

PETROLEUM.

Crude petroleum at the Wyoming station on the Great Western Branch can be brought at 6½c. per gallon. This gives to the owner of the well at the Oil Springs 4c. per gallon, 2½c. being paid for transport.— Yet at this low price there is little or no demand. The reason is obvious—no demand for refined oil. The demand is constant, exceeding the supply; every gallon manufactured in Canada is sold as soon as produced, and immense quantities are daily imported from the States. It is not for lack of demand, therefore, that the crude petroleum goes begging for the gallon at the wells. The cause is the lack of the means of converting it into a burning fluid.

There have been until lately only two refineries in Canada, both near the city of Hamilton. There are now two in operation in Toronto, and a third will be started soon. Refineries in the Port Credit and Leamington nearly complete, and the ones at Knokas, Woodstock and London, are either commenced or under way. There are two besides in Lower Canada projected or begun. Probably from twelve to fifteen refineries will be in operation within a few weeks, employing capital and man power nearly equal to the supply even the local demand. The use of the oil is only in its infancy. It takes time for people to change the habits of ages, and it is not in one year or two that a whole people can be persuaded to give up candles for the cheaper and more cleanly lamp. The recent rising price of the oil is only going to tell. It was formerly sold at a dollar and a half, 70c. per gallon. Now it can be had at 70c. in Toronto, while in the Western towns we see it advertised at 50c and 60c. Even at the highest rate it gave the cheapest light in the market. At present prices it is so cheap that it must not only drive the old lights out of use, but it will give great delight to be shed upon the interior of our dwellings than has hitherto been usual.

As the process of manufacture becomes better known, the price will fall still lower, until every shanty in the backwoods is enlightened as brilliantly as a city street-room.

We think that the time is not far distant when the refineries which are springing up all over the country are certain to find employment in supplying the home market. The present profits are very large, and though competition may bring them down, there is no reason to suppose that the business will be "overdone" for some time longer. Considerable capital is being raised. One Canadian company required to start works on a scale large enough to be profitable, and then there is the risk of fire which will always make the business a hazardous one unless the greatest care and skill are used. In most of the towns and villages of Western Canada the late commercial crisis has so impoverished the people that they are so easily taken up by the refiners. Owing to the danger of fire it is not desirable to build very large works. Fifty barrels a day is said to be the highest amount which any refinery in Canada is designed to rectify, and most of them are very much smaller.

When buildings are obtained for the purpose, the cost is comparatively little importance. There is, undoubtedly, some loss in carrying the crude oil instead of the refined, but there are compensating advantages in cheap buildings, and proximity to the market. When, however, buildings are to be constructed, and when the profits are to be by competition at a low point, as they will be in the course of time, it will be a matter of importance for the saving of freight to establish refineries near the wells. A Boston company has shown its appreciation of these facts by establishing a refinery in the township of Enniskillen.

If by an exercise of the chemist's skill the oil could be thoroughly deodorized, the consumption would be vastly increased. A great difficulty at present is found in sending it abroad by vessels. No ship will take crude oil to Britain whose owners expect to use it afterwards for anything but a collier. The timbers come thoroughly impregnated with the peculiar odour, and the objection does not only apply in the same degree to purified oil, and we think it probable that petroleum sent to Britain will go in that shape. The fining could probably be done cheaper in England than here, but the difference in the cost of transportation would outweigh that advantage. Entire satisfaction would be given to the world, to send the oil over the world, and would immensely increase the consumption. There are, no doubt, scores of chemists now trying to solve this problem, we know not with what chances of success. In the process of distillation substances are thrown off which are believed to be valuable, but which have not yet found their appropriate use. One article is turpentine, but all accounts agree that the chemists are only at the beginning of their work.— While the immediate prospects of the oil refiners, therefore, are extremely favourable, science holds out the hope of still greater rewards in the future.

It is, however, the fact that the possession that Western Canada is now in wealth and prosperity not dreamed of three years ago.—Globe.

