deduction of the salary, I have succeeded by keeping boarders and depriving myself for four years of the privilege of visiting my relatives, in living within my means.

The church has this afternoon voted to accept my resignation. Two or three general facts may be stated before this journal is closed:—

1. During every year of my residence in town, the first excepted, the church has taken no steps toward securing their annual subscriptions, till at least one quarter or one-third of the year had elapsed, and then those steps were taken at my suggestion.

2. The last year the salary was paid more promptly than it was paid the second, or even the first, as the following brief summary shows:—

Stipulated salary.....\$400.00. Amount raised the First year.....171.91; " " " Second year.....183.00; " " " Third year.....137.44.

3. The necessity of keeping the account for the church has never ceased. The Treasurer has kept no account, except that in two or three instances he has brought to my house on two or three little bits of paper, say eight or ten names of persons who had paid something—exactly how much he knew not except in a very few cases. The entire number of entries which I have been under the necessity of making in my own book, specifying names, dates, articles, etc., etc., is four hundred and thirty.

have voluntarily relinquished is \$200.00, which is one-eighth of my four years' salary. [We hope there are no such ministerial diaries in Canada.—Ed. Wit.]

THE LATE DR. OWEN OF INDIA.

One of the most learned and useful of American missionaries in India, Rev. Joseph Owen, D.D., died at Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 4th ult. He was born, we believe, at Bedford, Westchester county, in this State, and graduated at Princeton College and Seminary, where he took a high stand as a scholar. He soon after went to India under the care of the Presbyterian Board, and was stationed at Allahabad, where he spent the greater part of his life, and where he was eminently useful, especially in the translation of the Bible, and in the preparation of commentaries and other books adapted to the wants of the people. His health having been impaired by nearly thirty years' continuous residence in India, he had taken a respite to visit the Holy Land, Germany, and Great Britain, but was attacked with sickness in Scotland. A writer in The Presbyterian gives the following account of his last hours:—

"When informed that he could not recover, he expressed a wish to see Dr. Duff. When the Doctor came, he said to him, 'My dear old friend, how glad I am to see you!' Dr. Duff poured out his heart in fervent prayer. 'It was,' says the correspondent from whom these sentences are quoted, 'a touching sight to see those old friends who had labored so many years in the missionary field, bidding one another farewell.' Dr. Duff repeated the verse, 'The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin.' Dr. Owen's countenance lighted up with joy as he replied, 'That's it. If it were not for that it would now be a leap in the dark.' He often said, 'Dear Jesus, Thy will be done.' Soon after Dr. Duff left he literally fell asleep in Jesus. His end was indeed peaceful.

"As long as there was hope of his life he looked forward with great interest to his returning to India. He has often told me, 'My heart is in India. I should like to lay my bones there.' I once said to him, 'Have you not worked long enough in your mission field, and would you not be willing, for the remainder of your life, to settle in America?' I shall never forget the reply he gave me, 'I would not exchange my missionary work for crowns and kingdoms.'"

CULTIVATING BLINDNESS.

(From the New York Christian Union.)

Visiting one of our first-rate public schools a few days since, we passed from the large, airy well-furnished and well-lighted reception room into a class-room of the lowest primary grade. Here were some fifty little girls closely packed on benches running along three sides of a cell—by courtesy called a room—about twelve feet by twenty in size and so dark, that until the eye became accustomed to the gloom, the children's faces could scarcely be distinguished. There were two windows, opening upon a narrow court, enclosed by high, brick buildings, and a long window-like opening in the partition between the room and its fellow, which was rather better lighted by two windows looking out upon the front area.

The room was approached through a long and dimly lighted passage way, yet the first and most natural exclamation on entering it, was "Why! How dark it is here!"

"We think it very light to-day," replied the teacher, cheerfully, emphasizing to-day. "On bright sunny days like this we get along nicely. You should come some day when it is dark and rainy!"

The contrast between this dusky cell, where the children must spend five hours a day, and the cheerful assembly room for state occasions and brief morning exercises, threw the blackest kind of a shadow over the satisfaction which we had first felt in comparing the costly appointments of the upper room with the rude furniture of a certain old school-house on a hill, mentally congratulating city children on their superior school accommodation; and we doubted whether a part of the cost of the now almost vacant assembly room might not have been profitably devoted to increasing the cheerfulness and comfort of the more important part of the building—the class-rooms. And there are other matters not less important than cheerfulness and comfort, that should have been taken into account in the construction of the building. The probable effect on the general health and development of the children from the half year's deprivation of sunlight, which must be endured before they could be promoted to the little less gloomy cell lighted from the street, is not a pleasant subject for contemplation. Still less pleasant is the certain effect upon the delicate organ of sight, from their daily groping after the rudiments of learning. Surely the amount of knowledge gained during these five months would poorly compensate for impaired vision, even if it were a necessary sacrifice. But it is wholly unnecessary. We know from personal observation that this is not the only badly lighted class-room in the city; and insufficient light is but one of the multifarious means by which ignorant builders and Boards of Education continue to convert the public schools (private schools, as a rule, are much worse,) into huge institutions for the cultivation of weak eyes. The pursuit of knowledge through printer's ink taxes the eyes severely enough without any needless aggravation of their trials. Instead of doing this as at present, the schools ought rather to make it their business to cultivate the children's sense of sight, and to teach the children how to care for and protect their eyes.

