

The Earl of Derby on the War in America.

House of Lords, Tuesday, Feb. 7th.—It is impossible that everyone should not earnestly desire that every step that is possible should be taken to hasten a reconciliation. I am not one of those who are disposed to think that her Majesty's government have departed from that neutrality which they express themselves anxious to maintain. But I confess I look with great anxiety at the appearance of some symptoms which seem to show that that neutrality has not been accepted by that party to which we have been most favorable with that good will and gratitude to which I think it was fairly entitled. I don't refer to articles in federal newspapers, nor to the expressions of individuals, nor even to speeches in Congress, nor to official despatches, which under other circumstances might be regarded as expressions of hostility. I refer to two measures which I am told have received the sanction of the Senate—I mean, the notice to terminate the treaty of Reciprocity with Canada, and more important still, the notice to terminate the treaty by which the naval force in the States is restricted and regulated. [Hear, hear.] Of these two measures it is impossible not to see that they are both of them framed in a spirit of hostility to this country. One of them lays open questions of a most delicate and difficult character. The American people, themselves sacrificing great commercial advantages by abandoning the Reciprocity treaty, and the only ground of their doing so is that Canada receives equal advantages. The only result will be, that the whole complicated question of the fisheries of the North American continent, which the United States are materially interested, will be again thrown open. My Lords, I am old enough to remember the serious complications and difficulties which were on the point of arising between this country and the United States in connection with these fisheries, and yet, without the slightest reason or provocation, that question is now reopened, with all the risks and dangers of a war with this country, than which no war could be more deplorable. [Hear, hear.] It is not a little significant that the time when the United States of this treaty was resolved upon, was another treaty notice laid open all those points of danger and difficulty connected with the lakes. For a long period these lakes have served as the means of a peaceful and profitable commerce between the countries lying on either side of them. I can recall the late American war when there was a blockade in shipping on these lakes, and the party which obtained a temporary superiority gained with it the complete control of the lakes. That was but an agreement which led to a state of perfect neutrality; and now the American government, without the slightest provocation, propose to break through the treaty, and talk of sending a force upon the lakes, and which must make it necessary for this country to make corresponding preparations in the face of immediate danger of hostilities. I don't ask her Majesty's government, who they have taken, but I do say that they will be deeply responsible if they are not fully awake to the position in which this country is placed by these two acts of the Government of the United States. If the preponderating force should be in the hands of the United States, it could only be used for the purpose of aggression. [Hear.] An attack on the part of Canada on the United States is a physical impossibility. [Hear.] The long frontier of Canada is peculiarly open to aggression; and, as I have said, unless there be a preponderating force upon the lakes, you must be prepared to place the provinces of Canada at the disposal of the United States.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The seventh session of the present English Parliament was opened on Monday, February 6. The lord chancellor read the following:

MR. LORDS AND GENTLEMEN: We are commanded to assure you that her Majesty has satisfaction in recurring again to the advice and assistance of her parliament. The negotiations in which the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia were engaged with the King of Denmark, and the feeling of the Imperial Parliament and of Her Majesty's Government is beginning to show itself, in reference to the neutrality of feeling which ought to exist in Canada, and especially in the Canadian Government, between the contending parties of the Northern and Southern Governments of the States.

It appears to all who have looked into the matter, that the great danger of trouble breaking out in this country, with the States, will arise from aliens who find a temporary home in our midst; and it is somewhat gratifying to find that the act of Parliament recently passed by our house of Assembly in a meeting of the Home Government. The following is a short extract from the despatch of Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary for the colonies:—He says that, "Her Majesty's Government consider it most desirable that His Excellency the Governor-General should be armed with as little delay as possible, with such extraordinary powers as might enable him to deal promptly and effectively with the difficulties incident to the present emergency, and that this should be done by the Provincial Legislature. It further appeared to them that these powers should embrace two objects, viz., the sending of 'suspected aliens' out of this Province, and the seizure of suspected vessels, &c."

For the first object they agreed with His Excellency that the 11th "Vic. cap. 20, contained provisions which could easily adapt to the present emergency; and for the second, that the Act of "Congress referred to by him," &c., &c. Now, the Act, 11 Vic., is the Alien Bill which our Government have copied, and our Legislature passed.