[illegible]

the war between the Conservatives—liberals and the Conservatives of the 'Ministerial' position goes on apace. The Government action has recently denounced in decided terms the attempt to compel a strengthening of the high Tory section of the Conservative ranks. The Government indicates the importance of the movement. There are many journals throughout the country which are engaged in the work but the *British Herald* of Toronto takes the lead in pressing the claims of the Conservative wing. The Government organ in this city having described the movement as a "Tory one," it is not surprising to find the *Herald* say: "The term 'Tory' is no doubt used offensively, and the *Leader* alludes under that epithet to a government conducted upon arbitrary principles, without implicit reference to the Constitution, and retrogressive or reactionary in public matters instead of progressive—and in reducing the possibilities of a Government to the level of a mob, at one time, must be presumed to insinuate that the present Ministry are entirely free from such 'Tory' proclivities;—in proof of which might have instanced two or three cases, which would have been high-handed, and arbitrary if perpetrated by a 'Tory' Government, but such as never could have been perpetrated by a Ministerial Government, as we at present possess. We alude to the doubt which (universally condemned) the re-election of Mr. J. C. Morrison in office after three ineffectual attempts to secure a seat in the House, and a refusal to retire before a constituency at the general election, and the continued vacancy of the Hon. Counciling position, the perpetration of which is sufficient to show that, whatever credit the Ministry may be entitled to for their general administration of affairs, they cannot claim a monopoly of moderation on constitutionalism—but rather that, whenever it suited their purposes, they were not averse to retrograde to Toryism."

It continues:

"Reconstruction so as to bring the Cabinet more into accordance with the increased conservative element in the country and in the newly elected House has been talked of, and, in spite of Ministry and their organs, must take place sooner or later, and that, notwithstanding the *Leader's* attempts to stigmatize the movement as 'Toryism'—the Government is anxious for ministers for all good qualities. That a monopoly for all good qualities. That the Journal and the Ministers it puffs cannot throw dust in the eyes of the country." The *Herald* then goes on to argue that the success of the Conservative candidates in the last election entitles them to greater representation in the Cabinet, and replies to an attack made by a country Ministerial journal on Mr John Hillyard Cameron. It continues:

"We observe also in the *Barrie Advance* another Ministerial organ, an article reduplicating the idea of any modification of the Cabinet in a more Conservative direction, and especially of its taking place under the leadership of Mr. Hylland (Cameron as would be it) the Cameron either desires, or would accept the post, though, so long as he is in pre-emptive position, in or out of office, but we take upon ourselves to say that if he should become leader of the party, they will not regret the choice, nor the country the change. From one leader to the other. Both are equally good. The admission of Mr. Cameron as a factional ally claim for him that greater credit or stage effect which often carries a point or a species of clever trickery. The friends of Mr. Cameron believe that the absence of that characteristic in him would make a more enduring success."

"Who shall be leader and what steps shall be taken to bring about a change?" the question will depend on circumstances—time will tell, and Conservatives will not be bullied orajoined into 'showing their hands' until they choose—the right man will be put in the right place, and whoever he may be, we expect that he will recognize the increase of conservative feeling in the country, and of the Conservative element in the House by the election of Conservatism in the *Herald*."

"We have never been willing to break the Union now existing between the Conservatives and moderate Reformers, but the Conservatives have never dictated to them whom they are to place in confidence as their leaders, so do the Conservatives expect that the moderate Reformers and their organs will dictate to the Conservatives in the House. In the last Parliament, while the moderate Reformers had the same number of representatives from Upper Canada in the Cabinet as the Conservatives their followers in the House were few and far between, although some of them were to be found, but from the present Parliament they have nearly disappeared, and we are glad to allow the country to do, without claiming those changes in the Ministry, which even then they were entitled to demand, can hardly be expected, now to follow a similar course, or to be satisfied with an equal representation in the Government, when they furnish almost all the rank and file of the Government must be sustained."

This is pretty plain talk, and will be the

port for such a point on the Southern coast, and a worthy of the power of the United States. It is strong enough to overbear all the resistance which the Confederates can offer it, when safely arrived at the place of debarkation, and to make a solid lodgment in their territory. It consists of 24 large transport steamers, of 32,391 tons burden; 12 ferry steamers for landing troops, 4 large transport, including the *Great Republic*, and 25 steam gunboats. It has on board 16,000 troops an enormous amount of artillery, and equipment of every kind, and several hundred negroes to assist in erecting the fortifications, and to man our framed barracks, lumber and bricks for the erection of buildings, and whatever the destination, it is evidently intended to make it a new base of operations for the subjugation of the South.