The close connection between much study and impaired vision was first clearly demonstrated by the investigations of Dr. Cohn, of Breslau. Three or four years ago, that gentleman personally examined the eyes of upwards of six thousand students of all grades, and had some four thousand others examined by competent persons. A fraction over seven per cent. were found to be not in possession of normal eyesight. The eye diseases were not uniformly distributed throughout the schools; on the contrary there was a steady and rapid increase in their frequency from the lowest-grade schools to the University. The percentages for the various grades were as follows: Village schools 5.2 per cent.; city elementary schools, 14.7; intermediate schools, 19.2; higher girls' schools, 21.9; "real schools," 24.1; gymnasia, 31.7; the university of Breslau (410 students examined) 68 per cent. Considerably more than half the number with defective eyes were short-sighted, the proportion increasing as before, from the village school to the university. The defective or improper lighting of school rooms, and the faulty construction of school desks—the chief cause of short-sightedness in Dr. Cohn's estimation—are perhaps as prevalent here as in Germany. The cross-light and frequent alternations of gloom and glare so common in our school rooms can scarcely be more common in the schools of Prussia, or more injurious to pupils' eyes. Misplaced windows, curtainless windows and the practical absence of windows, all owing to the ignorance of builders or the niggardliness of school officers are among the most costly adjuncts of public education. No one who has much acquaintance with schools has failed to witness, possibly to experience, the painful efforts to "pupils" to distinguish indistinct chalk-marks on a black board between two unshaded windows, or still worse, windows with streams of light pouring in through holes in the blinds. A strain upon the eyes, quite as severe, and commonly more protracted, comes from the use of slates. The eye accustomed to discriminating faint white lines on a black ground, turns its expanded pupil suddenly upon a glaring, white surface; thence back to the slate, and so, from one to the other, receiving a succession of shocks of the most trying character.

REFORMATION OF INEBRIATES.

How to reform inebriates is a question which is daily awakening more interest. Sumptuary laws, restrictions upon the use of ardent spirits, are voted down by the people, and little or no check is placed upon individual intemperance. The temptation to indulge in the social cup is constantly presented to a large number of our youth. Very many yield and have not sufficient resolution to break the power which appetite in time gains over them.

Failing to arrest by legislation the general use of intoxicating liquors, philanthropists are now turning their attention to the best means for reclaiming those conquered by the common foe. Within a few days, there has been held in New York a convention of those interested in reformatory institutions. Reports were presented from various asylums, all of which were of an encouraging character, and afford grounds for believing that no drunkard is beyond the hope of reclamation. Since the opening of the institution at Binghamton, N.Y., sixty-three per cent. of the patients have been cured. Their average stay has been six months. Sixty-five per cent. of those at the Greenwood (Mass.) Asylum have been reformed. Of patients admitted to the Washington Home at Chicago, about fifty per cent. have been cured. Five hundred and forty individuals have been treated at the Flatbush Asylum this year, their average period of probation being one hundred days. The representatives of the above institutions united in expressing the opinion that the success attending them called for the building of one or more public asylums in every State. The British Parliament has recently passed a law providing for the establishment of reformatories and asylums, and for the admittance of applicants upon their own written request, without medical certificates. The bill further stipulates that individuals can secure admittance for relatives and friends upon the written certificates of two medical practitioners. Applicants cannot be admitted for a less period than three months, nor for more than one year, but the time may be shortened by the committing magistrate upon the certificate of two medical practitioners. It is now proposed to draft a bill containing the leading features of this English measure for presentation to the various State Legislatures during the coming winter.

Nearly all the members of the convention held here, took the ground in their discussions that drunkenness in a disease, and should be treated as such.—Heath and Home.

THE BEST ALE JUG.

The old farmer sat down to his supper tired and hungry. His joint of meat was before him, which would relish all the better, he thought, with a drink of ale to wash it down. "Go, my boy," he said, "and fetch me home a jug of ale from Dick's."

Thomas went. The shop was full of idle fellows, and among them his older brother, who lived more in the beer-shops than he lived at home; more on beer than on bread; more on others than on himself; so that all he was good for was good-for-nothing, which is a sorry sort of excellence, you know. Drink, strong drink, made him quarrelsome, and the sight of Thomas with his mug, and especially his mug full of foaming ale, as it soon was, quickly excited him.

"Give me a swallow!" he cried roughly. "No, you don't," said Thomas; "no, you don't; this is father's;" and he was hastening out of the door, when Jed caught him by the arm; a tussle followed, ending not only in spilling the ale, but in spilling the jug also, which fell on the floor and cracked its bottom out. Thomas caught it up, and hurried home with the story to his father. "Bottom's out, is it?" said the old man, after a moment's thinking—"well," he said, bringing down his hand fist with a bang upon the table, as if he meant something—"well, then, that's the best ale-jug for me. Put it down."

"Yes, father, but it will not hold anything." "Thomas, that makes it the very best ale-jug for me, I say. If it had been the kind I had always used, your brother might never have been the poor creature he now is."

That is so. And if this is the best ale-jug it is the best whiskey-jug; and if it is the right pattern for a whiskey-jug, is it not the best pattern for a gin-bottle, and a brandy bottle,

and a wine bottle? Perhaps it is not exactly in style; but why not let reason and conscience and health and industry and Scripture sometimes set the fashion? I think they could be trusted, and in this matter we should, I doubt not, find them on the side of the old farmer's jug; do you not?—Children's Paper.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

A TRUE STORY.

The following from Rev. T. K. Beecher was designed for young readers, but will interest the older ones as well, and while it is a temperance tale it is more and better. We wish we had vastly more of this style of temperance literature:—

In the field back of my house, and up the hill, are two nice springs. From one I draw water to my house through pipes, while the water from the other goes to my barn, and my neighbor's house. The water runs very swiftly, because it is running down hill. It is far easier to run down hill than it is to run up.