At the annual meeting of the stock and bond-holders of the Brockville and Ottawa Railroad, the following gentlemen were elected Directors for the current year—J. G. Richardson, Alex. Morrison, Abbott, A. McArthur, J. L. McDougall, R. P. Cooke and J. W. Rivers. At a meeting of the New Board held on Tuesday, Mr. Richardson was elected President, and Mr. Cooke, Vice President and Managing Director.

We are very sorry to have to record in our paper, to-day, the death of Mrs. William Brown, of this place, which happened on Tuesday morning. We feel inclined to pay some tribute to her memory; but can only say, that she was respected by everybody who had the pleasure of her acquaintance.

The Hon. George Moffatt died, in the city of Montreal, on Sunday last.

THE BURNING OF THE SURREY THEATRE.

The favourite house on the south side of the water, was totally destroyed by fire, on Monday night. At about twenty minutes to twelve the last scene in the pantomime of "Richard Coeur de Lion" was being played, and Rowella, the clown, had just begun his performance when happening to cast his eyes up to the ceiling he saw a strong gleam of light reflected through the aperture over the chandelier. Suspecting there was a fire, he left the stage quietly, and communicated his suspicions to Mr. Green the acting manager, who despatched some of the stage carpenters to see what was the matter; but at the same moment some of the audience were alarmed by the body of smoke descending through the aperture, and the cry of fire was raised. Mr. Green rushed and implored the people to leave the house quietly, and the curtain was at once lowered. This sensible advice was followed, as it usually is by a regular stampee. Women screamed and rushed about, others who sought a refuge in the balcony, only added to the confusion. The gallery stairs, which were for a moment blocked, and men slid down the columns into the pit. Even the coolest were also those who best knew the appalling rapidity with which theatres burn, and that the loss of a few seconds might leave them helplessly face to face with the most terrible form in which death can come upon humanity. Some of those who were most collected made their way upon the stage. Behind however, confusion was for a time unbounded, for the gas had been turned off and the poor ballet girls were in a state of great confusion and terrified at the knowledge that the sparks which others less dangerously clad might face with impunity would bring certain death to them. There was not a moment to lose, the ceiling began to buckle up, the flames broke through and within five minutes great fakes of burning saws were falling over all parts of pit and gallery. In another minute a great sweep of flame licked up the curtain, and pouring over the stage flies, wings, and flats, they were set fire to instantaneously, and the whole theatre became a scene of bright flame. Fortunately, the chief pantomimists, and others behind the scenes had dragged out as fast as they could find them all the ballet girls, children, and supernumeraries who in their lights were huddled miserably together in the half-drawn saws and sleet till they were sheltered in adjoining streets. Hardly were the last clear from the whole interior became a mass of flame, in which nobody could have lived a single instant. But for the exertions of the actors we have spoken of, the loss of life behind the scenes would almost certainly have been terrible.

Mrs. Partington says that "when she was a girl she used to go to parties, and had always a beau to escort her home. But now," she says, "the girls undergo all sorts of deprivations; the task of entertaining their home revolves on their dear selves." The old lady drew down her spectacles, and thanked her stars that she had lived in other days, when men could so deprecate the worth of the female sex.

The following resolution, which was adopted at a meeting of young ladies some days since, shows the effects of last year's upon the female "franchise." Resolved, that if we do not get married this year somebody will be to blame.

The Herald.

CARLETON PLACE.

Wednesday, March 1st, 1865.

The circulation of the C. P. Herald is now very large and constantly increasing. Merchants, business men and all who desire to communicate with the public will secure a wide publication for their notices, by advertising in its columns. Charges as low as for other papers of this class, and the only one for publishing births, marriages and deaths.

Not only the British press is speaking out, but British feeling, and the feeling of the Imperial Parliament and of Her Majesty's Government is beginning to show itself, in reference to the neutrality of feeling which ought to exist in Canada, and especially in the Canadian Government, between the contending parties of the Northern and Southern Governments of the States.

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Railway Accidents.

A frightful accident occurred a few days ago, on the Grand Trunk, between Montreal and Quebec, two miles beyond Danville station. The train was going over an embankment, when the sleeping car got off the track and rolled down the bank, a distance of forty feet. Among the passengers were the Hon. George Brown, Mr. Hugh Allan and family, of Montreal; Mr. Rea and family, of Quebec; Judge Armstrong, of Ottawa; Mrs. John Macdonald, of Toronto; James O'Reilly, of Kingston; Edwin Chaffey, of Toronto; Alona Wright, M. P., of Ottawa, and many others. The car fell down the precipice with a great crash, but, strange to say, not one of the passengers was seriously injured. Three or four received bruises, but none of a serious character. Had the accident happened a few feet west, not a soul in the car would have been saved, as the Nicolet bridge is fifty feet high, and there is neither parapet nor bank to avert or diminish the frightful crash that would have ensued.

