RAMSAY COUNCIL.

Almonte, 25th April, 1874.

The council of the township of Ramsay in accordance with public notice published in the Almonte *Gazette* and Carleton Place *Herald* met in the council room in the village of Almonte this day at ten o'clock, as a court of Revision.

Present a full court, the Reeve presiding.

The following appeals were laid before the court: viz., John Neville too high assessed on his real and personal property. Before the case was decided Mr. Neville asked leave for the assessment to remain as it is for the present year. Leave granted and case dismissed.

Isaiah Marshall, too high assessed on real estate; the land referred to being the Canada Company's. The court ordered that lot 27 in the 1st con., be struck off his assessment and placed on the Non-Resident Roll.

Mr. Barnes too high assessed on real estate. The appellant did not appear, the court could not see that any reduction should be made on the land referred to and consequently sustained the assessor. Mr. John Shaughnessy was permitted to be heard before the court in reference to his assessment on real estate which he considered too high. After examining the assessment roll and comparing the assessed value of his lands with others in the immediate vicinity and the quality of land being taken into consideration, the court sustained the assessor.

No other appeals being made it was moved by Mr. P. Drummond and seconded by Mr. Black, that the assessment roll as now revised be and the same is hereby confirmed. Carried.

The court then closed.

THOMAS COULTER, Clerk.

Almonte, 25th April, 1874.

The council of the township of Ramsay met this day in the council room of the village of Almonte, pursuant to notice, at 1 o'clock p. m., being immediately after the closing of the Court of Revision.

Present the Reeve and full council.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and being approved were confirmed.

The following communications were received and laid before the council: Mr. P. Drummond presented the following petitions: viz., From Alex. Hunter and others for improvement to be made on the cross road between lots 20 and 21 between the 3rd and 5th lines; of Wm. Fender and others for such improvements to be made on the 5th line as would cause ingress and egress to and from lot No. 19, without going through private property; of Ed. Letang and others of the village of Clayton for a grant to aid in supporting Andrew Garaut a sick and consequently indigent person and his small family; of Edward Dowling and others for a grant to repair the road on the boundary line between Ramsay and Huntly opposite lot 6, the township of Huntly to grant an equivalent. Mr. McCreary presented the petition of Joseph Yuill and others for a grant to improve the road on the 7th line opposite lot No. 2, and the petition of Isaiah Marshall and others praying to know the reason why the $7.00 granted to improve the boundary line between Ramsay and Pakenham at the 1st concession, was not expended. This money was granted on condition that Pakenham council would grant an equivalent. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain if the Pakenham council had taken action in the matter. Mr. Snedden presented the petition of Charles Belton and others for a grant to be made to improve the cross road in the 3rd concession, between lots 5 and 16, and of 11. L. Slack, Esq., Inspector of Public Schools, for a grant to be made to purchase prizes to be awarded at a competitive examination of all the schools in the township.

Moved by Mr. P. Drummond, seconded by Mr. McCreary, that the petitions of Alex. Hunter and others, Chas. Belton and others and Wm. Fenders and others be referred to a commission consisting of the Reeve and councillors Snedden and Black who are hereby appointed to examine the places referred to in each petition and report to the council at its next sitting.

Moved by Mr. P. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Black, that the by-law detaching east half of lot No. 4, and part of w. ½ of lot No. 4, in the 6th con., from S. S. No. 1, and attaching the same to S. S. No. 8 be now read a first time. Carried. The bylaw was read.

Moved by Mr. McCreary, seconded by Mr. Snedden, that the by-law to enable the Trustees of S. S No 1 to borrow $550 for the erection of a school house be now read a first time. Carried.

The bylaw got the first reading.

Moved by Mr. P. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Black that in answer to the petition of Edward Letang and others, the sum of $20 be and is hereby granted for assistance in supporting Ed. Garaust a sick and indigent person and that the Reeve see the same properly expended. Carried

Moved by Mr. Snedden, seconded by Mr. Drummond, that the auditors report be accepted, and that the Clerk get the abstract thereof published in the Almonte *Gazette*, and Carleton Place *Herald*. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Mr. Drummond, that the by-law detaching the east half of lot No 4, and part of the w ½ of said lot in the 6th con., from School Section No. 1, and attaching the same to S. S. No. 8, be now read a second time short and passed. Carried.

The by-law was read accordingly and passed.

Moved by Mr. McCreary, seconded by Mr. Snedden, that the by-law to enable the Trustees of S. S. No. 1, to borrow $550 for the erection of a school house be now read a second time short and passed. Carried.

The by-law was read accordingly and passed.

