

Guelph Evening Mercury.

VOL. 1. NO. 206.

GUELPH ONT., CANADA, THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 12, 1868.

PRICE ONE PENNY

The Guelph Mercury
DAILY AND WEEKLY.
OFFICE: - - - EAST MACDONNELL STREET
McLAGAN AND INNES,
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

The EVENING MERCURY
CONTAINING the latest News by Telegraph up to the hour of going to press, is published at 2 o'clock every afternoon (Sunday excepted), and mailed to all parts of the country by the evening mails on the following

TERMS:—Single copy, one cent; 3 months, \$1; 6 months, \$2; Single do 1 week 10c.
Copies may also be had of the News boys on the streets, price one penny. Town subscribers are supplied at their respective residences. In addition to the Telegraph News given in **The Evening Mercury** will be found a vast amount of Local News, interesting articles on all the leading topics of the day. Special care will be taken to give CORRECT MARKET REPORTS. Every Business Man should read it.

"The Weekly Mercury"
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

IS THE LARGEST COUNTRY NEWSPAPER in the DOMINION, containing 40 columns of reading matter. Special care is devoted to **The Weekly Mercury**, and care is taken that none but the best and most select reading appears in its columns. It is the **Great Family Paper of Ontario**, and the unprecedented additions to its subscription list within the last two years, and the demand still increasing, is a certain guarantee that our assertion is correct. Our facilities now for getting up a First-Class Weekly are unrivalled by even the metropolitan press, and we are determined not to relax our energies.

Letters containing money, properly registered, will be at our risk.

TO ADVERTISERS.
Business men will find the EVENING and WEEKLY MERCURY to be unrivalled advertising mediums, as their respective publications are in advance of any others in North Western Canada, and is the only means by which extensive settlements can be reached by the judicious advertiser.
Advertising rates are very moderate, and may be learned on application at the office.

Book and Job Printing,
Printed on short notice, at reasonable rates, and in the best style of the Art. Having every facility at our command, in this department, we defy competition as to style, quality and price.
McLAGAN & INNES, Publishers.
Office:—Macdonnell Street, East of the Golden Lane, Guelph, Ontario.
October 29, 1867. daw-1f.

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON
MARKET SQUARE,
GUELPH, ONT.
THE Subscriber begs to inform the public that he has leased the above premises for a term of years, and has refitted it in a very superior and substantial manner, and hopes to share a portion of the patronage of the public.

THE BAR
will be supplied with the

Best Wines, Liquors and Cigars
And the table with all the delicacies of the season. In fact no expense will be spared to make it a first-class establishment.

LUNCHEON!
Every day from 1 to 5 o'clock.

OYSTERS AND GAME,
Etc. Dinner and Supper parties provided on short notice, at reasonable charges.

JOHN MILLER, Proprietor.
Late of the Commercial Hotel, Whittly.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.
Guelph, Jan. 29, 1868. do-1f

DOMINION SALOON,
(LATE GRANDS' SHADERS SALOON.)

OPPOSITE THE MARKET,
GUELPH.

CHOICE LIQUORS, Cigars, Oysters, &c., &c.,
Always on hand. Meals furnished at all hours.
DENIS BUNYAN.
Guelph, December 2, 1867. dawly

ALLAN'S
Barber SHOP.
IN THE BASEMENT OF

Castle Garden SALOON,
West Market Square.

SHAVING,
HAIR CUTTING,
SHAMPOONING, and
HAIR COLOURING,
Done in First-Class Style.

Making and doing up Curls for Ladies.
Guelph, February 6th. d1m

500 Tons
Of best Ground Paris and Caledonia

PLASTER!

For sale by the subscriber Five Hundred Tons of best ground Paris and Caledonia Plaster. As the above was ordered when the prices were low, farmers had better send in their orders at once, and get the benefit.

THE LOW PRICES.
Apply at the old stand, near the Railway crossing.
GEO. BALKWILL.
Guelph, 19th Feb, 1868.

SURROGATE COURT.

NOTICE is hereby given that an application will be made to the Judge of the Surrogate Court of the County of Wellington, on the 14th day of March next, for the appointment of Angus McKinnon, of the Township of Erin, gentleman, to be Guardian of Archibald McKinnon, an Infant.
D. GUTHRIE,
Solicitor.
Guelph, Feb. 16, 1868.

THE SPRING TRADE.
Advertisers will reach a large class of readers by inserting their business announcements in this paper. Our daily and weekly editions are double those of our contemporaries.

