

"Leda," a *chanson* by M. Benj. Sulte, set to music by M. J. B. Labelle, has been published by Messrs. Leggo & Co., and is now for sale at the principal music stores in Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec. To the admirers of French Canadian song "Leda" will prove a welcome acquisition. M. Sulte, though a young man, has already established his reputation as a poet, and M. Labelle is, we trust, too well known as a composer to need special commendation. The young lady, Miss Peachy, to whom the song is dedicated, is a great favourite in musical circles at the Capital.

Mr. William Evans, nurseryman, and seedsman to the Council of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec, has issued descriptive and illustrated catalogues of his choice garden and agricultural seeds, for sale at St. Ann's Hall. Mr. Evans, having established his nurseries at Cote St. Paul, is now prepared to fill spring orders. His stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Bedding and Vegetable Plants is very extensive and complete, and his seeds are warranted fresh and pure.

FROM THE CAPITAL.
PARLIAMENTARY.

OTTAWA, April 4, 1870.

A spectre, and one of no very agreeable shape or mien, has, during the past week, been haunting the Legislative Chambers; it has been seen from the Ministerial benches, it has made its presence felt among the Opposition; its progress has been traced in the galleries; and its silent footfall has invaded the offices. Small-pox the unseemly visitant is high. And it has created a sort of half-comical consternation. There has been a little fear and a great deal of talk, and rumours of wholesale visitations, which have ended like the immortal tale of the cats on the tiles. In the first week of the session it paid an undoubted visit to the Hon. William McDougall; from that time until last week little was heard of it and nothing seen, when suddenly it "interviewed" Mr. Chipman, and bade the hon. gentleman succumb. Mr. Chipman very wisely caused himself to be taken to the hospital, where, under the care of his New Brunswick friends, Mr. and Miss Sallier, there is little doubt but that he will soon be restored to health. According to rumour, half the House of Commons has been attacked, but this is the only authentic case that has come to my knowledge. It is probable that more have been frightened. It is quite certain that one hon. member has departed and gone to seek safety among the breezy shades of Ontario, N. B. The Ottawa Times of this morning contains a terrific letter from "A Member" on this subject, according to which nothing but an immediate prorogation can preserve the collective wisdom of Canada from annihilation. "A Member," with an estimable exhibition of self-denial, declares that he should willingly see another session in September. Would not this be a rather expensive method of exorcising the fiend? And who would give security that he should be restrained from leaving the capital and following hon. members in their flight? On Friday, April 1st, as a grand precautionary measure, a collective vaccination came off in the Commons. Some eighty members—with officials and employees making over a hundred—underwent the safety-securing operation. A learned gentleman, Doctor Paquet, from L. C., was the operator. Smiling and self-assured faces were again plentiful. But there is always some marplot to mar our satisfaction, and soon the day, and the deeds for which it is famous, were suggested by unvaccinated meddlers; and at last the half-told tale was wholly told, and it was known that cream, pure cream, was commingling with the blood of grave senators and clerks of high degree. It is not very unreasonable to suppose that treatment of this sort may do as much to allay the scare as would more serious precautionary measures.

On Monday, the 28th, a question, of which we are likely to have many similar, as to the jurisdictions of the Dominion and the Local Legislatures, cropped up. It arose on a Bill respecting tolls on vessels in the harbour of Collingwood. Sir John A. doubted whether harbours not Provincial works before Confederation, were under Dominion jurisdiction, and John Sandfield doubted whether the Local Legislatures could authorize the levy of taxes on shipping. The matter was reserved for future consideration. We are now having a second and smaller edition of that furious contest, the battle of the gauges, in which such oceans of cash were spent in England, in the early days of railways. The fight is going on both in the House and before the Committees. According to present indications the odds might be given in favour of the *narrow*. Make the fight, if fight there must be, gentlemen, short, sharp and decisive, for it is costly, very costly amusement. The question, so dear to the metropolis, the Ottawa Ship Canal, had its annual ventilation, and, I believe, secured its biennial committee. Mr. McConkey was eloquent on the advantages of the Georgian Bay Canal.

