

notice. They said nothing to their employer or his lady, but coolly went to his store and got dry goods sufficient to cover amount of wages due them. As soon as he discovered the bold trick, he called on Judge Pryor, who sent a policeman, and after some searching found the girls, and took them to the Police Court where they were not allowed to leave until they had paid for the dry goods and all expenses of the Court.—Mail.

What ridiculous thing occur sometimes at funerals! For instance: on one of these solemn occasions out West there stood in the house of the defunct an old-fashioned clock, which, when finished the announcement of the meridian hour, was made to play a tune. The officiating minister was in the midst of his sermon when, noon having arrived, the clock commenced striking twelve. In a very solemn tone he impressed on his hearers the inevitable flight of time; but the exhortation was evidently ineffective, as the clock instantly followed with the cheery old notes of "Yankee Doodle!"

AGENTS: F. D. SIMPSON, Esq., Travelling Agent; J. L. SUTHERLAND, Esq., General Agent; ACADIAN MINES—ISAAC HINGLEY, Esq.; OLD BARNES—EBON ARCHIBALD, Esq.; FOLLE VILLAGE—E. DAVISON, Esq.; NEW ANNAS—GEORGE NELSON, Esq.; NORTH RIVER—ROBERT STEWART, Esq.; UPPER STEWACKE—R. C. WADDELL, Esq.; UPPER ECONOMY—R. MCLEOD, Esq.; HALIFAX—W. G. PENDER, Esq.; RENFREW—W. PRINCE, Esq.; DUBHAM—D. B. GRAHAM, Esq.; LOGAN'S TANNERY—D. W. MCKEEN, Esq.; NORTH SYDNEY, C.B.—W. D. DIMOCK, Esq.; S. J. SELIG, Esq.

The Mirror AND Colchester County Advertiser. SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1868.

The establishment of a Reading Room in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association begins to give prominence to a want long felt in this town, and which will soon be felt more than ever—the want of a Public Library containing standard authorities and books of reference in Literature, Science and the Arts.

We believe several private individuals have among them a valuable collection of this kind, and with great courtesy have often permitted reference to be made to the volumes in their possession. Such references and such "moet points" as would require them are likely to be more numerous than ever now that the Reading Room proves so attractive an object to our young men for their evening resort. Naturally they discuss the news and the light literature; but both news and light literature now-a-days contain so much that is strange, that scarce a magazine article or editorial, or even foreign intelligence, but suggests to an enquiring mind the material for further research and cause of further enquiry.

Now, while men of benevolent hearts have been interesting themselves successfully in obtaining for us this Reading Room others have not been wanting whose interest has a deeper scope than that of mere surface improvement, whose careful forethought has rightly estimated the importance of considering the future of our rising generation, and while they fully appreciate the more superficial boon the Reading Room, have never ceased scheming and working to provide for us the more substantial blessing of a good public library.

We cannot, however, expect that these our friends, however willing or able, should carry out the warfare at their own cost. We would therefore name as the principle of action one which, though simple and singularly obvious, is apt to be lost sight of, though it underlies our whole system of demand and supply in all necessary institutions—we mean COMBINATION. There is nothing which should, in point of fact, be at once so republican and so aristocratic as a Literary Institute: republican, inasmuch as all contribute equally to its establishment and support; aristocratic, in the obvious necessity of placing the best and ablest men at the head of affairs, whether didactic or administrative. It is, to use another illustration, a joint stock company or partnership, just as a railway or other commercial company is; and as A and B feeling that a railway between their respective towns would not only be a public benefit but a good speculation, yet not possessing sufficient capital to make one single-headed, enlist C and D and all the other letters of the alphabet in the good work of taking shares; so A and B, on a smaller scale, knowing that access to certain books would be of great advantage to themselves and their fellow townsmen, but in the same state of insufficiency as regards the needful funds, call on

C, D and the rest to contribute to a common fund and participate in the common benefit.

