THE "LIBERAL" GOVERNMENT. THE NEW COERCION BILL.

CLOTURE. THE

LONDON, Feb. 1 .- In his remarks in the ready to stigmatize the Government itself as

words he had uttered he was prepared to might be most satisfactory to the Govern-

ment and its supporters. LONDON, Feb. 1 .- In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Parnell, in supporting a motion for adjournment, was several times called to order for irrelevancy. The Marquis of Hartington opposed the motion for adjournment, and said the time for compremise was almost past. At eleven o'clock this morning the House of Commons was still in session. At 6:45 o'clock this morning the motion for adjournment was rejected by a vote of 121 to 27. Mr. T. M. Healy (Home Ruler), member for Wexford, then resumed the debate on the main question, and spoke for considerably more

than an hour. The Times, in a leading editorial article this morning says :- " We shall be greatly surprised if the responsible leaders of the Convervative party will refuse their assent to to this disgraceful and mischievous perversion of parliamentary procedure." The Times also says :- " The Government is fully aware that the necessity for the closing of the debate can ne longer be evaded, and proposals for its adoption are ready to be laid before the House of Commons when the time is deemed

430 p. m.-The House of Commons is still in session. A motion to adjourn was again negatived at 3 o'clock this afternoon by a vote of 225 to 21. The speeches, with the exception of one from Mr. Thompson (Liberal), bill, were entirely confined to Irish members. Messrs. Finigan and Healy being the greatest offenders in this respect. All the irish members, however, are careful not to breaches of order to a length which would mour suspicion. Various Irish memsome the chair from which he had been re-Playfair, Deputy Speaker.

5 p.m.-The debate in the House of Commons continues. Mr. A. M. Sullivan read a despatch from Mr. Mitchell Henry's agent denying that he had been fired at.

bate, denied the urgency of Mr. Forster's measures, and said he would stake his head that there would be no increase of crime in Ireland should they fail.

of Commons on Mr. Forster's bill still con- mand for urgency, the Speaker shall forthtinues amid countless scenes that defy de- with put the question without debate or scription. The Tories repeatedly urged the amendment, or adjournment, and if the tion and expel Mr. Parnell, but the Speaker tive by 3 to 1, then the powers of the House rejused to do so. Finally, the Tories, led by for regulation of its business shall be vested Sir Stafford Northcote, marched out of the in and remain with the Speaker until he shall House amid much noise and jeers and declare the state public business no longer laughter of the Home Rulers. During the confusion Mr. Biggar called Mr. Millbank "afool," and threatened to fight him. In reply Mr. Millbank called Mr. Biggar an "impudent scoundrel." A conference is being held between Earl Beaconsfield and Lord Hartington to consider the deadlock that now exists

in the House. almost powerless in preserving order. The Irishmen are slooping on the benches, while At 3 o'clock this morning Mr. Bright arose in his seat and announced that Mr. Gladstone would propose a cloture. There is the country over the proceeding in the

London, Feb. 2, 1.30 a.m.—All former ob structive sessions gauged by the time they occupied, sink into comparative insignificance before the struggle inaugurated by Mr. Forster's endeavour to bring in a Coercion Bill. At midnight the debate had lasted for thirty-two hours. On reither side has there been the slightest flinching, and though hints and suggestions of compromise have been occasionally thrown out they were not seriously intended. The real question which the Irish party have to solve is how to waste appearance of debate and as they receive very little assistance from the English members, heavy one. The contest is not even enlivened by any particular brilliant passage of arms; the general condition of the Parliamentary mind is morose and it would be difficult to imagine anything more dull or uninteresting than the sullen debate carried on with pertimembers. This however, does not appear to be the opinion of the general public who crowd the halls and corridors or eagerly seek admission to the galleries. Among the Peers who were present as spectators to night were the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Kenmare, Lord Cork, Earl Spencer and Lord Beaconsfield, who watched the progress of the contest with evident interest. The power of obstruction developed by the Irish party during the present Session has taken the Government somewhat by surprise. It obstructionists have adopted a system of tactics which will enable them, should they resolve on pushing matters to extremities, to prolong the present session until Sunday next, if not beyond. Each member has the right to speak on the main question and to move and second an adjournment of the debate and an adjournment of the House. Owing to a strict ruling of the Speaker. the Irish members find it difficult speak at length on the motions to adjourn. In order to prevent too frequent divisions a member is selected every five or is thrown entirely upon a single man." six hours who speaks at length on the main | On the return to the House of the

