The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1874.

NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the coloured address-label of each paper sent to them shows a figure which indicates that future number of the paper up to which their subscription has been paid, serving, in fact, as a date. The current weekly number can readily be ascertained by reference to the volume and number printed on the title page.

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received several letters from friends throughout the country who are office-bearers in newly formed Liberal-Conservative Associations, or are desirous of forming Associations, asking for information as to the way in which they should proceed, and for copies of the Constitution of the Toronto Association. We take this means of informing our friends who have written us, as well as others who may be in the same position, that they will best get the information they desire by addressing "The Secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, 85 York street, Toronto," who, we have no doubt, will be pleased to give them all the information they may require.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written about the proposed Treaty, during several months past, one very important part of the consequences involved appears to be as yet only dawning upon the public mind. The public attention has been so fixed upon the subject of exchanges between Canada and the United States, and people's minds have become so permeated with the idea that only the trade across the border was concerned, that the fact of the Treaty involving Free Trade with England as well as the United States has not been generally perceived. The interchange of natural products under the old Treaty did not affect importation from Europe at all; and the power of words to control ideas is seen in the fact that the old conception of Reciprocity, as affecting only Canada and the United States, which was a true one as regarded the former Treaty, is still applied to any Reciprocity Treaty—to the present one, for instance—of which it is a very imperfect and mistaken conception indeed. The new Treaty includes many things, and these embracing some of the most important of our manufactures, that the old one did not. Further, the extension of the free list to such an extent in manufactured goods necessitates the formal declaration, made in Memorandum of negotiations published a few weeks ago, to the effect that whatever we admit free coming from the States must also be free coming from England. Spite of all the publicity that has been given to this feature of the Treaty—or connected with it, as we should say, for it does not appear in the Treaty at all—the public generally are but beginning to find out that Free Trade with England as well as with the United States, is really provided for. We are every day hearing of influential, generally well-informed men, who say that the fact just stated is to them a recent revelation, and that until very lately they had no idea that a Treaty with the United States carried such sweeping consequences. They say that, had they known it sooner, they would have been heard from more decidedly on the question. As will have been seen by what we quoted the other day from the London *Standard*, the English press did not receive this particular light on the subject until a little over two weeks ago. Our London contemporary very properly asks why Mr. Jenkins, the supposed confidential agent of the Canadian Government, never thought it worth while to make known the truth in a matter of so much interest there. It is now two months since the Treaty Commissioner's organ published the text of the Treaty, and we ask, why did he not take even special and extraordinary precautions that no misconception on this important matter should arise, even for a day after publication of the Treaty, either here or in England? Why, indeed, but to serve a purpose—as we verily believe, to conceal from people here, as long as possible, how tremendous a revolution in our commercial system was contemplated? Now let the Canadian people mark well what the Treaty is to do. Passing by Schedule A., including raw products only, and Schedule B., including agricultural implements only, let us direct attention to Schedule C., which is the really important part of the whole, and which includes the following:

SCHEDULE "C."

Consisting of the following manufactures:
Axles of all kinds.
Boots and shoes, of leather.
Boot and shoe-making machines.
Buffalo robes, dressed and trimmed.
Cotton grain bags.
Cotton denims.
Cotton jeans, unbleached.
Cotton drillings, unbleached.
Cotton plaids.
Cotton tickings.
Cottonades, unbleached.
Cabinet ware and furniture, or parts thereof.
Carriages, carts, waggons, and other vehicles, and sleighs, or parts thereof.
Fire engines, or parts thereof.
Felt covering, for boilers.
Gutta percha belting and tubing.
Iron—bar, hoop, pig, puddled, rod, sheet, or scrap.
Iron nails, spikes, bolts, tacks, brads or sprigs.
Iron castings.
India rubber belting and tubing.
Locomotives for railways, or parts thereof.
Lead, sheet or pig.
Leather, sole or upper.
Leather, harness and saddlery.
Mill or factory, or steamboat fixed engines and machines, or parts thereof.
Manufactures of marble, stone, slate, or granite.
Manufactures of wood solely, or of wood nailed, bound, hinged, or locked with metal materials.
Mangles, washing machines, wringing machines, and drying machines, or parts thereof.
Printing paper for newspapers.
Paper-making machines or parts thereof.
Printing type, presses, and folders, paper-cutters, rolling machines, page-numbering machines, and stereotyping and electrotyping apparatus, or parts thereof.
Refrigerators, or parts thereof.
Railroad cars, carriages, and trucks, or parts thereof.
Satinetts of wool and cotton.
Steam engines, or parts thereof.
Steel, wrought or cast, and steel plates and rails.
Tin tubes and piping.
Tweeds, of wool solely.
Water-wheel machines and apparatus, or parts thereof.

Let all concerned note, and mark, and remember, that though the Treaty provides for the free interchange of these articles between Canada and the United States only, the *Memorandum of Negotiations* binds us that they shall also be free if imported from England into Canada. Our neighbours, be it remembered, are bound in no such fashion; they will continue their high duties on English goods, as before. In which case, we fancy, it does not require any extraordinary gift of prophecy to be able to predict, very surely, on which side of the line capitalists contemplating new enterprises will lay out their money, build factories, buy machinery, and take the risk. They will invest, of course, on that side of the border, where the certainty of Protection, and advantages generally, are in their favour.

Either this feature of the proposed arrangements, involving heavy free importations from England, as well as from the United States, is a good one, or it is not. If it is, why has the *Globe* been so slack and inefficient in making the fact known, that its own "constant readers" are to-day actually struck with astonishment when it is mentioned to them? And this, be it remembered, two months after publication of the full text of the Treaty. Our contemporary, indeed, was careful to repeat its publication of the Treaty, which was then twice published in its columns; but why, with all this care to make the letter of the Treaty itself known, was there such parsimony shown in doling out, in only *two* little driblets that escaped the general notice of its readers, the important piece of information that the Treaty means Free Trade by sea as well as across the border? We say, by sea, because our importations from England constitute so nearly the whole of our importations of manufactured goods coming by sea that the fraction of the whole coming from other countries are of little account in the present connection. As we have said, either this vast and unexpected extension of Free Trade which is proposed to us is a good thing, or it is not. If it is, let the *Globe*, and every other journal following its lead and supporting the Treaty, make prominent claim that such is the case, that it is really a good point in the arrangement—the best point of all, in fact—and let them do this in such a way that the dullest of their readers will perceive and understand. If it is not, then let those Treaty-supporters say so who dare. We only ask that the Grit press have the manliness to make known the truth, and no longer to keep their readers in ignorance of a fact so important. We make the statement, for the confirmation of which we challenge the observation of competent and candid men wherever the *Globe* circulates, that the bulk of its readers are to-day ignorant of the fact that the Treaty, if adopted, involves Free Trade across the ocean as well as across the southern border. We ask the Toronto *Globe*, the London *Advertiser*, the Hamilton *Times*, the Montreal *Witness*, and the rest of the Grit sheets that are now defending the Treaty, to give this fact their best publicity, *if they dare*. We wait to see whether they have courage enough to do so.

MOULTON'S BOMBSHELL.

Though we are not able to print Mr. Moulton's full [illegible] published in the New York [illegible] day afternoon, suffici[illegible] to place graphic [illegible] to place Mr. B[illegible] ward position. W[illegible] which has been so [illegible] progress of the investiga[illegible] Mr. Beecher the benefit of every [illegible] doubt, we, in common with many of the New York journals, declared that it was quite possible to reconcile the payment of $7,000 and the expressions of extreme remorse and anguish used in his letters with the theory of his innocence of the crime which Mr. Tilton had urged against him. For ourselves, however, we did not hesitate to say that Mr. George Alfred Townsend was a sufficiently reputable witness to render it absolutely necessary to Mr. Beecher's exculpation that Mr. Moulton should positively deny that he had made to Mr. Townsend the statements which appeared in his letter to the Chicago *Tribune*. Only a few days had elapsed when the New York *Tribune*, which has been most friendly to Mr. Beecher throughout, published the story of the attempted compromise with Mr. Moulton. Every one must admit that this was a most suspicious affair. All efforts at compromise had, however, been rendered impossible by Mr. Beecher's course with reference to Mr. Moulton, who has since given to the public the full statement which he had at first prepared for the Committee but withheld in the hope, as he says, of still being able to play successfully the part of a mediator. This statement realizes the worst fears which had ever been entertained. Not only does it reveal Mr. Beecher in the attitude of confession to Mr. Moulton, but—unless Mr. Moulton is deliberately lying—places him in the position of one who has sworn falsely. It is a sad and sickening complication of a most unpleasant matter; and we would that it were the end of it. It has gone so far now, however, that it "will not down." Mr. Tilton, having gained a tremendous advantage, is pressing his suit against Mr. Beecher with energy, and has also instituted actions for libel against the *Tribune* and other newspapers. The next thing will, probably, be a rejoinder from the incriminated clergyman; in which case who may say when we shall get to the end of this wretched business.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

The Government organs profess that Mr. Mackenzie is steadily keeping his eye on the construction of the entire Canadian Pacific Railway. He may hasten slowly, but every step he takes is part of the great plan for connecting the Atlantic to the Pacific. We wish we could believe that Mr. Mackenzie had any such honest intention. His every act belies such a thought. No attempt has ever yet been made, by a member of the Government, or by a newspaper writing in their interest, to reconcile the construction of a line of telegraph across the continent, prior to the completion of the surveys, and in ignorance of the location of the road, with an honest determination to build the railway. There is no compatibility between the act of the Government in connection with the telegraph line and the intention with respect to the railway which is attributed to them. It is simply impossible that a line of telegraph erected now can be made serviceable for the railway; and if the former be proceeded with immediately there is but one of two conclusions which can be reached—either that the Government have no intention of going on with the railway, or that the three or four millions of dollars put into the telegraph line will be so much money thrown away—wasted.

An announcement recently made in the Ministerial print in this city strengthens the conviction that the Canadian Pacific Railway—a transcontinental line on British territory—has been virtually abandoned by the Government. Three routes have been surveyed for the main line from Fort Garry eastwards. The first passes north of Lake Nepigon; the second passes south of Lake Nepigon and touches the navigable waters of Lake Superior; the third passes south of Lake Nepigon and touches Lake Superior navigation at Thunder Bay. As the first mentioned line would require a branch of about 150 miles to connect with Thunder Bay, or of 110 miles to connect with Nepigon Bay, it is no longer considered by the Chief Engineer. With Mr. Fleming, when he made his last report, it was a question between the other two routes. The superiority of either one of the harbours of Nepigon and Thunder Bay did not seem to him to be of sufficiently marked a character to influence a decision as to which of the two routes should be selected. We have reason to think, however, that a fuller consideration of this question would show the superior advantages of Nepigon, which, unfortunately for it, has few interested advocates, while the efforts of every one holding land in the neighbourhood of Thunder Bay—some persons very near to Mr. Mackenzie being of the number—are directed to showing that it ought to be selected. We think there can be little doubt that Nepigon has the better sheltered harbour, and that its selection would avoid considerable coasting, as it is in the direct line for Sault Ste. Marie, whither all the traffic of the railway would tend.

