the police at length apprehended one of the ringleaders, and took him away from the hall. A rush of his confederates from the hall instantly took place, and the old man was rescued. A reinforcement of police, however, came up, and the ringleader and six of those who had aided in rescuing him were safely lodged in gaol. Several policemen were badly hurt in the affray, and one of them had to be taken to the infirmary for surgical treatment. . . . . The seven Catholics apprehended were brought before Mr. Maude and other magistrates on Monday, when the charges against them were fully sustained. Mr. Maude commented in strong terms on the conduct of the prisoners, justifying the interference of the police, and holding the former to bail in two sureties of £10 each to answer an indictment at the sessions.

On Monday night the baron was announced to deliver a lecture on "Nuns and the Inquisition." Long before the time fixed for the lecture, a large crowd of persons had assembled in Peter Street, in front of the Free Trade Hall; and the authorities, being apprehensive of a disturbance, placed 200 police officers in the assembly-room and ante-room in order to preserve the peace if an emergency should arise.—The price of admission to the reserved seats was 1s.; to the gallery, 6d.; and to the body of the hall, 3d. At these prices about 2,000 persons were present. At eight o'clock the baron ascended the platform, accompanied by his youthful wife, attired in white, and the proceedings shortly afterwards commenced. Mr. Robert Atkinson was called to the chair, and in a few appropriate remarks introduced the baron to the audience. The baron was received with cheers, mingled with hisses and groans, and before he had finished the first sentence a man in the body of the hall interrupted him by crying out "You are a liar." This was the signal for an uproar, and the disturber was expelled amidst cries of "Turn him out." The baron again proceeded with his address, but at the end of each sentence a similar scene was repeated. These expulsions were effected in each case by the audience themselves, and the police were not required to interfere to suppress anything like personal violence. At the conclusion of the proceedings the baron and his wife left the hall in a cab, from a private entrance, and the vast mob who had assembled outside were consequently disappointed in getting a glance at him. We may state in conclusion, before the proceedings commenced, a drunken man was taken into custody who had a poker concealed up his coat sleeve.—*London Watchman.*

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1859.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that Obituary, Revival, and other notices addressed to us from any of the Circuits within the bounds of the Connexion, shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent Minister.

Communications designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence.

We do not undertake to return rejected articles.

We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

The General Election.

A fortnight from to-day will, in all probability, decide the complexion of the Government of our country for the next four years. The present, therefore, is a time when the grave responsibility rests upon every elector of so determining the vote which he is about to give as that, in the calm hours of reflection which will succeed the distracting excitement of a General Election, he may feel that he has faithfully discharged his duty to his country and his God, and possess, in regard to his use of the elective franchise, a conscience void of offence towards his Supreme Governor and Judge, and towards his fellow-man. Amid the convulsions of society it is that the strength of the Christian is tried. Worldly influences then come in like a flood, and frail man is too feeble of himself to lift up a standard against them. He needs to be strengthened for this task by the Spirit of the Lord. To our readers we offer but one word of advice, which comprehends, we believe, their whole duty in relation to their exercise, as religious men, of the rights of citizenship. In language supplied to us by the Volume of Inspiration, we say, "Whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

It is vain for any one to imagine that he can be a good Christian in the church, and in the world a ductile politician; that while in one sphere he must put forth every energy to spread the beneficent influences of the Gospel, to reclaim mankind from the bondage of sin and the grasp of false religions, he may, in another, subserve the dominion of Satan over the minds of men, and yield himself a willing instrument to secure the success of systems which dishonor God, debase his creatures, and retard the universal reign of the Messiah. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked." He requires the entire consecration of all our powers.—We cannot render him a divided allegiance. Christ must reign supreme in our affections, and his Spirit control the whole course of our conduct in life, else we cannot be his disciples. In our business, we may perhaps see the way open before us to accumulate riches with ease and rapidity, if we obey the maxims of the world; but upon such a condition the gain of this world's wealth is the loss of the immortal soul. And so in our political relations, we may behold the triumph of our party secured by its alliance with some anti-Christian confederacy, whether infidel, mormon, papal, or socialistic; but let us simply ask, *Can* the faithful follower of Jesus safely lend himself to the formation of an alliance which must advance the cause of Anti-Christ? We trow not. In our estimation, that man assumes a fearful responsibility whose chivalric devotion to party, or whose generous impulses of personal regard, lead him to strengthen by his support the position of those who are at war with the purposes of the Most High.