question as does the seconder of the motion, and then others speak in support of it. In the first twenty-four hours only four Irish members exhausted their right to move an adjournment. At this rate the debate might be maintained for another week if the physical strain were not too great. In view of the indefinite prospect the Government has finally mustered up courage to grapple with the obstructives, and as soon as the present stage of the bill has been disposed of a proposition will, it is said on good authority, be made for the adoption of the cloture. This radical change in Parliamentary procedure cannot, however, be adopted without great assistance. The measure is not looked upon with favor by the Conservatives, who are sure to play the game of obstruction as soon as the Land bill is introduced. House of Commons to-day, Mr. Parnell said, No matter what means the Government may with considerably greater heat than he had hitherto shown during the debate, that he was liament can pass the Coercion bill into a law, adopt, weeks will probably clapse before Parand in the meantime the Land League will the greatest obstructionist in all matters be adopting vigorous measures to extend its relating to Ireland, and added that for the perfect organization over Ireland, and so to meet the bill. It is asserted on good authorianswer with his head or to go to the gallows, as ty that the Government has resolved to suspend the Habeas Corpus by act of state.

New York, Feb. 2.—The Herald's London correspondent says:-It is feared no measure, which will leave Parliament in possession of free discussion, can effectually put an end to the organized system of obstruction carried out by the Irish members following Parnell's leadership. It is not easy to understand why the Government has refused to agree to an adjournment of the debate. Parnell would have allowed the measure to be read a first time last night and the House would then have had the bill before it. Nothing has been gained by the all night sitting.

The House adjourned after sitting 42 hours. London, Feb. 2 .- It is understood the appeal to the authority of the chair, which was eventually successful in stopping obstruction in the House, was agreed upon by the leaders of both the Liberal and Conservative parties. a well-considered scheme for putting an end | The final speech, before the intervention of the Speaker was made by Biggar, who concluded by expressing his wish for the success of Fenianism. During Biggar's speech Gladstone entered the House and was loudly cheered. At this point the Speaker resumed the chair at 9 am. He immediately said: During 41 hours the House has been occupied by repeated motions for adjournment, supported by small minorities, in opposition to the general sense of the House, on Irish matters, which demands the prompt interposition of the Chair and House. measure recommended as urgent, in Her member for Durham City, in opposition to the | Majesty's speech a month ago, being arrested by an inconsiderable minority, it is necessary There have been frequent wrangles and to vindicate the authority of the House. calls to order both for wandering from the am satisfied I shall best carry out its will, and subject of the debate and for unusual language, "may rely on its support, if I decline to call upon any more members to speak, and I immediately propose to put the several questions to vote. It will be necessary for the House to assume more efficient control over its debates or entrust greater authorberg have raised dilatory points of order, the ity to the Chair. The Speaker was repeatedly most notable being that of Mr. Parnell, who enthusiastically cheered. The vote, 164 to most notable being that of Mr. Father, who division, was that by which the move-fruitlessly disputed the Speaker's right to re-spine the chair from which he had been re-ment to adjourn the debate was rejected. lieved during the night by Right Hon. Lyon | The Speaker then put the motion, " that leave be given to bring in a Protection Bill." The Home Rulers here, for two minutes, shouted: "Privilege, privilege," and then, as the Speaker still remained standing, they all left the House in a body, 6.30 p.m.—The House of Commons is still in session. Michael Davitt, the agitator, is, present in the House. Mr. Parnell, in debill was unanimously agreed to. Gladstone announced he would move on Thursday, " that if on notice being given that the business of the House is urgent; and if on a call by the LONDON, Feb. 2. - The debate in the House | Speaker, forty members shall support the dether to enforce the rule against obstruc- question of urgency be decided in the affirma-