The pipe enters this spring, not at the top of the water, nor at the bottom either. If it were at the top, the scum would get into the pipe, and a floating log now and then. If it were at the bottom, dregs and sediment would get in. So the pipe goes in about six inches below the top of the water.

When we are drawing water at the barn for the horses, and my neighbor draws water at the same time for her washing-day, the pipe sucks at a great rate. But it draws in nothing but pure water, if all floating things keep at the top, and all heavy things lie still at the bottom. Now for my story.

One morning there was a gay young frog about as big as half my thumb—too big for a tadpole, too small for a wise frog. He could go just where he pleased. He did not have to float with the bugs, for he knew how to dive. He did not have to stay at the bottom with the dregs, for he knew how to swim. So he kicked out his little hind legs and swam all around the spring, doing very much as he pleased.

One day he saw the little, round black hole of the pipe, where the water was running in quite freely. He wondered where it led to. He put his nose in and felt the water pull, and was a little scared and backed out. But it was such a funny feeling to be sucked that way; it felt kind of good round his nose, and he swam up, and looked in again. He went in as much as half an inch, and then the water got behind him and he was drawn all in. "Here goes!" said he. "I shall see what I shall see!" And along he went with the water, till he came to where the pipe makes a bend for my barn—a sharp bend, straight up. As the water was quiet there, he gave a little kick and got up into a still dark place, close by the barrel where the horse drinks. "Well," said he, "it's a snug place here, but rather lonely and dark."

Now and then he thought of the spring, and the light, and the splendid room he used to have to swim in, and he tried to swim back against the stream. But the water was on him, or running by him swiftly, and he had no room to kick in the pipe. So every time he started to go back to the spring he would work hard for a few minutes, and then get tired and slip back into the dark place by the barrel.

By and by he grew contented there. The water brought him enough to eat. He shut his eyes and grew stupid, stopped exercising and got fat, and as he had no room to grow very big in the pipe, he grew to grow all long and no broad. But he grew as big as he could, till at last he stopped up the pipe.

Then I had to go out and see what was the matter, for the horse had nothing to drink. I jerked away the barrel, pulled out the little plug and put a ramrod down; felt a springy, leathery, something, and pushing, down it went, and out gushed the water. "What was that?" I thought. So I pulled out the plug, and put down an iron ramrod and churned it two or three times, and then let the water run, and out came a great, long, red and white, and bleeding frog.

I couldn't put him together again. Anything that gets sucked into that pipe and grows up in those dark places, has to come out dead, and all in pieces. I wondered how such a big frog could ever have got into so small a pipe. Then a wise lady in my house told me, "Why, he went in when he was little and foolish, and grew up in there!"

I cannot get that poor frog out of my mind. He was so like some young folks that I have seen. They frolicked up to the door of a theatre, or they stood and looked into a bar-room, or they just wanted to go to one ball, or got out behind the barn to smoke a pipe, or went off sleigh-riding with some gay young man without asking leave—or some way put their foolish noses into a dark hole that felt funny, and led, they didn't know where. Pretty soon, in they go. When they want to get back, they can't; and they grow bigger, and wickered, and all out of shape in that dark place. If they come out at last, they are all jammed up, knocked to pieces, sick, or dying, or dead. When I see them in their coffins, I hear folks ask, "How came he to throw himself away so?" "What made him drink himself to death?" "How happened she to go off to infamy?" "How came he to be a gambler?"

Then I shall answer as the wise lady told me about the frog. "They went in when they were little and foolish, and grew up there." A bad habit hugs a man tighter, and jams him out of shape worse than my pipes did that poor frog.—Little Corporal.

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- 181. What are said to be like a honeycomb?
182. Who dipped his rod into a honeycomb and eat and was refreshed?
183. Who sent a little honey to a ruler?
184. What is said to be sweeter than honey and the honeycomb?
185. Who was supported on wild honey?

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- No. 176.—Eccles. 31:2,4.
No. 177.—Eccles. 33:30, 34.
No. 178.—Eccles. 24:12.
No. 179.—Eccles. 14:15.
No. 180.—Gen. 10:8, 9.

Miscellany.

SONG OF THE DEACON.

There was an old deacon, and its mouth was gaping wide; the rosy wine had ebbed away and left its crys-

THE AUSTRALIAN FATHER MATTHEW.

Throughout the whole of Victoria, perhaps, there is no public man better known among the wealthier, as well as the working classes, than the so-called Yorkshire Evangelist.

CHRIST IN THE COUNTING-HOUSE.

Every day we meet Christian men who entertain a great deal of practical infidelity about this matter of religion and business.

DOING CHRISTIAN WORK BY PROXY.

Here is one of the curses that result from this estrangement: Such a business-man does his religion and his benevolence by proxy.

UNSUITABLE MANAGEMENT.

And here is another curse: It is not all that the business man is robbed of the blessed privilege of being a co-worker with the Son of Man.

UNSUITABLE TRACTS.

Why is it that when we take from any of the societies a package of tracts labelled "For General Distribution," that we must reject at least two-thirds when we scatter them among the common people?

CHRIST WANTS YOUR BUSINESS AS WELL AS YOU.

What, then, would we have? First: Christ in the counting-house six days in the week; the Christian man more than now the almoner of his own bounty.