While there are certainly some advantages in favour of Nepigon in this respect, it is undeniable—Mr. Fleming himself says so in his report—that the line from Fort Garry to Nepigon would be sixty-four miles shorter than that projected from Fort Garry to Thunder Bay, besides being more in the direct line of communication between the eastern and western parts of the Dominion. The extraordinary announcement which the Ministerial organ has made is that the Government have determined to throw over the shorter and more direct through line for the longer and less direct one. Why are the sixty-four miles of additional, and as we hold, useless railway, to be built, involving a cost of three millions of dollars? One could understand why three millions extra might be put into the road to make it more direct, even if it should be somewhat longer, but to incur so large an additional cost for going out of the direct route is incomprehensible, except in the belief, which the whole course of the Government on this question has firmly grounded in the mind of every one who has seriously thought of the question, that they have given up the idea of a trans-continental line—have in fact abandoned the main line. We are told this is a Government of economy. We have hitherto failed to find any evidences in support of the claim. But if it is all that its friends assert in its behalf in this respect, it would surely never build the railway to Thunder Bay continuing it along the shore of Lake Superior, instead of going to Nepigon direct, if they had the slightest intention of carrying out the great scheme upon which their predecessors fell, and which remains a great scheme notwithstanding their fall.

We may be told by the apologists of the Government that it is necessary and important to open up communication with Manitoba at once, and that if they construct two short lines of railway—one from Winnipeg to the Lake of the Woods, and the other from Thunder Bay to Lac des Mille Lacs—they will overcome the most difficult portion of the route between the points named, and in connection with steamers on Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods provide an easy route to Manitoba, and reduce the time occupied in the journey to about four days. No doubt this is a most desirable end to accomplish. No one indeed could say a word against the scheme if the object desired was simply the securing of a summer route to Manitoba, and making it do duty for all time. But this is only an incident of the greater scheme; and we hold that the latter could be best kept in view, while at the same time the former might be accomplished, by adopting Mr. Fleming's route No. 2, and making Nepigon Bay the Lake Superior terminus, so to speak for convenience. As we have said this line is more direct than that by Thunder Bay, and sixty-four miles shorter in calculating the distance between Winnipeg and Montreal. Sixty-four miles saved in a great through line, for all time, is not to be lightly ignored.

The policy of the Government with respect to this section of the railway, as marked out by their organ, is inexplicable upon any rational theory or supposition. It is infinitely worse than the preference given to Burrard Inlet over Esquimault, the natural and proper western terminus of the road. We fear that the reasons which have induced the Ministry to abandon the Nepigon route, more direct and shorter as it is and as easily made available for opening up a mixed rail and water communication with Manitoba, are not of a very creditable character. The people of Canada have heard something of a "Lake Superior Ring." That Ring exists to-day as strongly as ever. There are large quantities of land in the vicinity of Thunder Bay in its possession, and extensive mineral locations as well. Have these considerations had any weight with the Government? We make no assertion as to this, but we do most emphatically declare that unless there are reasons given of a far more weighty kind than has yet been urged to justify the cold shoulder shown the Nepigon route, it will be impossible to resist the conclusion that very unworthy means have influenced the selection to which, if the organ speaks by the book, the Government are irrevocably committed.

GRIT BILLINGSGATE.

What with the hot weather, the carrying on of sixteen law suits, and having in a measure meted out to himself that which he has meted out to others, Mr. Brown would appear to be well nigh daft. With the aid of his newspaper he is just now running a blindfold tilt against every one who presumes to differ from him. In his eye the Tory is the *ne plus ultra* of human wickedness. There is nothing too low for his debased instincts; no foolishness incompatible with his besotted stupidity. Moreover, every one who does not subscribe to each *dictum* of the *Globe* and believe implicitly in George Brown and the Treaty is a Tory. Now, indeed, the land is very full of Tories. Yet there is a word of comfort. The Tory of to-day, says the Ministerial organ, is not so "brutally arrogant" as in years gone by, but he yet boasts of his loyalty and attachment to British institutions. This we can easily understand to be an inexpiable crime at the moment when every nerve is being strained in the effort to carry an odious Treaty the effect of which would be to loosen our connection with the Mother Land and gradually impel us towards the great Republic.

We have Mr. Brown's description of the Tory; we see daily the foul epithets he showers on Conservatives; we note every hour how he and his organ seek to make measureless abuse serve the place of argument; and we also note the gradual alienation from his side of many of the best men of the Reform Party, who are fast becoming disgusted with the overweening pride and tyranny of the would-be Dictator. A Grit Government in power in the Dominion, another misguiding the destinies of Ontario, the *Globe* swaying the councils of both; we are speaking by the book when we assert that Mr. Brown is fairly drunk with the power he fancies himself to hold with so firm a hand. Brutally arrogant, forsooth! George Brown is the typical Grit, and the leader of the Grit Party, and we question if, judging him by the conduct of his paper, there is a more "brutally arrogant" man in Canada to-day.

Mr. Brown's dastardly assault on the "Tory" naturally leads one to think of his antithesis, the Grit. And what, let us ask, are the most noticeable attributes of the character? Not loyalty, surely, for a large number of the Grit leaders make no secret of their annexation proclivities, while the Party notoriously embraces all those who would fain see a severance of those ties which bind us to Great Britain and a closer connection with the United States. The most distinguishing characteristic of the true Grit, find him where you may, is his unconquerable propensity to sneer like the Pharisee at all other men, indicating with boastful self-assertion what would be his own purity of action if conducting affairs, while directly he succeeds in forcing himself into power he invariably displays an avarice and incompetency far beyond the men he reviled. We have a sufficient example of this not only in the Province of Ontario but in the Dominion, where the Grits have shewn a reckless audacity in their corrupt administration of our affairs hitherto unparalleled in the history of this country, while their incompetency has betrayed them into making a mess of everything of importance they have undertaken.

We take the liberty to say to the Grit print that the system of abuse and braggadocio to which it has been so long accustomed will not do any longer. The public wants facts and arguments not blundering and contradictory assertions with a large measure of coarse vituperation. The day has gone in Canada for the "dastardly arrogant" and "base hound" style of journalism.

"LET THE GALLED JADE WINCE."

The *Globe* at last begins to see that the political consequences which, in the estimation of all sensible people, *sans* prejudice, must immediately follow the adoption of the Treaty, are creating alarm in England as well as in Canada. The galled jade winces; no longer does the Treaty Commissioner's organ keep up, by silence, the pretence of saying: "Our withers "are unwrung." It has opened for the defence with the argument that men of all parties here are so unquestionable loyal that under no circumstances that might be created by the Treaty could an annexation party ever become powerful. The assertion, we beg to reply, is too sweeping; we think we know of some prominent exceptions, and those among Mr. Mackenzie's supporters of to-day, who little deserve the compliment for the steadfast loyalty which the *Globe* would pay them. We grant that Mr. Brown and Mr. Mackenzie are loyal enough—super-loyal in fact, we may say—they have, as everybody knows, had loyalty "on the "brain" these ten years past, in particular. The sincerity of the sentiment on their part we do not impugn; but we may add that its rather ostentatious display has frequently suggested that, though not originated, it was at all events exaggerated for a purpose. What that purpose is we all understand well enough. Sir George Brown and Sir Alexander Mackenzie must be loyal men, or the ambition for the distinctions indicated is in vain. But do these two title-hunters think the Canadian people so much a prey to dumb forgetfulness as not to remember the annexationist views and aspirations of Young, Huntington, and others, belonging to that noble band of conspirators through whose unscrupulous use of the basest means it chiefly was that the recent change of Government came about? When the Treaty-Commissioner claims such superabundance of loyalty for himself, does he expect the public to take no note of his present connection with men who make no secret of their desire to see British connection severed at the earliest possible moment? Or that people will at his bidding shut their eyes to the fact that the disloyal wing of the present governmental combination is too powerful to let its wishes be disregarded, or to suffer itself to be quietly counted out, when important business is to be done? Does Mr. Brown or anybody else imagine that the conspirators of the Young-Huntington clique, after having been mainly instrumental in putting himself and the Premier where they are to-day, will now gracefully subside into insignificance, and let all the stakes and honours of the game go to the loyal wing of the combination? Perish the thought! say we; they look to Washington for their share of the honours, while Mr. Brown looks to London for his; and they are sharp enough at the game to be able to compel him, powerful as he thinks himself, to divide the stakes with them. They are able, as we have seen, to decree that what is with grim humour called Mr. Mackenzie's Canadian Pacific Railway policy, shall be so framed as to harmonize with what is agreeable to Washington, or to Philadelphia. Jay Cooke is not dead yet by any means, but only lying *perdu* for a while; he will turn up again ere long, we may be sure. Having abandoned all intentions of finishing the Northern Pacific any farther west than it has now been built or graded, on American ground, he is *free* to make the tapping of the Canadian trade and the forming of connections to defeat the building of a through Canadian road his sole aim, and to subordinate all means to that great end. Much has been done in this way already, and it wants but the Treaty adopted to make Duluth and St. Paul for all time to come the commercial supply depots for the whole Canadian North-West this side of the Rocky Mountains. Messrs. Brown and Mackenzie, wince under it as they may, *must* fulfil their part of the bargain by which they obtained their present places. Their claims of loyalty are good enough as concerns themselves, but are far too inclusive to be admitted in full. Before the people of Canada they would fain ignore altogether the Annexationist wing of the present combination; but we are determined that the heroes of that side of the "grand "army" shall not fall into such unmerited obscurity. No, their deeds have been too meritorious, and their services to "the Party" too important, to admit of their being left out of view altogether, whenever it suits the *Globe* to harp on the string of loyalty universal in "this "Canada." We say, whenever the claim of loyalty is made, let it be "without pre-"judice," as far as the Young-Huntington clique is concerned. While that faction exists, and while it continues as powerful as we see it to-day, to control our railway policy and to dictate a Treaty for annexing the Provinces to the United States, the *Globe's* pretence of "all right" will not impose upon the people of Canada. Seeing this annexationist "spirit in "arms," we would say with Hamlet that "all is not well."

THE QUESTION OF NATIONAL EXISTENCE.

The *Globe* publishes an article in which the idea of danger to Canadian nationality by reason of the Treaty is ridiculed on the ground that amongst us loyalty so much abounds as to be an impregnable defence against annexationist attacks. Admitting the claim as far as the vast majority of the Canadian people, Messrs. Brown and Mackenzie included, are concerned, we still pointed out that most emphatically it could *not* be admitted on behalf of what we hesitate not to call the disloyal wing of the present governmental combination—of that annexationist faction, small in numbers but active and insidious in its propagandism, of which Messrs. John Young and Lucius Seth Huntington are the avowed leaders. It was this clique of conspirators, we affirmed, which, through means unmatched in Canada's history for baseness, was chiefly instrumental in bringing about the recent change of Government, and putting Messrs. Brown and Mackenzie in their present places. We said, further, that the important part played by these men in finding the means for ousting Sir John Macdonald precluded their being ignored in the councils of the Party; as is indeed sufficiently apparent when we consider the anti-national, Americanizing policy to which the Party is now committed. And we urged that as long as the disloyal wing of the existing governmental combination was powerful enough to dictate a railway and Reciprocity policy calculated to smother out of existence our new nationality, and to make these Provinces States of the American Union, it was entirely out of place for the *Globe* to make-believe that the Treaty could not possibly be a source of political danger.