On Tuesday another of those questions having reference to general and local jurisdiction, gave rise to a long debate. It related to the qualification of voters for members of the central parliament being regulated by the provincial. This seeming anomaly had the approval of the Hon. Mr. Dorian. Like the former, it was put aside for a more convenient opportunity.

Wednesday was entirely occupied with Mr. Blake's motion restraining the Dominion Parliament from farther interference with the financial relations of the provinces, as settled by the Nova Scotia Act. Several very eloquent speeches were delivered, but the question appears single and simple enough—was Parliament to tie its own hands and to put such a very unnecessary limitation on its own powers? Such a suicidal course was hardly to be expected. It may have been a good opposition shot; it certainly will never be adopted by the party in power. In the course of the debate Mr. Mackenzie again sported his biblical attainments. He treated the House to a few jokes on Ahab and Elijah, and putting the false prophets to the sword, and made a very pretty reference to Baal, coupling him with the Hon. the Minister of Justice, and insinuating that there was rather too much intimacy between them for the good of the former. In this line Mr. Mackenzie is, preeminently, a shining light.

On Thursday half a dozen Indians from the neighbourhood of Brantford, fine looking fellows, with their war-paint on and fully panoplied for battle, appeared in the gallery of the House

of Commons, and excited much attention and no alarm. They listened very attentively to the debates, and when the House adjourned, I am able to state, and happy to do it, that the Speaker still had his scalp on. They returned on the following day, but some mischievous fellow whispered "small-pox," and they went back on their trail, faster, I venture to say, than they had ever retreated before wild cat, wolf, or bear. The subject before the House was money, nothing but money. Most people consider they have had enough of this—that is of the talk—especially as it is not likely to make the cash more easy of attainment.

The following day, Friday, was occupied much in the same way. A few bills from the Senate were received and read a first time, and some slight progress was made in the matter of Supply. The week was certainly a busy one, though there may not be a great deal to show for the labour. I am happy to be able to tell you that that very deserving officer, Mr. Todd, has at last received the appointment of librarian to the Senate, vice the late Dr. Adamson, and with it a well-merited increase of salary. Gentlemen of such rare abilities as Mr. Todd deserve every encouragement to induce them to give their services so far at once from the seats of learning and the high prizes that await successful genius. An appeal was made in the Senate on Thursday on behalf of Messrs. Lajoie and Lapiniere, also officers of the library. It is to be hoped that it may succeed, for every frequenter of the library must have experienced the kindness and attention, and profited by the knowledge and ability of those gentlemen.

On Saturday His Honour the Speaker of the Commons gave one of those excellent dinners which have been so frequent during his *regime*. In this respect the honourable and hospitable gentleman shines out, a brilliant contrast to several of his predecessors, especially to the last and the stingiest. There are flights of rumours respecting the Easter adjournment; some maintain that it will be for four days only; others give a week or ten days, and then there are those timid spirits who would lengthen it to months, and, again, others who, glancing through that ugly medium, the small-pox and the fright, see visions of another session before the expiration of the year. Before this is in print in all probability something more definite will be known. Indeed, I have this instant heard that Sir John A. Macdonald announced in the House an hour ago that it would be impossible to prorogue before the middle of May. An absurd rumour has just crept out, to the effect that Sir George E. Cartier contemplates resignation through differences of opinion with his colleagues respecting the policy to be adopted towards Red River.

THE BOAT RACE.