Great successes are not unnaturally expected for such a formidable demonstration, but it must not be forgotten that our enterprises are subject also to great difficulties and are frequently defeated by their own weight. The Southern coast, always dangerous, is peculiarly so at this season of the year, when it is subjected to frightful storms. Two many men have been engulfed on board the vessels, and they are overpowered with seas; some of the steamers carry 2000 men, in addition to their crews the *Great Republic*, 700 horses—Imagining such vessels in a storm off Cape Hatteras the fleet can scarcely hope to keep together, and if it meets with bad weather, it will become so much scattered that some days will be required for it to assemble at the appointed rendezvous.

In the meantime it is hardly possible for the destination to be kept so secret as to prevent it reaching the ears of those interested; and a very short delay will be sufficient to prepare a formidable resistance to a landing. There are few points on the southern coast exclusive of the harbours where troops can be landed in boats, in the finest weather, without great danger. The expedition is short of water and provisions, having only fifteen days supply on board, part of which has been consumed during the delay occasioned by bad weather. The troops will suffer much from sea-sickness and are likely to be demoralised by their sufferings from this cause, and over-crowding.

The fleet is under the command of Commodore Dano, and the land forces of that of Brigadier-General Sherman.

The Herald.

CARLETON PLACE,
 —————
 Wednesday, November 6, 1861.

We again find it necessary to caution our readers against paying their subscriptions to any one pretending to be our Agent. We have no Agents for the Herald, and the only safe way of paying for the paper is to send the money by Mail, in a Registered letter, post paid.

THE MILITIA OF CANADA.

From the signs of the times, as awakened zeal for the improvement and development of the militia of this Province, is abroad in the country, and we hail every movement of this kind with satisfaction. Fast approaching the period when our country will have to act on her responsibility in transactions with other nations, the time has certainly matured for making those internal and national preparations for preserving our liberties from the encroachments of other powers when the grand old flag of that Empire to which we now belong shall have been withdrawn from us. The movement in Britain of educating the masses to the use of the rifle and military practice, has resulted in eminent success; a late paper informs us that at a review and sham battle by the Lanarkshire volunteers at Glasgow, 300,000 people were on the ground, thus showing the deep interest taken in the military movement by our Scottish countrymen. Late Rifle matches throughout the Province have sufficiently exhibited that the spirit of emulation in rifle shooting has been evoked and a desire manifested by the people for fostering this spirit until it becomes a great national arm of defence. It has already been intimated by those in authority that it is the desire of the Imperial Government that this military feeling should be encouraged so as to make the yeomanry of our land a great wall of defence against which the waves of future invasion may roll in vain. The late Governor General, in his farewell to the militia of this Province, urged upon them the

may follow Leesbough, other military leaders may fall as Baker did, with their troops in confusion, but the effect of those reverses, those unpalatable lessons of war, will be ultimate discipline, an organized and aggressive power, on the slightest pretext, menacing our country on its southern and western borders. This, at least, should open our eyes to the necessity of action in reference to the improvement of our militia.

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THE PARASITE.

At a dinner lately given to Mr. Ryerson, M. P. P. for West Brant, this *independent* member declared his adherence to the fortunes of the present administration, stating that his desire was to support and maintain the present ministry with all his power, but at the same time, the reverend shuffler boastfully asserted that he was an older Reformer and whined out that a fictitious opposition to the administration on the advent of a new Governor would create a painful impression. In the course of the contradictory remarks he made on the political affairs of the Province, he deprecated the idea of forcing the subject of Representation by population, and that he had no doubt it would be obtained. The whole speech delivered by Mr. Ryerson has satisfied us that he is unfitted for the political arena. The milk-and-water course which his after-dinner remarks have shadowed out, will render him everybody's man Friday, a useless, harmless, easily soft-sawdered member of the Legislature, of whom both parties will have a thorough contempt, and on whom no party can depend—in other words a new edition of ‘dissolving views’ only lacking the ability to dress the delusion in a presentable shape. Just imagine this man of 70 summers entering the political battles of the coming session, with such gladiators as McDonald, McGe, Cameron and Foley, and presenting his moral suasion political dogmas as a panacea to heal the differences, and lull the contestants into a paradisaical frame of mind. The member for West Brant appears to have taken leave of common sense when he declared, that it is our duty as men and patriots to uphold the Government, for he believed that there was a deep laid conspiracy to rob England of this, the brightest jewel of her Crown. Why the man has gone back to the year 1837, and is speaking in the figures of that period. We observe that very few of the ministerialists attended the dinner; rather a curious mode of recognizing their new supporter.