Twelve years of Reciprocity did not coax us into Annexation, eight years without Reciprocity have not bullied us into it, therefore, it is contended, all this talk about Annexation as a consequence of the Treaty is nonsense. Very glibly put, it may be said, but the argument is shallow and without force. Circumstances alter cases, and in this case the circumstances make "all the difference "in the world." The former Treaty was for the interchange of natural products only, of which both countries have superabundance which they export abroad, and as regards which we may say that they stand on similar ground. When American grain goes to Europe *via* Montreal, or when Canadian grain goes to Europe *via* New York, it does not affect the farmer on either side very materially, except in as far as one route may carry more cheaply than the other. In the sale of farm produce the two nations are competitors with each other, but they meet on equal terms in neutral markets common to both, and in this fact lay the reason why the old Treaty was a really fair and equitable arrangement. Mr. Hatch's complaint, that our neighbours were buying more from us than we were buying from them, was an absurdity as far as farm produce was concerned, the fact being that what overplus they bought from us they took in the capacity of middlemen and forwarders merely, sending it abroad and making their profit on it—making their profit out of us, as we may fairly say. There might be in this way an apparent balance of trade against them, with the reality all the time in their favour. Far different is it, however, when manufactured goods are the articles exchanged. These are not purchased by either country from the other for re-sale abroad, but for consumption at home, and an advance balance of trade, incident to exchanges of such merchandise, would be a real and not merely an apparent disadvantage. Canadians generally are in favour of Reciprocity in natural products, as in the old Treaty, because it is fair to both sides, and because, whatever it may do for agriculture, it does not disturb or impede our manufacturing progress. The argument against the old Treaty, referred to as coming from Mr. Hatch, is flimsy and unsubstantial, but if we want to get at the real determining motive on the American side, apart from political considerations, we must pay attention to another reason, as set forth by Mr. Larned, his successor as an International Trade Commissioner. Says Mr. Larned, in a report which we quoted some ten or twelve days ago:

"We want, not merely to exchange breadstuffs and provisions, and coal, hides and tallow with them, *but to sell them our cottons, our boots and shoes, our machinery, and our manufactures generally*, in trade for their lumber, their live stock, their ashes, their plaster, their furs, their minerals, and the general produce of their farms. We want in fact such an arrangement of the trade *that the Provinces shall not sell what they have to sell in the United States, and buy what they have to buy in Great Britain.*"

It is on record (see Mr. Brown's Memorandum of negotiations, as published in the *Globe* of July 23rd) that his offer, dated April 27, was to take in the natural products mentioned in the old Treaty, with the addition of salt, stone, mineral and other oils, bark, bricks, ochres, hay, lime, malt, plaster, straw, also agricultural implements, and manufactures of wood, iron and steel. This was what was offered on our side, but the Americans said the list must be extended, to include certain manufactures of cotton, wool, leather, &c., also bar iron, printing paper, and other articles. Observe here that in demanding this extension of the list they were following up exactly what Mr. Hatch first, and Mr. Larned afterwards, had insisted upon. They must have done so believing that they would be sure to gain in exchange of such goods, else their action is inexplicable. We are at liberty to suppose, if we choose, that they are mistaken, and that they have demanded what would be losing conditions for themselves, if agreed to. But those who know the people we have to deal with will be inclined to give them credit for knowing what they are about, and for not being such simpletons as to be eager to throw open their market of forty millions in such a way that we would be likely to have the advantage of them in the "deal." If they have been thus foolish, then they are not the men the world takes them to be.

According to the Canadian advocates of the Treaty its adoption is to cause a vast development of our industrial prosperity, through the opening to our manufacturers of a new market of forty millions of people. Admit this for the moment, and mark the consequences involved. During the twenty-one years of unexampled prosperity which would follow, mills and factories would have been built, capital invested, settlements of population made, artisan handicrafts learned, and business relations generally established in pursuance of the Treaty, and of the new opportunities which for the moment we are supposing it to have created. At last we begin to near the end of the twenty-one years' term, and reports come thick and fast from Washington that our neighbours, seeing us to be making money out of them have determined not to renew the arrangement. But the termination of the arrangement, under the conditions supposed, could be nothing short of bankruptcy to three-fourths of our manufacturers. This, again, would be no mere local disturbance of business, or confined to the manufacturing class, but would be powerful enough to overturn our whole fabric of business, and to involve merchants and farmers, as well as manufacturers, in one general ruin. Sooner than have *that* happen, some people would say, let us have annexation, and with it personal prosperity, let come what may of political sentiment and national existence.

It will be said, something like this was tried eight or ten years ago and failed. We reply, it was tried with a ten years' treaty, affecting natural produce only; but dare we say that it would certainly fail with a twenty-one years' treaty, and with so many and so important articles included as those named in the present schedules? Let the experience and judgment of our business men, and the common sense of the Canadian public generally answer the question.

But again it will be said, if the Treaty, instead of building up our manufactures while it lasts, and thus becoming a something which we would in time sacrifice our nationality rather than forego—is to ruin them or transfer them nearly all to the States in a few years, should it not then have an effect, as to annexation, just the contrary of that above indicated? We answer, No. Reciprocity in manufactures with the United States, by Treaty, and terminable at the end of a period of years, will, whether it "makes us or breaks us," work in favour of annexation. There would be this difference; in the former case there would be no demand for annexation till the twenty-one years were nearly expired, when it would come, certain, urgent, and irresistible; while in the latter case we might look for it ere seven years were over. The great determining cause would be substantially the same in both cases, the overmastering power and influence of the larger body over the smaller. For British North America—the great Canadian nation that is to be, some day—political safety and assurance of separate national existence lie in having as little as possible of any "entangling alliances," commercial or otherwise, with our powerful neighbour, that touches us everywhere along three thousand miles of frontier. Our aim should be to work out our own commercial and industrial independence to the fullest extent possible, so that we shall as little as possible be affected by any commercial policy, either friendly or hostile, that our neighbours may adopt. Towards this desirable position we have been making very satisfactory progress these eight years past, and we ask, what enemy of our prosperity—what fiend and tempter, we are provoked to add—is it that comes to disturb our peace and quietness at this most inopportune time, and that will not suffer us to let well enough alone? Never, since Reciprocity was heard of, was there less demand for it in Canada than in this present year, when the arch-agitator and disturber of the country's peace started on his self-appointed mission to Washington. We have in remembrance the position assumed by Mr. Brown in 1865, when he wished to be sent to Washington, but was not. Sir A. T. Galt having favourably entertained a proposal for legislative Reciprocity, *i. e.*, an arrangement terminable any year by legislation on either side, Mr. Brown denounced it as high treason to Canadian interests, and a deliberate making over of our country to the United States. His argument then, which is ours to-day, was that under such an arrangement business relations would spring up amongst us of such a character as to be largely dependent upon American legislation, and that, this being the case, our neighbours might at any time use our commercial anxieties as a lever to move us to their political designs. It would keep us continually "looking to "Washington," and create a chronic uncertainty as to our position which would some day precipitate us upon the desperate remedy of annexation. And therefore he would have none of it, but now, what a change! It is the Radical vice of commercial treaties that they are restraints upon national action, fetters by which nations limit their individual freedom. And for this very reason, as Lord Granville told us about two years ago, they are going out of favour in Europe, and must ere long die out altogether, or shrink to the proportions of mere consular police, and harbour arrangements, and the like. The annexation feeling, says the *Globe*, has not grown amongst us before, and why should it grow in time to come? We reply, Canada has never before had experience of anything that would make her so completely dependent upon the United States, and so much estranged alike from loyalty to British connection and from her own independent, national feeling, as this Treaty would make her. It is evading the vital point to pretend, as the *Globe* does, that while maintaining British connection, we may still trade with all the world as we please. Yes, we reply, we may indeed trade as we please with all the world, *except with the United States*. Towards the United States our relations are vitally, essentially different from those which we bear towards any or all other countries on the face of the earth. It is this three thousand miles of continuous frontier that makes the difference. We dare not deal with the United States as the Australian colonies might, or as we might deal with any distant country. We dare not allow commercial relations and dependencies to be created, which may be used to compel political results. We want simply to remain *free*, independent, and untrammelled by engagements with our neighbours. This is what the Canadian people desire, and we have great hopes that they will not suffer this scheme for the snuffing out of their national existence to be forced upon them.

THE WESTERN TERMINUS OF THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.

As though to create the impression in England that they have not wholly abandoned the Canadian Pacific Railway, the organ of the Mackenzie Government indicates every now and again that this, that and the other thing is being done, and that the wakeful Ministry of the member for Lambton are "keeping in "view" the great end to be accomplished. While it is pleasing to see that Opposition urgings are producing some effect upon the Government, it would be more satisfactory, we venture to say, to find the first practical step taken towards carrying out the scheme of uniting the east and the west of the Dominion by the promised railway. The construction of a telegraph line across the continent without the slightest reference to the railway with which it ought to advance *pari passu* is a fact of immense moment, and goes a long way to create the impression that the day is far distant when the first mile of rail will be laid between Lake Nipissing and the Pacific Ocean.

One of the announcements which the organ has made is that the Government have determined to make Burrard Inlet the Western Terminus of the railway. The Ministry would get much more credit than can possibly be accorded them now for arriving at this conclusion if recent events on the Pacific slope did not indicate a motive for this step which is anything but creditable. Had the people of Vancouver Island shown a greater readiness to back the Government's treachery and give a cordial hand of welcome to their Plenipotentiary Extraordinary, it is exceedingly probable that the Mainland would not have been favoured to the disadvantage of the Island. That the Island should be slighted in so very marked a manner is the more remarkable when we remember that Mr. Edgar offered, on behalf of the Dominion Government, to proceed forthwith with the construction of the railway from Victoria to Nanaimo, that is to say, along the whole easterly side of the Island. The intention of the Government when they made this offer must have been to have made Bute Inlet the Mainland terminus, and adopt Mr. Sandford Fleming's suggestion to establish a steamship ferry between Bute Inlet and Nanaimo until such time as the increase of traffic would justify a more permanent connection. Indeed the organ is impressed with the consciousness that the Ministry have been playing a double game in this as in other respects, for it acknowledges that during the session the belief was that Bute Inlet would be selected as the Mainland terminus. Why has the change been made?

This is an important enquiry. The organ says the change has been made because later surveys have shown that a better route can be obtained from Fort Edmonton to Burrard Inlet than from the Fort to Bute Inlet, and that the former line will be shorter than the latter. These statements may both be correct, and they may not; and we are strongly inclined to think that they have been made without a due reference to facts, and simply to justify a change in the programme which would enable Mr. Mackenzie to punish the people of Vancouver Island for their want of subserviency to him. If the railway on the Island is ever to be built, then certainly Bute Inlet is the natural Mainland terminus, and should not be departed from except for the very strongest possible engineering reasons. Mr. Fleming's last report, with the purport of which we have made our readers acquainted in several articles, does not indicate any such reasons. On the contrary the surveys all pointed to Bute Inlet as the terminus most easily reached, while the several routes projected between Fort Edmonton and Burrard Inlet were spoken of as presenting engineering difficulties of a most serious character. Seven routes are traced in Mr. Fleming's report, the first commencing at Burrard Inlet, as the most southerly point in British Columbia, with each succeeding one running from a point further north until the River Skeena is reached. The routes from Burrard Inlet are somewhat summarily dismissed as being almost impracticable. That from Howe Sound is spoken of in pretty much the same way. Nos. 4, 5 and 6 routes all start from Bute Inlet, and the two latter are referred to as having "very decided ad-"vantages." The least that can be said is that it is not a little singular that these "advantages" should assume a different complexion so soon as it became necessary to truckle to Mainland subserviency and punish Island obstreperousness. We do not say that later reports from the Chief Engineer may not warrant the announcement which has been made; but, in view of the reports before us, the change is certainly suspicious, and, so far as the success and usefulness of the railway are concerned, it is a change which we believe to be fraught with evil consequences.