After all the legislation that has taken place, there is something wrong, yet, in the management of the Grand Trunk. It is frightful to think of the constantly occurring accidents which are taking place. Few trains, now pass from one end to the other without some accident occurring, fortunately, it is, indeed, they are not all of a serious nature.

Since above was written, the painful intelligence has been received of another sad catastrophe caused by the cars being thrown down a steep embankment, a number of passengers fatally injured and the survivors robbed of their money, and, whatever other valuables they had in their possession.

The accident occurred on Thursday last, a few miles west of Berlin. The train No. 1, express, from Sarnia, Conductor Thomas Connell, left Petersburg station about 7:15 p.m., on Thursday evening, with two passenger and one baggage car, being about an hour behind time, but, nevertheless, with "all right" on board. When about one and a half miles from the station and at a portion of the track known as "the Petersburg dump," the train was thrown off the track and the two passenger and baggage cars were upset down an embankment about 50 feet in height, and of an incline of more than 45°; the locomotive and tender, being of great weight, remained nearly on the track, although the tender, as well as the trucks of the engine, were displaced from the rails. One theory is that the accident was caused by the high rate of speed at which the train was going round the curve, the momentum being great enough to throw the light baggage car off the track while the heavy locomotive and tender would not be so easily displaced, and consequently remained on or near the track. After the cars left the rails the train ran about nineteen rail lengths on the inside of the curve before the cars were thrown down the embankment.

While word of the accident was despatched to Petersburg, every exertion was made by those who had escaped unhurt to extricate the injured from the wreck. One by one they were got out, and all were in the way to be moved whenever assistance came. The farmers in the neighborhood were aroused, and some of the women among the sufferers were safely housed until medical aid arrived. Mr. N. C. Gowen, of Toronto, who was wrecked in the Provincial Grand Lodge, was so seriously injured that it was with difficulty that he was all removed. The scene inside the car, so Mr. Cone, the American Express Company's agent, informed a reporter, baffled all description. The wailing of the injured and the shrieks of those who were frightened, amid the general confusion which prevailed, will not easily be forgotten by anyone who witnessed it. In passenger car No. 44, the last of the train, the seats were torn up, and the car having made three revolutions in going down, was turned on its side; the stove being fastened to the floor remained firm in its place in the centre of the car. In the other car, No. 39, a complete smashup had been turned, and not a single piece of the inside furniture of the car remained in its place. In the baggage car, likewise, a complete turn was made, but it was not so much broken as the passenger cars.

On the accident being reported to Mr. George Platt the station agent at Petersburg word was sent to the Company's office in this city, and special trains ordered from Stratford and Berlin to convey the sufferers and bring medical men to the scene. A locomotive was also despatched from Petersburg to Hamburg, and brought back Dr. Pyper of that place, who was soon energetically at work attending to the injuries of the sufferers. The other special train soon arrived, and the wounded were removed to the cars. Dr. Whiting, of Perth, going to Guelph, Dr. Hyde and Shaver of Stratford, and Dr. Reynolds of Waterloo. Miss Townsend, Ottawa, slightly hurt in the chest. Mrs. Cotter and two children, of Stratford, seriously injured. Mrs. Wray, Port Huron, bruised. Matthew Beatty, Chathamville, collar bone broken, leg hurt by stove falling over him. Mrs. Hamer, of Stratford, eye badly bruised and out, left arm fractured. Miss Amelia Kennedy, Malton, head cut, sinews of wrists out, but not badly. Mrs. Hahoe, Campden Street, Toronto, very seriously injured; head nearly scalped, back hurt, and side bruised. Mrs. Scallion, London, centre; badly hurt in back; leg paralyzed. Mr. James Stratton, hotel-keeper, Ainslieville, Co. Huron, slightly wounded in neck and arm above elbow. Mr. David Weller, slightly bruised. Mr. Geo. Weller, nose smashed, wrists sprained. Mr. Michael Murray, drinking a glass of whiskey at the time of the accident; uninjured. Mr. Thomas Risdon, Delaware, Ohio; right arm broken and side bruised. Mr. Richard Bates, Collingwood; slightly injured. Mr. J. H. Cone, Express Agent; slightly bruised in side. Mr. Thomas Swan, news agent; hurt by boxes in baggage car falling on him. Mr. W. E. Griffith, mail conductor, cut badly in back. Mr. Thomas Connell, conductor of the train; injured internally. ROBBERY OF THE PASSENGERS.