There appears to be a considerable amount of speculation among the newspapers of the Province as to a reconstruction of the Cabinet, and the leadership thereof. The idea of a Cabinet with the Liberal political element prevailing, and a Liberal Premier are probabilities not within the scope of their calculations; the Conservative leaders, J. A. McDonald and J. H. Cameron, have each their admirers and advocates. As far as the Reform party is concerned, a reconstruction of the Ministry with either of the above mentioned politicians as Premier, would not improve our political condition, and as far as political truth and honesty is concerned, one is as good as the other. If McDonald has played himself out, and his party have become tired of him, are they mending their political fortunes by transferring Cameron to his post, of whose political stability many are doubtful, or is a change of this description expected to draw the support of the liberal members who are opposed to the present cabinet, to his side. Perhaps, if the present Governor is more constitutional in his leanings than our late Governor, neither of those gentlemen will enjoy his confidence long, and as we have had a long trial of Conservative mismanagement, a thorough cleaning out of the Executive Angean stable may be adopted by his Excellency as a duty which he owes to the Province.

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The most attractive subject at the present time is the row among our republican neighbors. The daily question by the country people in this section, is, “how is the war in the States getting on?” to which the answer is, “with all the insignificance of a local thicket

Mr. William Ryerson, M. P. F., took place at Brant one day last week. The members of the government were all invited, but did not attend. Mr. Ryerson is said to have made the only speech worth reporting, and he comes out a thorough supporter of the present government—a second edition to Col. Playfair. We believe it generally happens that dergymen fall when they begin to dabble in politics. It requires an undivided attention to the duties of any calling to succeed, and perhaps the disposition to serve “two masters” accounts for the frequent failure of politico-religious devines. “They who preach the gospel should live by the gospel”; and it is difficult to conceive how the enlightened conscience of the Rev Wm. Ryerson could propound such doctrine as following:—

“But it is avowed that the Government is ‘reckless expenditure, and that, through the ‘reckless expenditure of the public revenue, ‘the resources of the country are unable to ‘keep pace with the creation and accumulation of the national debt which is liable to ‘crush the energies of so youthful a nation ‘as Canada. Now, *though all these allegations are admitted to be true, though the ‘expenditure for the last few years may greatly exceed the revenue of the country, it is ‘no more unnatural procedure than that ‘which happens every day among ourselves.*”

* * * * * I would give no uncertain sound “I don’t wish any to misunderstand me. I consider, my intention is to *support the present administration!*”

In all the differnt political platforms laid down, we have never seen a plank so rotton as the bridge Mr. Ryerson has attempted to build over the admitted “extravagance” and “reckless expenditure” of the government. If it be true policy for individuals to live within their incomes, and not “contract debts without a probability of being able to pay them,” it is equally true of nations; and what we are to think of a member of parliament who, unblushingly declares that he will support a system which, by his own showing, is “reckless and extravagant” and “which is accumulating a national debt liable to crush the energies of our youthful nation”?

IMPORTANT TO CREDITORS.

The exemption law, passed in 1860, respecting from seizure for debt, certain articles of household property, tools and farming implements, operated very unjustly on creditors in most of the business transactions throughout the country. We called attention, at the time, to the glaring injustice of making the act applicable to cases of debt previously contracted, and contracted on the strength of the possession of property subsequently exempted.

It is not generally known that this injustice has been partially remedied by an amendment which came in force on the first of July last, making such property liable for all debts contracted previous to the nineteenth of May, 1860. In order to make the amendment available and proceed against the property of debtors who are trying to live within the limits, and shape their ends according to the provisions of the exemption law, all that is necessary is to get the execution endorsed by the County Judge, with a certificate to the effect that the debt for which the execution issued, was contracted before the nineteenth of May, 1860. The following is the clause of the act of last session, above referred to:—

“Notwithstanding anything contained in the said eighty-fifth chapter of the Consolidated Statutes for Lower Canada, or in the twenty-fifth chapter of the Acts passed in the twenty-third year of Her Majesty’s said Majesty, intituled, *An act to exempt certain articles from seizure in satisfaction for debts,* the various goods and chattles which were, prior to the passing of the last mentioned Act, liable to seizure in execution for debt in either Upper or Lower Canada, shall, as respects debts contracted before the nineteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and sixty, remain liable to seizure and sale in execution, provided that the writ of execution under which they are seized, shall have endorsed upon it a certificate assigned by the Judge of the Court of our said County, certifying that it is for the recovery of a debt contracted before the date above named.”