urgent." London, Feb. 2 .- At 9 o'clock this morning the Speaker, Right Hon. B. B. W. Brand, relieved the deputy Speaker, Right Hon. Dr. Lyon Playfair, who had occupied the chair during the night. On assuming the chair, the Speaker positively refused to allow the debate to proceed, and said that the persist-LONDON, Feb. 2, 6 a. m.—The House of ent, wilful and purposeless obstruction prac-Commons is still in session and the abuse of | tised by Home Rule members justified him in members is increasing. The Speaker was putting into effect the standing order. An amendment to continue the debate was then lost by a division of 19 for to 164 against. others are cating and drinking. It is now This practically ended the debate, and the only a question of physical strength, and the sitting is liable to last for a number of days. Speaker then put the question that bill. Before a vote could be had an extraordinary scene occurred. The Home Rulers, headed by their leader, arose in a body and great excitement in this city and throughout | left the House, excitedly shouting "Privilegel" There being no longer any opposition, leave to introduce the Coerciou bill was carried without a division. Mr. Gladstone then moved the second reading of the bill for 12 o'clock to-day, and also gave notice that he should move a resolution calculated to prevent the recurrence in future of the obstruction tactics which had now wasted the time and patience of the House in the present debate. This announcement was received with great cheering.

1.30 p. m.—The Speaker's interference which closed the obstructive debate in the House of Commons this morning and forced the time of the House, and to keep up a decent | the first reading of the Protection bill, was evidently pre-arranged, as he read from a manuscript the statement in which he aneven in shape of opposition, their task is a nounced that a crisis had arisen demanding the interference of the chair and the House. On the re-assembling of the House the Speaker, replying to Mr. Labouchere (Liberal) said he had acted solely on his own respon-sibility. Mr. Parnell said he also wished to call attention to the Speaker's ruling. The nacity, but without enthusiam by the Irish | Speaker informed Mr. Parnell that it was not a question of privilege; he must therefore give notice. Mr. A. M. Sullivan (Home Ruler) moved the adjournment of the House to enable the Speaker to search for precedents for his ruling. A lively discussion is in progress. The House is crowded, every available seat being occupied. Although the Pall Mall Gazette's leading article this afternoon is headed "The Speaker's coup d'etat," that journal justifies the course pursued by the Speaker and says :- "The step is an exceedingly strong one, but nothing less than was hoped that by keeping the English a strong step could have met the emergency, members from intervening in the debate the It is revolutionary, but Mr. Parnell's party It is revolutionary, but Mr. Parnell's party Parnellites would soon exhaust their right of is revolutionary. They must take the conspeaking. In order to meet this danger, the sequences of waging in Parliament that war which they are not strong enough to wage in the field. As they have broken the traditions of the parliamentary game, they have no right to complain if the same conditions are broken by their adversaries." Of Mr. Gladstone's proposal the Pall Mall Gazette says :-"The power intrusted to the Speaker is unlimited. The proposal is of the gravest, and will demand the most careful and anxious consideration. The public is hardly prepared for a method of turning the difficulty in which all the responsibility

Home Rulers, who had left in a body when the Speaker applied the standing order this morning to stop obstruction, the disorderly scenes were renewed. The Home Rulers, who had evidently organized further obstructive measures, began the fight by setting up the claim that the Speaker had acted arbitrarily, and committed a clear preach of privilege. Mr. Parnell led his side making the principal speech, and insisting on the point with unyielding pertinacity. The Speaker informed Mr. Parnell that the matter must be put in the form of a motion, in order to be properly before the House. Upon this Mr. A. M. Sullivan, Home Rule member for Louth, moved to adjourn. Mr. Gladstone vigorously opposed both motions-He said that the House, with the sole exception of the little knot of Obstructionists, was unanimous in endorsing the action of the Speaker, and as to the motion to adjourn, the public had, through the press and otherwise, stigmatised such motions during the pendency of this bill as nuisances. Up to the time of sending this despatch the wrangle is still going on, no vote having been

London, Feb. 3.-A six nights' debate on Mr. Gladstone's cloture resolution is expected in the House of Commons.

taken.

Gladstone gave notice that he proposes to follow the motion he intends to make on Thursday by a resolution declaring that the state of public business is urgent. The debate on Sullivan's resolution continues. Sullivan made r indignant speech. Gray seconded the me : . for adjournment. The Speaker, interposing at the commencement of the speech, said he did not intend to use menace, out he would caution the members. Gladstone deprecated the adjournment. Cowen (Liberal) and Lord Churchill. (Conservative) supported the motion to adjourn. Northcote (Conservative) supported the Government in their desire to proceed with the second reading of the Protection Bill. Shaw, Labouchere and most of the Irish members and Independents supported the motion for adjournment. Givan (Advanced Liberal) said he thought Ireland would regard the action of the House as an attempt to crush the liberty of speech of Irish members. In all probability another day will be wasted.