Mrs. Scanlan, of London, was proceeding to Toronto on legal business, and had in her satchel several valuable deeds and fourteen \$50 bills and \$3 in silver. When she recovered herself and her satchel was brought to her, she found that it had been forced open by some instrument, and the money abstracted. It was on the seat in front of her, when the accident occurred. Miss Kennedy lost \$190 which was in her pocket. Another lady lost \$10 in silver, nearly all the money in her possession. Three individuals, said to be thieves are known.

"The Napanee Standard" says that "a few days ago, in the village of Newburgh a sumptuous dinner was given to an old friend, the Rev. W. H. Poole, by a large company of the official members and friends on that circuit, who hailed with delight the presence among them of one who had been by the divine blessing so useful among them."

Mr. Poole's stay among the friends at Newburgh was very short, and but little time was given to make preparations or to collect the friends, and yet the tables were loaded with every variety of the very best—the hour having arrived Benjamin Clarke, Esq., John G. Switzer and Joseph Thompson, Esqrs., were sent to invite and escort the Rev. guest to the hall, where he seemed surprised and delighted to meet about seventy of his friends. Dinner over, Benjamin Clarke, Esq., was called to the chair, and was followed by a few remarks by Mr. Poole who spoke of the "blessed memories of the past."

Mr. Poole was loudly applauded as he took his seat when Messrs. Price, Dr. McCannan, Prof. Campbell, Perry, Thompson, Chapman, and McKim each addressed the company, each speaker referring to some point of interest seen in the term of years Mr. Poole resided among them. A fine three story cake, that remained untouched as yet, with some fine apples, were sent to Mrs. Poole with the kind wishes of all present. The last time Mr. Poole was present his friends presented him with a full purse, they now met him at a well filled table—this does not look like hard times.

It is reported that, in some of the lower provinces, the Confederation scheme is meeting with some opposition. The question is said to be more popular in Canada than in either of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or Prince Edward's Island. The people in these places do not seem fully impressed with the advantages they are supposed to receive from a union of all the B. N. A. Provinces. The fact will serve as a set off against the argument that the maritime provinces have secured immense advantages under the bargain made at Quebec, during the late conference of delegates from the provinces.

Montreal papers state that there is great destitution among the poor in that city this winter. Several of the homes of poverty are without a stove, having no fuel except chips. Some of the members of the families are deeply afflicted, pronounced by the medical gentlemen as in a very precarious state. Many of those families have neither bedstead nor bedstead, no mattress, nor even as much as would make one bundle of straw, and in many cases, not the remnants of a blanket—nothing but one covering. Thirty of such families are lying on the cold floor.

The Legislative Council has adopted the resolutions of the Quebec Conference by a vote of 45 against 15, being a majority of exactly three to one. In the majority will be found the names of several members who had opposed certain details of the Confederation scheme, but who being unable to amend it, preferred to vote for the principle rather than against it. This is the Legislative approval of the scheme; and it will, in all probability, soon be followed by a similar vote of the other House and of some of the other Legislatures.

An exchange paper says that, Americans are still buying up cattle through the country, for the benefit of the Federal markets, and to afford supplies for the Federal army. We have not seen many of them in this part of the country, lately; but we understand that, in other parts of the Province they are driving cattle and horses to the States. A large drove, of between fifty and sixty heads, were, a few days ago, taken across the ice, from Kingston to Cape Vincent. We only hope they will continue taking the cattle and leaving the money. The former can be well spared, at good prices, and the latter will be less expensive to keep and more useful to use, during the rest of the winter and spring.

The Volunteers at Niagara are said to be getting on famously, and to have settled down to the routine of a soldier's life. The officers last week were entertained to a large ball, at which many guests, ladies as well as gentlemen, from Clifton, St. Catharines, Hamilton, and other places were present. It was a brilliant affair. Many veterans of 1812 were present. The men had a march out last week, in regular military style, with advanced guards, band and pioneers.