And now let us assume a fund to have been got together somehow—whether by subscription, donation, bazaar, lecture or other ways and means is immaterial, the next question, and the all-important one, is, what principle to adopt in its expenditure. It is just as easy—sometimes easier—to lay out a sovereign in poisoned or unwholesome food for a family as in sound and nutritious diet; and the alternative presents itself with exactly the same readiness in selecting food for the mind, only that in this latter case it so happens that in these days of enormous scribbling the market is in every way overstocked, and the wares so jumbled together, good with bad, and so bedaubed with glitter and glare, that the work of distinguishing and discriminating is by no means easy, and it is of quite as much importance to know what to select as to know what to choose—what to seek as what to avoid.

First of all, then, we venture to submit that a public library should be supplied with standard works. Information and instruction on subjects of research, &c., which are to be pursued in two ways—either by a careful and laborious course of reading, extending to all the elementary and gradually advancing treatises on them, or by resorting to works, as Encyclopedias, in which the results of such a course are to be found condensed in a masterly way in a manageable compass, and within the grasp of any ordinary intellect. Besides life is short, and, for all purposes of study, shorter than ever in these days of rapid commercial and exertion, and few have time enough to spare from their daily avocations to master thoroughly even one of the many subjects which are ever and anon presenting themselves.

We have laid stress on the word "standard"—with a reason—the consideration of which brings to us at once to a second principle, which apply to the entire range of works to be selected for our library. It is another feature of the age, and a most unfortunate one, pervading every class and species of thing which is susceptible of being made the subject of barter, that cheapness alone is too often counted a recommendation. Common sense and experience should bring us to an exactly opposite deduction—not that a thing is necessarily bad because it is cheap, but because when the actual cost of production is carefully calculated, no matter what the article is, it will invariably appear that a genuine good thing cannot be produced at a cheap rate, and that therefore, to say the least, cheap wares should be looked at with suspicion. What is true of all articles in general applies with tenfold force to all literary productions. Cheap books—even cheap editions of recognized good books—should be either narrowly scrutinized or—which is far better—eschewed altogether. Far better to wait until funds will warrant the purchase of a recognized standard work than to rush upon the first that an advertising list brings under our notice merely because the publisher puffs it and it is cheap. It is not too much to say that for all the higher ends of literature we are constantly suffering shipwreck in these "great commercial" days on the stumbling block presented by that one word "cheap." Cheap and nasty seem almost synonymous terms when speaking of books. Cheap novels which minister to the worst passions and depraved tastes of the unthinking; penny magazines and penny newspapers, whose only hope of a sale lies in their indiscriminate abuse, public and private, of everything truly dignified, noble and praiseworthy, are unhappily only too popular, chiefly, if the truth were to be told, because they are cheap; and amongst this dismal and delusive herd of cheap cattle must be reckoned, we are obliged to say, those cheap works of reference which are due, as to their composition, to the ill-paid scrambling efforts of a class of needy literary adventurers, whose chief recommendation is the unblushing impudence with which they will "knock off" a treatise on any subject whatever.

But we must postpone further remarks to another time. In the meantime we trust what has been said will not be lost.

—A dispatch to the Express states that Mr. Sandford Fleming left Ottawa yesterday to make additional surveys of the Intercolonial Railway.—He starts three surveying parties, one for each, Northern, Central and Frontier routes, and goes himself to make a more thorough survey of part of route in Nova Scotia. It will take six or eight weeks to complete these explorations.

—A Maine editor has published the ten commandments as a leader, because, he says, they have been long out of print in the newspapers.

Local and Other Matters.

An interesting article on the examination crowded out this week.

A capital story entitled "Warned by a Ghost," will be found on the first page.

The receipts of the Nova Scotia Railway for February show a decrease of \$697,84 over the corresponding month of last year.

A number of gipsies passed through Truro on Wednesday last, en route for Cape Breton.

We direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mrs. Cullen in another column.

We are indebted to Mr Edward Morrison Commission Agent at T. E. Kenney's, Halifax, for a copy of the Nova Scotia Trade Circular.

The Hon. Adams G. Archibald has been appointed to the Senate of Canada.

The weather during the past week has been warm and mild, and the snow is nearly all gone.

