

the Government had acted rightly or wrongly towards them.

Mr. Emerson—Whether or not the hon. the Premier has fully understood him, he could not say, but he would not admit himself to be insulted by insinuations that he had used the Road Grant for electioneering purposes. The insinuation is unworthy of the hon. Premier and of his position. He was speaking on the \$2000 special grant, lately passed the house. He repeated that the Government had placed no restrictions on the members in the expenditure of that sum when they found they had no power; but when it was found they could interfere to suit their own interests they did so; and on such cases were not attended to. He himself had gone both to the hon. Chairman Board of Works, and to the hon. Receiver General, and had pointed out to them the necessity of a landing place at Burgeo. He was under the impression that the hon. Premier was mistaken when he stated that the members had not control of the apportionment of his road grant.

Hon. Receiver General—What he had said was that the Committee should sanction the apportionment of the several votes.

Mr. Emerson never knew an instance in which the committee had exercised the power.

The Committee then rose, and the Chairman reported the resolutions, which were read seriatim, and adopted by the House.

The Hon. Receiver General, in accordance with the resolutions, reported from the Committee of the whole house on supply, presented a bill for granting to Her Majesty a sum of money for defraying the expenses of the Civil Government of this Colony, which was read a first time, second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Parsons presented the following petitions praying for grants to open and repair roads:—from John Smart and others, of Outer Cove; Wm. Martin, of Torbay, North side; John Roach and others, of Flat Rock; and from Mary Brawders and others, of Major's Path.

Mr. Emerson gave notice that, on to-morrow he would move an address to the hon. Legislative Council asking their concurrence in the addition of a clause to the last Section of the Limited Liability Bill.

The House then adjourned till to-morrow at 4 o'clock.



HARBOR GRACE, MAY 27, 1873.

ACTIVE preparations for the Labrador fishery are being made at the remaining supplying establishments, which give our town something like an active appearance, but without the indications of briskness which were evidenced during the supplying season of 1872 and previous years. This unpleasant state of affairs may be attributed to the fact that several large houses, from which emanated in former years employment to thousands, have had to succumb to the losses arising from unproductive fisheries and other causes immediately connected with them. Although other firms are doing their utmost to encourage trade, and break the ominous gloom which overspreads this once populous, but now perceptibly depopulating community, their endeavours are but partially successful. Emigration has become a mania with our excellent mechanics, and the consequence is that every opportunity to leave the colony is readily availed of. With what feelings of anxiety and expectation these must be filled, it were hard to say; but we ourselves cannot refrain from remarking that as lovers of our country, to require to leave our native land, perhaps forever, would cause us much mental suffering and grief.

A few, a very few indeed, do still, in the face of these facts, maintain that things are well enough. True! well enough, as long as they can live in palatial residences, and have no forebodings as to the future. To such we would say—selfish, heartless beings, have some feeling of sympathy for those who may not be in a position of independence; and remember that fortune is a feeble thing, which may relentlessly slip from your grasp into the deserving possession of such as "earn their bread by the sweat of the brow."

Whether the fisheries in which our people are now about to engage will prove prolific or otherwise, we are unable to say. It is our earnest wish, however, that an all-wise Providence may bless the labors of our hardy fishermen and crown their efforts with abundant success.

THE Road Board have commenced operations at last—"better late than never!" The sum of \$949.75 has been voted for constructing and repairing roads, streets and bridges in the district of Harbor Grace. By the judicious expenditure of this amount a great deal may be done in the way of carrying out the object for which the grant has been made. The sum of \$600—which has been voted for repairs on Harvey Street from Nod Street to Court House—will enable the Road Board to put that street in a good and creditable condition. Amounts, more or less, have been voted for repairs of other streets, roads, &c., including \$150 for repairs

on Bannerman Street, \$120 for excavating and building a wall and making a suitable entrance to the school house in Victoria Street, and \$200 for embankment on the safety wall in front of the late Mr. Anderson's property, near Bear's Cove. Now that provision has been made for carrying out improvements in this district, it is to be hoped that those entrusted with the public money will expend it to the best possible advantage.