DEPT FOR PRISONERS OF WAR.

The Federal Government are very considerate, and have a degree of forethought and

the northern waters for a descent on some Southern port. 50 vessels of war left under the guns of Fortress Monroe with all "the pomp and circumstance of war."

"Their destination is unknown; but from the great armament prepared, the point of attack must be a place of importance. It appears that the negroes in the North have very little faith in the success of the Federal arms, as it was intended 'to take 1,000 of them in the expedition to the South, but at the moment of departure, the negroes drew back and refused to go, from a fear of defeat and ultimate slavery.' It is the most important feature since the commencement of hostilities, and should disaster mar the fortunes of this modern Armada, want of discipline cannot be advanced as an excuse.

Telegraphic communication with San Francisco is now a fact, and already news have been received from British Columbia only three or four days old, and also intelligence has been received of the Russians having taken possession of a Japanese Island. The Toronto *Globe*, suggests, that as the oceanic cable was a failure, and no appearance of another attempt being made, why not make an overland line by continuing the Californian one northward through the British and Russian possessions, across Behring Straits—which is only a stretch of forty miles—across Asia and thence to St. Petersburg, when a message could be flashed from Quebec to London. This would obviate the difficulty of ascertaining when anything was wrong, as in the case of an ocean cable, although such a line would keep the Russian authorities well posted up in our affairs.

The last defeat of the Federal troops at Bull's Bluff is causing a great discussion in the Federal states. The commander of the Federal troops in that unfortunate action lost his life on the field in advance of his troops, and cannot justify himself; General Stone denies giving orders for the movement although it is said his handwriting can be proved. At the same time disputes and ill-feeling has arisen between the regulars and the volunteers, to such a degree as to attract the attention of the Administration.

The Italian patriot, Garibaldi, has intimated his inability to go to the United States at present, but says that should the war continue he will overcome all obstacles and hasten to the defence of a people who are dear to him. From the style of his expressions we presume that the Italian patriot does not thoroughly comprehend the bearings of the contest. We have always understood the war to be one of coercion on the part of the Federalists against the Southern states, and not one of defence as he mentions.

Last week a party of Brockville sportsmen amused themselves among the islands and the bays of the Mississippi Lake, shooting ducks, a species of game which appears to be getting scarce in the Mississippi waters.—We have no doubt that change from the counting room, and the summer's labors was duly appreciated, and on the lake by day, and in the camp, under the evergreens; by the side of a blazing wood fire, by night, they had a 'good time' generally.

The weather, for the past two or three weeks has been the most capricious we ever remember to have experienced. A bright morning sun and clear sky, with a mellow, golden atmosphere—a few hours passes, and immense piled-up gloomy clouds shut out the blue vault, short gusts of wind, drops of rain, increased gloom and darkness, and then a hurricane of wind and rain, sleet and snow, and not a feature of McAdam visible on our roads—glorious weather for ducks and death to the rats.

Gen. McClellan has issued an extraordinary order, which speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the troops at Leesburg, at which battle the Federalists were tremendously beaten.

We are requested to state that the Rev. Mr. Baker will celebrate *Divine Service* in the Temperance Hall, Alberta, on Sunday

rought before the magistrate, James Hamstead, charged that a farmer had found her and some other children in one of his fields, and detected them in taking barley. The poor little prisoner protested that she found hers on the ground, but the farmer asserted she took it from the rick. As the pillage of the whole party when placed before the bench was not a good handful, and the farmer was not a good lawyer, it was presented, before a very sorry tribunal, and terminated by a most sorry decision. The poor little girl was placed to receive her doom before a formidable array of big wigs. A baronet, a clergyman, and a squire taking sides, and then a grand jury, deciding what should be done with the infant of nine years old who had stolen an infant's handful of corn.—They thought it consistent with their high position, to which all such as this child should of right be able to look up in trusting confidence for protection, guidance and help, to condemn this poor infant to pay the cost of the barley—three shillings and sixteen shillings. The poor little girl's brother, being found forward and won a little respite by pleading, in simple and touching terms, "I cannot pay the money; I am her brother and keep her; she has no mother, and her father has lost the use of his arm and leg, and could not walk here to-day to see and feed his child. I do all I can to support her, and I am sure I shall be able to do so for her coming in a fortnight, the offended majesty of justice's law must be satisfied by a three weeks imprisonment of this little country girl, nine years old. Of course the mere publication of the fact was enough. Common-place denunciations of sordid cities soon sent the poor little girl home, and the unfortunate little victim, from the disgrace and ruin of imprisonment.—*Liverpool paper.*

ward the reconstruction of the Union as a whole, but hopeless, and to look forward to the establishment of two new maritime dependencies in the North American Continent.