It has now been fully determined that the great boat race between the "Paris" and "Tyne" Crews shall take place at Lachine in the month of July next. The "Tyne Crew" have concluded to row without a coxswain. The following, omitting the date, which has been changed from September to July, are the

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

Between James Renforth and three others, forming the "Tyne Crew," of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, and Robert Fulton and three others, forming the "Paris Crew," of St. John, N. B., for a Four-Oared Boat Race at Lachine, near Montreal, Canada, in July, 1870:

It is mutually understood and agreed between the two Crews, and the Lachine Boating Club, Montreal, as follows:

1. That they shall row a four-oared race in the best boats each crew can get, on the St. Lawrence River, at Lachine, near Montreal, Canada: the distance to be six miles (three up river from Lachine and back again), for the sum of Five Hundred Pounds sterling and the Championship. The Saint John Paris Crew to row without a Coxswain, and the Tyne Crew to have the right of rowing with or without one as they may see fit.
2. The Boats to start from Points, Buoys, or Line, such Points, Buoys, or Distances on Line, to be not less than thirty yards apart, and to row a distance of three miles up river, where there shall be two Stake Boats, and turn each Boat its own Stake Boat, bring the one on its own side of starting, the turn to be made from left to right and back to the line of starting, such turning Stake Boats to be one hundred and fifty yards apart.
3. The Race to be rowed, as above stated, at the hour of 3 o'clock p. m. if the water is smooth—the Umpires to be the judges of the fitness of the water. If the state of the water is, in the opinion of the Umpires, unfit for rowing a satisfactory race, the Umpires shall be empowered to postpone the race from day to day until the state of the river is favourable.
4. One-half of the stakes to be deposited by each party in the hands of Mr. Henry Hogan, proprietor of the Saint Lawrence Hall, Montreal, or at the Bank of Montreal, on the signing of these articles, and the remaining half to be so deposited not later than the —. Either party failing to make such latter deposit within ten days of the specified time to forfeit the amount previously deposited.
5. The Tyne crew hereby nominate and the Paris crew nominate as their respective Umpires for the race in question. A Referee to be decided upon the day before the race by the respective crews; failing to agree upon a Referee, the President of the Lachine Boating Club, Montreal, is hereby vested with the right of appointing said Referee.
6. In consideration of the race herein provided for, being rowed under the auspices of the Lachine Boating Club, the same Club hereby promises and agrees to pay to the stakeholder, immediately after the final deposit by the Tyne Crew is made, the sum of Two Hundred Pounds sterling, on account of the expenses incurred by that Crew by reason of their rowing at Lachine as aforesaid; the said sum to be paid to the Tyne Crew on their arrival at Lachine.
7. The Rules of Rowing and other details of the race to be left in the hands of the Lachine Boating Club, who hereby undertake to arrange and carry out the same with perfect impartiality, and as efficiently as possible.
8. The Referee, when appointed, will be fully empowered to settle all and every matter of dispute which may arise, except the state of the weather.
9. The two Crews hereby bind themselves that whatever may be their present or future interests, neither crew will, prior to the race here agreed upon, consent to row a race during their absence from home in any point in the States or Canada, (Lachine excepted) unless with the knowledge and approval of the Lachine Boating Club.

In witness, &c., &c.

GENERAL LINDSAY.

The *Court Journal* has the following:—Much and natural surprise has been created in military circles at the announcement that the Inspector-general of reserve forces, Major-General the Hon. James Lindsay, has been ordered to Canada on "particular service." It is asked on all sides, is it a judicious arrangement to send away, for however short a period, from the War Office, the principal member and the moving spirit of the various committees now sitting at the War Office on the reserve forces and other important matters? It is further a question, is General Lindsay the only officer in the whole army who can be found to proceed to Canada to fulfil the simple mission of winding up military affairs previous to the final withdrawal of the troops, and give the militia of that Dominion a start? How can Mr. Secretary Cardwell ever hope to bring his reforms to a practical result if he sends his principal adviser across the Atlantic? Not only is the step a most unwise and incomprehensible one, but what is far more serious, it is a direct insult to the intellect of a number of gallant and intelligent officers who are seeking for employment, to think that General Lindsay is the only officer who can be found to perform so very simple a duty. It is to be hoped that the Canadian militia and volunteer forces will find themselves, after General Lindsay's visit, in a more intelligible form than brothers-in-arms in Great Britain.