These remarks, we trust, will be accepted by the Wesleyans of Nova Scotia in the spirit in which they are offered. They are penned in the fear of God; and are not designed to promote or to prejudice the interests of any political party as such. Our single intent is, at a time when men's minds are too apt to be influenced by the unhealthy excitement of party conflict, to impress upon them the solemn obligation of a course of procedure which will bear the scrutiny of their more sober moments. On neither of the parties which have heretofore divided the country could we conscientiously ask our readers to bestow their confidence: for both have too unmistakably evinced the disposition to bargain with Rome. The security of Protestants, in our opinion, is not in the present professions, nor in the views and pledges of disappointed or ambitious statesmen, but in the character of the candidates chosen, for firmness of principle, for an enlightened apprehension of the dangers to civil and religious liberty which result from the power and ambition of Rome, combined with the strong determination, consistently manifested, to resist their growth, and at the same time to preserve unimpaired to the Roman Catholic portion of our population the fulness of that freedom which as British subjects they do, and of right, enjoy.

The conspicuous participation of leading Wesleyans of this city in the metropolitan political gatherings and arrangements, is a novel, and does not look like a purely accidental, feature of the day. If there be design—and a wicked design we must call it—to invade the sanctity of religious fellowship for the furtherance of political ends, then we must admit that each party has acted with consummate ability. In presenting MR. SHANNON as a candidate for the suffrages of their friends, and in publicly pledging MR. DEWOLF to the approbation of their course, the Government have certainly manifested no ordinary degree of insight into the feelings of Methodism. The praise of these men is in all our churches. They have, undeniably, a firm and merited hold upon the favor and affections of our people. Their character for piety, for love and allegiance to the principles of Methodism, for well-grounded horror of Popery as a system antagonistic to all religious truth, has not been built up in a day, but is the growth of years of open profession united with consistent living. It is too firmly established to fall, or even to totter, before the impotent darts of calumny which some have evinced a disposition to hurl.

Not less tact have the Opposition shown in parading before the public eye, as associated with their cause, the names of men ennobled by the universal voice of Methodism for their personal exertions and princely contributions in her behalf. Wesleyans everywhere will recognize the fact that no sordid impulses, no ambitious yearnings, have placed in the political arena such men as Mr. JOHN H. ANDERSON,—who the *Colonist*, more truly than it pronounces him a *dismissed* Commissioner (!?) tells us never before attended a political meeting in his life,—Mr. JOHN THOMAS, Mr. FROST, and the venerable philanthropist JUDGE MARSHALL.—These men, it will be known, have taken the stand which they now assume from the purest motives. They, at least, are conscientious in believing that Rome needs to be checked, whilst their brethren Shannon and Dewolfe,—whom none we think esteem more than they do,—are persuaded that she has not attained, nor can attain, to any dangerous influence in the legislature of our country.

Thus, then, Wesleyans of the highest worth are firmly planted against each other in the hostile encounter of political conflict. Righteous men will regret it. But there is no power to prevent the array. There is but one Church which can, or which attempts to, secure unanimity of *political action* in her members. Baptists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Methodists will be divided in their views and in their votes. Rome alone can march her devoted disciples in firm phalanx to the polls. An illustration of her power may be drawn from the party meetings which have just been held. At the Government and at the Opposition meetings there were prominent on the platform, as advocates of their respective views, members of the four religious denominations named above. But at one alone did Roman Catholics attend to approve: at the other they appeared only to discountenance and intimidate. Every nomination on the one side received the outspoken sanction of some representative of Roman Catholicism. Mr. Tobin could answer for himself, but Mr. Shannon's nomination was supported by Mr. Kenny, and Mr. Pryor's by Alderman Morrisey. No individual Roman Catholic presented his compliments to Mr. Brine or Mr. Bell.