Evening Mercury.
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.
THURSDAY EV'G. MARCH 12, 1868.

PIANO TUNING.—All orders left at Cuthbert's will be attended to by Mr. Rish, Nordheimer's Tuner.

FIRE AT BRANTFORD.—A fire occurred at Brantford on Wednesday evening last which destroyed the tannery of Mr. M. Ott. Loss about \$3,500; insurance \$700.

On Sunday morning about two o'clock, a cattle train on the Great Western Railway near Chatham ran off the track. Sixteen animals were injured, nine of which died shortly after. The loss cannot be less than \$1000.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE-MAN.—Remember that Mason's Dramatic Company have returned to Guelph, and that they are to appear this (Thursday) evening in the great moral drama of the "Ticket-of-Leave-Man," which created such a profound sensation in both London and New York.

UNITED SERVICE GAZETTE.—This is the name of a new journal, published at Ottawa, and devoted to the interests of the passed cadets of the military schools, the volunteer and service militia, and the naval forces of the Dominion. The first number is of good promise.

FLOODS NEAR BRANTFORD.—The Cock-shutt Flatts, near Brantford, are entirely submerged in water and floating ice. The residents had to be removed to town in boats. One bridge has been carried away, and it is feared others will follow it. Cattle and pigs are going down on cakes of ice, like the bold, adventurous coote that went out to sea in its nest.

ENTIRE HORSE SHOW.—The South Wellington and Guelph Township Agricultural Society will hold their annual Entire Horse Show on the Upper Market, Guelph, on Wednesday the 1st of April, at 11 o'clock, a. m., when the following premiums will be awarded:—Best Horse for general purposes, \$10; 2nd do, \$5; best heavy draught Horse, \$10; 2nd do, \$5.

The Ottawa Times promises any quantity of work to laborers, mechanics and artisans during the coming season. It says the walls and roof of the new St. Patrick's Church are contracted for at \$16,000. There is also a prospect of their being about ten thousand dollars spent on the Scotch Church; and there will be numerous private residences put up during the summer.

EASTER FAT CATTLE SHOW.—The annual Easter Fat Cattle Show in connection with the Agricultural Societies of South Wellington and Guelph township will be held at Guelph, on Wednesday, the 1st of April. The cattle are divided into four classes according to age and sex, and there are three prizes in each class of \$3, \$2 and \$1, for the three best animals. Sheep are divided into three classes, with two prizes of \$2, and \$1 for the first, and second best animals in each class. The Secretary, George Murton Esq., will be in attendance at Miller's Saloon on the morning of the Show to take entries.

The "Weekly Mercury"
Containing 40 columns of matter, published every Thursday, March 12 is a capital number. Every item of local interest is given, as well as a good amount of general reading matter. Be sure and get a copy and send it to your friends. For sale at the bookstores, and at the office of publication.

NEW DOMINION MONTHLY.—The March number of this Canadian magazine has been received from the publishers, John Dougall & Son, Montreal. It contains, as usual, selections of the purest literature, most of which is original. Nothing injurious to the intellect or morals of readers is ever to be found within its pages. The publishers are desirous of securing canvassers for the *New Dominion Monthly* in every county and township, and any one willing to engage in such a work may learn the terms by applying, with suitable credentials, to John Dougall & Son, Montreal.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday last a young lad named George Hunter came to his death at Ingersoll by a bank overhanging a creek falling upon him while he was repairing the pipes leading to the water from a spring. He was discovered by the wife of the cabinet maker with whom he was an apprentice, and extricated by the workmen from the shop. It is not known yet whether he was killed or drowned, as he was found in the water with an enormous quantity of earth on him.

Insure before Fifth April
With the Life Association of Scotland.
Agent for Guelph,
WILLIAM SMITH, Manager Gore Bank.

French Canadian Missionary Society.

The annual meeting of the above missionary society was held last (Wednesday) night in the Congregational Church. The attendance was but small. The Rev. W. S. Ball occupied the chair. The Rev. W. F. Clarke opened the proceedings with devotional exercises, and the Rev. George Wood engaged in prayer.