The Hamilton election has resulted in the return of Mr. Magill by an overwhelming majority over his opponent, Mr. McElroy.

We understand that the Grand Orange Lodge, of Central Canada, had an annual Meeting in the Town Hall, in Perth, on Tuesday, the 21st ultimo, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—John Flanagan, Kingston, Grand Master. Robert R. Smith, Douglas, Deputy G. Master. Robert Crampton, Carleton Place, Associate G. Master.

C. Fleisher, Brockville, Grand Treasurer. Wm. Shannon, Kingston, Grand Secretary. John G. Moore, Belleville, Deputy G. Secretary. Rev. Wm. Burns, Pakenham, Grand Chaplain.

David Marshall, Port Hope, Grand Lecturer. James Percival, Brockville, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

A vote of thanks was given to Brother M. B. Powell, Past Grand Master, (now with his company of Volunteers on the frontier,) for his past services as Grand Master.

The next annual session of the Grand Lodge will be held at Ottawa.

ORANGE FESTIVITIES AT PERTH.—The first evening of the session, a sacred music concert was given by the Church of England ladies, the proceeds of which were devoted to the funds of the church. On the second evening there was a Great Orange Soiree. The capacity and strength of the new and beautiful Town Hall was put to a severe test, the great room being filled in every part. There were nearly one thousand persons present.

The chair was occupied by John Flanagan, Esq., G. M. There were also on the platform the Revs. Wm. Bain and James Scott Mullan, of the Church of Scotland, the Revs. J. R. Duncan and A. Atkin, of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and the Revs. Wm. Burns, Abraham Dawson, Amos E. Russ, and Edward S. Shorey, Wesleyan Methodist. There were also several other clergymen scattered through the hall. The officers and members of the Grand Lodge appeared in their regalia. The Invocation was sung by the ladies, led by Mrs. Seeley. The hymn, "Down on the speakers," because they play continually upon a one-stringed instrument, which gives out but a single sound—"Give." I think the Revs. have hit the nail this time. Everybody that goes to a religious meeting, at least one of the ordinary kind, has made up his mind before he starts what he is going to give, and in most instances it would take more than the eloquence of Demosthenes, not that I imagined he ever addressed a missionary meeting, to make them change the 10 cents for a quarter, or the quarter for a half-dollar. A great many people seem to be under the impression that John Billings utters nothing but the truth, when he says that, "Three-cent pieces were made on purpose to give in charity," and it may be that the enormous number of them in nearly every missionary collection is the chief reason why speakers feel it their duty to urge their hearers to increase liberality. After all, speakers are not much to blame in their efforts to get more money for the cause of Missions. The amount given by most people is, preposterously small, in comparison to their ability.

The Rink still continues to be the great object of attraction in the Village, and parties, lectures and other old established methods of spending the evening, are as long as below par at present. The skaters, both ladies and gentlemen, are improving rapidly, and we have one or two who, in the gracefulness and intrepidity of their motions, are not far behind even the experienced performers of Perth.

I was glad to see by a late copy of the Herald, that you have a Rink, such as it is, in Carleton, and I hope that ere many winters elapse you will have one nearly as good as our own.

About a fortnight ago, we received a very kind invitation from the managers of the Perth Rink, to go to the metropolis for a night's skating, and in compliance with this invitation, last Wednesday week, about thirty of the Smith's Falls people drove up to Perth, and had what is usually so much enjoyed, "a good old time." We reached the Rink about 8 o'clock, and found it crowded with performers and spectators. We were not long in getting our skates strapped on, and mingling with the moving crowd on the ice, which was in prime condition. The Perth people have a very extensive preparation for our reception, the principal feature of which was connected with a small slanty at the corner of the Rink, by the door of which a polite gentleman with a rosette on his bosom had taken his stand. On approaching this corner, the above mentioned gentleman withdrew a curtain and invited me to enter. I entered. The first object which met my eye was a cooking stove, on which were simmering several opacuous vessels filled with a liquid which turned out to be excellent coffee. Another polite gentleman handed me a plate of sandwiches, at the same time recommending me to help myself, and to make myself at home. I helped myself, I didn't make myself at home. It was too early. Not until after eleven did we begin to think of home. I helped myself again, and I passed my cup for some more coffee. It was good. The sandwiches were fair. The Dutch Bells on the ice were magnificent. At the hour I have mentioned we unstrapped our skates, bade our courteous hosts farewell, and perfecting up with our exertions, made our way to the Lewis House, where W. C. himself received us with his usual kindness. And John too, after a short delay, we got our trunks rigged up and started for home, delighted with our trip.