It is under these circumstances that an appeal is made by the suffering manufacturers of France to their Government to recognize the Southern States as an independent Confederation, and to raise the blockade. We know not what view the French Government may take of the prayer of these manufacturers, but we are sure that the Government will take no step in this American business, except in conjunction with England. This question, then,—is would Her Majesty's Government consider themselves justified in going to war with the Federal Government of the United States, in order to open the "slave trade," in order to liberate the cotton, and to avert the state of things which we are threatened in the approaching winter and spring. The alternative of war or distress and disturbance in the manufacturing districts, is not an agreeable one, but we think it is one which the Government will take into the consideration of the Government.

It might be, however that the cooperation of France and England, even if carried to the length of raising the blockade, would not result in hostilities.

The small fleet at the disposal of the Federal Government would not be able for a single week to cope with the combined forces of France. The contest would be so obviously hopeless, that it is doubtful whether it would be entered upon by the Northern States. There might be danger to us on the side of Canada, but after all the Canadians themselves would hardly submit to forcible annexation by the United States. Meanwhile, the recognition of the Southern States by France and England, and the carrying with it an amount of weight and moral influence which would not set the Southern Confederation conclusively. It seems unlikely, then, that if the raising of the blockade were seriously contemplated, it must be by a union of the French and English Governments, and with the assent of the two Governments to stand by each other in any interference

MORE GOLD.—The Halifax Sun says:—"We were shown at the Provincial Secretary's office, on Friday last, a piece of dark, sparkling quartz, about four or five inches in length, in which were pieces of gold nearly as large as marbles. The specimen was one of the finest exhibited. It was received from Tangier. We were likewise shown a number of small pieces of gold bearing marks by a person who said he found a new deposit—the location is as yet a secret so far as the public are concerned. Gold to the value of £1000 has been taken recently from the miners' land near Tangier, by three men, who have been arrested. The Grand Duke and Windsor road have been sent to the authorities."

BURGLARY IN KINGSTON.—A short case of burglary was perpetrated between one and two o'clock on Monday morning, in the house of Mrs. Donoughue, Earl street. Mrs. Donoughue is employed at Messrs. Cowan's, and her husband is occupied as Registrar's evaluator, and his occupation requires him to leave the house at midnight to his work. Very soon after he had left his home on Sunday at midnight, two men, disguised in overcoats and masks, entered the house by pulling out the window blind, and then, by means of a key, unlocked the door, and, by means of the same key, threatening her life if she made any resistance. The money taken was \$101, with which they left, dropping, however, \$50 when it was found that the thieves had not been paralyzed with fright, for although she heard the burglars getting into the house, she made no alarm whatever, although the slightest noise would have aroused another family occupying the premises immediately overhead. The conduct of the burglars showed that they were familiar with the house, and, as the citizens' committee have been so far from being actively engaged in endeavoring to discover the perpetrators (this bold act, and it is to be hoped they will meet with success).—*Kingston News.*

that they were as fit as any soldiers in the world to defend their country; the war of 1812, and the rebellion proved the stern stuff our men are formed of, it mattered not whether they were the Celts of Glengarry or the Saxons of the western districts.

The great want at present felt in the encouragement of the militia training, is first the want of rifles—which want, however, according to a remark made by Gen. Williams at the distribution of prizes at the Toronto rifle match, will shortly be remedied by importations of the necessary quantity from Britain; and second, the scarcity of drill knowledge among those holding commissions in the Sedentary Militia, most of whom receive commissions from considerations of their social standing, and in many instances the recipients of commissions of high grade are physically incapable of active life, and mentally deficient of the first principles of drill. A reform on this point is much required; and a certain knowledge of drill and military evolutions ought to be a necessary qualification for every commissioned officer.