6. p. m.—The debate continues. The Irish members at 5.30 continued their obstructive motions. As the House rises at 6 on Wednesday they will doubtless be successful in preventing Forster from moving the second reading of his Bill. The Irish members show much heat and indignation. O'Donnell maintained the House should adjourn as otherwise Forster would have the opportunity to make an inflammatory statement, which would go forth without contradiction. After the motion to adjourn had been negatived the lrish members, to prevent Forster making the speaker for distegarding the ruling of the his statement, objected to every Bill upon the Orders of the Day, thus occupying time of wilful obstruction. until the House was obliged to adjourn, just previous to which Redmond, the new member for New Ress, took his seat. The motion of the House. for adjournment was rejected by 278 to 44.

In the Commons to-day Parnell moved notice. Sullivan asked if there were not precedents for Parnell's motion. The Speaker declared himself unable to answer.

Sir S. Northcote has given notice of the following amendments to Gladstone's resolu- the Clerk at the table, the Irish members tion :- "That the Minister shall declare any motion urgent." That, after the words, "three to one," the words, "which majority shall consist of not less than half of the whole House," be added. That the words, "until the House shall declare the of business no longer urgent," be substituted for the words, "until he shall declare the state of public business is no longer urgent,"

Sullivan intends to move an amendment to Gladstone's resolution, that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the mode of T. P. O'Connor, W. H. O'Sullivan, The O'Connor, W. H. O'Connor, Property of the mode of T. P. O'Connor, W. H. O'Connor, Property of the mode of T. P. O'Connor, W. H. O'Connor, Property of the mode of T. P. O'Connor, W. H. O'Connor, Property of the mode of the mode

It is understood that Parnell intends to proceed with the vote of censure on the action of the Speaker. The Irish members who accepted invita-

tions to dine with the Speaker on Wednesday have withdrawn their acceptances.

Lord Beaconsfield advised the Opposition to refrain from pledges to support the Government. There was some diversity of opinion

at the meeting. Parnell will move on Wednesday for a Committee to enquire into the precedents for

the Speaker's action. Cowen will ask for a day to discuss the Government favours the proposal, thinking that the House should share the Speaker's responsibility.

It was arranged, at the instance of Sullivan, that if the Speaker closed the second discussion this afternoon, that the Irish members should remain in their seats, instead of going into the division lobbies, as such a proceeding would lead to their committal,

Bosron, Feb. 2 .- The Archbishop and clergy of this Archdiocese have issued an address assuring the Irish people of their mo al and material support in the present

It was Mr. Davitt's arrest that led to the disorderly scene that ensued in the House, to anspersion of the Irish members and to the arrest of Mr. Parnell and thirty-four members of Parliament, who were removed by the 310. Sergeant at-Arms, the police standing in

Mr. Parnell-What conditions? No reply being made, angry cries of "answer, answer, answer" came from the Irish

of-leave.

benches. Mr. Gladstone then arose, and Mr. Dillon also stood up simultaneously amid the most terrible din and cries of "shame."

Mr. Gladstone said-"I rise, sir, in conformity with the notice I gave yesterday." Mr. Dillon-"Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speak-

The Speaker-"The right hon. gentleman s in possession of the House." Mr. Dillon continued to stand with his arms folded. The Speaker-"I call upon the hon. mem-

ber to resume his seat." (Cries of "shame, Mr. Dillon continued to stand, the Irish

members crying "point of order," "point of order." Mr. Gladstone then moved that the hon.

gentleman be suspended during the remainder of the day's sitting. The Speaker then put the motion from the chair amidet cries of "privilege," "order."

Mr. Dillon-"I rise to a point of order; I object to the division.' The House then divided; for the suspension there were 395 against 33, majority,

The Speaker-"Mr. Dillon will withdraw." Mr. Dillon-"I beg-" The Speaker-"The hon. member must withdraw."

Mr. Dillon-"I decline to withdraw."