Mr. Ball, on behalf of the Committee, said they were unable to present a report of the operations of the Branch Society in Guelph, or the amount of contributions.—The collectors, on account of the late stormy weather and the state of the roads had been unable yet to make their annual visitations. He hoped that within the next two or three weeks the yearly subscriptions would be all in, and that they would exhibit a gratifying increase. To night they would have the pleasure of hearing from the Agent what the Society was doing, how the noble work of evangelizing their deluded brethren in Lower Canada was progressing. Our duty in regard to this Society was plain and clear. It was certainly to us in Canada the most important Christian mission in which the public was engaged, and there many reasons why we should not slacken in our efforts. There was no abatement or want of zeal on the part of the Romanists of Lower Canada, of which any one who travelled through that country had ample proofs. The speaker referred to his visit to Lower Canada, and the Lower Provinces last summer, where the fruits of the teachings of the Church of Rome were plainly visible in the prostration of intellect, and the abject ignorance which characterized its inhabitants. Looking at the matter in its religious aspect the baneful effects of Popery were even more apparent. In its political aspect also one could fail to notice that its tendency was to destroy freedom of opinion, and independent action. He illustrated this by detailing what he saw and heard while visiting the Lower Provinces last summer. Another noticeable feature in the Popery of the present day was that now the ablest men in Lower Canada were joining the priesthood. Formerly this was not so, but now men of the most perfect refinement and of the highest education were devoting themselves to the work. In view of this, it was our duty also to give our most talented youth to the work of the ministry, and for evangelizing, and also to give of our means to maintain and increase the usefulness of such a Society as the French Canadian Missionary Society.

The Rev. W. F. Clarke moved that the office bearers and collectors be re-appointed. Apart from others, there was good reason why they should do this, as the collectors had been unable to complete their work. He then went on to state some reasons why we should give our hearty co-operation and assistance to this Society. The people among whom its agents labored were our fellow subjects. On the ground therefore of humanity—to say nothing of Christian duty—and of our desire to see the Dominion of Canada prosper, we should take an interest in the operations of this Society. Popery was irrepressible in its character. It had an extraordinary vitality, and the means and tactics it employed were legion in number. And though the efforts of the Society were on a limited scale, still we had no reason to be discouraged; God had so far blessed its labors, and we looked hopefully forward to the time when it would be able to do more. It was our duty to do all in our power to aid it, to seek for God's blessing on its efforts, for they were assured that while engaged in such a work their labor was not in vain.

The Rev. Geo. Wood seconded the motion in a few appropriate remarks, in which he showed how the Gospel elevated men politically, morally, socially and religiously, while Romanism kept them in ignorance and poverty, and retarded progress.

The Rev. Mr. Byrne, the Agent of the Society, was then introduced, and made an excellent speech, replete with interesting facts in regard to the operations of the Society. He referred to the deep interest taken in this mission in Montreal, as evidenced by the immense crowds who turned out to attend the annual meetings. There the valuable work it was accomplishing was well understood, and there the fruits of its labors were made more apparent. Last year nearly \$5000 were collected in Montreal alone for the mission. It was true the Society had as yet been unable to occupy but a very small part of the immense field in Lower Canada over which the Church of Rome held her sway. There were in the Province of Quebec nearly a million Catholics, about 900 priests, and an almost equal number of other ecclesiastics, and to these might be added the various active agencies which were at work in order to retain the people in the servile position they were in to that church. Compared with these the agents of the Society were but a mere handful, and the only wonder was that they had been able to do so much. The Society had twenty-five men engaged in mission work, eighteen of whom were colporteurs, who during the past year had travelled through the different counties and distributed 1250 copies of the Scriptures, and over 12,000 tracts and books. They had also converted freely with the people, and thereby made a deep impression on many of them. The glim-ming feature of the Society was a most interesting one. At the Point-aux-Trembles school there were 49 boys and 31 girls, who daily read the scriptures and committed portions of them to memory. At the Grenville School there were

twenty-nine pupils, half of whom were the children of Roman Catholic parents. At this school the children were only day scholars, but at the Point-aux-Trembles Institution the pupils were entirely under the control of the School Teachers. In the Theological class at Montreal there were two young men studying for the ministry, 2 fitting themselves for colporteurs, and 1 for a teacher. As regards stations, they had a fine church in Montreal, which was largely attended. There was also a book depository and a library. Five young men were engaged as colporteurs in the city and their success was most cheering. Then there were other mission stations, such as Joliet, Grenville, &c., over which were placed zealous and prayerful men. Since the Society began its operation it had circulated 30,000 copies of the Scriptures, 100,000 tracts and books, 1700 hundred youth had been educated, and 6 churches had been established. He referred to the interest taken in the mission in Great Britain, and to his success in collecting contributions when on a visit there. The Guelph Auxiliary Society had last year contributed \$114 to the funds, and he hoped that this year they would raise their contributions to \$150. He closed by asking them to take an increased interest in the great and good work in which the Society was engaged.

