

**QUEBEC LEGISLATURE.**—The Legislature of Quebec was prorogued on Tuesday last by the Lieutenant-Governor, who, after sanctioning a number of bills passed, delivered the following speech:—

*Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,—  
Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I am happy in being able to congratulate you in the name of our gracious sovereign on the result of your labours and on the harmony with which you have examined and discussed the important questions submitted to your consideration. Although you have deemed it incumbent upon you to defer the formal adoption of the municipal code to another session, the zeal with which you have investigated this measure, and the solicitude manifested by you in regard to it, lead me to hope that the work will be thereby rendered more complete, and that it will thus hold out more ample security to the inhabitants of our rural districts.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—*

I thank you in the name of Her Majesty for the liberality with which you have voted the supplies.

I have observed with pleasure that you have devoted your attention to a provision for the better accommodation of the Public Departments.

*Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,—*

Your devotion to our gracious sovereign and to the constitution to which we are subject, will, I have no doubt, insure me your assistance in the execution of the laws and in the administration of the Government.

I earnestly pray for the success of your exertions in the public behalf, for your own prosperity, and for the welfare of your families.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

*To the Editor of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.*

SIR,—Please allow a subscriber to furnish you with a pleasing item of news for your "Canadian Illustrated" from the above tight little Isle of the Sea, with the inhabitants of which your Dominion folks are so very eager to shake hands at the present time. The splendid harbour of Georgetown, in King's County, the most capacious and safe in the Gulf of St. Lawrence at all seasons, and now as free from ice as in the month of July, on the 19th inst. invitingly called on the Regatta Club of that ilk to embrace its waters, and this spirited Club, accepting the invitation so lovingly given, at once had the good old flag, the "Union Jack," reared at the extremity of the Queen's Wharf, there displaying its graceful folds to the breeze.

Men, boats, flags, and oars, were the order of the day, when all being ready, at 2 p. m. the first race was started by a signal gun; two four-oared boats started in this race from the Queen's Wharf to a boat moored three-quarters of a mile across the harbour to Montague side; this was a splendid race, well contested, and won by Messrs. A. A. Macdonald & Bros.' boat, by one length, in seven minutes. Second race: five two-oared boats started; this was a glorious race,—the sun shone forth in splendour on the line of marshalled boats, the elastic spring of whose rowers, as the signal gun fired, made their prows rise in homage to the occasion; four boats rounded the distance boat, competing the race to the last; this race was again won by Messrs. Macdonald's boat.

A sculling race terminated the sports of the day: five scullers started to round a vessel anchored five hundred yards off; the contest in this race was eager, and great energy displayed by the scullers; the race was won by Mr. Wm. Allan, pilot.

A number of ladies and gentlemen promenaded the Queen's Wharf during the afternoon, and appeared to enjoy a scene so rarely to be viewed at this season of the year in these parts.

The Georgetown harbour must be the station where the fall and winter communication with the "Dominion" will be established, and where the Eastern Terminus of the Trunk Railroad of Prince Edward Island (to be), will be located.

Yours, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

GEORGETOWN, P. E. I., January, 1870.

#### THE TRUE MISSION OF AN EDITOR.

In an obituary notice of the late George D. Prentice, the New York Times says:—

"The true journal is no longer a personal organ. Personal journalism has only a limited mission. When a man considers that because he is the editor of a powerful newspaper, he must, of necessity, make it the echo of his anger, his hopes, his ambitions and his disappointments,—his influence is feeble and purposeless. An editor is to the paper he controls what the governor is to the commonwealth. He is its minister, not its master, and must govern it with wisdom and prudent consideration for the rights of others, remembering that there are always higher and nobler aims than any individual whim or prejudice. We see in England, and the time has come when we are beginning to see in America, that there can be no powerful and respected journalism that is not impersonal, and that no editor can fully do his work unless he is independent, untrammelled, and above all party influences. The editor sees that his mission is infinitely superior to that of any other profession, and that it is his privilege to command respect and obedience."

Sir Walter Scott, in a foot-note to one of his metrical romances, narrates the following characteristic Scottish anecdote.—An old woman, residing in Fifeshire, lamenting her desolate condition to one of her neighbors, death having been very busy in her household, thus relates her bereavements:—"Four years ago I lost my daughter, fine sonsie (Stout) lassie; the next year, my son, a really wieslike (Handsome) lad, was ta'en frae me; the year after that, my guidman (Husband) departed this life, and that was a sair grief and tribulation to me; an' last year oor coo deed, but, I am thankful to say, I was able to sell its hide, an' that brocht me fifteen shillings!"