Moved by Mr. McCreary, seconded by Mr. Black that in answer to the petition of Joseph Yuill and others, the sum of ten dollars is hereby granted, and that the mover be a commissioner to see the same properly expended. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Mr. Drummond, that the Reeve grant orders on the Treasurer as follows: To John McCarton for cedar logs for bridge near Mr. Houston's, $25; to John O'Connel balance due on stones and breaking and laying the same on the road leading to Ottawa, $26.60; D. Drummond for assistance to Edward Garault, indigent, $20; to Returning Officer $12; to G. Hamilton, services as assessor, $60; and selectors of Jurors in 1873, $1.50; to James Black fire wood for Town Hall, $3.50. Carried.

The petitions of E. Dowling and others and of H. L. Slack was ordered to lay over till next meeting.

On motion the council adjourned to meet again in the council room, of the village of Almonte, on the 13th of June at 10 o'clock a. m.

THOMAS COULTER, Township Clerk.

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.

On the order for the further consideration of the proposed motion of Mr. Ross (Middlesex), that the second report of the Select Committee on petition for a prohibitory liquor law be now concurred in.

Mr. Oliver said he desired to say a few words on the subject. He complimented Mr. Ross and the Premier upon the views they individually entertained upon this important subject, and felt sure that the sentiments they expressed would be received with great satisfaction throughout the country. He commented upon the extraordinary number of petitions presented to the House in favour of a prohibitory liquor law, and quoted the opinions of leading medical men in this country and in England adverse to the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. He held that public sentiment had recently undergone a very great and favourable change with respect both to temperance and temperance men, both on this continent and in the mother country. The law as it stood at present was in no way competent to meet the requirements of this great evil. The Duncan Bill had been a failure, and something more potent was wanted. Temperance organizations had been doing their best to check the growth of the evil; the Local Government of Ontario had taken steps to establish an Inebriate Asylum in that Province; Ministers of the Gospel had laboured faithfully, and local efforts of great force had been put forth, in order to meet the growth of intemperance, but it had nevertheless grown steadily and much. He quoted the large amount of money spent on drink in this country and the United States yearly, and showed to what an extent the sum so spent would reduce the public debt if applied for that purpose He denied, however, that we were worse in this country in respect of temperance than in other countries; he repudiated any such idea altogether, and contended we were comparatively better than many others. He expressed his pleasure at the removal of the drinking saloon in the House of Commons, and only wished that the Chamber at the other end had come to a similar resolution. He hoped a commission such as that asked for in the motion would be appointed to take evidence on the matter, and he concluded by cordially supporting the resolution of the hon. member for Middlesex.

Mr. Cauchon said he had no objection to seeing the motion pass, but he contended it was a matter for the Local Governments to deal with.

Mr. Ross said the Attorney-General of the Province of Ontario have decided that a prohibitory law was beyond the legislative powers of that Parliament, and he desired the hon. member to say which was right.

After a few words from Mr. Cauchon. The motion was carried.

GOLDEN SPOILS FROM ASHANTEE.

A London paper announces that an eminent firm of gold and silversmiths of that city have concluded an arrangement with prize agents of the British force serving on the Gold Coast, under which they have possessors of the gold and objects acquired by the arm in Ashantee. These articles consist chiefly of those thousand ounces of gold sent down by King Koffee as a portion of the proposed indemnity, and a very rapid inspection shows clearly the haste with which these objects were collected and dispatched by the King for they were evidently seized and transferred to the British General at random Among the larger pieces may be mentioned the representation of a human head of massive gold, weighing between fifty and sixty ounces, which seems to represent the head of a victim gaged for sacrifice. Besides its great weight, the character of this object renders it one which may be more fitly deposited in a museum or public institution than in a private collection. Of the same nature, though not of the same ghastly character, are two golden griffins, said to have been taken from the arms of King Koffee's chair, and two enormous iron sword blades, each supported on four golden balls, which are supposed to have stood erect before the King when he sat in his chair on state occasions. Besides these are many badges of office like enormous fibulæ, apparently intended to be worn on a belt by messengers of rank sent by the King. Of this kind were those worn by the various heralds whom the King sent from time to time to treat with Sir Garnet Wolseley, the first occasion of their appearance being just after the British force crossed the Prah, when one of the messengers committed suicide after being present at a performance of the Galting gun. The workmanship of these badges, and, indeed, of every object in the collection, is wonderful. Of the badges every one of which is different in pattern, according to the office of the bearer, King's jailor or chamberlain being distinguished by padlocks and keys, and the butler by cups and bowls, it may, indeed, be said that it would be difficult for any skilled goldsmith in Western Europe not so much to surpass, but even equal, them. They are for the most part castings of the most varied and delicate nature, and the Ashantees seem in this respect, to have attained to an excellence unequalled in fineness and in variety of pattern. Besides these great badges, each of which contains many ounces of pure gold there are Fetish caps, ornamented with gold in *repoussee* work, the golden tops of umbrellas and sticks of office, grotesque lions for the heads of sceptres, golden jawbones and thigh bones and skulls, and a number of objects which are hard to describe, but which, no doubt, played a great part in the absurd and fanciful Fetish worship of the Ashantee race, and which will now be treasured in England as memorials of the recent struggle.