A collection was then taken up, and the proceedings were brought to a close by singing a hymn, and pronouncing the benediction.

Mount Forest Correspondence.
From our Correspondent.

Still the all-absorbing topic in this region of country is the railroads; the rival schemes are very freely discussed, and now the general verdict seems to be that the principal representatives of the County of Wellington should, at their earliest convenience, assemble in council and do away (if legal) with the several municipal bonuses, and at once substitute for the same a county bonus. This policy, if adopted by the County Council, would enable the railway company to dispose of their debentures more readily and at an advanced figure. It would most certainly relieve responsible parties from blame in the location of the line, and at once hush all party squabbles and local jealousies for ever; the company (as now) would not be compelled to send representatives all over the country persuading men to perform an act which would benefit themselves and posterity after them—for there are many men in this section who will not believe you if you tell them you have a guinea in your purse. You must first make them sensible of the tangible fact by showing them the guinea; then, and not until then, will they believe you.—They will say you are a nice gentleman, and talk very well, but they will invariably fall back on some side issue; for instance, as the ratepayers of the township of Arthur did when voting on the Railway By-law. Moreover, the above policy would be a most righteous and a most good one, as it would give the company, as assembled, because a very large majority of the intelligent ratepayers of the county have already shown by their votes that they are willing to pay down their cash for the benefits that a railroad would confer upon them, as merchants, farmers and working men in general; and the copper-plate who are in the minority would, at some future day, bless the man who gave them a railway through this splendid country. Gentlemen from Toronto are expected here on the 24th inst., in the interest of the narrow gauge line. There is no doubt but they will push their enterprise with energy and ability, therefore it is incumbent on all persons interested in the immediate construction of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway to be up and doing, whilst their chances are so good, else they may sustain serious injury, if not irreparable loss. On Sunday evening last the inhabitants of our good village assembled in force to witness the effect of a local inundation which rushed upon us from the easterly side of the village, breaking through snow drifts and other obstructions. At once the floods came rushing down on Main street, submerging several stores and tenements to a considerable depth, the water covering the first flat. One merchant had \$500 worth of goods destroyed, and threatens the corporation with an action for the damages sustained. Every person did what they could towards the saving of property, and worked with a right good will till sundown, when the waters abated, giving the dripping victims of the turbulent element a chance to light their fires and repair damages in injury, if not irreparable loss. The Road & Bridge Committee got on a gang of men who plied the axe and shovel vigorously until the channels proper were opened and the water allowed to pass on its way rejoicing.

Mount Forest, March 10, 1868.

Erin Township Council.

A meeting of the above Council was held in the Town Hall on the 2nd inst. at 11 o'clock. Reeve in the chair. Members present, Messrs. Berry, McMillan and Gibson. Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Gibson, that the Council go into committee of the whole on By-Law No. 3, granting Certificates of License.—Carried. Council in committee Mr. D. McMillan in the chair. The By-Law filled up. Committee rose. Council resumed business. On motion, the By-Law was read a third time and passed. The Council adjourned for one hour. Council in session, Mr. D. McMillan moved and Mr. Gibson seconded that the claim of John Harper for sheep killed by dogs amounting to \$14.35, including expenses, be paid carried. On motion the Finance Committee met and reported as follows. Your Committee beg leave to report that they had under consideration petitions from indigent persons and would recommend that Alex. Frazier be paid \$3, Mrs. Dohi \$4, Thomas Price \$4, Betsy McFarlane \$3, Wm. Cox \$3. Your committee would also recommend the payment of fifty cents for ink keepers certificates. All of which respectfully submitted. Wm. Cox, Chairman. Mr. D. McMillan moved, and Mr. Gibson seconded, that the Finance Committee's report be accepted. Carried. Mr. D. McMillan moved and Mr. Gibson seconded, that the petition of George Beswick, and others, be laid over until next meeting of Council, on account of the absence of Mr. C. McMillan, carried. Mr. D. McMillan moved and Mr. Berry seconded, that this Council adjourn and remain adjourned until Monday, the 9th inst. Carried.

WM. TYLER, Town Clerk.

County Court and Quarter Sessions.

