TO THE PUBLIC.

THE proprietors of *The Weekly Mail* beg to announce that on and after the first of January the annual subscription price will be one dollar and a half.

When the publication of *The Weekly Mail* was commenced, the price was fixed at one dollar, with a view of introducing his paper to as wide a circle of readers, and in as brief a period of time, as possible. The objects sought were attained, for the incredible success of *The Weekly Mail*, followed with great rapidity, until now the number of its readers is counted at fifty thousand. At the same time the proprietors assumed the burden of gratuitously supplying the subscribers to the *Weekly Telegraph*, which was about ceasing to exist, with *The Mail*, which should be at once a substitute for and an improvement upon the paper to which they had paid their subscription. The obligation thus assumed has been fully discharged, and every subscriber to the *Weekly Telegraph* has received *The Weekly Mail* up to the close of his subscription to the former.

A very large, handsome, and carefully prepared journal, such as *The Weekly Mail* is, could not be produced without incurring a heavy expenditure both in money and labour; in point of fact, the material used absorbs nearly the whole of the subscription price. The proprietors were prepared, however, to publish *The Weekly Mail* without pecuniary profit until their engagement with the subscribers to the *Telegraph* had been fully and faithfully performed. They feel that this has been done, and that the time has come when they should seek to place the paper upon a paying basis. The annual subscription will therefore be raised as above stated, one of the first consequences of which will be a marked improvement in the paper, which even at present rates has been proved to be the most popular weekly circulated in this country.

It is hoped and believed that the friends and patrons of the paper will recognize the propriety of our present course, and will redouble their exertions to extend the circulation and strengthen the influence of *The Weekly Mail*.

TO AGENTS.

The terms to Agents and Clubs will be raised *pro rata*, in conformity with the change in price as above announced.

The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, MARCH 1874.

NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the *special address-label* of each paper sent to them shows the date to which their subscription for the current number of the paper up to which their subscription has been paid or is in arrear, in fact, as a date. The current weekly number can readily be ascertained by reference to the volume and number printed on the title page.

We are informed that a person representing himself as a travelling agent of this journal is collecting subscriptions to the *Weekly Mail*, throughout the township of West Gwillimbury and Tecumseth. We have no travelling agent. Numerous friends are interesting themselves in organizing local clubs, and wherever the trouble of making the circulation of the *Weekly Mail*. Such are, of course, either well-known to the locality where they are canvassing or accredited by this office.

THE WEEKLY MAIL.

The attention of our readers is directed to an advertisement on another page, from which will be seen the inducements held out to persons having time or inclination to form Clubs for the circulation of *The Weekly Mail*; a paper specially suited for readers at a distance from Toronto, whether residing in the country parts of Canada, in Great Britain, the United States, or other foreign countries. For cheapness, in comparison with the wealth of information to be gleaned from it, *The Weekly Mail* is in advance of all competitors for popular favour, while the unparalleled success which has followed it since its first publication, is a gratifying evidence of the suitableness of its columns to the tastes of the reading public. No doubt, one cause of the extraordinary rapidity with which *The Weekly Mail* obtained its immense circulation, was that members of the Liberal-Conservative Party, having at heart the furtherance of the cause of Union and Progress, at once became its warmest champions in the country constituencies. Members of Parliament, as well as intending candidates for Parliamentary honours, have not been slow to see that a riding was best prepared for a canvass in the interest of their Party, by the circulation of *The Weekly Mail* among the intelligent voters. Consequently, as a cheap and effective co-operator in the political contests of the season, unusual efforts have been made by Parliamentary candidates to promote the circulation of the paper in the neighbourhood of their own homes. The great and the political history of Canada would indicate the necessity for redoubled energy in the same direction.

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received several letters from friends throughout the country, who are office-bearers in newly formed Liberal-Conservative Associations, or are desirous of forming Associations, asking for information as to the way in which they should proceed, and for copies of the Constitution of the Toronto Association. We take this means of informing our friends who have written us, as well as others who may be in the same position, that we will be glad to get the information they desire by addressing "The Secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, 85 York street, Toronto," who, we have no doubt, will be pleased to give them all the information they may require.

THE CENTRAL PRISON.