The business of many Christian men is like a "body of death" tied to their immortal natures. They are like eagles who would fain smell the air of their lofty crags, but their clipped pinions only flutter in hopeless mockery.

THE HALF-TIME SYSTEM.

Having a school of fifty-six children, of five different grades, in a room where there were desks for but forty-six, I obtained permission of the Board to try the Half-time System for one month.

Each child had a permanent seat and wardrobe hook; there was less confusion in passing out; the room was more quiet for studying; the pupils could all be kept busy; the teacher's attention was not disturbed by restless, idle children.

The smaller children learned much more, and the larger ones quite as much, as under the previous arrangement. The teacher, nearly all of the children, and a majority of the parents were in favor of the Half-time System.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS.

At the Linnean Society, there was a curious communication from Mrs. Barbour, of the Cape Colony, respecting carnivorous plants.

The Natural History of India.—His Excellency Lord Mayo, late Viceroy of India, in his lifetime made a valuable collection of natural objects illustrative of the fauna, ornithology, &c., of the Indian Empire.

RAIN.—Mr. James Glaisher, F.R.S., of England, in a recent lecture, said that the whole of the rain had its origin and fall 800 feet from the earth.

SLEEP AS A MEDICINE.—The cry for rest has always been louder than the cry for food. Not that it is more important, but it is often harder to get.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL.

TRIAL OF HEYDRICK'S STEAM PLOUGH.—We have seen a picture of this plough in operation, and a description of what it was intended to do; but now that it has been tested by a public trial in Pennsylvania, U. S., we give the following particulars from the Bucks Co. Intelligencer.

FRESH-BLOWN FLOWERS IN WINTER.—Choose some of the most powerful buds of the flowers you would preserve, such as are latest in blowing, and ready to open; cut them off with a pair of scissors, leaving to each, if possible, a piece of the stem three inches long; cover the end of the stem immediately with sealing-wax, and when the buds are a little shrunk and wrinkled, wrap each of them up separately in a piece of paper, perfectly clean and dry, and lock them up in a dry box or drawer, and they will keep without corrupting.

VIRTUES OF BORAX.—It may not be generally known how very valuable borax is in various purposes of household use. We find it the very best cockroach exterminator yet discovered. One half-pound, costing but fifty cents, has completely cleared a large house formerly swarming with them, so that the appearance of one in a month is quite a novelty.

The various exterminating powders puffed and advertised have been found not fully effective, tending rather to make the roaches crazy than to kill them. There is something peculiar, either in the smell or touch of borax, which is certain death to them. They will flee in terror from it, and never appear again where it has once been placed.

VALUE OF REVACCINATION IN SMALL-POX.—Most of our readers are aware of the extent to which the small-pox has ravaged France, and especially Paris, and of the continued discussion of remedies and indications of the disease. In response to a request from the Minister of the Interior to the Imperial Academy of Medicine, the following statement of established facts was returned: First, vaccination is a preservative against small-pox; second, in every instance, after a certain time, revaccination is expedient to secure complete exemption from contagion; third, revaccination is an absolute security from danger; fourth, revaccination is useful at all ages; fifth, it can be employed without inconvenience during the existence of the epidemic, and it is perfectly well established that in certain localities—in the bosom of families, in boarding-schools, and other agglomerations of individuals—it has succeeded in arresting upon the spot an epidemic just begun; sixth, the actual epidemic of small-pox, which prevails in Paris and other points of French territory, has supplied a most convincing proof of the prospective power of revaccination; finally, it was stated that in various army corps, and especially in the Garde de Paris, and in many public and private establishments, particularly in some of the municipal schools, the small-pox was entirely checked after revaccination; and also that the latest statistics, especially those collected in the civil hospitals of Paris, prove in the most positive manner that persons recently revaccinated have been attacked only in a very small proportion, and very lightly, and so as not to figure in the statistics of mortality. It is, therefore, concluded that it is in the highest degree important, both in the interest of the individual and of the public, to continue to extend in every possible way the practice of revaccination.

SPONTANEOUS GENERATION.—The endeavors to prove that living animalcula, or plants, can be produced by the simple action of the physical forces on the proper material, without the need of previous spores or germs are unremitting. Some very popular theories demand such proof, and, in fact, need it very badly, so that diligence in the search is prompted by ardent desire on the part of men who have committed themselves to bold prophecies in the name of science. No one could need such a demonstration more than Prof. Huxley, to sustain his views concerning the origin of life; and yet he, in a full rehearsal of all that has been done in this matter down to the latest experiments, is obliged to concede that nothing of the kind has yet been proven, but that, on the contrary, everything points exactly the other way.

A CHEAP ICE-HOUSE.—A farmer correspondent writes to the Manufacturer and Builder how he had constructed an ice-house: "I set posts in the ground so as to make a house 12 feet square, (3 posts on each side), then boarded or planked it up 8 feet high on the inside. The surface earth is now dug out 6 inches deep, and sawdust filled in 1 foot deep, making it 6 inches above the level of the earth. The ice is carefully packed 9 feet square and 6 feet high, leaving a space of 18 inches between ice and boards, closely packed with sawdust, and the same thickness of sawdust placed on the top. I have an old-fashioned board roof over this ice-house. The space above the sawdust is left open, so that the air can circulate through, and the sun shine in. The result is, that we have used ice daily, and have plenty left. As to the cost, four men with one team, cut, hauled, and packed the ice, and filled in the sawdust, in less than two days, notwithstanding we had to haul the ice half a mile."