On Thursday evening last, Professor Styles, and Choir, gave a Musical Entertainment in Temperance Hall. The Professor is one of the finest singers we have ever heard.

The Bluese, a sheet 10 x 8 inches has been published in Digby. The Pictou Standard says—"it is badly printed on poor paper and contains worse matter."

Col Franklin, R. A., Senior Officer in the Garrison, has been appointed Administrator of the Government of this Province, during the absence of His Excellency Lieut Governor Doyle.

The Rev. C. M. Grant will preach in St. Paul's Church, Truro, on Sunday March 22nd, (to-morrow) at eleven o'clock a. m., and three p. m. The quarterly collection will be taken in aid of the funds of the Church.

A good deal of excitement was created a few evenings ago, by a report that the body of an infant had been rolled up in a piece of carpet, and thrown over a fence—not a great distance from the common. On examination it proved to be a number of cabbage stalks tied together.

We have received the March No. of the Halifax Register, and Special Advertiser, issued from the Employment Office, 21 George Street, Halifax. Parties in the country desirous of obtaining situations in the city will find it to their advantage to correspond with Mr Pender. For full particulars see advt in another column.

At the Court of Probate of Wills held in the Court House in Truro, on Monday the 16th day of March inst., convened by the widow and heirs at law of the late Adam Chisholm of Londonbury by a citation issued, grounded upon a charge of temporary insanity having taken possession of the testator's mind at the time of making his will, by which the said widow and heirs at law attempted to have said will set aside as invalid. H. Blanchard and James McDonald appeared for the widow and heirs at law, and W. A. Johnston and R. McG. Moffat for the Legatees and Devises under said will. It was decided by the Court that said will was valid, and was thereby confirmed.

We have been requested to state that the Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., of Acadia College will lecture before the Truro Young Men's Christian Association in Cobquid Hall on Thursday evening 26th March, instant, at half-past seven o'clock. Subject: "Fifty Years Ago—Reminiscences and Contrasts." An admission fee of twelve and a half cents will be taken at the door to aid the funds of the Association. We hope our readers, one and all, old and young, will bear the lecture in mind, make it as public as possible, and not fail to attend. We bespeak for the worthy Doctor a full house. The interest he takes in the welfare of young men has led him to visit Truro to lecture before the Association at considerable personal inconvenience, and, too, at a time of year quite unpleasant for travelling. He is justly and deservedly held in high esteem as a public lecturer, and no doubt the subject announced must prove very attractive in his hands. To the old it will be a happy resume of their past lives, and to the young a History of the Olden Time they may never be privileged to hear again.

THE PENNY READINGS

At Cobquid Hall, on Monday evening last, was, as we anticipated, a brilliant success.—The Hall was well filled, and the performers were enthusiastically applauded; in fact, everything in connection with it gave the utmost satisfaction.

On Monday evening next, March 23rd, Mr. Passow will give a choice selection of readings. Look at the Programme in another column.

The Wolfville Acadian says there is considerable dissatisfaction at the awards made for land taking by the Windsor and Annapolis Railway Company. Some of the inhabitants of Kentville have made application for a slight alteration in the route that less expensive property may be taken and the town spared from unnecessary demolition.

FIRE IN CANNING. About two o'clock on the morning of Wednesday a fire broke out in the upper part of the store of Edward Clark, in the above village, ending in its total destruction; and but for the direction of the wind, and the damp state of the buildings, would probably have ended in a yet greater conflagration than that of June last. The cause of the fire is not positively known, but it is supposed to have been caused by the overheating of the stove-pipe, which passed from the shop into the garret. We believe the building and stock were entirely uninsured.

Correspondence.

FROM OUR HALIFAX CORRESPONDENT.

Halifax, March, 18, 1868.

Dear Mirror.— We have had rain more or less every day since my last, while I write the rain is teeming in torrents, and has been pelting all day, it is excessively dull, and very few people are moving out doors. Heavy and extremely damp fogs have prevailed all the week, such weather as the present contribute no doubt to the continued dullness of the times. In this respect, however, there are some signs of a change, money begins to circulate somewhat freer, and business men are holding up their heads. In next month, we may expect that the re-action will fully set in, and business no doubt will be as brisk if not brisker than ever.