Esquimault is the natural and proper western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Being seventy miles nearer to the ocean than Burrard Inlet sailing ships would prefer it, for being able to sail up the Straits of Fuca to Esquimault Harbour without the aid of tugs they would save pilotage and tug dues, while the underwriters' charges for such a voyage would be less. Steamers would also prefer Esquimault. On their trips between San Francisco and Japan they would, no doubt, be glad to call at British Columbia, at least one way, if the Pacific Railway terminated there; but it would be a very serious matter to add double another seventy miles to their voyage to creep up to Burrard Inlet. The political reasons for preferring Esquimault are so very strong that one is forced to believe—if the organ has made a proper announcement—that either the Government did not consider them, or, as usual, are playing into the hands of our American neighbours. The Imperial Government having fixed upon Esquimault as the headquarters of the Pacific Squadron, there are always several men of war in port. In case of any difficulty arising in connection with the shipping and the warehouses which would naturally centre at the railway terminus, their protection, in case of any difficulty occurring, could be had. In case of hostilities arising between Great Britain and the United States communication between Esquimault and Burrard Inlet could be seriously impeded, if not altogether stopped, by the fire of the guns from the fortifications on San Juan Island and others of the group awarded to the Americans under the Treaty of Washington, while the naval force would have to be divided in order to protect two points—Esquimault,—which, with its natural advantages, will always be commercially important, and Burrard Inlet, only artificially made so by possessing the terminus of the Pacific Railway.

The question is of such great national importance that one may be permitted to hope that the Government have not arrived at the conclusion attributed to them by their newspaper organ. Only very great advantages of an engineering kind could at all justify the selection of Burrard Inlet as the western terminus of the road, and we have yet to learn that it possesses those advantages to any extent, much less to such an extent as would outweigh the reasons why Esquimault should have been selected. The question is one which, we are sure, will be carefully scrutinized by Parliament, and the course of the Ministry, if fairly foreshadowed, will require much stronger reasons than have been yet adduced to justify what looks like a most extraordinary procedure.

TERRORISM TRIUMPHANT.

There can be no cause for regret at the election of Mr. Goldwin Smith to a seat in the Council of Public Instruction. It is indeed a matter for sincere congratulation that the learned Professor's vast abilities should in any way be devoted to the public service of his adopted country. There is, however, some reason to think that the election of his opponent would have been a more creditable exploit on the part of the great body of Ontario school teachers. Bread and butter will always be a powerful argument with *employes*, who, whatever their talent and standing, cannot afford to quarrel with the powers that be. The votes polled at the recent election cannot be considered in any sense an exposition of the views of the teachers. Had they been left to themselves, untrammeled by quasi-official pressure and intimidation, there can be no doubt they would have elected Dr. Sangster, a man with whom they were all more or less personally acquainted, and whose thorough practical familiarity with the working of the School law was a qualification that had used to be told to none of them. Those who did not vote at all—and their number is an immense proportion of the whole—must be assumed to be those who would not yield to the bullying of the *Globe* and the threats of the Grit canvassers so far as to vote for Mr. Smith, while at the same time they were afraid of the consequences if they voted for Dr. Sangster. Perhaps a case for the effectual use of the ballot was never more clearly made out, and had it been in operation the Brown-Mowat terrorism would have received a rebuff that would have been a healthy example to tyrants of their order. All good judges are surprised at the result, everybody having agreed that the vindictive, spiteful and unmanly attacks of the *Globe*, with reference to Dr. Sangster's family matters, were sure to elect him. If that opinion was well-founded the paradoxical conclusion must be arrived at that the *Globe* is losing its influence. One word of praise for those thirteen hundred who, deaf to threats and expostulations, refused to be intimidated. Theirs is the happy thought that they did what they conceived to be their duty, without fear or favour. Mr. Smith will bring to the Council the great prestige of his name and high talents, and but for the natural objection all respectable persons must feel to seeing a man backed by a personal enemy who [illegible] to be possessed of type and a daily paper, we might have felt disposed to prefer his election to that of Dr. Sangster. The *Globe's* "morality [illegible] only one thing to say [illegible] stone-throwing would [illegible] the observation. We [illegible] apologists of vice, and have no [illegible] to extend to perjured triflers [illegible] marriage vows; but the *Globe* attacked Dr. Sangster in a course of persecution and misrepresentation, that, if we mistake not, will redound on its originators with overwhelming force before the record of the day's vote has been long before the country. And here we would close, but for one omission. Mr. Smith's course in manfully publishing his repudiation of a step proposed to be taken by his supporters, should be remembered in the day of his victory. It was only what anybody conversant with the high tone that distinguishes the famous author would have expected of him. The only pity was that his friends persisted in circulating the infamous rehash of the *Globe's* worst calumnies after Mr. Smith had expressed his disapproval of, or non-concurrence in, their mode of attack.

SHOPPING.

"What can newspaper writers know "about such matters as 'shopping'?" we can imagine some fair reader exclaiming when she sees the above heading, "Pray Messrs. journalists, attend to your "political business, and do not intrude "into the high and mysterious domain "belonging exclusively to your betters." Well, one admits that to purchase the household necessaries in food or clothing is usually one of the duties devolving on the female head of the family, and certainly not the least difficult one. Yet the male species may have, and meekly offer, a few ideas on the performance of a business which needs much discretion, a firm determination, and not a little knowledge. It seems rather singular that what may be called the morality of shopping is not considered by parents a necessary part of education. It is manifest that a good many adults of both sexes are frequently evidencing that they have never learned the art of spending money properly. An indiscreet or ignorant purchaser may spend a good deal of money and after all have little to show in substantial results. How many a superfluous article of dress, or furniture, how many a trifle which disgusts almost as soon as possessed, could easily have been dispensed with! In Earl Russell's life of Thomas Moore reference is made to a celebrated judicial functionary who earned vast sums during his legal career—£200,000 or £300,000—yet left next to nothing when he died, though he had not lived apparently in any specially liberal style. Everybody was perplexed as to what he had done with his money. There is a sort of expenditure not inaptly described by the word "muddling." The money goes,—even its owner can hardly explain how, when, or where,—while, to crown all, there is positively nothing in hand to show for the outlay. Earl Russell supposes that his legal friend had been a peculiar adept in this perplexing but facile art of dissipating £ s. d. Confessing that not a few men do not shine in the department of spending money, one may perhaps be permitted without offence to hazard the observation that, in the matter of purchasing, women—dear creatures!—are particularly liable to be tempted to indiscretion. Their natural taste for the beautiful, their personal vanity, their emulation to be seen to possess what others have, all tend to assist a persuasive shopman in inducing them to buy not only what they need, but also what they do not need yet specially admire. Many a woman enters a draper's shop intending merely to get some small personal or family requisite, but does not come out again until she has lightened her purse by the acquisition of various articles "so sweetly pretty, you know," or so "wonderfully cheap," that she really could not help buying them. Not seldom, however, that wonderfully cheap bargain proves to be quite a mistake. It was what she could have got almost anywhere at the same price. Or even had it been as cheap as she supposed, she did not really want it. Pretty often, too, that which looked so sweetly pretty in the shop has, somehow or other, lost its beauty when brought home, and the conscious purchaser is vexed with the thought that she has spent money which ought to have been appropriated to other purposes.

We believe it is with spending money as with other branches of what schoolmasters call useful knowledge. As botany, grammar, trigonometry, fencing, single-stick, and the use of the globes, are not natural to mortals, but have to be taught to ingenuous youth, so the art of judiciously laying out cash must be the fruit of early and prudent initiation. It is a fact that the worst spenders among boys are those who only have an occasional "tip" at long intervals, while youngsters at school or at home, who have a regular allowance, though they make ducks and drakes of it at first in true juvenile style, get by degrees an insight into the value of money, the inconvenience of spending it too fast, and the necessity of self-restraint and economy which those do not acquire who rarely have money to spend. Young persons may also get useful knowledge in the purchasing way by being taken, as occasion serves, into stores, and habituated to see various goods and shopping transactions. Some parents commend the plan of letting the young girls, under kind guidance, spend for themselves whatever sum is allowed for their clothing. Experience may be thus less dearly bought by them than when they enter on the responsible duties of wife and mother.

Perhaps one of the most important lessons in the art of shopping necessary to be deeply inculcated and applied, is self-denial. Prudence in purchasing does not consist in not being tempted, but in not yielding to temptation. "Is "this indispensable?" "Can I do with-"out it?" These are cardinal questions for the keeper of the family purse. The mere pleasure of novelty in the case of an uncalled for purchase will last but a few days or hours. But the sacrifice of a sum which would, by-and-bye, secure things really wanted; will entail serious and abiding discomfort. Unnecessary expenditure always robs somebody—either ourselves or others. The first lesson, therefore, is the purchasing of only such things as cannot be done without with comfort and propriety. Very many people might be saved the necessity of saying "I *must* do without this" had they been early taught voluntarily to say "I *can* do without it." But a good and economical manager when the necessity of having some article is clearly apparent, will probably think again before she goes to buy it. She will very likely look over all her pieces and garments, and examine whether by fair contrivance she cannot obtain the article needed from something already possessed, but which, in its present form is of little or no value. She will also make quite sure that the time she must necessarily spend in shopping might not be better employed in tidily mending, so as to enable her to defer purchasing. This delay may be equal to receiving for the time the interest of the money to be spent. If a man be in trade, this is of more importance than a wife may at first suppose. For instance, if by mending a set of shirts the outlay of ten dollars can be postponed for six months, it is possible that the husband, during that time, may, by trading with the ten dollars, make twenty dollars of them. We may add that while there are circumstances which may justify a temporary debt for food, debts for clothing can seldom be defended. The more contracted the means the more strictly should they be discountenanced and struggled against. We have heard women say: "I must "and will do without new clothing till "I can pay for it," and though such a resolution doubtless entails occasional small unpleasantnesses, we have observed that in the dress of such women and their household and family belongings, there was a graceful simplicity far more pleasing to persons of sense and taste than a more studied and expensive style.