Steerage passage from Liverpool to New York, fifteen dollars, the result of competition, which may lead to a further reduction.

Seven men employed in a paper mill at Kingston, N. Y., were killed by the explosion of the boiler. The people in the neighborhood did their best to lynch the manager.

Toronto, May 7.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer has concluded. Hoffman and McGowan were sentenced to three years Penitentiary each.

Geo. Albert Mason, whiskey informer, was found guilty of writing threatening letters, to Jennie Murray, keeper of a fast house, with a view of extracting money. Dr. McMichael raised some legal technicalities, and His Lordship, Judge Hogarty, reserved sentence, admitting Mason to bail in his own recognizance. Mason wrote a letter to sheriff saying that if given a chance he would leave the city forever. He has his chance, and it is likely he will not trouble Toronto again.

COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The letter from a "Public School Teacher" which we give in another column, brings before the public of Ontario, more distinctly than any former communication on the subject a grave and important question of public morality and law, while it makes it imperative that that question should be discussed in all its phases. We should have preferred had it been otherwise, but since the matter is forced upon us we refer to has far more widely ramified bearings than those which merely concern the constitution of our Council of Public Instruction. As this question may be settled, it will determine the character of a good deal of our legislation; will modify, possibly, many of our social arrangements will set aside some of our most time hallowed ideas, and bring directly into collision the laws of the State and the rules and regulations of not a few of our Provincial Church organizations. The election of Dr. Sangster as a member of the Council of Public Instruction may seem a comparatively small matter, and may be determined by the likings or dislikings, the whims or the prejudices, of a majority of Public School teachers. But it is a crucial case notwithstanding, and will necessarily bring with it important consequences, and will involve a very important revolution in our national morals.

Rightly or wrongly, the permanence of the marriage relationship has been uniformly recognized as a fundamental principle of Canadian jurisprudence, and of Canadian social arrangements. We have plumed ourselves on this fact, and on our being superior to most of our neighbours on the other side of the lines, whose lax notions on the subject we have been in the habit of looking upon as a symptom and a cause of decay. With frequency has it been shown that no people has long maintained a high position in the community of nations, where the sanctity and permanence of the marriage bond have been aside, and divorces could be secured for any or every reason —to satisfy a mere passing whim, or to give free course to vagrant and transient passion. On this understanding Canadian law at this moment rests. Not only so—our law, as it makes no arrangements beyond very narrow limits for facilitating the separation of husband and wife, does not recognize the validity of such separations as are secured by Canadians in other countries and under different legal circumstances. In this wisdom is shown, for otherwise our law on the subject would be brought into contempt. What would it matter though Canadian law, for high moral and social reasons, should say that the marriage bond shall not be of the nature of a mere temporary contract, to be broken at the pleasure of either or both of the contracting parties, if all that was necessary to obviate the difficulty were a few weeks or a few months retirement to Yankee land, from which, at the end of a short season of seclusion, the tired husband or the discontented wife could return radiant in freedom, or rejoicing in a new matrimonial arrangement which also could be set aside by a similar trip when the novelty had worn off, and the new toy had ceased to please?

This is the question which the candidature of Dr. Sangster for public office in Ontario forces upon public attention and discussion. Is the past and present character of Canadian legislation on marriage and divorce sound and reasonable, or the reverse? So long as Dr. Sangster occupied a merely private position, and aimed at securing no public office, his course of action in reference to Canada marriage law did not call for animadversion. It is quite different now. His friends have started him as a candidate for an important office connected with our system of Public Instruction, and, as he has in no way repudiated the candidature, he has, in fact, practically accepted the nomination. Leaving out of view for the present the points touched upon by J. M. M. as being greatly in Dr. Sangster's favour, but which could be easily shown to tell very decidedly in the opposite direction, we ask the teachers of Ontario and the people of this Province in general if they are prepared to move for such a change in the marriage law of Canada as will make it correspond with Dr. Sangster's theory and practice on the subject? We dwell not on the darker features of the case. Sufficient to take it as he himself sets it forth, and as his friends with certain half hearted apologies and deprecations, would fain have the world to believe it stands. Dr. Sangster has never been divorced in Canada from the wife that Canadian law recognizes as his. He knows and acknowledges this. His friends and admirers do the same. He has never been married in Canada a second time, and could not have been without being indictable for bigamy. He, a citizen of Canada, a professed guardian of the public morals, and a law abiding subject of Queen Victoria, goes over to the States for a brief period; he there procured a divorce, which, of course, has no validity in Canada in any case; comes back after a few months accompanied by a person who he says, is his second wife, but whom the law of Canada recognizes in no such character; and having driven a coach and six through our whole marriage law, settles down among us as having done nothing amiss—nay, claims that the transaction, which of course he could with equal ease and propriety repeat every twelve months, shall be socially and even legally condoned and praised, and that we shall place him—a defiant law-breaker, and a practiser of what we call and treat as adultry—in a position of great honour and influence, as a manager of our school system, and as a model to be imitated and honoured by our teachers and the general community.