The reports from the different Gold Districts show the happiest sign of a large and remunerative business being done in that branch of our industry during the coming season. Capitalists I think are just beginning to wake up to the importance and extent of our Gold Fields.

I saw a letter the other day—published in the London Times from an English capitalist, who has been making an exploration of the Gold Fields in Nova Scotia, in which he gives a glowing description of the productions of our Gold Mines. He publishes a statement compiled from official resources, showing the annual increase of the yield of gold per miner every year, from the first discovery up to the latest report, by which it appears that the profits of gold mining in Nova Scotia are greater than any in the world.—Accounts have been lately received from Mount Uniacke Diggings which show the extraordinary yield of thirteen ounces to the ton.

The young woman who was arrested last week on the charge of attempting to make away with her infant was examined before Mr. Pryor, the Stipendiary Magistrate, and after a lengthened examination was discharged, proof of her guilt not being sufficient to warrant the magistrate in committing her for trial.

The annual examination of the pupils attending the schools of Halifax County was held last Friday at Temperance Hall. There were over two hundred competitors, being the best pupils of each school in town and country.

You have heard, no doubt, of the fatal accident which occurred at Mount Uniacke Station on Saturday morning last by which Mr. Mickle, Station Master of that section of the road lost his life. The particulars are these: the engine and tender was detached from the train, and was running down the track, when Mr. Mickle observed walking in front—before the engine could be stopped the cow-catcher struck him and knocked him down, causing instant death, and mangled and crushing him in a fearful manner.

Late advices from Washington inform us that the hearing of the impeachment case against President Johnson has been postponed until Tuesday the 23rd inst. His counsel asked for 40 days to prepare his defence, but the request was refused. History, it is said, repeats itself, and looking at the state of affairs in the United States, one cannot help feeling that the remark is true.

The Americans boast that they have had the greatest war of modern times: they will be able to say after the impeachment of Andrew Johnson that they have also had the greatest state trial of the age. The great state trials of Stratford, Laud, Charles I. and Warren Hastings will, in the excited imagination of the Americans, fade before the magnitude of the present one. The immense interests involved, the questions of constitutional law likely to arise, the animosity and bitterness which animate the opposing parties, will tend to render the trial of Andrew Johnson for high crimes and misdemeanors one of the greatest in the history of the American continent.

Nearly all of the Dominion members have left for Ottawa, and the rest will leave probably by the steamer for New York.

The new Provincial Building is rapidly approaching completion. When finished it will be one of the finest edifices in the Lower Provinces. For lack of something to do I may perhaps send you a description of it in some future

BUDGET.

DON'T ADVERTISE.—Don't advertise; it is a very bad plan. It will call attention to your place of business, and it is much better for people who wish to trade with you to hunt you up. It gives your customers exercise, and makes them healthy. Besides, if you advertise somebody will buy up all your goods, and then you will have to get more, and it will be a great bother to you.

One of the editors of a New Orleans paper, soon after beginning to learn the printing business, went to court a preacher's daughter. The next time he attended meeting he was taken down at hearing the minister announce as his text: "My daughter is grievously tormented with a 'devil.'"

The R. M. S. City of Cork arrived at Halifax early on Thursday morning.

"My father, an old gentleman," (says A. C. Leighton,) "has received greater benefit and relief from a protracted and distressing cough, (giving him rest and comfort nights) from Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, than from any and all the other remedies he has tried."

Parson's Pills are the best known remedy for constipation of the bowels, inflammation of the kidneys, nervous headache, sick-headache, irregularity, costiveness, biliousness, dyspepsia, indigestion, influenza, loss of appetite, and loss of strength.

BY TELEGRAPH.

EROM CANADA.

OTTAWA, March 16, 1868.

In reply to a question whether the Government intended proceeding with the Intercolonial Railway pending the agitation in Nova Scotia for repeal Sir John A. MacDonald said it was the intention of the Government to proceed with the railway according to the terms of the Union Act, and according to the general understanding between the Provinces before Union.