COURT HOUSE, March 11.
THE QUEEN vs. WM. MURPHY.—The prisoner, who is a tavern keeper on the York Road, was placed on trial for an assault on Thos. Dean, with intent to rob. The particulars of this case as set forth by Dean will be remembered, as they appeared in the *Mercury* at the time Murphy and his wife were brought before the Police Magistrate. According to the prosecutor's tale at that time, he was taken to the tavern by one Duffy, and after being detained there for some time against his will, was, without provocation, assaulted by Duffy, stretched stunned on the floor, while his assailant and Murphy both searched his pockets. The witnesses for the defence on the other hand showed that Murphy was a respectable man, and governed his house well; that Dean was the worst of liars and misbehaved badly; that he and Duffy had a quarrel, that the latter struck him with a chair; and that the landlord had nothing whatever to do with the altercation. Verdict "not guilty." Mr. Peterson for the Crown; Mr. McCurry for the defence.

McGill et al vs. Laing.—This was an action brought by William Laing to recover the amount of a promissory note, \$250 and interest, from Peter McGill and George Hurd, executors of the last will and testament of Robert Laing. The defence set up was, that the note was a forgery. The jury thought it was and gave a verdict for defendants. Mr. McLennan for plaintiff; Mr. Guthrie for defendants.

Mooney vs. Ballantyne et al.—This was an action of trover for some bark that had been taken off the premises of the plaintiff. The defendants were John Ballantyne and Gardner Crawford. Thos. Ballantyne a son of the first defendant had peeled the bark and was brought before a magistrate, by the plaintiff, charged with trespass. When the information was read to him he pleaded guilty, and before anything further was done the parties settled the matter, plaintiff agreeing to keep the bark and pay the young man \$1 per cord for his labour in peeling it, the money to be paid when the bark was sold. But the agreement was not regarded by Thos. Ballantyne, and a "bee" was made to draw the bark away. His father and Gardner Crawford were proceeded against, as being the only persons among the trespassers who were worth anything. The case turned upon the title to the land, it being contended on behalf of the defendants that he took what he really thought was his own. Verdict for defendant. Mr. Freeman for plaintiff; Mr. Guthrie for defendant.

The Grand Jury came into court and made the following presentation:—

PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY.
The Grand Jurors beg leave to report that they have visited the different wards in the Gaol and have great pleasure in stating that we found everything clean, and respectable, and in good order. The prisoners, male and female, expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the treatment they receive at the hands of the parties who have them in charge. On visiting the Gaol Yard we found the remains of an old shed that has been used for working in, but in consequence of the severe storm during the present winter has been completely demolished; and we would therefore recommend that a new one be erected immediately for the same purpose. All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD AINLEY, Foreman.

RAPE CASE.

THE QUEEN, vs. HUGH HASTINGS.—The prisoner was put upon trial charged with an assault with intent to commit rape on the person of Louisa Checkley. The prosecutrix is a woman aged perhaps 70 years, feeble and attenuated; while the prisoner is a man of apparently thirty-five, with close cut whiskers and moustache, and a neglected and seely appearance. The old woman was very nervous and agitated while she stood in the witness box, but she gave her evidence clearly and distinctly. She lives in Pilkington; her husband was at Elora on the day when the ruffian entered the house and, having taken a seat and remained in silence for some time, made a brutal assault upon her. What little strength she had she exerted, and was successful in saving herself from becoming the victim of his lust. When he took his departure she went for assistance and he was taken into custody. This was her simple statement, and during its recital not an emotion was expressed on the hard looking face of the prisoner. When he was told that he was at liberty to ask the prosecutrix any question he thought necessary he declined to interrogate her, nor would he avail himself of the privilege of questioning the second and last witness for the prosecution, Mr. Coxhead, or of saying a word to the jury in his own vindication. Consequently the trial was short. His Honor told the jury they might find him guilty of assault with the intent charged, or of aggravated assault only. A very short time was required for deliberation. The jurors returned and the foreman announced the verdict "Guilty of the full charge." The prisoner's face became scarlet; he muttered an indignant exclamation against the jury, in which "God" was the only word we could catch; then he turned suddenly pale, and anon his face assumed its wonted imperturbable expression.

SMART vs. GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.
—This was an action brought by Mr. Smart, one of the Guelph butchers, against the Grand Trunk Railway Co., to recover the price of a mare and foal which had got on the railway on account of defective fences, and been killed by a passing train. The Company it is known, is obliged to keep the fences on each side of the railway in good repair. The case is in progress.

DEMOREST'S MODEL MONTHLY.—Ladies never weary of praising this Magazine for its beauty and usefulness. Its patterns are worth more than the price of each number, and, with the admirable models furnished by its illustrations, are invaluable to ladies living in the country. We do not know much about the "Household" and other exclusively feminine departments, except that housekeepers think everything of them, but we do know that the reading matter is varied and unexceptionable, and that, altogether, it is as welcome a visitant as can be found in the parlor or family circle. Price, \$3.00 per year, with a handsome premium. Address W. Jennings Demorest, 473, Broadway, New York.