Can the teachers of Ontario do this? They can if they choose. It is that to which the friends and supporters of Dr. Sangster invite them. But before they can do it consistently they must change both their law and practice on the whole of marriage. If Dr. Sangster is right, then the law of Canada is wrong, and the sooner it is changed the better. No doubt "Nice customs curtsey to great Kings," but if it is right for a man to put away his wife for reasons that the law of the land does not recognize, every honest man who believes that the law is wrong, is bound to agitate with all his might for its amendation. Dr. Sangster and the law of Canada cannot both be right. The law of Canada says Dr. Sangster has never been divorced and never been married a second time It recognizes none of his children as legitimate except those of her whom he may now call his first wife. Yet though the law of the land says all this Dr. Sangster has been perambulating the country as the teacher of our teachers and the expounder of public ethics under the avowed patronage of our highest school authorities, and is now seeking a place at the Council Board of Public Instruction, aided by the position thus conferred. If he can do all this with impunity, and in spite of law, why should not others do the same? Indeed, if he secure a place as one of the Council of Public Instruction, we see no reason at all why the whole worshipful company of Councillors with Dr. Ryerson at their head, should not take a summer's trip over to Indian, and come back with a change of matrimonial companions all along the line What does Dean Grasett, or Dr. Fuller, or Dr. McCaul, or any other authority in our education matters, say to that If right for Dr. Sangster, it cannot be wrong for any of them, or for any of the five teachers who are invited to cast their votes for one who, it seems, "is an object of esteem and even affection "throughout the length and breadth of the land."

We are no great admirers of Mr. Goldwin Smith, and did not propose him for the position of representative of the Common School teachers in the Council of Public Instruction. A correspondent mentioned Mr. Smith's name as other correspondents may mention twenty more. There is no such dearth of suitable persons for the position as that the electors should have no alternative but to vote for either of the gentlemen referred to. At any rate, it will be curious if the majority of the Ontario public teachers shall by their votes declare themselves in favour of what seems very like indiscriminate divorce. We shall not believe that this is possible till the actual fact puts all doubt and denial entirely out of Court.—*Globe.*

Editor C. P. Herald.

A meeting of the merchants of Pakenham was held in Mr. H. H. Dickson's store on Thursday evening. "To discuss the question and to arrive at something definite, relating to early closings" [Extract from notice sent to merchants by managing committee.] After various squabbles as to who would close and who would not, our learned blacksmith put his spoke into the wheel and seemingly had more to say at least in the forepart of the meeting than the merchants themselves. But his attention having been turned by a discussion on his favorite hobby he left the charmed circle and retired to the obscure corner where the various employees awaited the verdict that would elevate their souls to something and or east down their already blue countenances. The meeting was a regular force, proposals to raise the drinks &c, &c. Would not work though it was finally brought to a close by a motion to give the bill a six months hoist; when the meeting broke up.

But seriously, this ought not to be. Have merchants a right to expect their employees to work from six in the morning until nine and ten at night. I would not ask any clerk to stay after eight o'clock, but some would, that was the rock on which the ship split last night. Clerks as a rule are an injured class, they have rights as well as the merchant that ought not to be trampled upon, ground down by the iron heel of tyranny, they have to grin and bear it. To all such I would simply say, *strike*, leave, situations are open every day for good reliable men in places where there is more chance for advancement, better salary, shorter hours, and employers that can appreciate a hard that does the utmost in his power to promote the business.

A TI SLAVERY.

Pakenham, 8th May 1874.

FISHING.

We learn that during the last three months large quantities of fish have been taken from the Rideau waters by American fishermen by means of gill and trap nets. In the Opinion, fishing by line has been completely destroyed. The quantity taken from Dog Lake was also enormous. We trust steps will be taken by the fishing Inspectors to prevent the wholesale removal of fish in the future. It would be well to have a regulation similar to that in force on the St Lawrence issued at once. If Americans are to be allowed to destroy our fisheries and put an end to all legitimate sport, it is high time that the fact should be known. We beg to enquire, What are the officials, who are paid for looking after our interests, doing? If they are not attending to their duties we say turn them out, and let capable men be appointed to fill the vacancies.—*Recorder.*

The Czar, accompanied by the Grand Dukes Alexis and Constantine, have reached Berlin *en route* to England.