Purchasing of pedlars or hawkers is a hazardous mode of spending money. "Hawker's goods" is a term known in various trades for articles of an inferior class. There are now in all towns, shops for all kinds of customers, where everybody may have the exact thing wanted. Respectable storekeepers prefer a fair and fixed price and rate of profit. Indeed there are some who would rather lose a customer than alter the price of their goods. It is to be regretted that many purchasers—especially female purchasers—should ever ask for an abatement. This is unfair, and strictly speaking, somewhat insulting to the honest trader, besides being a deceptive practice. Customers may be quite sure that where abatement is habitually insisted upon, dealers will protect themselves by first putting on as much (possibly more) to the fair price as they think they will be asked to take off. The best course where overcharges are attempted or suspected, is not to haggle for reduction, but to avoid such places, and resort to those where buyer and seller have confidence in each other. While it is desirable that a buyer should know what articles to ask for, and its value, and not depend too much on shopmen (who are sometimes conceited, stupid, ignorant, or perverse), yet, with respectable tradesmen a purchaser will generally find material assistance by placing confidence in them. They understand their goods and the purposes for which they are made, and can be of material service to well-behaved customers. But when, as is sometimes the case, customers appear by looks and manners to express, "We know what "we are not going to take what you re-"commend. Of course you do it for "your own interest"—they are necessarily left to their own choice, and frequently buy to much less advantage than they might have done by a more amiable deportment. We must remark too, that a person who, for the mere gratification of curiosity, or to pass away time, or indulge idle whims, causes a trader to show a variety of goods, sometimes without even the intention of purchasing, is guilty of robbing him of his time, which is often valuable property to him. Certainly those who should be most careful not to err in this respect are such as purchase with very restricted means, and who, therefore cannot hope to recompense the tradesmen by occasional large outlays of money.

THE WORLD'S HARVEST.

When one considers the extent to which Canadian prosperity is dependent upon the harvest yield it is not to be wondered at that our people are possessed of an unusual degree of anxiety at this season of the year—or, to speak more correctly, at a somewhat earlier period, when the result of the harvest is yet a matter of uncertainty. The work of harvesting has now so far progressed in Canada as to justify the assertion that we have not had more abundant crops for several years. And this is a strong assertion, in view of the excellent harvests of several years back. Fall wheat is said to be above the average, while spring crops are unusually abundant. Hay will probably be a short crop in consequence of the long drouth; but root crops of all kinds are reported of favourably.

In the United States the latest reports do not indicate more than average returns. There is a deficiency in the cotton crop. Tobacco will not show as abundant a yield as in former years. Fall wheat, barley and rye are above the average, and spring wheat somewhat below. In corn there is a large increase of acreage and fair promise of yield. The fruit crop is hardly an average. But altogether there is no ground for complaint, but rather the contrary. The hay and potato crops being both promising, there will be less inducement to substitute corn and oats for cattle food, and corn and wheat for potatoes for family consumption; there is therefore every reason to expect more than an ordinary sur lus for ex ort.

Cross we to the eastern hemisphere, and we find that the harvest there is hardly likely to turn out as well as was at first expected. The Mark Lane *Express* of August 18—reported by telegraph to a New York paper—says that both in France and England the crops are mostly secure, and that while those of the former country are about an average, those of England will be about seven per centum below the average. The Austrian crop is reported good, quite sufficient to counterbalance the English deficiency. Looking at Europe as a whole it is about fair to say that the harvest there will be a full average as to quantity and quality, but no more certainty; somewhat better was at one time anticipated.

A New York financial authority—the *Bulletin*—in the light of the harvest reports asks how they bear upon the future of breadstuffs. It does not coincide with those who predict a severe decline in wheat and corn as the result of the generally good harvest. It is never found that abundant harvests cause any great decline in prices, except in the event of the new supply coming upon already good stocks in hand. And that is not the present condition of the grain markets either in America or in Europe. The present stocks of grain, taking Europe and America together, are very light. As the *Mark Lane Express* recently remarked, "the barns and granaries of every coun-"try were never swept cleaner;" and before any important decline in prices can be effected, the depleted stocks must be replenished. It is in accordance with all experience that prices begin to yield when stocks begin to be burthensome, and, as a rule, not until then. When stocks have been lightened by a succession of poor harvests, it requires a succession of good harvests to fill up the vacuum; and therefore we must look to the possible event of abundant harvests in 1875 as the occasion of any material drop in prices, rather than expect that result from the crops now being gathered.

Whether our contemporary be right in its speculations, or not, there is every reason to believe that the good harvest of Canada will have an excellent effect upon fall trade, and that we have not as yet, at all events, reached the first of those years of short crops and consequent financial distress which Mr. Finance Minister Cartwright, with an evil eye both to the past and the future, so boldly and defiantly declared we had already entered upon.

WIDE AWAKE.

With hard words, such as decent Canadian journalists have long since discarded, Mr. Brown sought to stamp out the London *Standard* because that journal, in a couple of very able articles, pointed out the objectionable features of the proposed Treaty. Our London contemporary returns to the charge. Frankly admitting that the confession dragged from Mr. Brown, that the Treaty would at least not discriminate against England, makes the draft of Treaty less objectionable, it nevertheless sees in the resolutions adopted by the Dominion Board of Trade, at St. John, a true expression of the mercantile opinion of Canada, which, it holds, must of necessity be adverse to the Treaty. It did not need the silly letter of Reuter's Canadian agent to open the *Standard's* eyes to the false character of the despatch which that gentleman has undertaken to say was "liter-"ally accurate." It makes the full text of the resolution adopted by the Board of Trade the basis of its remarks, and, despite Mr. Brown's provocation to a reply "in kind," hits the Reciprocity Commissioner in a way which commends itself to respectable people infinitely more than the "base "hound" style of the Managing Director of the Ministerial hack. The article will be found elsewhere in our issue of to-day.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

A complaint which comes from Peterborough directs attention anew to the changes effected by the Ontario Act of last session relating to marriages. While everyone approved of the reduction of the license fee from $6 to $2, it was felt at the time—and events since then have demonstrated the correctness of that feeling—that the bill was passed mainly to give the Government the power of exercising their patronage in a manner which would inure largely to their own advantage. When the new Act came into force all the old issuers of licenses found their occupation gone, and were wholly dependent upon the grace of Messrs. Mowat and Fraser for re-appointment. This worthy brace of Ministerial Grits did what might have been expected of them—they appointed their own creatures to office, and dropped their political opponents as they would have dropped red hot iron. We think it is a fair ground of objection to the Ministry that under the guise of improving the law they should have made such a sweeping change in a large body of public officials. And, having put the license fees into the pockets of their particular friends, they ought to be careful to see that such annoyances and uncertainties as our correspondent refers to, and which do not stand alone of their kind, should be reduced to the minimum of frequency.

It is a singular fact in connection with the new appointments of the Government that several clergymen of the Roman Catholic Church have been made issuers of marriage licenses. We think we are correct in saying that Messrs. Mowat and Fraser have, in this respect, introduced an innovation. And a very improper and dangerous innovation it is. Why the clergymen of one church should be selected for this purpose is at least suspicious, and serves to show to what extent the President of the Canadian Evangelical Union—isn't that the name?—which takes occasion to damn Rome specially once a year, has got into the clutches of Rome's representative in the Cabinet. It is a "holy alliance" with a vengeance! Mr. Mowat's *praying* on the one side and *doing* on the other is a sight for the gods. If, in the Government's opinion, it is a proper thing to appoint clergymen to be issuers of marriage licenses, is there any good reason why the clergymen should be all ministers of one and the same Church? If there is any explanation to be offered of so singular a circumstance, we feel quite sure the people of Canada would like to have it.

THE PEMBINA BRANCH.

Tuesday was the last day of the time allowed by the Mackenzie Government for the reception of tenders for the grading of the Pembina Railway. The excuse given for hurrying on the work now is the probability of much distress in Manitoba unless it be proceeded with this fall. Some remarks on the subject in the Manitoba *Gazette* bear out fully what has already appeared in these columns. The Dominion Government seem to be incapable of dealing with any public matter without bungling. Out of a simple fancy which possessed the Premier, that this Branch should not be proceeded with until the American line was completed between St. Paul and Pembina, he determined to delay indefinitely the commencement of the work. At last, become conscious of the stupidity of his course, he advertised for tenders, and allowed just twelve days for their preparation and transmission to the Department! Our Manitoba contemporary shows very clearly that Mr. Mackenzie's "second thought" was not "best" in this case—that having allowed the greater part of the year to pass without taking any action he might as well have continued his *laissez faire* policy as betray anxiety for the people of Manitoba in a way which can be of very little practical use to them. The *Gazette* says it speaks advisedly, from some little experience of railway matters, when it declares that it is well nigh impracticable to commence grading before the winter sets in.

"The tenders are to be received up to August 25, after which date they will be opened, some here, others in Ottawa, and even if the contract is given and decided upon, a full week or more must elapse before the party whose tender is accepted can be notified of the fact. This is allowing the shortest possible time for this purpose, and we doubt if the matter will be settled so soon as it might be if Lieut.-Gov. Morris alone had the power wholly in his hands. Should the utmost promptness be used in awarding the contract, it will take the time we have stated. This will make it the first week in September, or later, before those who have tendered are notified of the successful one. This is the first step, but we fail to see how the party who may have the award made him is to supply the stock, material, and plant necessary to carry on the work until the beginning of October, allowing a minimum time, and we doubt if it can be done within this time, no matter what exertions may be made. If there is a man amongst those who will contract who can place the stock here for grading over sixty miles of railway before the winter sets in, he may safely be dubbed 'The Wizard of the North,' and we would seriously advise that he should be appointed the Chief of the Dominion Public Works, so that his magic wand might influence the movements of contractors on other public works. We will take it for granted that the successful contractor can perform this unprecedented feat, and have his men and material ready in three weeks, how much time will remain before King Frost places the ground under his dominion for six months? The most casual observer here can see for himself that it is a matter of impossibility to carry on railway operations in the North-West in winter. It is just simply a physical impossibility that any contractor can do more than prepare for an early start next spring.

"Again, the road has not been located, and a little time must elapse before the engineering party—not yet appointed—can determine the route or stake out the work required, unless this is to be left entirely to the contractor, in which case the want of this precaution will be the source of endless disputes between the Government and the contractor, and we should not wonder if it led to the total abandonment of the project."

The awakening of the Government from their lethargy and indecision, our contemporary observes, may require the expression of gratitude on its part, but it says it is like offering a crust in charity after the intended recipient is so exhausted that he cannot stretch forth a hand to receive the long-delayed favour. This is a severe reflection upon the departmental management of one who if anything is "practical." We pointed out to Mr. Mackenzie, during the session, that *then* was the time to push on this road, if the construction of it was part of the general policy of the Government. Wiseacre-like he followed the bent of his own sweet will, and the result is a futile effort now to assist the suffering emigrants of the Prairie Province.

In this connection a suggestion made by the Manitoba *Gazette* is worth Mr. Mackenzie's "best consideration." Were the contract for ties given out at the same time as the contract for grading, our contemporary thinks that there would be some chance of employment for the emigrants and settlers who will suffer from the grasshopper visitation; otherwise none. Perhaps the "practical" Premier, who would not act upon sensible advice when it was given him five months ago, will, by adopting the *Gazette's* suggestion, give some evidence that his advertising for tenders at this late season of the year is really what it professes to be, and not, as may be reasonably inferred, a blind to cover a job.

The product of the wheat crop of California the present year is declared to be over-estimated by 10,000,000 bushels.

A person who had felt the horns of a wild, untamed Texas steer as it careered madly through the streets of St. Louis, happened to read in the market reports that there was "a better feeling in Texas cattle." He remarked that it was time for it, and he was glad of it.

BAZAINE.

HIS ROMANTIC ESCAPE.

(Paris Correspondence N. Y. Times.)

Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 1874.