YESTERDAY morning owing to an eclipse of the sun having been announced for an early hour, many denied themselves of that repose so necessary to the human frame, expecting to witness a spectacle worthy of their attention. The night previous was wet and stormy continuing so till about 5 o'clock, a.m., and at the time the "eclipse" was expected to be seen the "muddy" appearance of the east defied observation of the phenomenon. As for ourselves we indulged in sweet slumbers, only disturbed occasionally by the howling of the wind and the pelting of the rain on the window panes. Much preparation had been made by "amateurs," in so far as smoked glass of various shapes and sizes was got ready. The facts will no doubt be circulated by our friends at a distance from our office.

THE United States War steamer "Frolic" (not the "Florida," as stated in the telegraph news) arrived at St. John's on Thursday last, to take home the "Polaris" party.

We call attention to Professor Herman's advertisement in another column, from which it will appear a new and effective poison for the numerous pests (rats, mice, winged insects, or creeping things) which infest our domiciles, has been introduced. This effective remedy must prove a great boon to humanity, and doubtless many will give the preparation a trial.

The expected new tug boat (Steamer Cabot), for our harbor, arrived yesterday. She looked remarkably smart as she moved through our waters, and we doubt not she will be found quite suitable for the important service for which she has been engaged.—Times, May 24.

(From the Truro Sun, May 14.)

FEARFUL CALAMITIES.

Since the date of that terrible disaster, the wreck of the 'Atlantic,' it would almost appear as if a destroying angel had been commissioned to go forth and slay by hundreds if not by thousands the sons of men. Scarcely have our senses recovered from the shock of contemplating the account of one fearful calamity, than we hear that the angel of death has been at work another in direction. The accident on the Stonington railroad by which fifteen persons lost their lives, the massacre of U. S. troops by fierce Modocs in the lava beds, the falling of the iron bridge at Dixon, Illinois, where were congregated on a Sunday morning some 300 people to witness a baptism, causing the loss of 100 lives, is indeed heart-rending; but none of these are so fearful to contemplate as the terrible calamity we have this week to record, an account of which is given below by our correspondent who was on the ground.

Drummond Colliery Explosion

MANAGER AND ABOUT 70 COLLIERIES KILLED.

STELLARTON, May 14, 1873. On Tuesday (yesterday), the miners in the Drummond Colliery, Westville, who had been on the strike for increased wages, for some days, began operations, about noon. As three men were employed in one of the boards, in blasting, the Coal took fire and baffled all their efforts to extinguish it. After trying for some time, they sent for Mr. Dunn, the Manager, who at once went down, but before he could have reached where the fire was, the Mine exploded with a crash that was heard for miles around. This was followed by a dense volume of smoke issuing from the main slope.

A great crowd soon collected from the adjacent Collieries, who endeavored to open communication with the pit, by means of the air shaft. A Miner from the Black Diamond Colliery, named Timothy Howitt, volunteered to go down first. He was followed by three others who were the means of rescuing four men, two of whom have since died. But in their efforts to save the lives of others, they sacrificed their own. About half past two a second explosion took place, far more terrible than the first. (This time both the air pit and furnace pit exploded, together with three slopes, sending pieces of timber and stones hundreds of feet into the air, one stone weighing about ten pounds fell crashing through the roof of a house about three hundred yards distant.

It was distressing to witness the grief of those who had friends and relations in the pit. Mothers, wives and sisters, weeping for sons, husbands, and brothers whom they never expect to see again. Until the second explosion took place there was some faint hope that at least some might be saved by means of the air shaft but when it exploded all hope was lost.

About three o'clock a Special Train arrived with the New Glasgow Fire Engine and Company, who at once began to play upon the flames belching from the mouth of the pit, but though they worked well and bravely, they were unable to cope with their superior opponent, and soon had to abandon the task as utterly futile.

A Fire Engine and Company also arrived from Pictou about four o'clock but could render no assistance.

It is not expected that they can put the fire out. There is a great scarcity of water about there. If the burning continues for some time the Acadia Mines—which at the farthest, is only a few feet distant—will also likely catch. The Acadia also communicates with the Black Diamond Colliery and if they catch Westville is doomed.