THE IMPORTATION OF AYRSHIRE CATTLE INTO THIS COUNTRY IS GRADUALLY INCREASING. It being one of their merits that they will winter on straw and need fewer turnips than any other British breed of cattle, they are well adapted for Canada.—Ed. Wit.]

DAIRY FARMING IN SCOTLAND.—For 150 years the farmers in Ayrshire have chiefly made their rents and living by dairy farming, the main branch of which was making a kind of full or sweet milk cheese called "Dunlop," so termed from a district in Ayrshire. The farms here being mostly small, the soil of a poor clay, and the climate wet, there was developed a small, hardy cow, that was not nice in her food, and from the long attention directed to her milking qualities, these have long been celebrated. The present Ayrshire is a small animal, not weighing more than 38 to 40 stones when of full size and fat, the chief weight being in the hind-quarters, "over the milk."

CELLAR DRAINS.—The defects in cellar drains are commonly discovered in spring, when the accumulations of winter choke them, or a deluge of water is an overmatch for their capacity. Hence we generally find that the spring of the year is chosen to put drains in order, when the operator is encumbered with mud, and when a multitude of other jobs are calling for immediate attention. Autumn is the better time, when the operation may be performed to better advantage, and in a better manner, and the drains be ready for performing their offices by spring. The great importance of thorough drainage to cellars for the prevention of malaria and disease, should induce every one who lives in a house to give it careful attention. Valuable lives have been lost in consequence of the poisonous exhalations from house drains. We had occasion not long since to examine a drain of this kind, that had become entirely choked by sediment. The channel or orifice was made of plank, one piece forming the flat bottom, over which the water in its discharge spread itself thinly, and being shallow and weak, was unable to carry off the sediment which it constantly deposited. As a natural consequence the channel was gradually filled, until it was finally choked up. The plank was taken out, and a new one made like a V, where the water is thrown into the narrow angle and a strong current thus given to it, sufficient to sweep away any sediment; and it was kept constantly clear. Drains are often made too small. The orifice should be several inches in diameter; and if the ordinary flow of waste water is not sufficient to keep it washed out clean, an occasional flood from a large pump, or from a few pails in rapid succession, will accomplish the object. To prevent the effluvia from the channel from rising up at the upper end, a cast-iron or other "trap" should be employed. The lower end of the drain should be grated, or covered with broken glass and stone, to prevent small animals from entering.—Country Gentleman.

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THE INUNDATION AT ROME.

The following extract of a letter of a correspondent of the London Times, will recall to the minds of many of our readers some of the sights witnessed by them at the periodic floodings of Grifintown, at the breaking up of the ice on the river in Spring.

Rome, Dec. 29.—We are now suffering from one of the greatest inundations of the Tiber experienced in modern times. The whole of the Corso, which is the principal street in Rome, is now covered with water several feet deep, from the Porta del Popolo to the Piazza Colonna—that is, about three-quarters of a mile. The flood first appeared in the Corso at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. The evening previous a small portion of the city was flooded—the Piazza of the Pantheon and several portions of the streets adjacent to the Tiber—and the river showed symptoms of a coming flood. The whole of the five arches of the Bridge of St. Angelo seemed inadequate to give a passage to the immense volume of water that glided swiftly and quietly by. When the water came to the bridge there was a slight pause in its progress before it passed through. This indicated how great must have been the strain upon the bridge, and but that it has stood for above 1,700 years, having been built by the Emperor Hadrian in his third consulate, one might have feared for its safety. There can be no doubt that it was the obstruction offered by this bridge to the passage of the water that caused the inundation.

The Corso presents a most picturesque and striking appearance. At St. Carlo Church the Corso expands to double its usual width. I am in an apartment just at this point, and as it was impossible to go out I have been at the window all day, and shall describe just what occurred. I first saw the Corso at 8 o'clock yesterday morning; there was then about a foot of water in the street, carts and cabs were carrying people to and fro; a few shops were open, principally cafes, and the people were standing in the doors of them, and several people were imprisoned by the water on the steps of St. Carlo Church, but were gradually taken off by the carts. Some boys stripped themselves and waded through the water and youths carried people from shop to shop on their backs. All this time the water continued to flow with a swift and steady current into the Corso from a small street (Via degli otto Cantone) that leads from the harbor of the Tiber, called Porta di Ripetta, past the Mausoleum of Augustus to the Corso, just above St. Carlo Church.

So strong was the current at this point that an unfortunate mule, driven by a couple of men, had great difficulty in stemming it. To any one who saw this current and the body of water that swept along, it must have been obvious that a very serious inundation was imminent, yet no effort was made to remove the merchandise out of the shops. One reason of this, no doubt, was that in the Corso most of the shopkeepers live away from their shops, and having no convenient place wherein to put their goods, they might have lost more in removing them than they would have saved. But the time was soon past when the removal of goods was possible; one by one the steps of St. Carlo Church disappeared beneath the flood, and by 10 o'clock it was no longer possible to drive or ride through the Corso, and the boats began to appear.

During all this time the windows of the houses on each side of the Corso, from the first to the fifth floors, were crowded with spectators. It is twenty-four years ago since such an inundation as this has occurred, so that few of the spectators had ever witnessed the like before. During the first three or four hours of the inundation it was amusing to watch the strange collection of articles the rolling flood bore upon its surface as it bounded along the Corso towards the Capitol. Then came the boats with the police, rescuing any unfortunate whom the unwelcome invasion of Father Tiber might have placed in danger or in difficulty. After them came boats freighted by the Government with bread for those who had gone to sleep the previous night in the vain expectation of receiving the usual visit of the baker in the morning. Everywhere one saw all sorts of baskets left down empty from impossible elevations of fifth stories and hauled up full of bread. Whenever a basket of rather more ample dimensions than usual made its descent, the proprietor of it was conjured on all sides to take some up for his adjoining neighbors, and those in the lower stories sometimes made the basket pay toll on its journey upwards.