The news of the escape of Marshal Bazaine reached me upon the Terrace of Saint-Germain, and I interrupt my promised repose to give you the details as they are now reported. As accustomed as the French are to sudden and startling events, this news caused a deep and widespread emotion. It was a *coup de theatre* which has been for three days the prominent topic of conversation. As could have been foreseen, the appreciations of the journals are extremely varied. The organs of the extreme Republican Party do not hesitate to accuse the Government of connivance, or, at least, of complaisance; for in France partisan feeling is mingled with everything. Those who rejoiced in the escape of Rochefort from Noumea, and who were very careful not to incite the Government on to a rigorous inquiry, are now loud in their furious and indignant cries at the escape of Bazaine. Some go so far as to say that, owing to the great age and enormous bulk of the ex-Marshal, it would have been impossible for him to have scaled the walls of Sainte-Marguerite, and let himself down a distance of thirty-five yards with the aid of a rope, and intimate that he went out of the front door, with the full knowledge of some one who knew well what he was doing. In plain language, this means that Marshal de MacMahon was privy to the escape. But in the same way Louis XVIII. was accused of aiding and abetting in the escape of M. De La Valette.

The details given of the escape are a little romanesque, but I give them as related in the most widely-accepted version. First, however, I return for a moment to the preliminary facts. On Monday, Oct. 6, 1873, the first court martial met at Versailles, under the presidency of the Duc D'Aumale, to sit upon the case of Marshal Bazaine. The charges were first made by Gambetta, and formulated by two officers of the army of Metz bitterly hostile to the Marshal. M. Thiers would never consent to his being put upon trial, on the ground that it would tend to lessen the respect of the army for superior authority, and this eminent statesman has since expressed his regrets that he had not taken the responsibility of sending Bazaine out of the country before resigning. On the 24th May a Government came in bitterly hostile to the Empire, and the trial of Bazaine was then regarded as a blow to that party. The calculations in this respect were not entirely accurate. On the 12th December, 1873, the court-martial found Bazaine guilty of failure in his duty, but not of treason, and of surrendering an army to the enemy in the open field. The penalty was death, and the Duc D'Aumale sentenced Bazaine to military degradation and to death. But, by what process of reasoning no one has yet been able to divine, the men who had just sentenced Bazaine to be shot signed, with unanimity, a petition to the President, recommending him to use his right of clemency. MacMahon could not do otherwise, under the circumstances, than to commute the death penalty to imprisonment for twenty years. Bazaine was sent to the fortress of Sainte Marguerite, the prison-house of the "Iron Mask," of Archbishop de Broglie, and several other illustrious State prisoners.

A short time ago, or after the ex-Marshal had been some seven months in prison, Mme. Bazaine asked MacMahon to change the penalty into exile for life, and while he would have gladly done so, if he could with safety, or without raising popular clamours against him, the President felt obliged to refuse the petition at this time. It was not until this and other attempts had failed that the plan of escaping was accepted by Bazaine. He was urged to it by his wife, who pleaded with him daily, and who used one very strong argument. In France, she said, revolutions were frequent, and one might burst upon the country at any moment. If the Radicals were to succeed to power again, by any chance, the first act of the new Government would be to sign the death-warrant of Bazaine. Although this is an exaggeration, there can be no manner of doubt that his life would be in danger. It was by constant pleading with him that the faithful wife finally won his consent to leave the island. Some of the journals pretend that he was on parole, but this is absurd. A prisoner does not promise not to escape unless he gets some privileges in return, and Bazaine has had none whatever. He has been constantly subjected to a rigid prison discipline, has never been allowed to walk, except upon the parapet, some ten feet square, and has been refused nearly all the privileges he has ever demanded. He had a right to escape, therefore, if he could, but whether it was good policy to do so is a question which can hardly be decided at this time.

All the arrangements for the escape had been completed a week ago, and the parties concerned only awaited a favourable moment for carrying their plan into execution. Col. Villette, Bazaine's faithful friend, the man who sat by his side during the trial, and who asked to share his captivity, giving up his own hopes of advancement, was only allowed to sleep upon the island, but was granted the privilege of coming over for a few hours each day. During the winter Mme. Bazaine and her children had been upon the island, but owing to the unhealthy air of summer they had to be sent away. As Mme. Bazaine could no longer be confined within the walls, under guard, she was allowed to visit her husband at stated periods only, and forced to procure a permit in advance. On Saturday she made her usual visit, and it was on Sunday night that Bazaine escaped. The care of the prisoner was confided to only four guards, drawn from the company of 100 men which comprised the garrison. At night a squad of men picketed before the gates of the fortress. Upon the side of the sea there is a perpendicular descent of thirty metres, nearly thirty-five yards, and as this side is narrow, no spot was found for placing a sentinel. The guard had to march upon the other angle, at some distance from this tolerably safe point. Indeed, owing to the enormous size of the prisoner, and his advanced age, it was thought impossible for him to escape from this dangerous point. Moreover, as in the case of Rochefort and the Communists of Noumea, it appears that the Government counted upon the sharks with which the waters are filled to guard the sea side of the castle.

On Sunday the Marshal had passed the greater part of the afternoon upon his narrow parapet, pacing up and down with Col. Villette; but soon after the departure of the latter Bazaine went to his room, and in a short time retired. About 10 o'clock the Commandant made his usual visit, finding his prisoner in bed. The guard had been set, and the picket post was also visited. It was a dark and stormy night, the mistral howling about the fortress, and raising menacing white caps upon the sea, and the black clouds hanging low in the sky, giving promise of rain. Although a steamer had been signalled just at dark, the Commandant felt that the conditions of the night were favourable to repose, and after seeing all things in order he too retired. What then passed could only be divined. It is known to-day that about 7 30 on Sunday evening Mme. Bazaine hired a boat, and, accompanied by a very young man, started out for a row. A Croisette fisherman recognized the lady, and saw her pulling an oar with feverish anxiety, and steering towards Sainte Marguerite. The boat was soon lost to sight. It was very dark when the boat came upon the island, where Mme. Bazaine and her companion must have lain for several hours tossed about by the storm. Meanwhile, the Marshal had risen, and after having attached the knotted rope to the iron bars of the window, had let himself down this giddy height. The rope was found there in the morning, and bearing eleven fresh blood stains upon it to show that the descent was not effected without danger. As the small boat had to keep beyond the surf, Bazaine had to swim in for some distance; but he was soon drawn in by his courageous and loving wife, and the boat was quickly pulled off to the steamer. The next morning the Italian coast was reached, and Bazaine safely landed at Saint Remo. It was not until the next morning that the guard had any intimation of the escape of their prisoner, but it seems strange that no one on the island should have seen either the boat close under the walls or the steamer only a short distance away.

The young man who accompanied Mme. Bazaine was a member of her family, a young Mexican by the name of Rull. He has several times cruised off the island in a steam yacht, but it was only the other day that the Marshal could be persuaded to leave. Col. Villette waited at Cannes until the news arrived, when he started for Paris to state what he knew, but was arrested before arriving. He is now in close confinement at Grasse. Mme. Villette has gone to meet her husband, but has not yet been permitted to see him. As I have above remarked, the comments of the press are extremely varied, and the Republican journals are generally ferocious. The *Univers* has the most energetic paragraph about the event. It says:

"It is an unhappy thing for the Government not to know how to even guard its prisoners; but it knows how to guard so few things that no one would think of reproaching it for so little. As for Marshal Bazaine, that he was in the right is clearly evident, and he appears to have executed his sortie with as much resolution as success. We are very glad of this adventure. It is permissible for a Marshal of France to escape by the window of a prison of State, and to refuse, at his own risk and peril, the benefaction of a commutation of a penalty which condemned him to die for twenty years. Such mercies, not asked, are not binding ties of gratitude. If one did not wish him to escape he should have been shot or turned out of the country. He was tired of prison life, had something else to do, perhaps, and hence left. It occurs to our minds that the life of this valiant soldier is not yet terminated, and that his departure might be his entry upon a campaign elsewhere except with us. He may find a battle-field where there will be Prussians or *Petroleurs* (petroleum users, or Communists). What is certain is that there are people somewhere who now have an opportunity for changing very considerably the plans of diplomacy."

This is probably a hint that Bazaine intends to join the Carlists, but as an offset to this another journal says that he only escaped because Marshal Serrano had offered him a command. Knowing Spanish pride, I cannot think there is any truth in this report. One thing is certain, and that is that the State has been very considerably relieved. An immense burden has been removed. It costs over 200,000 francs a year to guard Bazaine, and he is a constant source of anxiety. Of course a great fuss will be made about an official inquiry, and about the punishment of somebody, but if the press will only let the matter rest MacMahon will only be too glad to do so. In a short time "good riddance" will be the popular verdict.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

EUROPEAN.

China is actively preparing for the contingency of a war with Japan.

There were destructive fires at Nottingham and Southampton, Eng., Monday.

Five hundred of the locked out English agricultural labourers started for Canada Tuesday.

The European Powers will yet delay full recognition of the Spanish Republic owing to the unwillingness of Russia to join in the movement.

The Virginius difficulty has cropped up again. It appears that Spain is demanding reparation from the United States for filibustering expeditions fitted out against her territory, and that the American Government admit no liability.

A colliery explosion, which caused the death of eight miners, occurred Monday at Hanley, Staffordshire. In the mining districts the second day of the week is pretty generally made a holiday, under the name of "Saint Monday," and to this circumstance is to be attributed the fortunate circumstance of so few lives being lost.

AMERICAN.

The announcement that Henry Ward Beecher was to preach at the Twin Mountain House, N.H., caused a large influx of people to hear him.

A Brazilian ironclad has bombarded a town in South America, and it is not unlikely that war between Brazil and the Argentine Republic may ensue.

The animosity between the whites and blacks in the South appears to be increasing. A desperate affray is reported in Kentucky, in the course of which some United States troops were fired on by both parties.

Several American contractors have arrived at Fort Garry, in expectation of getting the contracts for the Pembina Railway, about to be given out by their friends, the Dominion Government, in order to complete early communication with the North Pacific.

All of the Coal Companies doing business in the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys stopped work on Saturday on account of the market being overstocked. They expect to resume on the 1st of September. Twenty thousand men and boys will have no employment during the suspension.

The papers in the suit against Beecher by Theodore Tilton were served on Thos. G. Shearman, Beecher's lawyer, on Saturday. The damages are laid at $100,000 and the allegations are for criminal cohabitation and conversation with Mrs. Tilton. The counsel for Tilton is said to be preparing complaints for libel against the New York *Tribune* and *World* and the Brooklyn *Eagle*.

There was a fracas at Monterey, Ky., last Sunday, growing out of a fight on election day, between Willis and Jas. Russell and some others, who attacked one Greenbarr. The Russells were arrested and bound over for examination. They threatened the County Attorney with death if he prosecuted them. That officer called upon the Sheriff for protection, and the latter with a guard and the Attorney went to Monterey on Sunday. They were attacked by Russell's party, and one of the guards was killed. The Governor has ordered soldiers to Monterey.

News has been received from General Custar's expedition to the Black Hills, which shows that previous reports of the existence of gold in that region were not exaggerated. The district has hitherto been forbidden to the prospector on account of its being an Indian Reserve. After accounts now published by authority, however, it will be utterly impossible to exclude the rush of adventurous spirits which is sure to take place.

CANADIAN.

Two men were fined on Saturday at Paris, Ont., the sum of $9.90 each, for netting speckled trout.

The first frost of the season was observed along the line of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Monday morning.

A tailor named H. W. Bulbery was run over by a train, near London, Ont., on Tuesday night, and literally decapitated.