The Speeker then directed the Sergeant-at-Arms to remove Mr. Dillon.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan rose to a point of order amid the greatest confusion; during which force, I hope." The hon. member then rose, and amid cries of "shame," left the House.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan then proceeded to quote the case of the member for Northampton, and said that the Speaker then declared that without a specific motion of the House be could not compel the hon member to withdraw. He therefore contended that the course taken was one of extreme illegality. He then proceeded to justify the conduct of Mr. Dillon. Mr. Dillon had, he said, been punished by the illegal exercise of usurped authority. Mr. Gladstone then rose to address the

House. Mr. Parnell moved that the Right Hon gentleman be no longer heard, and continuing to speak, he was "named" by the Speaker for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. Gladstone then moved that the hon. member be suspended during the remainder of the sitting.

The majority of hon, members proceeded to divide. The Irish members, however, continued to remain in their places and maintained an angry discussion. They were in vain ad-

dressed by Mr. Power who appeared to be

counselling them to withdraw. Lord Kensington-I have to report Mr. Speaker that I am unable to clear the House hecause the hon. gentlemen refuse to leave.

The Speaker—The hon. members are con-

tinuing in a cause which is not becoming. Mr. A. M. Sullivan-We contest the legality of the proceedings.

The doors were then opened, and the honorable members returned to their seats. The House then divided as follows :- For the suspension: Yeas, 405; nays, 7; majority,

The Speaker-Some hon, members did not move from their places, consequently their votes were not recorded, but Mr Parnell, in consequence of this resolution, must withdraw.

The Sergeant-at-Arms then touched Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell-I respectfully decline to

withdraw except by superior force. The five officers again entered the House and Mr. Parnell withdrew in their company. Mr. Gladstone rose, and after referring to the conduct of hon, members in refusing to

take part in the division was proceeding with his statement upon the motion of which he had given notice when, Mr. Finnigan moved that the Prime Minister be no longer heard. He was " named " by

chair and informed that his conduct was that Mr. Gadstone then moved that the offending members be suspended from the service

The motion being put from the chair, the House again divided, the Irish members rethe impeachment of the Speaker. The maining in their position. This fact was motion was ruled out of order from want of reported to the Speaker by Lord Kensington. The Speaker called upon the hon, members

to leave, as they were disregarding the authority of the chair. The names of members were then taken by

meanwhile sitting in perfect silence. During the division a strong body of police were in readiness to remove, if necessary, the recalcitrant members. The members in favor of suspension were 405; against, 2;

majority, 403. The Speaker then said he had to report the following gentlemen as having refused to leave the House: Messrs. Barry, Biggar, Byrne, W. G. Corbet, Daly, Dawson, Gill, E. Gray, Healy, Lalor, Lealy, Leamy, McCarthy, Donoghue, Gorman Mahon, O'Connor Power Redmond, Sexton, A. M. Sullivan, T. D. Sullivan and Smithwick.

Another disorderly scene then ensued. The motion was put from the chair for their suspension from the House. They left the House one after another amid laughter and cheers. The House divided for the motion, 410 against 6; majority, 404.

The members were then ordered to withdraw and declined to go unless forced. Upon being spoken to by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Barry, the first on the list, refused to leave the House and was ejected by Capt. Gossett. Cowen will ask for a day to discuss the The same process was repeated in the case of Speaker's conduct. It is understood the the other members. The Rev. Isaac Nelson created some laughter by holding firmly to the bench on which he was sitting. Mr. O'Sullivan said that this was not the first time he had been illegally arrested by Parliament. Mr. Molloy was subsequently "named" and was called upon to retire. It was discovered, however, that he had with-

drawn.
Mr. Gladstone then rose to propose his resolution on Obstruction, when Mr. O'Donnell

moved that the Premier be not heard. Mr. O'Donnell was "named" and his susnension moved by Mr. Gladstone.