CARD BY A RELEASED FENIAN PRISONER.

The undersigned, a released Fenian prisoner to whom the Executive clemency has been extended on a certificate of Dr. Dickson, Surgeon to the Kingston Penitentiary, and approved by Mr. Ferres, Warden, takes this method of expressing his deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Dickson for his unremitting care and attention to him during his illness, and for the kind benevolent christian feeling that he always shows those poor convicts under his charge; indeed he is an honour to his profession and to dear old Ireland. May God bless him will ever be my fervent prayer.

I would be ungrateful if I omitted this opportunity of expressing my sincere acknowledgements to Mr. Ferres for many acts of kindness, and for his sympathy for me during my illness; and to his family, who have been most kind to me, furnishing me with nourishment from their private table and many delicacies not provided by the Hospital.

The Deputy Warden, Mr. Flanagan, has, on every occasion, treated me kindly, and the keepers and guards, a very intelligent and respectable class of men, have always treated me with much civility. I have pleasure in stating that there is a decided improvement in all departments of the institution, particularly in the steward's department, under the supervision of Mr. P. O'Donnell, the rations being well cooked and served up clean and comfortable, and plenty of them. I have worked under Mr. O'Donnell, and I can bear witness to his great anxiety to do everything in his power for the comfort of the prisoners. I cannot but acknowledge that in every respect I have been well treated during my imprisonment, and that men who conduct themselves well have no cause for complaint.

WILLIAM H. SLEVIN,
Late Fenian Prisoner.

Kingston, March 30th, 1870.

From Mexico come statements of new gold discoveries. According to reports from Chihuahua, rich diggings have been found in the district of Hidalgo. Rich places have been discovered near Acapulco, and new petroleum wells have been sunk at Tihuanlan, in the district of Taxpala.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. J. R.—"Champlain's first fight with the Iroquois" accepted, and will appear in due course."

M. J.—No. The story to which you refer was really written by the author whose name it bears.

TOPEKA.—Well! If any one should dare to offer us a plagiarised work we shall certainly take revenge by publishing the name and address of the perpetrator.

PAUL PRY.—This correspondent writes to know the meaning of the peacock's feathers now so extensively worn in gentlemen's (!) hats. We suppose the fashion may be traced to the custom of the sportsman wearing in his hat a feather from the game he has shot. It is hardly reasonable, however, to suppose that each and everyone of the bucks who patrol our streets with peacock's feathers in their hats have actually slaughtered such noble game. If they have, what a slaughter there must have been of rare birds. We saw the other day an individual with an ibis, and another with a flamingo feather.

Temperature in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending April 5th, 1870, observed by John Underhill, Optician, 387 Notre Dame Street.

	9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
We'nsday, March 30.....	41°	45°	33°
Thursday, " 31.....	41°	46°	43°
Friday, April 1.....	45°	50°	42°
Saturday, " 2.....	45°	50°	45°
Sunday, " 3.....	36°	44°	32°
Monday, " 4.....	35°	38°	34°
Tuesday, " 5.....	33°	37°	34°
	MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.
We'nsday, March 30.....	46°	30°	38°
Thursday, " 31.....	46°	26°	36°
Friday, April 1.....	50°	28°	39°
Saturday, " 2.....	52°	28°	40°
Sunday, " 3.....	46°	28°	37°
Monday, " 4.....	38°	26°	32°
Tuesday, " 5.....	30°	30°	34° 5

Aneroid Barometer compensated and corrected.

	9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
We'nsday, March 30.....	30.34	30.38	30.36
Thursday, " 31.....	30.34	30.44	30.38
Friday, April 1.....	30.41	30.43	30.34
Saturday, " 2.....	30.25	30.25	30.14
Sunday, " 3.....	30.26	30.25	30.25
Monday, " 4.....	30.20	30.18	30.10
Tuesday, " 5.....	29.97	30.04	30.08