It is said the conquest of the Island of Formosa is likely to lead to a war between China and Japan, the former country having large interests centained in the Island.

While Mrs. Phillips, of Sandwich, was packing up some clothing of her husband's which he was to take with him on a journey, a revolver in one of his pockets exploded, the bullet striking one of her fingers and tearing it so badly that amputation had to be resorted to.

On Thursday as James Whitesides was prying a log at the mill of Mr. Widdefield, Aylmer, his foot slipped and the crowbar fell and struck him on the head causing a very ugly wound. It was at first thought that Whitesides was killed but he so far recovered as to able to be removed to his home.

Bryson, May 7.

The remains of the man who was found after the fire yesterday, were identified. The Coronor's jury returned the following verdict, "that the deceased, Wm. Brown, was burned to death by the burning of stables belonging to Mr. Wm. Proudlock; but there is no evidence to show how he got into the stables, or by what means the fire originated." His wife identified a piece of the shirt and some of the buttons.

A stratagic policeman who wanted to get into a gambling-house in Holyoke, Mass., after trying many methods, at last succeeded, by catching a cat and carrying it up to the steps, just outside of the door, gently, but firmly, stepping on the aforesaid cat's tail, which caused such a screeching and mewing as to speedily bring somebody to the door, when the officer walked in and found four men, whom he walked off to the lock-up.

Would it not be well for the Orangeman of Canada to discuss the action of Sir John McDonald in sending to Bishop Tache $1,000, and sanctioning the payment of other $3,000 to Riel to get him out of Canada, in order that Sir George Cartier might be returned as member for Provencher. They were very quick in passing resolutions condemning the Ontario Government for offering a reward for Riel's capture. Have they nothing to say to Sir John for the compounding of such a gross felony as the murder of Scott.

LANARK COUNCIL.

May 2.—Pursuant to adjournment the Council of Lanark met this day as a court of revision. An appeal was presented by Wm. Drummond; subject of appeal, "excess of measure of real property." A number of former assessment rolls were examined, and it was discovered that an error had for a number of years been existing in his case; error corrected, and assessed value of real property reduced from $440 to $313.

Robert Ballantyne applied to have his name placed on the assessment roll, for the lands formerly owned by Robert Blackburn which he has purchased; and also to have the assessed value of Blackburn's personal property cancelled to save him from liability therefor. Application complied with.

This closed the business before the court, which was adjourned to the 6th of June, and council entered upon the transaction of public business.

Minutes of former session of council read, and on (motion of Messrs Halpenny and Flemming amended, by altering the amount to be borrowed by the Trustees of S. S. No. 12 from $400 to $430) signed. The documents mentioned below were presented and fyled:

Petition of John Affleck and others praying for the appointment of an officer to examine and report on the parts of roads for the improvement of which grants of money are applied for; report to state what amount of money is in his opinion necessary to effect the repairs in each case, and thus any attempts at fraudulent practices in applications for moneys in such cases, rendered impossible.

Petition of John McIlraith and others, for $50 to improve the 3rd con. line at lots Nos. 24 and 25.

Petition of Wm. Guthrie and others, for pecuniary aid in favor of Mary Easdale, an old, diseased, indigent woman, dependent on a widowed sister (herself poor) for subsistence.

Application of Road Scraper Custodian, Duncan Ballantyne, for a new Scraper.

Petition of John Stevenson, Esq., and others, for $50 to improve the road in lot No. 2 on the 11th concession.

Petition of John Kenny and others for $25, to cut and straighten a bad hill in lot No. 5, 8th concession.

Petition of John Reacroft for a little money to buy seed for his land.

Petition of A. Rankin and others, for $15, to purchase some lumber to construct protective fences for shade trees about to be planted in the streets of Middleville.

Petition of George Gallinger and others, for $60 to improve the 2nd con. line, from lot No. 6 to lot No. 8, both inclusive.

Account of Peter Reid for 1 cord stove fire-wood, and inspection of Inns, amount $3.50, ordered to be paid.

Petition of Wm. Croft, and others praying Council to increase the fees of messenger to council 25 cents per day. Granted.

Receipt for $8 insurance on Town Hall, paid by Clerk to Wm. Robertson, Esq., ordered to be paid.

On motion of Messrs. Halpenny and Rathwell, $20 was granted to purchase prize books to be given to successful competitors, at the competitive examination of common schools in the present year.

REPORT OF AUDITORS.

On motion of Messrs. Halpenny and Rathwell, the Auditors' Report was adopted and finally allowed.

Councillor Fleming was directed to engage a road scraper, with A. G. Dobbie, of Lanark village, to supply the want in Custodian.

Grants of money were ordered to be paid to the petitioners mentioned below: Wm. Guthrie and others $18; Arch. Rankin, $10.