A Toronto paper thinks that some executive interference is required, to initiate a reform in this respect. Our republican neighbors are now passing through a crisis of vital importance to them in a military point of view, and which ought to rouse us to a keen appreciation of the dangers of undisciplined forces when the realization of war are rampant; and three months drill of the raw levies raised at the Manassas rout have not been sufficient to deter them from presenting to the world a second edition of that terrible panic which startled Washington from its aristocratic slumber.

ed; we cannot assume the enquirer, with the fall of Washington, or the subjugation of Virginia, we cannot point out long lists of heroic names which have passed away on the field of battle; all that can be said in the premises, is, that tremendous preparations are being made to fight, but when, in what quarter, or under what particular military prodigies, the next collision will take place, we are not prophetic enough to tell.—In Missouri there is a prospect of General Fremont bringing matters to a crisis by attacking the combined forces of the Confederate Generals, Price and Mculloch, supposed to be now under the command of General Johnson, who was second in command of the Southern army at Bull's Run. At the present time, there is not much prospect of anything decisive being done in the vicinity of the Capital. The Confederates by keeping up the appearance of a threatened attack on Washington, will force the Federal Government to concentrate the bulk of their army in its vicinity, thereby weakening other important points on their long line of 1,100 miles. To sum up all in respect to the telegraphic news from the States, published in the frontier papers, no dependence can be placed on it, as the telegraph lines at the west of war are under the censorship of the Washington State Department.

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It would appear from the different features which have distinguished the war between Northern and Southern States, that the policy of the Confederates has been purely defensive ; as it may be observed that in all the actions which have taken place, the Federal forces have been the attacking party.

undertook to thrash the Southerners into Northern views and opinions, and the number of prisoners who fell into their hands at the Bull's Run, Lexington and Leesburg, they have determined to provide a place of safety for the Southern captives, as appears from the following :

Secretary Cameron has authorized the establishment of a depot for prisoners of war at Johnson's Island, in Sandusky Bay, Lake Erie. An experienced builder of Sandusky has contracted to erect seventeen buildings, capable of accommodating 1,000 prisoners. They are to be finished by Dec. 10, at a total cost not to exceed \$25,000. One hundred and fifty men will be detailed as a guard.

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In a late letter of Mr. Russell to the London Times, after leaving the banks of the Potomac, and arriving at Racine, in Wisconsin, he pitches into the Federal Government, and in alluding to the revolution, says that whenever the doctrine of States rights is opposed to the Federal Government, it is at once set at naught, and the State treated as a subjugated Province, arresting and imprisoning citizens, while the Judges are sitting and the courts of law open ; and he asserts that the Governors and Legislatures of some of the States have little more power than the Lord Lieutenants and Grand Juries of English counties. From the general tone of the letter we judge that the threats published by the American newspapers, have had a considerable effect than that of frightening the talented correspondent, as he does not spare Mr. Seward.

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Miss Florence Nightingale is so seriously ill as to preclude all hope of her recovery,

TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS OF THE BROCKVILLE AND OTTAWA RAILWAY COMPANY.

GENTLEMEN,—Your Committee appointed in terms of a Resolution passed by your Board on the 23rd inst., having met yesterday for the purposes therein stated beg respectfully to Report.

That after due consideration of the position of this Company, in connection with the Commission in aid of an additional Loan for the purpose of completing the Road, they believe that such negotiation would be materially assisted by the adoption of the following means:

1st.—That Mr. Sherwood be provided with detailed statement of the position of the Company in respect to its liabilities, prospects, and the new securities it has to offer.

2nd.—That upon these data Mr. Sherwood shall endeavour to effect a negotiation of Bonds or stocks based upon the "Land Grant" to be made available to this Company in terms of an Act of Parliament incorporating the "Canadian Land Railway Co." or upon the ordinary securities of the Co.

3rd.—That failing such negotiations, he shall request the holders of the present Debentures of this Co. to permit an issue of Preference Bonds, to the extent and, on the conditions following, subject also, to such additional terms as may be deemed advisable by the next consultation with the interested parties in England.

Conditions of the issue of Preference Bonds.

1st.—It is supposed that the Lien of the Municipalities shall remain intact.

2nd.—It is proposed to issue new Preference Bonds for the sum necessary to carry the Road to Roddy's Bay, my about _____, which shall constitute the second Lien upon this Road.

3rd.—It is proposed to reduce the present Debenture to the position of a third instead of second Lien on this Road.

4th.—Mortgages or Bonds Trust, to