

New Departure.

Thousands of Women Vote in
New Zealand.

The Government Sustained by a
Large Majority.

Sheffield's Fire Entailed a Loss of
\$2,500,000.

Rio Janeiro Steamship Owners to be
Shot for Aiding Insurgents.

A Communist Colony—The Theories of
Hertzka To Be Tested in Africa—
A Painter Poisoned While
Trying "The Grape Cure."

A Bankrupt Country.

Belgrade, Dec. 21.—The arrears of
unpaid taxes in Serbia amount to 30,000,000
francs. The country is in danger of
bankruptcy.

Steamer Ashore.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The British tank
steamer Wildflower, Capt. Livingston, from
Wilmington, Del., Dec. 2, for Rouen, is
ashore in the Seine. Tugs have gone to her
assistance.

Hunting Up Pedigrees.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Prince of Wales
is supervising a circular that will shortly
be issued for the purpose of founding a
society having for its object the carrying
out of historical researches concerning old
English families.

A Poor Patriot.

VIENNA, Dec. 21.—Louis Kossuth was
compelled recently to sell his library, the
collection of a life time. It was bought for
the National Museum by a committee
formed in Buda-Pesth. Kossuth's needs
must have been great, as he was induced to
part with the whole for £130.

Monson's Trial for Murder.

EDINBURGH, Dec. 21.—At the trial to-day
of Alfred John Monson, indicted for the
murder of Lieut. Hambrough, the evidence
for the defense was closed. Mr. Alexander
Asher, Solicitor-General, addressed the
jury on behalf of the prosecution. He asked
the jury to find a verdict of guilty on
both charges of the indictment.

New Lines of Travel.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Comte de Donville
Maillefeu has been to Brisbane arranging
for a line of steamers to run between
Brisbane and San Francisco, calling at the
Fiji, Hawaii and New Caledonia Islands.
If this line be put in operation there will
then be three lines of steamers between the
Pacific coast and Australia.

The Women Were There.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—There has been a
general election in New Zealand, and the
Government were restored by a handsome
majority. It was the first election since
woman suffrage became a law, and the
ladies were conspicuous at all the polling
places. Nearly 5,000 women voted in the
north island alone.

Grand Vaccination Ceremony.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—A grand vaccination
ceremony took place yesterday at the
Ministry of the Interior. A heifer was
brought into the court yard, and the clerk
from the highest to the lowest grade, all
servants, children and porters were
ordered to be inoculated. The weather
was cold and damp, and therefore the
exposing of bare arms was a trying ordeal.

Capt. Williams' Death.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Times publishes
this morning a four column story of the
Matabele campaign written by Gerald
Paget, a scout who served with Capt.
Williams and his brothers in the forces
of the chartered company. He left Balu-
wayo on Nov. 13. After narrating with
great minuteness the events already pub-
lished, Paget tells of Capt. Williams' death,
which occurred while the scout was on the
sick list.

The Situation in Brazil.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 21.—Advices received
here from Brazil are to the effect that
Abraham and Solomon Bechmel, steam-
ship owners of Rio Janeiro, who were
formerly traders in Liverpool and Man-
chester, have been arrested in Rio Janeiro
and sentenced to be shot for allowing their
vessels to carry insurgents as passengers.
The execution of the sentence has been
delayed in consequence of the condemned
men appealing for protection to Portugal,
they being subjects of that country.

An Ill-Fated Squadron.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A dispatch to Lloyd's
from Athens states that the British steam-
ship Humber, which collided with an
Italian bark near Matapan yesterday, was
run ashore to insure her safety. Another
dispatch states that the Humber had a hole
stove in her hull above the water line, and
is lying at anchor in Vatica Bay. When
the hole is plugged she will proceed to the
Piræus. The Humber is a screw steamer
of 1,600 tons. She is a store ship of the
Mediterranean squadron.

A Sorry Crash.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Daily News
prints a report on the state of the Libera-
tor Building Society relief fund, designed
to aid the severest sufferers from the
collapse of that concern. Already £33,000
have been subscribed. The amount re-
quired is £500,000, and the News makes an
urgent appeal for further help, saying that
the distress caused by the Liberator failure
was fifty-fold greater than that caused by
the Victoria disaster, while the response to
the appeals for the aid of the lost
mariners was much greater. Nearly 1,000
of the sufferers from the Liberator crash
are more than 60 years old, and many of
them are invalids.

A Communist Colony.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A party of twenty
persons of different nationalities, including
Englishmen and Americans, will sail from
Hampton for East Africa in January to
start a communist colony in Macheland.
The colony will be based upon the ideas

of the Austrian economist, Hertzka, as set
forth in his book "Freiland," from which
the colony will take its name. Each emi-
grant has subscribed £250, and the general
public has raised many thousands more.

Among the contributors are several per-
sonal friends of the Liberator. The party
will lead the first party, which will be followed
a few weeks later by a party of 40 more.
Several doctors and engineers will accom-
pany the colonists.

Comments on Cleveland's Policy.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Pall Mall Gazette
to-day, commenting on Secretary Carlisle's
report, says that the American Treasury is
in rather a bad way. The situation, it
adds, is particularly unfortunate owing to
the resolution of the President to remodel
the tariff. It is hoped that the difficulty
will not induce him to abandon his heroic
attempt to dislodge McKinley. Even-
tually a free tariff would add to the pros-
perity of the country and the fullness of the
treasury, but the people are unreasonable
and cannot always reach their hand
through time to catch the profits of their
self-sacrifice.