This awful calamity, bereaving as it does so many families of loved ones, has thrown a deep gloom over the whole community. Besides Mr. Dunn the Manager there was a prominent overseer named Richardson among those who perished. Had the explosion not taken place till to-day the loss of life would have been much greater, as a large portion of men did not go to work on Tuesday as it was the first day the pit was working since the strike. Besides a number of the boys who act as trappers, were up at dinner. The correct number of the missing cannot yet be accurately ascertained, but it is generally believed that there are no less than seventy.

EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE.

SAN SALVADOR, March 24, 1873.

Ever since the 4th inst., when we had a shock of earthquake, which more or less damaged the greater part of the houses in town, we had most unpleasant reminders that we live in a volcanic country par excellence. Still, none of us feared that such total ruin was about to overtake the city as that which was caused by a succession of shocks on the morning of the 19th inst. Fortunately, before the severe shock came, one or two milder ones, though they were strong enough in all conscience, had frightened almost every one out of bed and into the court yards and public squares. Owing to this fact very great numbers of people were not killed, for the ruin of the city has been as total as was that of Mendoza, and as disastrous monetarily to the residents as it possibly could be.

When the great shock came, at a little after two a.m., the houses commenced crashing down in all directions, and just now there is not a house fit for habitation in the town, except a new frame building and the front part of the Hotel del Parque. The ground trembled and heaved; the undulations of the earthquake waves were as perceptible as are those of the sea to one in a small boat.

For miles round much damage has been done. Many people have gone to Santa Fecla, about three leagues off, where the different shakes, though they have made themselves felt, have not done much damage.

The ground is still shaking slightly at intervals. On the road out of the city to a place called Cedro, whither I rode yesterday, there are large tracts where the ground looks as if it had been newly ploughed up, while in other parts there are cracks and fissures, which show the powerful forces which were at work.

Loyopango and Ilopango, two neighboring villages, are entirely down—even the straw houses having shared the fate of the more substantial edifices.

At San Martin only the Church and a couple of old houses are down. While on the road to Cojutepeque almost every building has been destroyed, Cojutepeque itself has not been injured.

Shortly after the severe shock a fire broke out in a ruined drug store, and had it not been for the energy displayed by the president, who directed the work which resulted in its extinguishment and took charge of one of the hose, it is more than probable that what the earthquake left undestroyed the flames would have consumed.

NEWS ITEMS.

LEE AND LONGSTREET.—Brigadier General W. N. Pendleton, late Chief Commander of the Artillery of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, and now pastor of the Episcopal church at Lexington, is on a lecturing tour through the South for the purpose of raising funds to build a tomb to the memory of General R. E. Lee. He has spoken in nearly all the principal cities South, but here General Pendleton eclipsed his former lectures by making a most astonishing charge of treachery against Longstreet.

In his lecture delivered in the city of Mobile for the Lee memorial fund, Pendleton solemnly arraigned General James Longstreet, that tireless fighter and proven hard hitter, and to his delay he attributed the lost opportunity at Gettysburg. The lecturer said that to his personal knowledge, derived from Lee's own lips, Longstreet had the night before the battle received from General Lee in person orders to advance at the dawn of the next morning; that he (General Pendleton) had made a reconnaissance in person, and declared to Gen. Lee the perfect practicability of immediate assault upon then unprepared enemy; how he had waited impatiently till twelve o'clock; how Longstreet at that hour rode up to his side and sat upon his horse, useless and inactive, until 4 o'clock p.m.; then when the head of his column did go in, his soldiers were futile against the now massed and concentrated enemy; and still Robert E. Lee (General Pendleton said) refused to lay the blame upon the shoulders of the man who had fought so often and so well for him.

It is expected that this will create quite a storm in the South.

THE "POLARIS" AND THE SEC. U. S. NAVY.—The Secretary of the Navy said, to-day, that from what he could learn, the "Polaris" would probably reach some extreme northern port. If allowing reasonable time, she should not do so, a vessel would be dispatched in that direction with the object of relief, and of obtaining if possible information concerning her. The Navy Department will do all in its power for the comfort and safe transit to the United States of the survivors, whose names have just been reported, the expedition having been fitted out by the Department and being still under its charge. The desire to have some of the principal persons in Washington is for the purpose of an official enquiry into all the facts connected with the expedition since it left the United States.—[Washington Paper, May 3.