I understand that the managers of the Rideau Rink intend to return the compliment and to invite the Perth people to come down here for a skate. I am sure if they enjoy themselves as well as we did, they will like the snow-dance, "never so good as coming down" in more ways than one, for the inhabitants of a County Town, and the proprietors of a covered Rink, to visit an out-of-the-way village like this, where we have only an open Rink. For all that, I can guarantee that if they come they will get good skating, and lots to eat and drink; and that if they feel as I did the day after my return from Perth, they will have much more pleasure in sitting than walking, for twenty-four hours after their visit to the Falls.

I have nothing more of any importance to mention, except the weather, and I imagine you have heard much the same sort of thing from Carleton, I shall merely mention that the first thaw of the season is putting all our streets in mourning, and filling up every hollow in the surface of the ground with water, which being concealed by a treacherous covering of snow, often surprises the unwary pedestrian into an involuntary foot-bath.

You will easily conceive that when I come to speak about the weather I have exhausted my stock of information. I will therefore add no more, but subscribe myself, Yours truly, S. F.

The Duke of Cambridge has issued an order that all those in Her Majesty's service who were in front of Lucknow in 1857 are to be granted one year's service and pay.

It has been determined that there shall be a National Exhibition at Bombay in the year 1866. A company with a capital of half a million has been formed, and no doubts are entertained of the success of the project.

HAMILTON ELECTION.—Mr. Magill's majority at the close of the contest was 602, the entire vote cast being only 308.

DEAR HERALD.—My fortnight's silence will be, I trust, satisfactorily accounted for by the fact, that I had nothing to write about. I have not yet acquired that facility which has been attained by some correspondents—spinning a long yarn out of nothing. I am studying it however, and I hope ere long by a diligent and systematic perusal of Mr. Sala's letters, and an assiduous attendance at Tea-meetings, to arrive at a solution of the problem, "Nothing to say, and how to say it."

Interesting intelligence is a very scarce commodity in our Town just now, and, will I fear, have nothing of much importance to communicate to you on the present occasion. Men of business are a little more eloquent than usual on the "dull times"; and farmers are looking forward with gloomy forebodings to the time, not far distant for fodder will be used up, and their cattle left to get along as best they can. The short crops of last year, and the unbroken severity of the present winter, have caused a great deficiency of all sorts of feed for stock, and hay is going up in the market. If an early spring is not forthcoming many head of valuable stock will have to be destroyed, and to procure the lives of the others. I was out some distance in the country the other day, and in conversation with a farmer was assured by him that we would have a very early spring. Thinking, that I had met with a man who might furnish me some valuable meteorological information, I inquired on what he based his prophecy. "It must come," he replied, "for we haven't fodder." Satisfactory reason—at least why I ought to come.

We have had during the past month, our fair share of Missionary Meetings, Lectures, &c., and they are not yet all over. On Tuesday last a very large meeting was held in the Union Church at which the very handsome collection of \$37 was realized. The Rev. in last week's article is to be a vulgar expression, "down" on the speakers, because they play continually upon a one-stringed instrument, which gives out but a single sound—"Give." I think the Revs. have hit the nail this time. Everybody that goes to a religious meeting, at least one of the ordinary kind, has made up his mind before he starts what he is going to give, and in most instances it would take more than the eloquence of Demosthenes, not that I imagined he ever addressed a missionary meeting, to make them change the 10 cents for a quarter, or the quarter for a half-dollar. A great many people seem to be under the impression that John Billings utters nothing but the truth, when he says that, "Three-cent pieces were made on purpose to give in charity," and it may be that the enormous number of them in nearly every missionary collection is the chief reason why speakers feel it their duty to urge their hearers to increase liberality. After all, speakers are not much to blame in their efforts to get more money for the cause of Missions. The amount given by most people is, preposterously small, in comparison to their ability.

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I understand that the managers of the Rideau Rink intend to return the compliment and to invite the Perth people to come down here for a skate. I am sure if they enjoy themselves as well as we did, they will like the snow-dance, "never so good as coming down" in more ways than one, for the inhabitants of a County Town, and the proprietors of a covered Rink, to visit an out-of-the-way village like this, where we have only an open Rink. For all that, I can guarantee that if they come they will get good skating, and lots to eat and drink; and that if they feel as I did the day after my return from Perth, they will have much more pleasure in sitting than walking, for twenty-four hours after their visit to the Falls.