BY TELEGRAPH

Despatches to the Evening Mercury.

Irish Reform Question.

PROBABLE ABOLITION OF CHURCH RATES.

GENERAL DIX IN LONDON.

Arrival of Canadian Zouaves at Rome.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

Cork, March 11.—The trial of Captain Mackay was concluded to-day; verdict, "not guilty" on charge of murder.
Berlin, March 11.—The treaty just concluded between the North German Confederation and the United States, providing for protection of the rights of naturalized citizens, was to-day unanimously ratified by the Federal Council. It is reported that a proposition was recently made to Lord Stanley to submit the Alabama claims to arbitration of Prussia, and that he was willing to entertain the proposition so far as it applied to question of indemnity, but he refused to submit other points in dispute.

London, March 11th.—In the House of Commons last night, a warm debate took place on the condition of Ireland, and the following resolution was introduced, but further consideration thereon was postponed till to-morrow.—"That the discontent of Ireland is a source of uneasiness to Europe, and must be remedied; that laws for Ireland should be framed to suit wishes of the people; that the present church, school and land tenure systems are unjust, and that, in the opinion of this House, these wrongs should be righted."

Rome, March 11.—One hundred Canadian Zouaves, who volunteered for Papal service, have arrived here.

London, March 12.—General Dix, the American Minister to France, has arrived in this city and will remain two or three weeks. It is said he came on business connected with the question of Alabama claims. The House of Commons last evening, in committee of the whole, agreed to report for passage of the bill introduced by Mr. Gladstone, for the abolition of church rates.

American Despatches.

New Orleans, March 11.—Particulars of the attempt to assassinate President Juarez show that an ex-Imperialist officer and a foreigner in command of a city regiment, were the ringleaders. They are believed to have been employed by Santa Anna. The plot included the murder of Cabinet ministers.

New York, March 12th.—Herald's Vera Cruz special says the British Consul has been detected in smuggling a large amount of specie out of the city. The commander of the fort was about to fire upon the vessel carrying the specie when a British corvette anchored between it and the fort. The troops comprising the expedition to Yucatan are returning. The climate of the peninsula was decimating the troops.

New York, March 12th.—Tribune special says the House impeachment managers are marshalling their witnesses, preparing their testimony and shaping their action so as the trial may be entirely over by the first of May. Mr. Johnson will not be allowed the time he expects. The tenth or Butler articles will not be withdrawn. *World* special says Mr. Stobry has concluded to resign his position as Attorney General in order to take part as counsel for the President on the impeachment trial, and has presented his resignation. Mr. Johnson will, no doubt, accept the resignation. So general is the belief that the Supreme Court will decide the reconstruction laws unconstitutional, that the Radicals are making an effort to induce Gen. Grant to issue an order changing the time for the holding of elections in Georgia and Florida. There is official authority for denying the story that the President has ordered Gen. Thomas to set up a new War Department. It was a mere piece of guess work, originating in an irresponsible evening paper of this city, habitually given to sensation.

IRREPARABLE LOSS BY FIRE.—Science and literature have just sustained a terrible loss in the destruction by fire of the immense establishment of the Abbe Migne, at Paris, with its treasures of erudition. There were in it manuscripts worth their weight in gold; and compilations, the result of thirty or forty years' labor of the best known savans of France. The stock was valued at twelve million francs. This was an ecclesiastical library and printing establishment, the largest of the kind in the world; and manuscripts of the first ages of the church have been destroyed in it. The fire took in the type foundry. Eight hundred persons have been thrown out of work by this catastrophe. The establishment was insured for six millions of francs in thirty-three insurance companies.

PEAT IS MONTEAL.—The question of fuel, as well as that of water, is forcing itself strongly upon the Montrealers. A recent purchase by Messrs. Hodges and Bonville, of a peat bog in the parish of Herber, eight miles from Montreal, inspires the hope that a new and cheap fuel may be brought into general consumption in a peat where a labourer has to pay about forty cents a day during the winter—seven months long—for heating and cooking. The peat in question is not like Irish peat, vegetable, but is an alluvial deposit, or a collection of decomposing matter, often the result of a former generation of beaver, and its fertilizing as well as its heating qualities are now recognized. These bogs may be regarded as enormous manure heaps which nature has stored up for use, and wherever the material has been judiciously employed the farmer as well as the city resident finds profit in its use.