Well; as Wesleyans must be divided conscientiously in opinion, let us at least hope that they will be charitable towards each other. Let not a candidate regard as an enemy him whose vote is registered for an opponent, and denied to himself, but rather respect him as a friend whose overruling sense of duty has impelled him to do that which his sentiments of personal regard would have influenced him to leave undone; and let the voter beware lest, if disappointed in the issue of the contest, he cherish inimical and unholy feelings towards his successful brethren. Let him repose with calm complacency upon the conviction of duty discharged, and leave the event in the hands of One who doth not regard with indifference the struggles of His servants to maintain the institutions, either civil or religious, which are dear to them, and who knoweth, far better than they, whether the dangers they dread are really imminent, and whether it be not well for themselves, and for the cause which they espouse, that their patience should for awhile be tried.

Letter from Canada.

From our own Correspondent.

CANADA, April 15th, 1859.

It is long since the Wesleyan Methodism of Canada furnished, as it has done for several years, so gratifying an illustration of the inspired poet's exclamation, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" And this oneness and its power are proofs of the true philosophy of the measures which English and Canadian Methodists concerted under the control of Providence, and guaranty, if anything can do it, the close adhesiveness and perpetuity of bonds, which the present and the future of this popular Province require in the policy and relationships of the descendants of Wesley.

The President of the Conference has an honoured suburban dwelling at Toronto, but, as we thought it would be, his home is mostly in some railway carriage, stage, or steamboat, hastening to the east and then hastening to the west of the country; and he returns to the city full of astonishment at the religious and social advance of "the people called Methodists" since he left Canada years ago. His grateful surprises are complimentary to the past presidency, ministry, and membership. The General Superintendent of Missions is daily at his city desk, managing the affairs of our Bureau of Missions, and caring for the welfare of about two hundred and twenty salaried agents,—some of them labouring on the very boundaries of Canada, and others far beyond her boundaries,—answering their enquiries and supplying their wants; and yet two or three days a week supplementing such duties by important public Ministerial services on some eastern, western, or northern circuit or mission of our far-stretching Connexion. And everywhere these beloved chief officers find a working Wesleyan clergy and laity, and a cordial people, holding some dedicatory, or anniversary, or Sabbath School, or Temperance, or benevolent meeting, and busiest always at stated or special efforts to save souls: and many have been saved this year. After reading the journals, sermons, and Conference minutes of Wesley, such Canadian evidences of holy indefatigableness come to the judgment and the heart with the force of corroborations, and make the gratitude within well-up before God.

Canada Methodism is unpensioned. The Methodist Church is unendowed, though the main bulwark of Protestantism in Canada.—She receives no weighty periodical subsidies from Europe like some other Churches, nor is she dependent for financial succour on the money or land patronage of the Canadian Government. With the exception of a paltry portion of the Clergy Commutation Fund and an occasional valued grant from the Parent Missionary Society in England, her entire resources are voluntary, for all Circuit and missionary purposes. There is a begrudged appropriation for literary uses to Victoria College, but is difficult to say whether the amount is an honour or a disgrace to the Government, which pampers some other Colleges that are richly endowed, and would, if we would let it, pauperise Victoria, which has no endowment. The Wesleyan Church has more Circuits, Missions, and Ministers, and erects more ecclesiastical buildings than any other Protestant Church in Canada; and we have no tyrant Stuart or upstart Napoleon to say it shall not be so, and no Puseyite or Papal power sufficient to prevent it; but there is a British independence of purpose, and a Macedonian generosity, and a might in her doctrines, devotions, and discipline, which God makes triumphant.

It is not the time to say what our Missionary revenue for this year will be, especially after a year of almost unprecedented commercial depression and confusion. This can now be stated—there is no diminution of the Missionary interest in any direction, and come short or overtop the income of 1857, the heart of Canada Methodism is, I believe, more Missionary than ever; and whenever the total for this year is calculated, that heart will be seen to have beaten high and holily. You have read the London *Watchman's* announcement of the Parent Society's total, £130,000, and there is grandeur in it. Old Methodism falling off! I should rather say in the ears of modern Methodist tinkers, with a man of humble speech, Old Methodism is "falling *to*" the work, with the athletic purpose of youth renewed, and thrills her noble affiliated Conferences with her own spirit.