I have nothing more of any importance to mention, except the weather, and I imagine you have heard much the same sort of thing from Carleton, I shall merely mention that the first thaw of the season is putting all our streets in mourning, and filling up every hollow in the surface of the ground with water, which being concealed by a treacherous covering of snow, often surprises the unwary pedestrian into an involuntary foot-bath.

You will easily conceive that when I come to speak about the weather I have exhausted my stock of information. I will therefore add no more, but subscribe myself, Yours truly, S. F.

The Duke of Cambridge has issued an order that all those in Her Majesty's service who were in front of Lucknow in 1857 are to be granted one year's service and pay.

It has been determined that there shall be a National Exhibition at Bombay in the year 1866. A company with a capital of half a million has been formed, and no doubts are entertained of the success of the project.

HAMILTON ELECTION.—Mr. Magill's majority at the close of the contest was 602, the entire vote cast being only 308.

DEAR HERALD.—My fortnight's silence will be, I trust, satisfactorily accounted for by the fact, that I had nothing to write about. I have not yet acquired that facility which has been attained by some correspondents—spinning a long yarn out of nothing. I am studying it however, and I hope ere long by a diligent and systematic perusal of Mr. Sala's letters, and an assiduous attendance at Tea-meetings, to arrive at a solution of the problem, "Nothing to say, and how to say it."

Interesting intelligence is a very scarce commodity in our Town just now, and, will I fear, have nothing of much importance to communicate to you on the present occasion. Men of business are a little more eloquent than usual on the "dull times"; and farmers are looking forward with gloomy forebodings to the time, not far distant for fodder will be used up, and their cattle left to get along as best they can. The short crops of last year, and the unbroken severity of the present winter, have caused a great deficiency of all sorts of feed for stock, and hay is going up in the market. If an early spring is not forthcoming many head of valuable stock will have to be destroyed, and to procure the lives of the others. I was out some distance in the country the other day, and in conversation with a farmer was assured by him that we would have a very early spring. Thinking, that I had met with a man who might furnish me some valuable meteorological information, I inquired on what he based his prophecy. "It must come," he replied, "for we haven't fodder." Satisfactory reason—at least why I ought to come.

We have had during the past month, our fair share of Missionary Meetings, Lectures, &c., and they are not yet all over. On Tuesday last a very large meeting was held in the Union Church at which the very handsome collection of \$37 was realized. The Rev. in last week's article is to be a vulgar expression, "down" on the speakers, because they play continually upon a one-stringed instrument, which gives out but a single sound—"Give." I think the Revs. have hit the nail this time. Everybody that goes to a religious meeting, at least one of the ordinary kind, has made up his mind before he starts what he is going to give, and in most instances it would take more than the eloquence of Demosthenes, not that I imagined he ever addressed a missionary meeting, to make them change the 10 cents for a quarter, or the quarter for a half-dollar. A great many people seem to be under the impression that John Billings utters nothing but the truth, when he says that, "Three-cent pieces were made on purpose to give in charity," and it may be that the enormous number of them in nearly every missionary collection is the chief reason why speakers feel it their duty to urge their hearers to increase liberality. After all, speakers are not much to blame in their efforts to get more money for the cause of Missions. The amount given by most people is, preposterously small, in comparison to their ability.

The Rink still continues to be the great object of attraction in the Village, and parties, lectures and other old established methods of spending the evening, are as long as below par at present. The skaters, both ladies and gentlemen, are improving rapidly, and we have one or two who, in the gracefulness and intrepidity of their motions, are not far behind even the experienced performers of Perth.

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It affords us much pleasure to copy the following from the Kingston "News."

HONOR TO A PROFESSOR IN QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.—We have much pleasure in being able to announce that the late British mail brought intelligence of the election of Professor Bell as a Fellow of the Geological Society of London. We believe Professor Bell is the only F.R.S. in this part of Canada, and this distinction is probably one of the results of his late visit to Great Britain, where, as well as in Canada, he is favourably known among scientific men, owing to his valuable services in connection with the Geological survey of this country.

We may also add that Dr. J. A. Grant, of