Petition of John Affleck, pathmaster, for a small grant of money to purchase gravel found contiguous in his road division to cover a portion of spongy road, on which much labor has been expended nearly in vain.

On motion of Messrs. Halpenny and Fleming, any petitions at present before this Council to lie over to a future time.

Adjourned to Saturday, 6th June.

WM. SCOTT, Clerk.

Lanark, 4th May, 1874.

THE AGENCY CO.—D. S. McKinnon, Esq., the well-known sewing machine agent, and familiarly known as "Mac," is now engaged in organizing a joint stock company, in Carleton Place, for the manufacture in his new patent sewing machine stand, organs, pianos, &c. The company, will be known as the Agency Company, and will have a capital of $100,000, in 4000 shares of $25 each. The stock, it is expected, will almost wholly be taken up by agents, who will thus have a double interest in their business and derive greater profits from their sales. The following gentlemen are provincial directors: President A. Code, M.P.P; vice-President, Wm. McDiarmid; Secretary, W. Carley, Esq; Treasurer Thos. Greig; Directors, Jas. Cowan, G. A. Cornell, A. Nichol, W. Moffatt, and A. McGregor. We wish the enterprise every success.—*Gazette.*

SINGULAR ACCIDENT.—The Poughkeepsie *Eagle* says that a few days ago a lad at Fort Montgomery, attempting to gain access to an ice house, climbed the elevator and crept in through a sliding. He stepped on what he supposed to be a platform, which gave way, and he was precipitated to the layer of ice below, a distance of thirty-six feet, where he lay unconscious for nearly 48 hours. When his senses came to him he found that both feet were frozen, but no bones were broken. Nearly dead, he dragged himself along over the ice to the side of the house, where, with a piece of board, he rapped against the siding till assistance arrived, and he was rescued. It is feared that one of his feet will have to be amputated.

It is rumored as probable that the Queen, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, will visit Ireland this fall.

The death of General Hall, a veteran of 1812, is annouced at the age of 98. He commanded troops who helped to suppress the Astor Place Riots.

New York Steamships Agents estimate a decrease in the numbers of the travelling public for this season of from 30 to 50 per cent on account of the recent ocean diasters.

A number of Chinese at Shanghai, attacked the residents of the French settlement there, and set fire to their houses. The police were compelled to fire on the mob to restore order.

Private advices from St. Petersburg report a complete reconciliation to have taken place between the Czar and the Grand Duke Alexis, who have been long estranged on account of the latter's marriage beneath his rank.

Louisiana is becoming so addicted to the cultivation of rice as to interfere with the raising of sugar. Still, there is a good deal of Cain raised there.

Japan has become so well pleased with what she has seen of Yankee enterprise that she now employs American officers to lead her troops against Formosa. The war will, therefore, be "short, sharp, and decisive."

Mr. Rainey, of South Carolina, has the distinction of being the first colored man ever called to preside over the House of Representatives. He got on very well, the House being in particularly good humour.

Gerald Massey must have done a smashing business in Cincinnati the other night. The papers say he demolished the devil and his works. The destruction must have been immense, but we have not learned the particulars.

Dr. Nichols, an English author, says that within his remembrance manners and morals in England and America have visibly declined. The former seems to have pretty nearly expired, and the latter is preparing for the funeral.

The Crown Prince of the Sandwich Islands is advised to go abroad and get polished a little before he comes to the throne. Folks made of that material don't polish well, but if he comes here there are plenty of people who will try shines on him, especially if he ain't married.

If the Brooklyn liquor-dealers have kidnapped Mrs. Ingarham's boy to escape his testimony, they will find the condemnation of public judgment a good deal harder to bear than any sentence the courts would have been likely to inflict. Kidnapping is a worse crime than selling Jersey lightning even on Sunday.

It must be lovely in South Carolina, if we may believe the report that the Governor has pardoned thirty-seven convicts out of the Penitentiary because the State was too poor to keep them, and they went in a body to the State House and demanded relief. Twenty county treasurers are defaulters to the amount of half a million dollars, and out of sixty jurors drawn in Beaufort County only one was white or could read. Rather a dark picture. The State needs a Moses of another sort.

The Herald,

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EDITOR and PROPRIETOR.

The Herald.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT $1 A YEAR

CARLETON PLACE. MAY 13. 1874.