The House proceeded to divide but it was reported that Mr. O'Shaughnessy and Mr. R. Power had refused to leave the House during the division. The division was then taken. For the motion, 311; against, 1. Majority,

Lord Grosvenor then reported that two readiness to clear the House, amid intense honorable members had declined to with-excitement. Joseph Sequin, Treffle Brazeau, Joseph La-draw. The Speaker then ordered Mr. framboise, Jr., Napoleon Lalonde. The polls draw. The Speaker then ordered Mr. O'Donnell to withdraw. Mr. O'Donnell de-In reply to Mr. Parnell,
Sir Wm. Harcourt replied that Mr. Davitt clined to withdraw as a protest against had been arrested in consequence of having liberty. He then withdrew in company with the above persons were elected with a good violated one of the conditions of his ticket- the Sergeant-at-Arms. The other two hon. members were then "named" and ordered to withdraw. No challenge of the ruling being made, they were removed.

Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to bring forward his motion, and made a statement with regard to the course taken in putting down obstruction.

Henry moved the adjournment of the debate as a protest against injustice. Sir Joseph McKenna (Home Ruler) seconded the motion. Hartington said he could not admit there was any validity in the argument founded on the absence of certain members through their own misconduct. The motion was defeated by 371 to 28. The first amendment of Northcote to be added the original resolution was agreed to. Northcote's second amendment, that the majority to decide the question of urgency must consist of not less than 300 members, was rejected by 234 to 150. The Government subsequently adopted a slight amendment, affected by Northcote and Gladstone's resolution as amended was agreed to. Gladstone then moved the Bill for the Protection of Life and Property in Ireland was urgent. Motion carried. The House then adjourned.

The only English members of the House of Commons who voted against Mr. Dillon's anspension were Mr. Cowen (Radical and Home Ruler) and Mr. Labouchere (advanced Liberal); they also voted against Mr. Parnell's suspension, but not against Mr. Finnigan's. The six members who voted against the suspension of the 28 Home Rulers. refusing to go out on a division of the House, were Messrs. Callan (Liberal), Cowen, La- paupers do so abroad.

bouchere, Macdonald (Liberal), Macfarlane Home Ruler) and Sir Joseph McKenna (Home Ruler).

The Parnellites decided, after division upon the Sergeant-at-Arms approached Mr. Dillon, the second reading of the Coercion Bill, to accompanied by five officers. The Sergeant announce their intention of abandoning said :- "Mr. Olllon, you are not going to use further protest against the Government's measure, as opposition is hop less.

Mr. Bryce (Liberal) will ask on Monday whether the Government will inquire into the condition of Davitt's health, and that privileges may be granted him. It is believed that the question is in accordance with the sentiments of a large number of the members.

(CONCLUDED ON EIGHTH PAGE.)

A SECRET CHAMBER.

THE TERRIBLE SECRET OF AN ARCHITECT'S MEASUREMENT DISCLOSED.

The London correspondent of the New York Times contributes the following mediaval ro-

mance : The owner of the place, a jovial old country gentleman, with a large family, began to find his house somewhat too small for the requirements of the countless guests with whom he required to fill it. He sent for an eminent architect, and consulted him as to the possibility of adding a room or two without injury to the appearance of the building. The architect went to work at once, inspected the house within and without, made sundry mesurements, and returned to his host with the complacent air of a man who has found out

something worth knowing.
"I'm fortunate enough," said he, with a smile, "to have come just in time to save you from a very useless labour. Do you know that while you are talking of adding new rooms to your house you have a room in it at this moment which you have never used yet!" "What on earth do you mean?" asked the bewildered squire. "I mean," answered the professional, with cientific superiority, "that the measurements which I have just been taking leave several square yards of the house's area unaccounted : in other words, there is somewhere within its walls a secret chamber of which you know nothing." The squire laughed the idea to scorn, but his wife, captivated by the romantic suggestion of a possible "Bluebeard's chamber" in her house, at once ranged herself on the side of the architect, and insisted that the mysterious room should be searched for and found. "If it exists," retorted the architect, somewhat nettled by the implied doubt of his judgment, "but I am positive that I can point out the very spot where it is to be found. Pick a whole in the wall that closes the east end of the great corridor on the third floor, and if you do not find the secret chamber lying behind I will gladly pay all the expenses of the search The proprietor, beginning to feel interested in spite of himself, at once agreed to the pro-

posal, and the workmen were promptly called in. A few sturdy blows sufficed to bring down the wall, already old and crumbling. Behind it, to the great exultation of the architect and the amazement of the still incredulous Squire, appeared a moldering oaken door, which was speedly driven in, revenling a dark recess, from which exhaled a strange, sickening odor. The architect, taking a lighted candle from one of the bystanders-for by this time the whole household had assembled to watch the progress of the excavation-squeezed himself through the aperture but instantly sprang back with a cry of horror. The squire more courageous or less impressible, entered in his turn, and this is what he saw: Hidden in the thickness of the wall lay a