Present to Dufferin's Son.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—Sir Edward Blount,
acting in behalf of the British colony, pre-
sented a silver silver today to Lord
Terence Blackwood, son of the Marquis
Dufferin, and Lady Blackwood, formerly
Miss Davis, of New York. The presenta-
tion took place at the British Embassy.

Replying to Sir Edward's speech
Lord Terence Blackwood referred to his
recent marriage, to the warm welcome
which his American wife had received in
England, and the cordiality shown by the
British colony in Paris. The kindness of
the British colony was valued most highly,
he said, by his wife, who had left for him
the friends and associations of her youth.

One Home Rule Bill at a Time.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—In the House of
Commons Donald Macgregor (Liberal),
member for Inverness-shire, asked if Mr.
Gladstone, when he re-introduced the
Home Rule Bill, would make it embrace
a scheme applicable to all the countries of
the United Kingdom with a view to re-
solving the Imperial Parliament of the con-
duct of local affairs.

Mr. Gladstone did not doubt if the
Government could obtain the same amount
of information from England, Scotland and
Wales as it could from Ireland, justifying
such a scheme. He could not say what
resolution was required to meet the neces-
sities of Great Britain, and it therefore
would be impossible to dispose of the
countries composing Great Britain in a bill
dealing with Ireland.

Poison in Grapes.

Edmund Yates: "The Swiss grape cure
has, I believe, comparatively few votaries
in England, but any of my readers who
meditate trying it would do well to take
warning by the extraordinary accident
which has befallen M. Emile Vautier, the
eminent French portrait-painter. In order
to strengthen himself for what promised to
be an unusually busy season in Paris, M.
Vautier spent a portion of the autumn at
Tortona, on the borders of Lake Lemano,
where he was induced to try a night's
grape cure. He was not, however, informed
that the fruit had been carefully and pro-
fusely sprinkled with sulphate of copper.
At the end of fifteen days he was suffering
from all the most painful and agonized
symptoms of metallic poisoning. The lead-
ing doctors of Geneva, who first treated the
case, informed him that he was only one
of several victims. He was at last removed
with difficulty to Paris, but the inflamma-
tion and weakness of digestion thus occa-
sioned continue, and it will be a long time
before he regains his usual health. M.
Vautier is justly indignant with the Swiss
sanitary authorities, but hopes the other
travelers will profit by his misfortune."

The Queen's Guard of Honor.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—During the Queen's
residence at Balmoral there are frequent
allusions in the official court circular to her
Majesty's guard of honor. The fact is that
the Queen is really "guarded" at Balmoral
by a few men of the "A" division of the
Metropolitan police, and the same arrange-
ment prevails at Osborne. The soldiers
never come near Balmoral, but they are
kept nine miles away, at Balmoral, where
their duty is to attend to the railway sta-
tion when royal personages arrive or de-
part. The guard (about 50 men and 3
officers) is usually furnished by the regim-
ent stationed at Edinburgh Castle. The
practice of sending a military guard to
attend to the Queen at Balmoral was in-
stituted while the Queen is at Balmoral
side while the Queen is at Balmoral was
began about 1857. The soldiers were
originally billeted on the villagers at Bal-
moral, but this arrangement was uncomfor-
table for them and inconvenient to the
inhabitants, so the present barracks were
built by the Government.

Disastrous Fire in Sheffield.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The building occu-
pied by Harvey & Sons, drapers, in Shef-
field, caught fire this morning. Sixty
assistants of the firm were rescued with
difficulty. Five fire escapes were used to
take them from the buildings. The flames
spread until five other buildings were a burn-
ing. The damage already amounts to
£250,000, and the fire is still burning.

The conflagration was the worst that has
visited Sheffield in many years. The build-
ing occupied by Harvey & Sons, and two
other buildings were completely destroyed.
Three other buildings, one of which was
occupied by Mr. Herzer, a dealer in paint-
ings and other art works, were gutted.
Many buildings in the vicinity were badly
damaged.

The assistants of Harvey & Sons slept in
the buildings. They were not aroused
until the fire gained headway. Then a
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would have plunged from the windows had
it not been for their cooler-headed com-
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(Laughter.) I do not suppose that Gen.
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IN CONGRESS.

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Both Houses Adjourn Until Jan. 3—
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the coal of Nova Scotia and not only will
the mines of West Virginia, Old Virginia
and Pennsylvania suffer, but the great
railroads will suffer severely also.
Whether free Nova Scotia coal would af-
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The products of the coal deposits of
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Bad Year for Speculators—Montrealers
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treal.

Nicholas Connolly, in jail at Ottawa, is
suffering from lack of sleep and no appetite
for food.

Lady Aberdeen held her first "at home"
at Rideau Hall Wednesday evening. There
were about 250 guests.

Rev. Arthur Browning, an old Methodist
minister, will commence a series of special
meetings in Paris early in January.

Rev. J. L. George, of Belleville, late of
Dartmouth, N. S., has been elected mod-
erator of the Kingston Presbytery.

Rev. W. H. Kirby, of Hiramish Street
Methodist Church, Hamilton, has been in-
vited to Dundas Methodist Church for next
year.

Six men were recently buried in an
abandoned mine in Beauce, Que., by the en-
casing of the earth, and were only rescued
with difficulty.

The Bank of Montreal announced the pay-
ment on Jan. 1 in London of the half-year's
interest then due on Dominion of Canada
4 and 3 per cent. loans.

At Smithville the