

OLD-FASHIONED MARRIAGE PORTION.
 --Captain John Hull, who was one of the first founders of the Old South Church, Boston, was a man of wealth. A daughter of his was married to Major Samuel Sewall, in 1640. As usual in those days, the father was expected to give his daughter a marriage portion. So father Hull, after his daughter was richly dressed and prepared for the ceremony, caused her to be put into one side of a large pair o' scales, in the presence of her friends, and then piled on dollars and crowns, and other silver money, until they weighed her down. As she was plump and heavy, this must have been a fat marriage portion in those days.

"How are you to-day?" inquired a doctor of his patient. A little better, thank you. "Have you taken any dinner to-day?" "Yes, a little goose." "With appetite?" "No, sir, with apple-sauce."

A captain, lately a railroad conductor, was drilling a squad, and while marching them by flank, turned to speak to a friend for a moment. On looking again towards his squad, he saw they were in the act of "butting up" against a fence. In his hurry to halt them, he shouted out "Down Brakes! Down Brakes!"

Green Peas can be preserved in the same manner as gooseberries and currants.

Green gooseberries are frequently preserved by placing them, when dry in a stone jar or other vessel, and burying it in the soil below the reach of frost.

News of the Week.

The Hon. T. D'Arcy McGee, of Canada, delivered an eloquent address at Temperance Hall, on Tuesday evening, on the contemplated Intercolonial Railway, and the Union of the British North American Colonies. He logically pointed out the necessity that existed for such a consummation; and from arguments based on association, commerce, immigration, patriotism, and political necessity, showed the advantages which these provinces—separately and collectively—would derive from the accomplishment of these desirable objects. The address was cordially responded to by the Hon. Messrs. Johnston, Howe, Tilley and Tupper, and by his Worship the Mayor, who presided.

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.—Some of the pupils of this excellent Institution are about to visit the counties of Guysborough, Sydney, and Cape Breton, accompanied by their Principal, Mr. Hutton. They have on previous occasions given interesting illustrative exercises, at Halifax and other parts of the Province, of the varied instruction and information imparted to them by Mr. Hutton; and judging from the sympathy and hospitality they met with during their former tours, we trust their contemplated journey will elicit forth a corresponding interest in each

of the communities they are about to visit, and ensure to themselves such a reception as may be adapted to console and gratify them, under their peculiar circumstances. They will visit Caledonia, Friday, July 31; St. Mary's, Saturday, August 1; Sherbrooke, Monday, August 3; Goshen, on Wednesday, August 5; Lochaber, Thursday, August 6; Antigonish, Friday, August 7; Guysborough, Monday, August 10; Port Mulgrave, Tuesday, August 11; Hawkesbury, Wednesday morning, August 12, and Plaister Cove in the evening. Further appointments in Cape Breton will be duly notified.

It is said that the Hon. Joseph Howe, Fishery Commissioner, will shortly leave here for Newfoundland in H. M. S. Greyhound, which vessel will be placed at the disposal of the Commissioner for the duties appertaining to his office.—*Express.*

On Saturday morning last H. M. S. Barracouta left this port for St. John, N. B. for the purpose of repairing some damage caused to her bottom in consequence of having struck upon a sunken rock during her recent trip to Cape Breton with their Excellencies the Lieut. Governor and the Admiral.

We regret to learn that the blight has already appeared in some of the potatoe fields within a few miles of the city.—*Chronicle.*

A Fancy Fair was recently held on behalf of the Recreation Fund for the inmates of the Provincial Hospital. Upwards of \$420. were realized by the sales.

The sum of \$180 was realized at the Bazaar in aid of the Church at Lake Porter, in addition to about \$60 collected in Halifax and elsewhere.

A decision has been rendered by the Judges of the Supreme Court in favour of Mr. Thomas Spence's election as Alderman for Ward 5. Mr. Roche consequently resigned his seat in the City Council.

The Flower Show, Bazaar, &c., which was to have been held on the grounds of the Horticultural Society on Thursday, was postponed until to-day.

The Chronicle reports on the authority of a correspondent that an Indian in Mill Village, Queen's County, has landed, from the 1st April to the 1st July, 220 salmon.

We learn from the Colonist that through the spirited exertions of a few individuals, a very pretty structure has been erected near the Railway Station, to be used as a school-house for that hitherto neglected locality, which will prove a great boon to the neighbourhood. The building was designed by Mr. Sterling, and executed by Messrs. Lindsay and McDonald. It is capable of seating about 200 persons; is well ventilated, and certainly reflects credit on the architect, builders and all concerned.

The Journal says—Some \$88 have

been handed to His Worship the Mayor as the proceeds of Mr. McGee's address at Temperance Hall. Half this sum is to be given to the Protestant and the remainder to the Catholic Orphan's Home.

A picnic, under the auspices of the St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Catechetical Teaching Societies, will be held on Tuesday next, at Thornville, the country residence of His Grace the Archbishop. The Procession of the Children and the Teachers will leave St. Mary's Cathedral at 9 o'clock A. M., and march through the principal streets, before proceeding to the grounds.

The Scull Race for the Championship of Halifax Harbor, will take place on Saturday next.

The schooner Julia, from Maitland for New York, put into Portland on the 21st inst. leaking badly, having been run into on the 14th by an unknown schooner.

The St. John N. B. Morning Post of Thursday last, says:—We understand that a few gentlemen came to this city per steamer New England in search of substitutes for their drafted friends. What the *County* offered is we did not learn. We hope our authorities will keep a sharp look out on these men stealers.

The Toronto Globe reports that in all the neighbouring lake counties, the insects are making great ravages among the wheat. The crop on the ground appears to be so large, that it is probable the average yield will still be satisfactory; but the sample will be greatly injured.

CASE OF LONGEVITY.—A man named Edward Downs died recently at Montreal, at the advanced age of 111. He retained his memory, and was quite vigorous up to the time of his death.

President Lincoln has appointed Thursday, August 6, as a day of national thanksgiving for the recent Federal victories.

MADAGASCAR.—The official report of the French Consul at Tamatave, explains that the cause of the political revolution in Madagascar was the rivalry between the nobles and Neuamasco. The young men who, at the accession of King Badama, took power, and monopolised all favours, suggested to the King measures disapproved of by the people. They were accused of injustice, of being open to corruption, and great immorality. Under their influence the King published a law authorising duels, and even combats of tribe against tribe and village against village, without any other formality than the consent of the two parties, thus proclaiming civil war and furnishing a pretext for hostilities. The officers and principal inhabitants begged of the King to recall this law, who, however, refused, and the preparations for the conflict then began. The French Consul assembled all his fol-