small oval chamber, once lighted by a narrow diamond-paned window, which had been completely bricked up from the outside. The furniture was of rich antique casts the carved oak table spread with costly dishes and silver flagons, but dust and cobwebs covered all. and the very hangings were rotting upon the mouldering walls. Rats were heard scraping and knawing behind a wainscot, and huge slimy beetles were crawling about the damp floor. The crowning horror of this living tomb lay elsewhere. On the mildewed couch beside the table a human skeleton was shrunk together in a position of bideous distortion, while another sat crouching in a corner, with its bony fingers thrust between its yellow rattling jaws, as if the wretch had knawed the flesh of his bones in the desperation of the last agony. The news of the ghastly revelation flew abroad like wildfire, stimulating the otcal authorities to solve, if possible, the mystry of the horrible secret. Their zeal at length ferreted out the legend of a death bed confession made by the last hereditary owner of the place in the days of James I. In vengeance for his wife's infidelity, he had descoyed her paramour into the fatal chamber, where he built them up alive with his own hands. As a further refinement of cruelty, he had previusly spread the table with a splendid banquet, every morsel of which was poisoned, thus giving the poor wretches only the chance of starvation or suicide. What horrors that lonely chamber witnessed before the end came none but God can tell; but the distorted attitudes of the two victims sufficiently showed in what fearful agonies they must have died.

PARISH OF TRES SAINT REDEMPTEUR. At a meeting of the electors of the Parish of Tres Saint Redempteur, lately detached from the Parish of Rigaud, the following gentlemen were elected Councillors : John McCabe, J. Magloire Quesnel, F. D Tessier, were kept open for two days. Notwithstanding the division that reigned in the two camps majority. On January 31 at a meeting of the new Councillors John McCabe, Esq., was unanimously elected Mayor of the New Municipality. Joseph Laframboise, Jr., was chosen as Secretary-Treasurer.

WIT AND HUMOR.

A man knows what "The Charge of the Light Brigade" is when he gets his gas bill. Augustus Darble (artist); "Don't you think it is about time I exhibited something?" Severe critic (examining Darble's latest production) : Yes, a little talent, for instance."

"The little girl who was disapp inted because her name could not be found in the bible says : "Never mind! I shall be such a good girl that if ever another Bible is written my name shall go into it."

The most amusing man in the world is a Frenchman trying to envent his rag in Eaglish: By gar, you call my vife a voman to Kingston at \$1.30 per 1,000, and it is rethree several times once more, and I vill call the vatch-house and blow off your brain like \$135. a candle."

Science enumerates five hundred and eighty-eight species of organnic forms in the air we breathe. Just think of it! Every time you draw in a breath a whole zoological garden siips down your windpipe, and no free ticket.

A distinguished foreigner, visiting the country, remarked that the United States was the best country be ever saw for well dressed and the state of t

BREVITIES.

Prairie-settlers in Minnesota are suffering terribly from the fuel famine.

Shocks of an earthquake have been distinctly heard along the Hudson.

The new Credit Foncier have opened out their offices in Quebec, and begun business. Of the 42 caudidates for diplomas of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, 26 were suc-

An Irishman in Quebec has just returned from a pilgrimage to the Church at Knock, Ireland.

cessful.

A Company is being formed in Paris for the importation of American cattle on a large scale.

A fisherman of Kingston found a \$20 gold piece in a pike which he caught in the Bay of Quinte. Lumbermen are experiencing much diffi-

culty in getting men for the shanties up the Ottawa. The colonial members of the Spanish Cortes will protest against the higher duties

on sugar. It is said the Commissioner of Fisheries is preparing a report on the charges made by Protessor Hind.

John Clair, recovered \$5,000 from the Brooklyn City Railroad Company for the loss of a leg.

The late Hon. Mr. Letellier's life was not insured, and he died leaving scarcely any pro-

vision for his family.