The Government have leased the property known as Major Hill, at Ottawa, to the corporation of that city, to be used as a public park.

A Mrs. McCormick got lost in the woods near Westbrook on Monday, and perished from exhaustion, her body not being found till Friday.

Another case of suicide occurred at Leamington Monday, when a man named Putnam inflicted a fatal injury upon his throat with a penknife.

Philip Fletchall was drowned on Saturday last near Dickenson's Landing by being knocked overboard from a barge by a blow from the tiller.

The investigation of the Essex election has already brought out a vast amount of evidence as to direct and indirect bribery by the Grit canvassers.

A meeting of the Provincial Cabinet, at which the Hon. Treasurer was present, took place on Tuesday in Quebec, and it was reported that a reconstruction of the Ministry is in contemplation.

An action for libel has been commenced against the Montreal *Star* for stating that the method adopted by a certain firm of [illegible] swindling." Damages laid at $25,000.

The Canadian cricketers were again beaten at Halifax on Tuesday, on this occasion by the team representing England. The concluding match of the tournament was then commenced, viz.:—Halifax v. All Comers.

The body of the old man named Nathan Lee, who was lost in the neighbourhood of Omemee a few days ago, was found on Sunday in a cedar swamp, the deceased having perished from starvation and exhaustion.

The difficulty which has existed for some time between the Canada Southern and Great Western Railways is now reported to have been adjusted, and the former will soon commence to run trains over the Suspension Bridge.

The citizens of London, Ont., are agitating a proposition for the wholesale removal of the unsightly wooden verandahs which spoil the appearance of the streets of that city, in much the same way as they do some of the thoroughfares of Toronto.

Messrs. Thompson & Smallpiece, proprietors of the *National*, were on Monday served with a notice to show cause why they should not be proceeded against criminally for publishing an alleged libel respecting the private acts of the Hon. George Brown.

About two p.m. last Sunday the body of Wm. Kerr was found in the Gananoque river, near the sawmill, his feet out of the water as if he had fallen in from the shore. The deceased is about thirty years of age, and came from Kingston about two weeks ago. Mr. Kerr, when last seen alive, was reclining on the back of the river. How the body came in the water is still a mystery.

On Sunday morning, about six o'clock, Larren Longhurst and Arthur Soyler were discovered in the hardware store of Greene Bros. & Co., Waterford, supplying themselves with knives, gun caps, and other small goods. These boys are aged sixteen and thirteen years. The goods recovered amounted in value to some twenty dollars, and the younger boy is in the hands of the constable. Longhurst is still at large.

On Thursday, the propeller City of London, while lying at the dock in Collins' Inlet, took fire from somewhere near the engine-room and in a few minutes she was a mass of flames. She had about thirty passengers on board, who were in bed at the time, and barely escaped with their lives, so rapid was the progress of the flames. Nearly all the passengers and crew lost their personal effects, and a great number jumped on to the dock in their night-clothes. A tug was sent to Killarney to procure blankets and other necessaries for the sufferers. A deck hand named Archie Campbell was burnt to death. The boat was insured with the Western for $18,000. She is burnt to the water's edge, and lies in eleven feet of water. About 100,000 feet of lumber on the dock were also burned.

A most shocking accident, which has thrown a deep gloom over the whole family of the Rev. Mr. Day, residing on Isabella street, Toronto, happened Sunday evening. It appears that most of the members of the family had accompanied Mr. Day to Church, but two or three remained behind, among whom were Miss Day, who is, we believe, about twenty-one years of age, and a young brother, who is about seven years old. There was also a lad staying in the house named Eddis. The two boys having commenced playing with a gun which was standing in one of the rooms, Eddis proposed that they should load it, but the lad Day said, "No, don't do that, because it's Sunday." In spite of the objection offered, Eddis loaded the gun, altogether unknown, however, to Day. Shortly afterwards, upon the latter seeing his sister enter the room, he playfully pointed the gun at her head, the muzzle being not more than two inches distant. The unfortunate boy, quite innocent of any knowledge of the contents of the weapon, then pulled the trigger, and literally blew out the brains of his sister.

On Sunday morning, there was another instance of the awful effects sometimes resulting from intemperance, as the victim in this case caused his own destruction. His name was Alfred Palmer, a painter, and he was quite young, being only between twenty-three and twenty-four years of age. He was single, and came out to this country from England rather more than a year ago. For a time he prospered, and he entered into partnership with George Ford, of this city, of the same trade as himself, he being a painter. He took, however, to drinking habits, and for four days he had been on one continual "spree." He boarded at the house of his partner, on Morrison street, near Brant street, and it is said that, although trade was good, he could not pay his expenses, spending all the money he could get in whiskey. About half-past ten the deceased made preparations in his room for shaving himself, but went out in a short time to the woodshed, speaking to the landlord as he passed him in the yard. After a quarter of an hour had elapsed the people of the house thought Palmer must have fallen asleep, and in about five minutes more somebody went to the shed with the intention of waking him, when the unfortunate young man was found bathed in a pool of blood and quite dead, but still warm. His throat was cut, and his head half severed from the body. By his side lay the instrument by which he had committed suicide—a razor, which was covered with gore. Dr. Hagle was at once sent for, but of course could do nothing but have the body carried into the house.

AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER NOTES.

OLD GRASS LANDS.

BY ALEXANDER HYDE.

After an experience of a third of a century in cultivating land, and some observation of others experience, we have come fully to the conclusion that grass is the crop to which Northern farmers should give chief attention. It is the indigenous crop of the hilly countries in the north half of the temperate zone, grows without being sown, has a natural rotation of its own, and is therefore capable of growing on the same land, with suitable top-dressing for a long succession of years, if not indefinitely. It is the latter peculiarity of the grass crop to which we desire to call particular attention at this time.

Long years since we noticed that when we sowed only timothy and clover (trefoil), red-top, meadow-fescue, fowl-meadow, Kentucky blue, and other grasses put in an appearance after a series of years, till finally some dozen varieties were found growing side by side. For two years clover was chiefly seen, then timothy predominated, but this variety generally held the ascendancy only for three or four years, when the meadow-fescue (*fescuca pratensis*) was the most abundant, though never a seed of it was sown by us. In moist land the fowl-meadow came in abundantly, and a most excellent grass it is. After the Kentucky blue got a firm foothold, it held pre-eminence like a prima donna, and has never seemed willing to acknowledge any other grass as on a par with itself, though it will tolerate all kinds as acting an inferior part on the same land. How long the Kentucky blue will hold possession we do not know, but we shall not object to a perpetual Kentucky dynasty, if it behave as well in the future as in the past. We consider this grass as identical with June grass. It comes early, is fit for the barn by the 20th of June, and although the first crop is not as heavy as one composed mainly of timothy, still, with a good sprinkling of meadow-fescue and other grasses, it is a very respectable crop, and is highly relished by all stock. One great beauty of the blue grass is, that it springs up rapidly for a second crop, and by the middle of August the ground is completely covered with a thick mat, lying over almost horizontally, with scarcely any other grasses, and no flowering stems to be seen. The second crop is fully equal to the first in quantity and better in quality, as it is composed seemingly of stemless leaves. When cut with a scythe it rolls over like a fleece of wool when it is being sheared, and we desire no better hay than it makes for milch cows, sheep and young stock.

We never sowed any of this blue or June grass seed, but it has come into our old meadows of its own accord, in the course of a natural rotation, and seems inclined to keep possession, for it must be a dozen years since we first noticed its preponderance. It would probably be poorly adapted for a four or five years' rotation course, as it seems to get foothold more slowly even than red top, but, when once in possession, to do better each year. It grows well on dry land, and does not object to shade, and is, therefore, better adapted to an orchard than orchard grass (dactylis glomusta). We have one orchard stocked with orchard grass, and another in which the blue grass has usurped possession, and we find the latter to grow under the trees much better than the former.

We ought to add that our mowing lands are top-dressed each autumn. We do not believe in reaping where we have not strewn manure, and if we cut two crops each year the land should certainly be kept in heart by an annual top-dressing. This need not be pure barnyard manure. Indeed we prefer to top-dress with compost of which muck or leaf-mould forms the basis, both as a matter of economy of ammonia, and because we desire to keep the surface of our mowing lots as light and porous as possible.

Treated in this manner, we are confident that the quality of the hay improves with the length of time in which land natural to grass is kept under the mower. This is English practice, but it has been thought that our climate would not allow it. Possibly some dry, sandy lands would yield slight returns under this system and under our clear hot suns; but we have tried it on a gravelly knoll which we desired to keep as a lawn, and the only trouble has been that the grass grew too luxuriantly, and required mowing too often. On this old grass land the variety of grasses growing will astonish anyone who has not examined the matter. We have counted twenty varieties on a square foot, and to this variety mainly we attribute the superiority of the hay, though the slight, delicate stalks and abundance of leaves contribute to its excellence. On new-stalked land the crop seems large, but the stocks are coarse, and are not relished by cattle as are the finer fibred stalks and leaves which old and well swarded meadows furnished.

Neither purchasers nor producers of hay are wont to attach sufficient importance to the difference in its quality. The price of hay is quoted at $20 or $30, as the case may be; but while some is worth twice the market price, other samples are dear at half the quotation. Hay is hay to some folks; but there is as much difference in hay as in tea, for hay is a species of tea—that is, it is a dried herb from which a liquid extract can be made, and it is no bad test of the liquid of hay to make a "drawing" of it. That made from the fine hay of an old meadow will be found as much superior to "new "stocked" as green Hyson is to the coarse Bohea.

But what becomes of the principle of rotation if we keep our lands constantly in grass, some one may ask? The principle is not violated by this system. We have already alluded to the natural rotation which is to be seen in all grass lands, as also in forests, and indeed in all the vegetable kingdom. Where grow oaks and maples now once grew pines and hemlocks, and in the course of time the pines will again grow in place of the maples, and this without any intervention on the part of man. In like manner, where timothy now grows and seems to have entire possession of the land, red-top, meadow-fescue, &c., will certainly intrude, and timothy will no longer be the predominant variety.

Will not weeds take possession of the old meadows after a while? Yes, if the meadows are not properly fed. There is some truth in the maxim of the ancients that nature abhors a vacuum. Weeds abound on old worn-out lands simply because the proper nutriment for a more delicately organized herbage has been exhausted. White daisies and golden-rod, and even hard-hacks, are better than utter barrenness. In their decay they furnish food for a better class of plants. Nature is determined to produce something, and if left to herself always produces that to which the soil is most congenial. If water abounds, coarse aquatic plants will as surely grow without any sowing of the seed, as will clover on land that is good loam. We have seen alluvial meadows that had for a long series of years produced large crops of good hay, being kept in good heart by a deposit of fine fertilizing material in the annual overflow of a neighbouring river, suddenly have their herbage changed to reeds and rushes by the damming of this river and the consequent setting back of the water over their surface. In those parts of the meadows where the water did not come within a foot of the surface, the character of the grasses was changed.

In order to keep out weeds it is not necessary to plough land, only feed it well and treat it properly in every way, and grass, and that of the best quality, will choke out the weeds. We know few more obstinate weeds than snap-dragon. It has been said that a patch of it in a meadow could only be eradicated by ploughing or pulling each plant up by the roots. We have seen such a patch exterminated by a liberal dosing of compost for two or three years in succession. Grass, like truth, will prevail if it only has a fair chance. Fighting weeds directly is like fighting sin directly. It is better to preoccupy the ground with something more valuable.