According to law passed during the present session the road would be built to Truro, but the route was not yet adopted. Several returns were ordered, when the House adjourned.

OTTAWA, March 17.—The Government has appointed Dr. Tupper Commissioner to England, to endeavor to bring about a settlement of the Nova Scotia difficulty, and counteract the influence of Mr. Howe and others from that Province. Mr. Galt was invited to join, but declined.

MONTREAL, March 17.—Capitalists have made a formal proposition to the Government to build the Intercolonial Railway for \$8,000,000. Rumors of dissension in the cabinet are rife. It is said another Nova Scotian will be offered a seat in the Government—a step towards conciliating Nova Scotia.

LATE EUROPEAN NEWS.

LONDON, March 16, 1868.—Despatches from the south announce that the Grand Vizir had returned to Constantinople from Crete. He reports to the Turkish Government that the war between the Turks and Cretan insurgents had ended. There were a few guerrillas still operating in the mountain districts. They were hardly a hundred strong, and no fears were anticipated of any fresh outbreaks.

The Corps Legislatif was engaged last week in a discussion of the new law in relation to holding public meetings, which was introduced by the government. An important and comprehensive amendment to the bill has been offered by liberal members. It proposes to remove all restrictions from the rights of the people to meet in public assemblies when and where they please.

Advices from Berlin state that Prince Napoleon has left Paris. His visit to Germany has given rise to many surmises and rumors, and is extensively commented upon by the press, but his mission has not been divulged. His reception everywhere in Germany has been most cordial.

LONDON, March 13 (midnight).—In the House of Commons this evening a motion was made for the Government to lay before the House papers in connection with barque Springbok case, arising from the seizure of the English vessel of that name by a United States steamer during the blockade of the Southern ports in the rebellion.

In reply to an enquiry regarding the circumstances of the imprisonment of W. Johnson, the Orange Secretary in the County of Down, Ireland, Lord Mayo said the prisoner was detained in jail because he refused to express regret for his action in leading an illegal procession.

The House went into committee of the whole, and resumed the debate on the state of Ireland. The O'Donohue, member for Tralee, said the disaffection among the Irish people was wide-spread, and reached all classes of society, and paralyzed trade with the constant fear of its consequences. The church and land question were the leading causes of discontent, but the principal cause of all was the refusal of independence in legislation. Ireland is now voiceless and helpless. The first remedy to be applied should be to deprive the Church Establishment of its endowments, and grant to tenants leases of not less duration than fifty-ones years. Sir Stafford Northcote followed with a lengthy speech in defence of the Government. Without taking action the House adjourned.

Thompson and Mullaney, tried and convicted at Manchester, charged with being accessory to the murder of police sergeant Brett, to day have been sentenced to be hanged.

LONDON, March 18.—The whole plan for church, land and educational reforms in Ireland will go over to the next Parliament.

A man named Mahon, said to be a Fenian organizer, has been arrested in this city charged with having endeavored to swear in soldiers stationed here as Fenians. It is stated here that Mahon's efforts were attended with some degree of success, and that the evidence to be produced at his trial will show disaffection to prevail to an alarming degree in some Irish regiments.

PARIS, March 17 (even).—The Corps Legislatif to-day adopted an amendment to the new law on public meetings, which allow political meetings to be held before the election of members of the General Council.

It is rejected that the Papal Government has rejected the overtures of the Emperor Napoleon for the pacification of Italy.

LONDON, March 17.—A serious political riot occurred in the island of Midina on the 5th inst. The mob attacked one of the candidates for Portuguese Cortes. The military were called out and fired upon the people; but the latter persisted, and drove their victim to the sea, where he was compelled to take refuge on board a vessel.

FROM THE STATES.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Serious freshets are reported in various parts of the country, caused by breaking up of river ice.

O'Baldwin, the Irish pugilist, has settled his match with Elliott, money having been put up. O'Baldwin bets \$10,000 to \$2,000 that he whips Elliott in half an hour. The fight is to be contested in New York.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Hearing of the impeachment case against President Johnson has been postponed till Monday, March 23rd.