IMMIGRATION.—The rush of emigrants from the over-populated or impoverished countries of Europe to the United States has been for so many years constant and unintermitting, and the effect has been so wonderful in the rapid growth of that nation, that it seems strange to hear that there is likely to be a large falling off in the number coming to New York this spring; and it is still more strange to find in influential journals articles written with a view to discourage emigration during the present season. We do not know whether American agents will continue to be employed as heretofore in inducing the working-men of other lands to cross the Atlantic, but there certainly seems some reason in the argument against any special efforts being made to attract foreign labourers to a country where there is already a large number of persons out of employment, kept from starvation only by means of the aid bestowed by the benevolent. The N. Y. *Bulletin* referring to Mr. Curley's article in the *Fortnightly Review* on "The Threatened Exodus of Agricultural Labourers," points out that in nearly every direction the labour market is over-stocked, and that though it may be true that the agricultural interest is more prosperous than any other at present, it is already "beginning to receive the overflowings "of other industries, and like the rest, "will, this summer, be overstocked with "labour." The *Bulletin's* article closes as follows:—"We sincerely hope that, "for the reasons stated above, the press "of Great Britain and Germany will "inform the people of those countries of "the real condition of the labour market "in the United States and advise those "who contemplate emigrating to wait "until there is a fair opening among us "for an increased supply of muscle. Of "all things that it is painful to witness "in our streets, the sad, forlorn aspect of "the starving stranger who can meet with "no response to his request to be permitted to work is the last we wish to "see; and we trust that journalists in "Europe, when they see our note of "warning, will reciprocate this feeling, "and use their power to avert such a "calamity to their countrymen."

NEW BRUNSWICK ELECTIONS.—A general election for the New Brunswick Legislature takes place this year, and already preparations are being made for the contest. The agitation for some modification in the School Act in favour of Roman Catholics has aroused the adcates of that measure to organize for its maintenance intact, and this question will doubtless be the principal issue at the elections. The Local Government have taken a decided stand in opposition to any changes in the Act, and by making that the main issue hope to unite all the supporters of the measure in their favour. In this their opponents assert they will not succeed, but that the Government will be judged upon their merits irrespective of the School Act altogether, and that many friends of that measure will be found in the Opposition ranks. It is to be hoped that the good sense of the people will find a fair and honourable settlement of this question, which in the hands of politicians is engendering more bitter feeling than half-a-dozen ordinary political controversies.

Canada promises to be the recipient of a goodly number of English agricultural laborers this season. Besides those that arrived last week by the "Sarmatian," the "Prussian", which sailed from Liverpool on the 29th ult., brings fifty Warwickshire farm-hands and 120 children, and it is stated the steamer following will bring 150 more agricultural laborers, not counting the children. The emigration of this class is likely to be stimulated not only to Canada but to the United States, owing to the large reduction of fares by transatlantic lines, the price of a steerage passage being reported already to have fallen to $15, with the prospect of a still further decrease. So far as appears Ontario alone is taking steps to secure the benefit of this tide of immigration, so far as it is setting towards Canada. Being made up of those whose lives have been devoted to agricultural pursuits, these immigrants constitute the most valuable settlers for a new country that could be had, and the result for the Upper Province will doubtless be a still further enhancement of the wonderful progress she has already made in the development of her agricultural resources.

THE INSURRECTION IN SPAIN.—Although the first accounts were contradictory, there can no longer be any doubt that Marshal Serrano has obtained an important victory over the Carlists. He has, at least, raised the seige of Bilboa and compelled Don Carlos to seek safety in the mountains. Out despatches speak of the surrender of detached parties of Carlists to the Republican forces—a circumstance indicative of demoralization among the insurgents. It remains to be seen, however, whether Marshal Serrano is able to follow up his victory and crush out the rebellion at its source and centre. The populace of the northern provinces are ardent sympathizers with Don Carlos, and so long as he is at the head of any considerable number of troops he will give the government trouble. He may keep up a guerilla warfare for years, but unless the Spaniards are utterly incapable of constitutional government his chances of filling the throne of Spain are gone.

A week or two since it was announced that the sovereignty of the Fiji Islands had been formally ceded by the King to England, and that Mr. Layard, the British Consul, had accepted the cession subject to the ratification of the Home Government. This announcement, taken by itself, meant simply that some chieftain, possibly unable to maintain his claims, whatever these claims might be to the sovereignty, had handed them over to the British Crown, supposing always that the British Government would be willing to accept them,—a thing which by no means necessarily follows. It appears, however, that Mr. Layard was one of a Commission of two gentlemen sent out some time ago by the British Government to Fiji, to examine this very question, there having been apparently a general desire on the part of the natives to secure a government strong enough to protect them against each other, and still more, against white marauders. The points which are regarded as favorable to the acceptance of this offer are stated by the *Times* as follows: It appears probable that some civilized nation will soon have to possess the Islands with the full consent of the natives. These Islands, at present, offer most mischevious facilities for the slave traffic, which is the curse of the Southern Pacific. They are, moreover, upon the great highway between America and Australia, and in the opinion of naval authorities are well suited, if not wanted as a station for ships of war. It will be very necessary for England to assure herself that she would assume authority with the consent of a willing people. The statements with regard to the probable expense which would follow upon the establishment of such a government, are so varied as to afford no ground on which to base a conslusion. It seems probable, however, that the Government could at least make itself self-supporting.