THE following special despatch to the "New York Herald" has been received bearing date, Khartoom, April 21st. A merchant named Bockour, who has just arrived here from Gondokoro, reports that Sir Samuel Baker and the members of his expeditionary party were well at Faloorka.

M. Bockour says he was present when Baker's agent came to the son of the King of Gondokoro and took two hundred soldiers to Faloorka.

This is trustworthy news.

CUBA.—But fifteen per cent of the lands on the Islands of Cuba are under cultivation, yet she exports annually to the amount of \$90,000,000. There is a yearly revenue of \$37,000,000. A third of the Island is covered with timber, which yields woods of many valuable kinds. It is also rich in gold, copper, lead, and iron. In view of these facts it is no wonder Spain clings to the island with stubborn tenacity.

FISHING MUTTON.—The Yarmouth "Herald" reports that the crew of an unknown American fishing schooner visited a small island in Chebogue harbor and carried off several sheep. Last year a vessel was seized because her crew caught and eat a dinner of fresh fish. We wish that the name of this rift had been known as we are curious to know what punishment would be inflicted for catching and eating a dinner of fresh mutton.

SHEEPSKINS may be readily tanned by soaking them in weak lime water until the wool can be removed. Then oil and rub them with a roller thicker in the centre than at the ends, and continuing until they will absorb no more oil. Finish by rubbing the skins with chalk or whiting, and pull and rub it until it is thoroughly flexible.

OILCLOTHS should never be tacked down when first purchased. They have invariably been rolled, and of course will shrink some after being laid. Unroll them, place them smoothly upon the floor, wrong side up, and use them so for a week or even two. Then turn them, and tack them to the floor. This method prevents them pulling up and cracking, as we often see new oilcloth do.

LADY COVENTRY had a narrow escape in the hunting field, at Elmly Castle, on the third instant. While following hounds in full cry, she took a fence with a drop of twelve feet on the other side into an old quarry. She was injured and the horse's back was broken.

AN Irishman, when he applied for a license to sell whiskey, was asked by a Magistrate if he was of good moral character. He replied, "Faith, I don't see the necessity of a good moral character to sell whiskey."

The chap who could do all the business he wanted to without advertising has been compelled to advertise at last. The new advertisement is headed "Shoriff's Sale."



Latest Despatches.

LONDON, May, 20

Bradlaugh was arrested by the Carlists, but released.

Valuable discoveries have been made in Assyria by George Smith, including King Nineveh's Library, broken tablets, &c.

The Prussian Diet closed on Tuesday. Von Roon read the speech.

Louis Buffet was re-elected President of the French Chamber. The vote indicates success.

Interpellation was introduced yesterday by conservatives; debate postponed till Friday.

More Carlist successes are reported. The war is assuming larger proportions. New York, 21.

Dix voted for the prohibition bill, and the vote has been sustained. Gold 117½.

It was recently announced by an Iowa editor that a certain patron of his was "thieving as usual." He declares he wrote it "thriving."

Brigham Young is, indeed, a pillar of Salt Lake. His idea of a wife is—Lots.

Strawberries are now selling in Covent Gardens at about 3s an ounce.

Wholesale Prices Current, St. John's.

BREAD—Hambro' No 1, 32s. 6d.; No. 2, 28s. 6d.; No. 3, 24s. 6d. Local No. 1, 26s.; No. 2, 23s. 6d.; F. C., 22s. 6d.

FLOUR—Canada Fancy 42s. 6d.; Canada Superfine, 38s.; New York Extra, 38s. to 39s.; New York Superfine 35s. New York No. 2 30s. to 32s.

CORN MEAL—White and Yellow, per bbl. 18s. to 20s.

OATMEAL—Canada, per bbl. 30s.; P. E. Island, 27s. 6d.

RICE—East India, per cwt. 20s.

PEAS—Round, per bbl. 20s. to 21s.

BUTTER—Canada, good 1s. to 1s. 2d. Nova Scotia, good 11d. to 1s. 1d.; American 8d. to 10d.; Hambro' 8d.

CHEESE—9d. to 10d.

HAM—9d. to 10d.

PORK—American mess 95s. to 100s.; prime mess 90s.; extra prime 77s. 6d.

BEEF—Prime, per bbl. 35s.

RYE—per imp. gallon 7s. 10d.