Then some young men who happened to be the lucky owners of boats turned amateur bakers, and amused themselves by distributing rolls. Afterwards, but later, came the real professional baker; his market, however, seemed to have been forestalled, especially as his price, I believe, was considerably in advance of his less amphibious fraternity. The Government boats made repeated attacks upon the bakers' shops in the Corso, entering them in all manner of ways except through the door. In these operations Italian activity and ingenuity shone conspicuous; the only wonder was how little bread got into the water. I did not see above half a dozen loaves in the water throughout the day; indeed, the energy, good temper, and activity displayed by officials and soldiers of all sorts were beyond all praise.

There were all sorts of boats. I counted nine at one time in the Corso. A couple of gondolas would have made it look quite like Venice. The Ruspoli Palace stood out of the water half palace, half fortress, just like similar edifices on the Grand Canal at Venice. There were no end of rafts; tables turned upside down, with a plank or two thrown across, were a good deal in vogue. One table navigator was standing in the middle of a large sponge bath placed upon some planks across the table. It appeared to be a most effectual fit out. With a long pole armed at the end with a hook, he laid hold of all projections to urge himself against the current, and, having accomplished his object, I afterwards saw him gliding down the stream puffing away at a cigar. I saw several canoes which were constantly shooting about, and on another table a soldier passed sitting upon a plank thrown across, with his bayonet dangling in the water, rowing himself with two short shovels attached by cords to his frail bark, and all the while puffing away at his

pipe, which possibly inspired the vigor of his strokes.

This inundation will, doubtless, be considered by many Italians of ill-omen. A lady, the wife of a captain in the Pope's late army, said to me yesterday that she firmly considered it a judgment of Heaven on the people of Rome. I ventured to remind her that this was not the first inundation Rome had experienced even in this century. Indeed, such inundations might be very readily and cheaply rendered impossible by raising the level of the streets skirting the Tiber from the Pincian Hill to the Palatine Hill, or by raising a causeway in the centre of these streets and trapping the sewers. The necessary works appear to me so plain and obvious that it seems strange it has never struck any one before. Such a causeway would not be much above two miles, and its expense would be inconsiderable, while an embankment like that of the Thames would be very costly indeed.

THE ITALIAN QUESTION—REMARKABLE LETTER FROM A CATHOLIC PRIEST.

The following letter was addressed to the recent Italian Unity meeting at the Academy of Music, by the Rev. Father Farrel, pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, on Sixth-ave. in this city:—

"St. Joseph's, Jan. 12, 1871.  
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT—Dear Sir:—I regret that I cannot be present at the meeting in favor of Italian Unity. Italy divided has long been the prey of the foreigner. As I would not like to see foreign soldiers on my own native soil, nor would I consider it an evidence of the contentment and happiness of the people; so I could not wish to see Italy occupied by foreign troops, nor could I consider their presence there as an evidence of the contentment of the people.

"According to the old theory and practise of European nations, people may be given and taken away without their consent. All that must be changed before the people can be contented. They must own themselves. Standing armies must be abolished. Navies, also, except a few vessels furnished by each nation for the protection of commerce on the high seas, must be got rid of. It is a monstrous injustice to tax and oppress people beyond endurance to gratify the policy and ambition of kings.

"How long ignorance will keep people from seeing how easily they might get rid of their grievances, and the cause of them, it is hard to tell; but I am convinced that it cannot be long. Though it is not for me to predict what the destiny of united Italy will be, still I do not believe she will stop where she is. They have yet a great deal to learn and practice.

"The people of the Old World don't understand what equality before the law means; for if they did, they would soon get rid of aristocracy by inheritance or patent, which, like caste, is the greatest curse of the world.

"The people, too, of every country and of every creed, have so long been persecuted on account of religion that they do not understand our theory and our practice of civil and religious liberty. When they come to understand and practice it the world over, one of the great causes of human misery and oppression will be removed forever. That all men throughout the world may soon enjoy civil and religious liberty and equality before the law is the sincere wish of yours truly, THOS FARREL.—N. Y. Tribune.

TRADE QUESTIONS.

Under this heading, and speaking of the recent meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade at Ottawa, the Herald says:—

The subjects of their deliberations naturally resolve themselves into three divisions—the first relating to public improvements of a material kind, calculated to facilitate the movements of passengers and merchandise from place to place; the second relating to legislative reforms depending on great principles, which are to be determined in accordance with the deductions of science, and which, like the first, concern the whole population; and reforms such as we may call mechanical, in the routine of mercantile business, which affect only, or chiefly, the convenience of the commercial profession. Among the last may be reckoned such questions as uniformity in weights and measures, arrangements for the inspection of produce, and so forth. On these last heads there is apt to be little further difference of opinion among the parties concerned as to the ends proposed, and when there is contradiction of judgment as to the means, neither profit nor injury to any one is involved, except in so far as these differences further or prevent the general design. The second class of topics is, perhaps, that on which the deliberations and decisions of a body like the Board of Trade of the Dominion may be considered of the most importance. Of course, upon these matters there will rarely be unanimity, because there will always be a conflict of personal interests, and when these are at stake, the most godlike persuasions, if such could be employed, must always fail of producing conviction. But by such debates as occurred last week at Ottawa on questions concerning the tariff, we are enabled to strike the balance of sentiment, among a large and influential part of the population on subjects respecting which they have special information, but which deeply affect the community at large. We see, in fact, that in a body purporting to represent, and doubtless seeking fairly to represent the business men of the Dominion, from one end of it to the other, the overwhelming majority pronounced in favor of free trade against protection—in favor of modern science against exploded guesses and rules of thumb—in favor of the policy of the Empire, which, if adopted by us, will keep us in accord with the Empire, instead of a policy not only anti-British in theory, but practically hostile to British interests. It would, perhaps, have been more satisfactory to a philosophic mind to see these questions debated on the basis of first principles. But, as more than one speaker said, the sound doctrine has been too firmly established to need theoretic enforcement, and all that remained was to prove that a violation of them here, as everywhere, produces disastrous results. This was the testimony borne against Sir Francis Hincks' petty legislation of last session, which, nominally for the sake of de-