#### ANOTHER STORY ABOUT THE POPE.

Stories about the Pope are numerous now-a-days, the presence of so many newspaper correspondents at Rome causing the publication of a great variety of anecdotes which would, perhaps, otherwise have never seen the light. Mr. Hurlburt, of the New York World, in his last letter to that journal, relates the following:—"Apropos of the curse of Babel, I must tell you here a story of the Pope and one of his Oriental bishops, which, if not true, is apt, but which I have reason to believe well founded. Pope Pius IX., as you know, has a keen eye for harmony in form as well as a quick sense of the humorous. When the Oriental bishops were presented to him, one of their number came up so deplorably hideous, such a caricature of a man, so small and weakened, and seamed and scarred, and tinted and wry, that it was beyond human nature to look upon him undisturbed. 'What language does this one speak?' asked the Pope, in amazement. 'None but his own, your Holiness!' responded the Cardinal Camerlengo, 'none but his own; he can scarcely speak a few words even of Latin.' 'Ah! said the Pope, and, bending forward, with a gracious smile, he extended his hand to be osculated by the doleful little Syrian, murmuring gently as he did so, 'Voi siete bene il piu brutto figlio di Gesu Cristo che mai ho veduto,' which, being interpreted, is, 'You are certainly the very ugliest son of Jesus Christ that ever I have beheld.' The sweet Tuscan words, the gentle smile, and the sacred name, doubtless sent the poor little man away as happy as if he had received the most elaborate of conventional benedictions."

#### A WOMAN WITH ARTIFICIAL HANDS AND FEET.

On Saturday evening several distinguished members of the medical and surgical profession assembled at the house of Mr. Heather Bigg, in Wimpole Street, to inspect one of those cases in which art has endeavoured to replace the ravages of disease. A Scotch woman, named Anderson, was seized in the course of last summer with gangrene in the hands and feet, and the amputation of all four extremities became necessary. The operation was performed at Dundee, and the woman was subsequently sent to London. Whilst here, the case came under the notice of Mr. Heather Bigg, and he volunteered to supply her with artificial hands and feet. This work was accomplished about a fortnight since, and those who assembled on Saturday evening came to witness the success of an experiment unique in its way, as the instance of an individual losing all four extremities is believed to be without a parallel in the records of medical science. Although not as yet habituated to the hands with which science has supplied her, Mrs. Anderson was, nevertheless, able to use a knife and fork, to write a fair legible hand, and even to crochet. By an ingenious contrivance she is enabled to exercise that prehensile power with the fingers and thumbs which anatomical mechanicians have so long sought in vain to secure. As to her feet and ankles, when she stands erect they might challenge, in respect to beauty, the criticism of the most severe, whilst as regards utility, it is sufficient to say that she can walk with ease supported on the arm of a friend, and it is confidently expected that when, in a few weeks' time, she has become habituated to the use of her new feet, she will be enabled to walk without assistance. Those who were present expressed their satisfaction at the success of this novel experiment in the application of the science of orthopraxy.—*London Morning Post.*

**PRINCE ARTHUR AND THE LATE DR. ROBERT LEE.**—In May, 1864, the late distinguished minister of old Greyfriars and Professor of Bible criticism in the University, Edinburgh, was summoned by the Queen to officiate in Crathie parish church. In his "Life and Remains," recently published, his biographer, the Rev. R. H. Story, of Roseneath, relates the following incident in connection with this occasion:—"Talking to me, afterwards, of the members of the Royal Family whom he met, he specially mentioned Prince Arthur, who had been at Balmoral at this time. Dr. Lee said that after breakfast he had gone out to smoke a cigar, and was trying to strike a light, when he was joined by the Prince at the door. The match missed fire, and he was looking about for something on which to strike it again, when Prince Arthur, taking it from him, struck it on the sole of his boot, and handed it back, duly lighted. Dr. Lee, thanking his Royal Highness, said he would remember this lesson in match lighting, and jokingly added, that when his biography came to be written it should be recorded that his cigar at Balmoral was lighted for him by Prince Arthur; whereat the Prince had laughed, and said he would be glad to have his name associated with Dr. Lee's in that or any other way."

#### NEW ASTRONOMICAL THEORIES.

The New York Citizen and Round Table says:

An accomplished astronomer, one Dr. P. E. Trastour de Varano, has published a book in which he deliberately proceeds to upset the universe; or what amounts to the same thing, he completely crushes Copernicus, and annihilates Newton. As will be seen from the following summary of the conclusions to which he has arrived, he has proved that everybody who has previously written on astronomy has been guilty of the most atrocious errors. We are not clear as to what theory he has built up in the place of those which he has destroyed, and we are a little uneasy as to the position of the earth, now that the new celestial law-giver has shown that it neither revolves around the sun, nor is revolved about by that excellent luminary. However, we trust it will manage to maintain its present condition for the remainder of our natural lives. After the end of that period, Dr. Trastour de Varano may do as he likes with it. Here are his conclusions:

Contrary to the teachings of the system of Copernicus, the only one that now gives law to astronomy, the sun is not placed in the centre of the planetary system, and the earth and the planets do not revolve annually around that luminary.

Contrary to the belief in the system of Ptolemy, the earth is not situated in the centre of the universe, and the sun and the planets do not accomplish their annual revolutions by revolving around it.

Contrary to the system of Tycho Brahe, the earth is not motionless in the centre of the planetary system, and the sun does not revolve annually around our globe, carrying with it, in its revolution, all the planets that circulate around it.

Contrary to the doctrine of the astronomers of our days, the orbit of the earth and the orbits of the planets are circles and

not ellipses—Kepler having mistaken illusions for realities in ascribing to the ellipse a power in space which it does not and cannot possess.