We have spoken of old meadows, but the same principles hold true on grazing lands. An old pasture furnishes better feed than one newly stocked, as every dairyman will testify. The great trouble with our pastures is that they are so neglected, so poorly fed. Top-dressing a pasture is a thing almost unknown. Semi-occasionally it may get a small allowance of plaster, but on plaster alone no pasture can furnish milk, beef and wool, for an indefinite time, without becoming exhausted of its phosphates, nitrates, and other salts. Some wood ashes or some Brighten fertilizer will keep old pastures producing sweeter feed than can be grown by ploughing and re-stocking them. They are quite generally exhausted of their phosphate of lime, which has gone off in the milk, and beef and mutton sold from the farm, and hence the magical influence which bone-dust sometimes produces on these old grazing land. It puts new life into them, as Paddy Whalen said of his whiskey.

But shall we now plough and restock our lands? We are not such radicals as to go to this extreme. Grass is very good, and all flesh is made of it; but man cannot live by grass alone, though some of the Worcester County farmers—and they are good ones—say they plough only enough to raise a few potatoes and other vegetables for their families. Grain is almost ignored by them. There are, however, many pieces of rough and swale land that ought to be ploughed, made smooth, and restocked. This can be best done in August, and without the intervention of any hoed crop or grain. Turn them over smoothly, top-dress liberally, harrow thoroughly, and sow a variety and abundance of grass-seed, and a large yield may be expected another year, and for a succession of years, just as long as the land is supplied with what the grass crop demands. August is the best month for restocking land. It is the time in which nature does most of her grass-seed sowing. If the seed is sowed now the roots get a good foothold, and are enabled to withstand the upraisings and downsettings of the winter's freezings and thawings. Restocking land in the spring, in connection with a grass crop, is abnormal. It is like putting a little pig into a pen with a big hog; the pig does not have a fair chance. In like manner delicate grass-seed stands a poor chance when sowed with stout wheat or oats. The grain takes all the nutriment, and the little grass-seeds not only fare hard, but are literally smothered for three months.—*N. Y. Times.*

JUDGING STOCK.

(From the Live Stock Journal.)

For several years we have had attention directed to the defects of the method of awarding prizes to stock at public exhibitions. Amateur breeders have repeatedly urged upon agricultural societies the propriety of establishing a scale of points, by which, they have insisted, the comparative excellence of animals could be determined with mathematical accuracy.

The latest publication we have noticed on this subject is a pamphlet by Mr. Alexander Bruce, Chief Inspector of Stock for New South Wales, in which the theory of judging by a scale of points is urged with great confidence as a remedy for the evils of the existing system.

With men who are really judges of stock, we suppose there can be no difference of opinion as to the impracticability of this method. Suppose, in a scale of fifty we put the head at five, as we had it in the first volume of the *American Herd Book*. Now, if the head be not only objectionable, but positively bad—so bad that no intelligent man would even think of using the animal as a breeder—by this rule all we could do would be to discount the five points; and if, on the general average, the balance should be in its favour, so we should be obliged to make the award. The same observations will apply to the chest, which by the same scale is estimated at five points, and which is frequently found so defective as to disqualify an animal, however excellent in other points.

It may be answered, however, that these extreme defects are rare, and that the scale of points will, as a general rule, be of great service. But the experience of those who have attempted to work by the scale is, we believe, to the effect that it is of no assistance in any way whatever. The judges have been found as wide apart in determining the number at which to rate a particular point, as upon the general excellence of the animal. For example: The scale before us rates the hide, hair, and handling at seven points. Now we know that perfection in this point is rare, and the best judges would not be likely to agree as to the figure to be named between very good and very bad handling. We once knew a man acting as a judge at a State fair, whose choice was mainly determined by what he called the superior handling of the animal whose hide was so thin and papery, that the cow should really have had "no place" in the competition.

Speaking of this matter of handling reminds us of the fact that, for some cause or other, much less attention is paid to it now than formerly. It is, indeed, the most difficult point to determine, under the present system of preparation for exhibition, by which the hardest shorthorn hide is made loose and pliable, though a thin and flabby hide cannot be made elastic and mellow, as required to constitute a really good "touch;" nor are they able, by the most careful and expensive grooming, to produce the abundant, soft, and thick coat, essential to constitute the yielding, yet firm and mossy feel, which we denominate perfection in handling.

It was urged by some intelligent breeders in the convention at Cincinnati, in December last, that the quality of the flesh could not be determined by handling, and that the proper test was the butcher's block. While we have been the advocate for many years of the test here suggested as the most conclusive method of silencing many errors that are prevalent, as well as in regard to feeding as to breeding, we do not agree that the quality of flesh cannot be determined by the examination of the live animal. The "handling" will include an examination of the hide, the hair and the flesh. If the hair is soft and abundant, the skin mellow and elastic (not too thin), and the flesh, while not soft and flabby, feels yielding and mossy under the pressure of the hand, and at the same time evenly distributed over the carcase, there being no evidence of the accumulation of fat in lumps, we conclude that we have a well-marbled piece of beef which must be rich and juicy. If we have added to the characteristics a neat head and fine bony structure, it may be safely assumed that we have also fine-grained and tender flesh.

We did not suppose that good judges to stock could differ as to the conclusions to be drawn from the presence of such indications as these. There may be cases, as all men of experience have observed, where these characteristics are not decided enough to enable a man to pronounce an opinion with confidence, and where the best judge may be overruled by the test of the butcher's block. But we think that where we have a beast with a clumsy, heavy, ill-placed head, an ugly and sluggish-appearing eye, coarse bone, harsh hair, hard inelastic hide, with little fat on the outside of the carcass, and that little laid on in lumps, there can be no question but we have a tough, dry, and unsavory piece of flesh. While with the clean cut and bony head and legs, prominent and intelligent eye, mossy coat, and mellow and elastic hide, a deep and even distribution of flesh all over the carcass, we may be equally confident that we have beef of the first order of excellence.

This point of quality in determining the excellence of cattle we conceive to be second only to form and symmetry; after which we look to the constitution—the disposition to grow and accumulate flesh; and if, added to these, we have indications of a good milker, we have all the characteristics that go to make up the useful animal. If the animals in competition are equal, or nearly so, in these useful points, we may then look to style and elegance; but these, we insist, should never be allowed to make up for any serious defects in useful characteristics.

FALL PLOUGHING.

Many farmers are now propounding to themselves very serious questions as to how they should plough their lands both for wheat and for their next corn crop. As wheat usually follows oats or barley, and corn is planted upon a clover sod, there are a variety of circumstances which affect these questions differently. Wheat needs a mellow seed bed, cloddy surface. The first secures rapid and vigorous germination of the seed and an even growth, while the latter secures protection to the young plants from the storms of winter, and as the clods crumble down through the winter so in the early spring many exposed roots are covered with soil and a fine mellow surface is made for the grass or clover seeds. To procure this condition of the soil one ploughing is not sufficient. The stubble is covered too with shelled grain every one of which sprouting among the young wheat is a weed, and is as hurtful to the crop as any other weed could be. These cannot be killed by one ploughing. There are other reasons why in the majority of cases, two ploughings should be given for the fall wheat crop; but these two are sufficient in themselves. The first ploughing needs to be shallow—four or five inches is ample, as the most fertile soil, and that which is amply supplied with manure, needs to be brought to the surface in this ploughing, and the scattered seeds of the former crop need to be started into growth. Then a few harrowings and one thorough rolling will complete this preliminary work. The seed bed is now formed. But it is not as yet where it is wanted. A second ploughing two inches deeper than the first turns this down exactly where it is needed. The sprouted oats or barley and other weeds are buried and disposed of and these are below two inches of cloddy subsoil, three or more in depth of the finest mellowest surface-soil well intermingled with manure, if manure has been applied, as it should have been. If the seed is sown with a drill, and three inches deep, it is deposited in the centre of this seed bed. If it is sown broadcast, the rougher the upper surface the better chance there is that such grain will find its way by means of proper harrowing into its place in the mellow subsoil. No roller should follow the seed, if the advantages of the rough surface are to be retained. A hard, smooth surface is one of the worst conditions under which the wheat crop can go into the winter.

As to the ploughing of clover sod for the corn crop in the Fall, it will depend greatly on the character of the soil, and the condition of the sod. A heavy clay should be ploughed under any circumstances in the Fall. If there is a good burden of aftermath it may be ploughed down at any time; if the aftermath is light, as long as it will grow it should be left to do so. A light soil will be injured by Fall ploughing, and at the best it can gain nothing, it will be made compact by the rains of Winter and Spring, and must be cross-ploughed in the Spring, by which the half-rotted sod is brought to the surface where it is useless and is wasted. But the clay, when ploughed, remains rough and lumpy, until the Spring thaws reduce it to a condition of fineness and mellowness that no Spring ploughing or harrowing could produce. And beneath this mellow surface the sod remains as it was turned down, only as yet partly or but slightly decomposed, but prepared for the most rapid decomposition as soon as the warmth of a May sun reaches it.—*S. in N. Y. Tribune.*

DEVONSHIRE CLOTTED CREAM.

There is a custom of scalding cream, prevailing in Devonshire, England, which is worthy of introduction into this country. The product is exceedingly rich, thick, and palatable; it is a universal dish on the farmer's table, and sold very extensively in the London market, where it is quite celebrated. Colman's *European Agriculture* refers to "the famous clotted cream which is to be found on the hospitable tables of Devonshire, and is a great luxury."

The mode of preparation is as follows: Strain the milk in tin pans from four to six inches deep—pans with a handle on each side are more conveniently moved—allow it to remain in the dairy, which must be cool to suffer it to sour, from twelve to twenty-four hours; that is, the milk of one day is attended to on the following morning. Set the pan on a stove, not too hot a part, or better still in gently boiling water; watch for twenty minutes more or less, until the milk becomes very hot and the cream thoroughly "crinkled," or until it begins to contract so as to leave the sides of the pan; puncture the centre of the cream with a sharp wooden stick; if the hole made becomes larger showing contraction of the cream in the centre as well as the sides, then it is time to move the pan from the fire. Remove carefully to a cool place and let it be undisturbed until thoroughly cold—for twenty four hours, some writers say. Then skim this thickened cream, and either fresh or salted, it is an excellent substitute for, as many think a great improvement upon butter. If butter is wanted, it is only necessary to rub the cream with the hand for a few moments in a smooth wooden bowl to have it separated ready for washing. For each pound of butter there will not be more than half a pint of buttermilk. This method does away with much of the labour of churning, and with the handling of an immense bulk of buttermilk, and its difficult removal by washing or working. When properly made, the quality of the butter is excellent, and there is the advantage that the skimmed milk remains sweet and fit for use. Butter may be made oftener, and if eaten not, therefore need salt, and will have the delightful fresh taste of French butter.—*Portland Press.*

Preservation of Timber.—A manufacturer of Nancy, France, named Hatzfeld had long been considering why it was that oak lasted longer than other wood. In [illegible] some oaken piles, which had been buried since 1150, were dug up in Rouen; they were not only as black as ebony, but wonderfully hard. Hatzfeld referred this property of oak wood to the large quantity of tannin and gallic acid contained in it, [illegible]