fyng the Americans, and really for the purpose of putting money into the pockets of two or three millowners who cast their influence with the Government, has ever since hampered the great transport trade of the country, and has enhanced by from 15 to 30 per cent, the first cost of coal—one of the leading articles of necessary consumption not only in households, but in every kind of manufacturing industry. The protest of twenty-seven—not seven as erroneously reported—against six delegates from all the Boards of Trade in the Dominion, except those of Halifax, was a most satisfactory proof that the minds of the mass of our business men have not been perverted by ignorant or selfish representations in favor of imposing burdens upon all for the advantage of a few. On the topics to which we have already referred, the authority of such a body as the Dominion Board of Trade must necessarily have great weight. It is however, not to be supposed that—like all human institutions—it has not some weaknesses inherent in the nature of its constitution. We think this weakness was shown when it dealt with the question of Public Works. Upon the whole, perhaps, a sound judgment may be picked with care out of the resolutions on this subject. They amount to this—that the Board will gladly see private capitalists construct the Railway between Fredericton and Riviere du Loup, and the Caughnawaga Canal; that when the Treasury is so full of money that its Managers do not know how to spend it, the Board will recommend the construction of the Ottawa Canals necessary for completing the water route that way between the St. Lawrence and Lake Huron, if no insuperable engineering difficulties intervene; that it would like to know what kind of a route can be found for a Pacific Railway; but that it considers the improvement of the actual navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Lakes, and later, but not less certainly, the making of the Bay Verte Canal, as absolutely essential to the future of our trade, and, therefore, as requiring even sacrifices in order that they should be speedily carried out. There is no doubt that the Board, like all similar deliberative bodies, where many particular interests are represented, was more or less affected by the tendency to log-rolling. Hence, though it did not altogether fail to distinguish between the practical necessities of to-day, and the speculative projects of a distant future, its action was scarcely so authoritative as it would have been, could it have absolutely cast aside for a more convenient season those large causes of expenditure, which few, perhaps none of its members, really believe can be now taken up.

GOOD TEMPLARS.—The annual session of the Grand Lodge of British American Order of Good Templars was held at Granboro, Township of Granby, E.T., on Tuesday and Wednesday, 24th and 25th inst. There was a fair attendance of representatives. The report of the G. W. Secretary showed an increase of 2 lodges and about 100 members during the year. The financial report showed cash on hand \$127. Measures were adopted for a vigorous prosecution of the work of the Society. A lecturer is to be put into the field at once.

On the evening of the 24th a public temperance meeting was held. There was a large attendance. The chair was occupied by the G. W. C. T., who addressed the meeting upon the progress of the temperance movement. A very stirring and eloquent address was delivered by Bro. Gales, Agent of the Quebec Temperance League. There were recitations by Representatives Mason and Timmis. A choir under the direction of Bro. Chalmers sang several appropriate temperance pieces. The grand officers for the ensuing year are:—Jas. Chalmers, G. W. C. T., South Granby; S. S. Thompson, G. W. C. T., Montreal; —Taylor, G. W. V. T., Granboro; Thomas Henry, G. W. Secy., Montreal; Jas. Murray, G. W. T., Montreal; Wm. Neil, G. W. C., Granboro; Wm. Mason, G. W. M., Montreal; F. D. Lilley, G. W. D. M., Montreal; G. W. Butterfield, G. W. I. G., Granby; G. Cox, G. W. O. G., Granby. The next session will be held in Montreal.—Com.

SUPPOSED MURDER.—Le Pionnier de Sherbrooke says that on Sunday, the 15th inst., it was reported that Matilda Watson, wife of one Andrew Hill, living in Ascot Township, two miles from Sherbrooke, had died suddenly. The husband and a man named John Grace, residing in the neighborhood, were on Monday arrested on suspicion of having caused her death, which has happened under such extraordinary circumstances as to constitute the crime of it, if any there be, one of the most barbarous cases of murder that ever happened in the Province. The coroner's jury held an inquest and the medical witnesses gave detail of injuries inflicted on deceased, which are not of a nature fit for publication. Suffice it to say they were the cause of her death, and impossible to have been inflicted by her own hand, and the jury found accordingly. Suspicion is directed strongly against the husband, who with Grace, the other party accused, has been committed for trial. Deceased was 33 years of age and leaves 5 children, the youngest of whom is only 7 months old. Her husband is a man of 50 and Grace is about 40, and a bachelor.

—Mr. Peter McGee, of the township of Godrich, was thrown out of his sleigh as he was driving home from Clinton last Monday evening. His horses ran away, and Mr. McGee, in endeavoring to reach a house, stuck in a snow-drift and was frozen to death.