MOLASSES—Muscovado 2s. a 2s. 1d.; Clay-ed 1s. 9d.

SUGAR—Muscovado, 45s. to 47s. 6d.; American Crushed 72s. 6d.

COFFEE—1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.

TEA—Congou and Souchong, ordinary broken leaf, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d.; fair to good, 2s. to 2s. 6d.

LARD—American and Canadian 7d. to 8d.

LEATHER—American and Canadian 1s. 5d.

TOBACCO—Canadian, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; American 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; Nova Scotia, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.

CORRAGE—per cwt. 65s.

SALT—per hhd. Foreign, Liverpool, 7s. 6d.

KEROSENE OIL—New York manufacture 1s. 9d.; Boston 1s. 9d.

COAL—per ton, North Sydney 30s.

MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's father, on the 19th inst., by the Rev Daniel MacDougall, of St. Andrew's Church, Mr. John McLean, Engineer S. S. Ariel, to Janet, daughter of Mr. McGillivray, St. John's, Newfoundland.

DIED.

At the Parsonage, Fogo, on Sunday night, the 20th April, Clara Sophia, beloved wife of the Reverend Christopher Meek, aged 23 years. Also, at the same place, on Tuesday, the 22nd of April, Charles, infant son of Christopher and Clara Meek, aged 11 days.

At Bonnaville, on the 3rd May, Mary Moffin, aged 4 years and 3 months, eldest daughter of Mr. James Hunt.

Also, on the 9th inst., Frederick, third son of Mr. Charles Thompson, aged 9 years.

SHIP NEWS.

PORT OF ST. JOHN'S,

ENTERED.

May 21—Rene de Prevoyence, Cole, Figueras, P & L Tessier.

Myrtle, Bowden, Cadiz, W Grieve & Co.

22—Highlyer, Cross, Cadiz, G J Hayward & Co.

Lycurus, Rogers, ditto, Baine, Johnston & Co.

Cordeja, Linklater, ditto, CF Bennett & Co.

Moravian, Graham, Halifax, A Shea.

Maria Vigilante, Belanger, Montreal, W Grieve & Co.

Helene, Monard, Montreal, Job Brothers & Co.

Scotia, McAntyre, Greenock, J & W Stewart.

Reliance, Beherms, Hamburg, Job Bros. & Co.

Alexina, Desjardins, Montreal, A Shea.

23—Penelope, Tutton, Wilson, Cadiz, W Grieve & Co.

Aurora, Taylor, Cow Bay, G F Bown.

Mary Queen of the Sea, Warren, Montreal, W Wheatley.

Marie Ezlie, Lomieux, Montreal, P & L Tessier.

Rolling Wave, Mercer, Sydney, J & R Kent.

Marie Alberta, Ganthier, Montreal, J & W Pitts.

Elle Roy, Caron, Montreal, Baine, Johnston & Co.

Mary Anna, Bernier, Montreal, P & L Tessier.

Cabot, Carr, North Shields CF Bennett & Co.

Excel, Dewar, P E Island, Clift, Wood & Co.

Star, Metcham, Montreal, Stabb Row & Co.

Amelia, Desjardins, Ditto, E. Duder.

Southdown, Williams, Cadiz, J & W Stewart.

L'Edouard, Cloutier, Montreal, J Murray.

Theo, Perchard, Cadiz, P Rogerson & Son.

CLEARED.

May 21—Ella, Bailent, New Randon, N.B., Harvey & Co.

Lion, Ash, Sydney, W Grieve & Co.

Federis Arca, Deroy, Gut of Canso, Harvey & Co.

Terisa, Keays, Port Caledonia, J & W Pitts.

Pride of West, Downie, Greenock, W Grieve & Co.

22—Moravian, Graham, Liverpool, A Shea.

Mary West, Lea, Bristol, Job Brothers & Co.

Vinco, Pigot, Sydney, Clift, Wood & Co.

Ariel, Mitchell, Quebec, N Stabb & Sons.

23—Aurora, Graham, Sydney, J Murray.

Swell, Lamzed, Bristol, Goodfellow & Co.

Breadalbane, Pike, Sydney, P Rogerson & Sons.

Azalea, Prior, Pernambuco, P & L Tessier.

Margaret Jans, McDonald, Sydney, J & W Pitts.