The bill for the compulsory education of children, which passed the State Senate and became a law, requires that all parents having the care of children shall instruct or cause them to be instructed in the rudiments, and that those between the ages of eight and fifteen shall attend school at least fourteen weeks in the year, or be instructed at home for a similar period. This is an important step toward lessening the expenses of reformatory schools and State prisons.

It appears from the proceedings in the House of Commons on the subject of the Telegraph Lines in Nova Scotia, that the Montreal Telegraph Company have broken faith with Parliament and with the lower Provinces. At the session a year ago, this Company applied for power to extend their lines into all parts of the Dominion, including, of course, Nova Scotia. This power was granted, not, however, without some considerable resistance from various quarters, and unfortunately granted as it appears. Not only have the lines of that Company not been extended according to the pretence upon which the power of extension was obtained, but it looks as though an arrangement had been made, the effect of which is to secure a continuance of very limited telegraphic facilities, with an increased rate of charge. It would be much better that an active competition should hereafter be encouraged by Parliament in respect of this matter, than that the holding of a monopoly already too powerful and too arbitrary should be more firmly planted.

For a good many years past all the great transatlantic steamship companies have had a compact not to carry steerage passengers below a certain figure. There has usually been a monthly conference to talk matters over and to fix the rates. This arrangement, however, has lately been broken up. When the last monthly conference was held two or three of the agents of the older companies were absent, and letters from them announced that they would no longer hold themselves bound by such engagements. This has broken up the fixed rate system. Already the steerage fares on one line are reduced $4 on the trip to Europe from New York, and $2 from Liverpool to this side. It is anticipated that a still greater reduction will take place speedily. Though the fare were down to $15, or even less, the companies would still make splendid profits. Hitherto these companies could do very much as they liked, for the demand for transport has been so great that all had more business than they could do. More have now gone into the trade, and there is besides a lull in emigration, so the high rates will have to come down.

The Arkansas trouble grows more complicated and troublesome, if not more dangerous, every day. It is exceedingly difficult to report the situation of affairs in that State. The two factions are utterly desperate, and every day increases the provocations for a bloody encounter. The Brooks party seems to have the advantage of holding the prominent offices, but the Baxterites are numerous, and number many prominent citizens An appeal has been made to the President for his immediate and active interference, and the question is under serious consideration. But the Louisiana experience naturally makes the President and Cabinet hesitate to interfere until the necessity for it is fully demonstrated. Some decision should be reached at once. If the two parties are to be left to fight out their quarrel in their own way, devoting the Southwest to anarchy and bloodshed, the fact ought to be known, that peaceable people who take no stock in the quarrel may govern themselves accordingly.

LIBERALISM IN CHINA.—Light is beginning to break on foreign relations with China. Up to the 29th of June, 1873, no Emperor of China ever gave audience to the Ministers of a foreign power, and international relations with that country have been, and are, very unsatisfactory. But light begins to break on the 29th of June. It may not be generally known that the Emperor of China is a journalist. He is, in fact, the editor of the official *Gazette*, in which no article can appear without having first passed through the hands of the Emperor. In this *Gazette*, early in June, there appeared a decree to the effect that foreign Ministers would be admitted to audience, the *Kotow* and the bending of the knee being dispensed with. The Ministers proceeded to the Palace of Seosonableness, a temple wherein the Emperor prays for or against rain.

"Confectionery, tea and Chinese wine from the Emperor's buttery," says the English Minister, Mr. Wade, describing the event, "were offered us, and, after waiting above an hour, we moved on with the Minister to a large tent pitched westward of the purple pavilion

"The Emperor did not arrive at the pavilion as soon as we had been led to expect. The reason assigned was the receipt of important despatches from the seat of war in the north-west. The Prince of Kung and the two ministers with him were already waiting outside the tent to explain the delay, and returned again and again, as it was apologetically, to keep us company with the rest. The grounds were thronged with officials: but, except a few men wearing Chinese sabres of antique form, I saw nothing like a soldier in our immediate vicinity. At length, after we had waited in the tent at least an hour and a half, the Japanese Ambassador was summoned to the presence, and, his audience ended, came our turn.

We are requested by Mr. John Brisco, of Admaston, to state, the notice published in our paper, two weeks ago, of his wife having presented him with twinsons, is a hoax, got up by some designing rascal, who deserves to have his ears pulled.

The ladies and young men of the congregation of Gabriel-street Church, Montreal, have presented the wife of their pastor, Rev. R. Campbell, with a well filled purse as a token of their esteem.

The scoring of the principal curling clubs competing for the Governor General's Medal is given as follows:—Quebec, 122; Arnprior, 121; Ottawa, 120; and Belleville, 111. The Mont