SEMI-WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

On Friday night last the last of the religious anniversary meetings, that of the Tract Society, was held in the St. James street Wesleyan church.—The Chabillez Sq. Mission concert, which was held in the American Presbyterian church on Friday night last, was very successful.—The electors of St. James ward have made free trade the platform on which their representative in the City Council must stand.—Shortly after midnight on Saturday last a fire broke out in a building in Notre Dame street, which resulted in the loss of three lives. The building was a double storey, and the occupants of one establishment resided up-stairs, in the western half. The fire was discovered by two policemen, and five of the occupants were rescued;

but the remaining three, Henry Caro, 40 years of age, Fanny Burgess, servant, 24, and Henry Caro, 12, were suffocated by the smoke and lost their lives. Their bodies were recovered and an inquest held on Monday, when a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered.—A woman was knocked down and run over by a horse and sleigh in Bleury street on Sunday afternoon.—The third conversation of the St. Gabriel street church was held on Monday evening; and the English Workmen's concert took place the same night.

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAPHIC NEWS. EUROPEAN.

The ex-Empress Eugenie refused to assent to any terms of peace involving the dismemberment of France.—The Germans occupied Longwy on the 25th inst.—There were great riots in Paris on the 22nd inst. Three hundred National Guards attacked the Hotel de Ville, which was defended by the Mobiles. The affair lasted a quarter of an hour. Five were killed, and eighteen were wounded, but the attempt to create a reaction was completely suppressed.—Vinoy succeeded Trochu as commander of the forces.—The marriage of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne is fixed for the 21st March.—St. Denis was bombarded on the 24th by the Prussians.—The difficulty between the Italian Government and that of Tunis has been amicably settled.—The Prussian Council refused Favre's propositions for the capitulation of Paris, informing him that the only basis of surrender would be the same as at Sedan and Metz.—The state of Paris on the 26th was terrible; the political clubs were in arms, and a sortie with 200,000 men demanded, which Vinoy refused to make.—St. Denis has been nearly destroyed by the Prussian bombardment.—All the forts of Paris were surrendered on Saturday night last, and an armistice of three weeks by land and sea was signed. The Regulars and Mobiles are kept in Paris as prisoners of war, and the National Guards preserve order. The forts have been garrisoned by German troops, and the guns turned toward the city. The object of the armistice is to spare further bloodshed, and give the French people, through the assemblage of representatives at Bordeaux, an opportunity to decide upon terms of peace.—Bourlaki attempted suicide after his defeat at Belfort.—Pere Hyacinthe denounces the hierarchical pretensions of the S. e. of Rome.—The Italian Senate has decided that Rome shall be the capital of the country.—Berlin is in a frenzy of delight at the news of the capitulation.

AMERICAN.  
One of the supports of a gasometer in the Brooklyn, N. Y., Gas Works gave way on Friday afternoon last, and it fell into a tank filled with gas, which escaped and ignited; the flames shooting upward to the height of two hundred feet with terrible force, and the adjoining houses being shattered as if by an earthquake. One man was killed and two are missing. Loss, \$150,000.

DOMINION.  
The New Nova Scotia Provincial Building question is unsettled, as the Dominion and Provincial Governments are unable to agree.—A fire in Kingston on Saturday morning destroyed a melon and soda-water establishment.—A man named Graham, while eating his dinner at Toronto, was choked to death by a piece of meat sticking in his throat.—The session of the Nova Scotia Legislature, which meets next week, will likely be a very short one.—The mill race at Moulinette, near Cornwall, was carried away by the formation of an ice-dam in the river. The carding mills of Messrs. Robertson Bros., and an oat mill were swept away at the same time.—The Grand Trunk station at Morton Mills, boundary line, was destroyed by fire on Friday morning.—A woman was found badly frozen near the Crystal Palace, Toronto, on Friday night; she was brought to the police station, where she died shortly afterwards.—St. Paul advices from Manitoba state that the defeated party in the late elections are very wrathful, and in some districts they threaten rebellion.—Small-pox is raging in the Saskatchewan territory.

Advertisements.

WINDSOR NURSERIES.—A few reliable local applicants must state terms, and nature of the business they can do, and give undoubted references. Windsor, 12th Jan., 1871. JAMES DOUGALL.

LIFE INSURANCE.—One of the largest American Life Insurance Companies is desirous of engaging four or five General Agents, on salary and commission, to take charge of extensive Districts in Ontario, Quebec, N. B., N. S., and other portions of the Dominion. Address, giving age, experience in canvassing, &c., Box 185, Montreal.

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1871.

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Wolford.....Wed., Feb. 1, 7 p.m.  
South Elmistown.....Thursday, " 2, 7 p.m.  
Toledo.....Friday, " 3, 7 p.m.  
Bastard.....Saturday, " 4, 7 p.m.  
Erford.....Sunday, " 5, 11 a.m.  
Newboro.....Sunday, " 5, 7 p.m.  
West Port.....Monday, " 6, 7 p.m.  
Egton.....Tuesday, " 7, 7 p.m.  
Morton.....Wednesday, " 8, 7 p.m.  
Sealey's Bay.....Thursday, " 9, 7 p.m.  
Lyndhurst.....Friday, " 10, 7 p.m.  
Delta.....Saturday, " 11, 7 p.m.

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TREES packed carefully so as to carry safely any distance.  
Catalogues for Spring are now ready, and will be sent free to all applicants.  
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Windsor, 12th January, 1871.

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