THE papers relating to this work, which have just been laid before the Legislature, make a somewhat bulky document. They are of sufficient importance to be printed entire. A cursory glance through them shows that this prison, for which the expiring of the SANDFIELD MACDONALD Government was $150,000, land and building, had had spent upon it up to the 31st December last no less a sum than $226,816.67; and as it will not be completed until June we think we shall not be found to be very far astray in saying that its cost to the Province will be not one cent under $400,000. This is certainly paying rather dear for this particular whistle.

The investigation into Messrs. DICKEY, NEILL & Co.'s account, commenced before the Public Accounts Committee last week, has already progressed sufficiently far to show how the cost of this building has run up so fearfully. The work was given to Mr. DICKEY's firm without tender. Nothing was asked from him but a statement of what certain things would cost. Messrs. MCKELLAR and LANGMUIR—the latter of whom has evinced a marked fondness for being on the side of whatever Government may be in power—did the whole business between them. One cannot well conceive more remarkable testimony than that given before the Committee yesterday by Mr. TULLY, the Engineer and Architect of the Public Works Department, and, as may be supposed from his position, not cheerfully given. Probably were his heart in the work he could supplement the evidence which he gave in cross-examination with statements of even a more damaging character. He has told enough, however, to show how very nearly Mr. MCKELLAR manages these things in the interest of the Government's friends. He was never once spoken to about giving the work to Mr. DICKEY; he was not asked to examine such figures as Mr. DICKEY gave the Commissioner; he had nothing to do with certifying the accounts. First, last and all the time he was as completely ignored as though he were not chief of the Department and the man who should have been consulted by the Commissioner at every step. Can it be supposed that there was no object in these Directors (Mr. TURNER added) 300 times blessed with ordinary common sense will believe that there was not. There was a job to be perpetrated, a careful election scoring back to be rewarded, and therefore, the whole routine of proceedings in such cases had to be considered as of no account whatever. There was no advertising for tenders; no competition was allowed the Engineer of the Department was ignored as completely as though he had no existence; and Mr. MCKELLAR, after the fashion of his kind, has which is as completely without precedent in these latter times as MELCHIZEDEC was without father and mother and descent of days, took the whole matter under his own unscrupulous control. No wonder the Commissioner, who is an honorable man, and that Mr. DICKEY—who is as bitter a Tory as a pack when Cerberus blessed her with his butcher-love, paid for the credit of humanity it is hoped that some of the 256 witnesses examined for the defence will have the manliness to have done with the sin of reverting to manual labour as the means of subsistence. Another version than that given in the case whose fair face the verdict recoils from the horrible imputations cast on it by the cowardly ruffian, who fouly swore to her dishonour before her own face, and in the presence of hundreds who knew her. Lady RADCLIFFE must be more than woman, if she heard the prisoner's doom with any other feeling than one of triumph and devout thankfulness. We have only one more remark to make. We warn would-be clever necessities against making a fetish parade of their own superior clearsightedness by protesting against the verdict. Some idiotic drivellers, it is to be apprehended, will still express their faith in the Claimant, but the question, "Barnum or Bluebeard?" has been definitely and forever settled in the opinion of all sensible men.

THE DOMINION BOARD OF TRADE AND THE TARIFF.

THE tariff discussion of Wednesday in the Dominion Board of Trade ended with the adoption, by a vote of 42 to 12, of a resolution which must be regarded as a substantial triumph for the Protectionists, in a body which has been known strongly on the Free Trade side. Mr. MCPHERSON, of St. John (N. B.), introduced the subject with a resolution to the effect that a duty of fifteen per cent. is fair and reasonable, and that no alteration of the tariff is at present advisable. Mr. GILDERSLEEVE, of Toronto, followed with an amendment, declaring that it is for the interest of the Dominion to consider the revision of the tariff in order to afford employment to immigrants; and that it is, therefore, expedient to lessen the present duties, ranging from twenty per cent. Major WALKER, of London, thought he improved on Mr. MCPHERSON's motion with another amendment, affirming that permanence in the tariff was necessary, and that in the event of increase of duties being necessary it should be upon articles of luxury, which would not interfere with the trade on the Free Trade side were made by Hon. Mr. HOWLAND, of Prince Edward Island; Mr. WOOD, of Hamilton; Mr. FAIRWEATHER, St. John, N. B.; Mr. MCDOUGALL, Windsor, Ont.; Mr. OGILVIE, Montreal; Mr. BURNHAM, Peterboro'; M. GARNEAU, Quebec; Mr. MCLENNAN, Montreal, and Hon. T. R. JOHN; and on the Protectionist side by Mr. THOMAS WHITE (*of the Gazette*), Montreal; Mr. COWAN, Ottawa; Mr. ROBINSON, Galt; Dr. BLAKE, St. Catharines; Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Toronto; Mr. MCDOUGALL, Montreal; Mr. NELSON, St. Catharines; Mr. LARK, Oshawa; Mr. DARIUS, Montreal, and Mr. THOMSON. Major WALKER's amendment was simply the substitution of Free Trade resolutions for another, and its rejection by a vote of 34 to 20 must have been a surprise to the Free Traders, as it was a surprise to us in the Dominion Board. We do not learn from the report that Mr. GILDERSLEEVE's motion was put at all, but we find that Mr. WHITE came in at the wind-up with the following:

"That in view of the large obligations already assumed by the Dominion, and the fact that during the three months of the present fiscal year the expenditure has exceeded the revenue by a considerable sum, it is probable that some revision of the tariff should be made by the Government of the Dominion with some economy during the approaching session of the Canadian Parliament; but if resolved, that in the opinion of this Board the prosecution of the works and other public interests of the country should be embodied in such a revision of the tariff, so as the same be not carried into conflict with the commerce and revenue requirements of the country."

Major WALKER apparently did not like the prospect of protection forced on the Government by the mass of members, and appeared to know upon what authority the statement as to a probable deficit was made. To which Mr. WHITE replied that he had taken the trouble to go through the *Official Gazette*, and made the calculation himself, and that the deficit would be $600,000. At first sight Mr. WHITE's resolution appears to be a compromise between the principle of incidental protection, but, taken in connection with the rejection of Major WALKER's decidedly Free Trade resolution by 34 to 20, its adoption by a vote of 42 to 12 appears an important victory for the Protectionists. It was not so very long ago that the Commons of Canada was asked to pass a resolution affirming that permanence in the tariff was necessary, and that in the event of increase of duties being necessary it should be upon articles of luxury, which would not interfere with the trade on the Free Trade side were made by Hon. Mr. HOWLAND, of Prince Edward Island; Mr. WOOD, of Hamilton; Mr. FAIRWEATHER, St. John, N. B.; Mr. MCDOUGALL, Windsor, Ont.; Mr. OGILVIE, Montreal; Mr. BURNHAM, Peterboro'; M. GARNEAU, Quebec; Mr. MCLENNAN, Montreal, and Hon. T. R. JOHN; and on the Protectionist side by Mr. THOMAS WHITE (*of the Gazette*), Montreal; Mr. COWAN, Ottawa; Mr. ROBINSON, Galt; Dr. BLAKE, St. Catharines; Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Toronto; Mr. MCDOUGALL, Montreal; Mr. NELSON, St. Catharines; Mr. LARK, Oshawa; Mr. DARIUS, Montreal, and Mr. THOMSON. Major WALKER's amendment was simply the substitution of Free Trade resolutions for another, and its rejection by a vote of 34 to 20 must have been a surprise to the Free Traders, as it was a surprise to us in the Dominion Board. We do not learn from the report that Mr. GILDERSLEEVE's motion was put at all, but we find that Mr. WHITE came in at the wind-up with the following:

"That in view of the large obligations already assumed by the Dominion, and the fact that during the three months of the present fiscal year the expenditure has exceeded the revenue by a considerable sum, it is probable that some revision of the tariff should be made by the Government of the Dominion with some economy during the approaching session of the Canadian Parliament; but if resolved, that in the opinion of this Board the prosecution of the works and other public interests of the country should be embodied in such a revision of the tariff, so as the same be not carried into conflict with the commerce and revenue requirements of the country."

Major WALKER apparently did not like the prospect of protection forced on the Government by the mass of members, and appeared to know upon what authority the statement as to a probable deficit was made. To which Mr. WHITE replied that he had taken the trouble to go through the *Official Gazette*, and made the calculation himself, and that the deficit would be $600,000. At first sight Mr. WHITE's resolution appears to be a compromise between the principle of incidental protection, but, taken in connection with the rejection of Major WALKER's decidedly Free Trade resolution by 34 to 20, its adoption by a vote of 42 to 12 appears an important victory for the Protectionists. It was