Contrary to their doctrine, the moon does not revolve around the earth while the latter is said to revolve around the sun.

Contrary to their doctrine, the earth, the moon and the planets pursue their course continually in the plane of the ecliptic and never go out of it.

Contrary to their doctrine, the diminution of the obliquity of the ecliptic is a chimerical idea.

Contrary to their doctrine, the precession of the equinoxes, upon which the most important works of modern astronomy are based, is something that does not exist.

Contrary to their doctrine, the equinoctial points and the solstices always preserve their same positions.

Contrary to their doctrine, the terrestrial meridian varies annually, and the latitudes and the starting point of longitudes change from year to year.

Contrary to their doctrine, our civil year is not of constantly equal duration, as their almanacs represent it. There is never a year of duration equal to the one that preceded or follows it.

Contrary to their doctrine, the Gregorian rectification was founded on no astronomical basis. Instead of preventing it has augmented confusion; at a future day Easter will come round again in the middle of Spring, although the almanacs will call it Winter, if they persist in keeping the 21st day of March as the date of the Spring equinox.

Contrary to their doctrine the climates of the earth are not nearly invariable, but are subject to extreme vicissitudes.

Contrary to their doctrine, the stars have a general movement that carries them from West to East.

Contrary to their doctrine, at a future day the sun, the plane, the moon and the stars will rise in the West and set in the East.

Contrary to their doctrine, the dimensions, distances and movements of the planetary bodies, as set forth in their compilations and tables, possess no reality whatever; for they have been determined without taking into account one of the most indispensable conditions.

Contrary to their doctrine, no comet ever precipitates itself into any sun whatever in the realms of space, or can in any event come into collision with the earth.

Contrary to their doctrine, Kepler's laws are but pure illusions. It is only necessary to study them experimentally in order to recognize the fact that they have not the least connection with the fundamental law of celestial mechanism.

Contrary to their doctrine, Newton's theory of gravitation offers neither evidence nor probability. It is a fantastic commentary, built upon the chimerical ideas of Kepler, radically foreign to all mathematical truth and even transgressing the limits of common sense. Newton stepped beyond the sphere of the difficult only to enter into impossibilities.

The Newfoundland papers contain accounts of the murder of a young girl, named Miss Elfrida Pike, aged about sixteen years, on the road leading to a place called Mosquito, near Harbour Grace. Miss Pike was seen at five o'clock on Wednesday, Jan. 5, on her way to Harbour Grace; at six she called at a shop and purchased some trifling articles for the kitchen, which were afterwards found upon her person. At half-past six or seven she was seen on the Mosquito road, in company with a young man, whose identity is unknown, and was not again seen until her mutilated corpse was discovered on the road side. The evening of the murder was mild and bright. About nine the wind veered to the northward, accompanied by snow showers. The murder must have been committed before the change, as the poor girl's hat, itself slightly covered by snow, rested on dry grass. Although several persons had passed and repassed the spot the same night and the next morning, the murder was not discovered until the sun melted the snow off the road, revealing a pool of blood resulting from the last savage act of the hell-bound, who there completed his work. Eight wounds of frightful character marked her head and face. The lower jaw was broken by a compound fracture, three teeth were knocked out and two loosened in their sockets; a cut over the chin laid it open to the jaws; another wound perforated the lower lip. All these wounds seemed to have been made by some blunt instrument, such as a stone. Apparently, these wounds were inflicted on the side of the road, as shown by the blood stains, when the murderer may have dragged the body into the road and then cut the throat from ear to ear, the right end of the wound being marked by five distinct cuts, and the left by three, all apparently inflicted by a sharp instrument. Having waited until all the blood had flowed from the body, the murderer drew it to the opposite side of the road, and placed it behind a large stone. Miss Pike's moral character, known to be perfectly free from stain, was, on the evidence of the medical examination, pure and unsullied. She was a regular attendant at the Wesleyan Church and punctual in the Sunday school. On Sunday, 9th, her remains were followed to the grave by an immense concourse of sympathizing friends, the funeral being from the house of her grandmother, in Bear's Cove.

Temperature in the shade for the week ending February 2, 1870, observed by John Underhill, Consulting and Practical Optician, 387 Notre Dame Street, (next to Chas. Alexander & Son.)

	MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.
Thursday, Jan. 27.....	38°	22°	30°
Friday, " 28.....	38°	16°	27°
Saturday, " 29.....	32°	6°	19°
Sunday, " 30.....	30°	23°	26° 5
Monday, " 31.....	20°	—4°	6°
Tuesday, Feby. 1.....	24°	8°	16°
Wednesday, " 2.....	8°	—6°	1°

#### CHESS.

##### SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 3.

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|---|---------------------|
| <i>White.</i>                           | <i>Black.</i>       |
| 1. P. takes Kt.                         | P. takes Q. (best). |
| 2. R. takes R.                          | Either P. moves.    |
| 3. R. checks.                           | B. takes R.         |
| 4. P. to Q. Kt. 7th, dis. ch. and mate. |                     |