Hon. J. A. Chapleau and Hon. Mr. Paquet, of the Quebec Government, have had an interview with Sir John Macdonald. The Chicago & Alton Railroad to day de-

clared a half-yearly dividend of 4 per cent upon both common and preferred stock. There appears to be some probability that the boy in care of the German farmer living

near London, Ont., is the veritable Charley The arrest and imprisonent of the chiefs and subordinates of the Department of Public

Administration, Havana, accused of frauds, continues. The Mutual Union Telegraph Company, capital of \$50,000 to do business in Pennsyl-

vania and adjoining States was chartered yesterday. Mr. Fairfax William Cartwright, Conservative member of Parliament for Northamptonshire, South, is dead, at the age of 58

vears. Tho death is announced of the Rev. Mother St. Ignace, nee Marie Virginie Audette, for the last 35 years a nun of the Hotel Dieu, Quebec.

There is a water famine in parts of the city of Belleville, many of the mills having run dry owing to the continued severe cold weather. The man Dereau, of Kingston, who was

shot on Simcoe Island last fall. has almost

entirely recovered; the ball still remains in

While some plumbers were attending to repairs to the boiler in the Royal Insurance Company's building, Toronto, the other day, the boiler burst, doing \$250 damage. The

men escaned. The entries at the Custom Houses of the Island of Cuba in December show an increase of \$22,000 revenue over the same month in previous year.

W. W. Waddell, an employee of Messrs. J. Calder, & Co., wholesale clothiers, Hamilton, died suddenly yesterday from a combination of pulmonary affections.

A meeting of the Toronto Branch of the Land League was held last night. Trouble was expected with the Orange Young Britons, but nothing occurred.

A farm-house about five miles from Acton, Cnt., occupied by James Dunn and family, was burned to the ground yesterday morning. The inmates barely escaped with their lives.

At a meeting of the Senate of Toronto University, held last night, Mr. Alfred Baker, B.A., was elected Registrar, in the room of Mr. W. G. Falconbridge, M.A., re-

In all the Caholic Churches of New York, Thursday, were gathered persons seeking the interceission of St. Blasius, supposed to be especially powerful against the scourge of diphtberia. Chas Britton and J. J. Woodruff, the con-

fidence men who swindled farmer John Armstrong, of Toronto, out of a \$50 bet that he could not open a jack-knife, were sent to gaol for thirty days yesterday morning. At a soirce given by Bismarck, the

other night, he said a serious beginning must be made with the fulfillment of his promise to combat social democracy by a remedial measure and not by prerepressive decrees. The Earl of Kimberly, Colonial Secretary, spaking at a dinner in London last night, said the tree regotiations which are

end in a speedy settlement of disturbances in Basutoland. A man named Fairbanks was shot in a Detroit Hotel on Tuesday night. He had been playing cards with two women, and it is not known whether he committed suicide, or was shot by one of his companions. The

now proceeding relative to the Basutos will

women were arrested. The Toronto whiskey detective, who has been in Ottawa for some time past, has left without having an opportunity of making a case. The Lower Town saloon-keepers promised to make it hot for him.

The annual session of the Provincial Farmers' Association was opened at Sackville, N. B. yesterday afternoon. A letter was received from Sir S. L. Tilley saying a steam-boat company proposed to put on a line from Montreal in the summer and St. John in the

Mm. Hickey, of the firm of Hickey & Bell. Ottawa, recently broke through the ice on Lake Temicamagie, and had a narrow escape from drowning. He had his feet hadly frozen in walking from the lake to the nearest farmhouse, 7 miles, and it is feared they will have

to be amputated. The Inland Navigation outlook is better than last year. Charters have already been made to carry 14 cargoes of Oak timber from Canadian ports on Lake Erie to Kingston at \$87.50 per 1,000 cubic feet, and one charter at \$90 per 1,000; also from Bay City ported that another charter has been made at

The Superintendent of the Toronto Observatory has received from York Factory in the Hayes river the dates of the opening and closing of navigation for the past 52 yeers. The information is valuable, in view of the propositions to establish a steamship line via Hudson Bay to Europe. The average date of the opening of navigation has been May 20th, the extremes being May 7th and and June 1st. The average date of closing has been Novbo gars. He referres to the young men who ember 22nd, the extremes being November hang round the entrance to churches. Only 3rd and December 9th. Six months of the year are thus open on the average.