I could not when I last wrote report the arrival of our Missionaries in British Columbia, and now I shall not anticipate the contents of an able and cheering letter from Dr. Evans, which will appear in the Canadian Missionary *Notices*. For, while that gentleman reserves his communications for the Missionary Department, two or three of our good men have gone—I will not say, pell mell—to newspaper correspondence, and put the public on tip-toe for Columbia news. Their published letters will serve sufficiently my object to-day, and from them some pleasing facts are attainable. Their journey, in answer to many prayers, was performed without accident or sickness to any of the band. From the day they left Canada to the day of their arrival, only good will, and sometimes a warm Christian and Methodist kindness, greeted and aided them; for they found Wesleyan brethren and sisters at New York, San Francisco, and in Oregon.—Their journey was expeditious, moderately expensive, and agreeable. Dr. Evans carried out the wishes of the General Superintendent of Missions with great judgment. They reached Victoria, February 11th, with thanksgivings to God; and the brotherly and prudent Pidwell (for whom we are indebted to your Eastern Connexion) made the arrival a happy one,—unlike enough, as I otherwise learn, to the shameful arrival of the Lieutenant Governor, Colonel Moody, who with his lady and family sought in vain for a home, and had to betake themselves to the cabin of a ship in harbour. Governor Douglass, the Lieutenant Governor, and others welcomed them and their mission; the Police Barracks were at once obtained temporarily for worship; the promising germ of a Wesleyan Church on the Pacific, started by God's hand into immediate existence, to flourish while sun and moon endure; and stations for the missionaries were being selected. The first doleful note has to be heard, except for the debased Indians, and expectations of success are manly, Methodistic, and exhilirating.

Death is ruthless. The Rev. T. Fawcett, an experienced and energetic Wesleyan Missionary to the Indians of Grand River, has just died of severe fractures, in consequence of a night accident on the Great Western Railroad. A suitable compensation, it is expected, will be made by the Company to the widow and children.—He died as he lived, a fervent lover of the Saviour. The esteemed wife of the Rev. J. Musgrove, Chairman of the Chatham District, has died, not without leaving clear testimonials to the efficacy of the blood of the Lamb. The excellent wife of the Rev. C. Fish, Superintendent of Picton, has, after living the life of the righteous, gone to her reward:—all much respected.

Toronto has been universally affected by the death of Mrs. Margaret Taylor, widow of Mr. Alderman Taylor; and ours is an irreparable loss. She was the devotional Hannah of Toronto Wesleyan Methodism, and the most unwearied friend of the Toronto poor, and was unequalled in her sanctity, assiduities, benevolence and usefulness; and there are valuable manuscripts from her own pen, confided to friendship years ago, which will give perpetuity to a memory hallowed and distinguished, prompt to emulation, and bring honours to the God of grace.

In turning to very different subjects, I have no pride in reporting the proceedings of the Canadian Legislature, with its child's play and anomalies, and obsequiousness to French cunning and haughtiness, helped by the recreancy of some Protestants, and the unpatriotic forbearance of certain Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Methodist legislators. You cannot be surprised, therefore, that the Cartier Executive should have things done much to their mind, and that amendment after amendment from liberals is rejected by queer majorities. The Seignorial Tenure contrivance is very offensive, and will be a boon to Popery, and a robbery of Western Canada. The oppressive tariff has received the Governor's assent, and with such a scheme for money getting, there are schemes uncountable for money wasting. An early close of the session is the talk, and practised men have learned to be wary in looking out for the manœuvres of an anti-Protestant Parliamentary cabal, which is not often willing to break up without some attempt against our best interests.

Late sad scaffold scenes, and the still later conviction of other murderers, and the prevalence of tavern improprieties, and immorality and family miseries, the fruits of drunkenness, have, I think, increased the number of persons wishing for a remedy to be applied to these evils. Temperance men very praiseworthily bestir themselves, and many petitions in some form or other have been presented to the House of Assembly, and a Committee of the House has reported in favour of a stringent law, if not of a thoroughpaced Maine enactment. Leaving religion to renew men, certainly the law ought to take cognizance of what belongs to the peace, and decencies, and safety of the commonwealth. A good law may turn up among the passed bills after awhile, but I am too incredulous to expect figs from thistles. I want to be wrong!

A dispatch from the Imperial Government to this Government has, after long hiding, just come out of darkness, relating to Divorce, shewing the wish of Great Britain to have a safe measure in a matter so serious to society; but the knowing Councillors of Governor Head, with a Papist for Premier, disapproved of it, and it was not brought into Parliamentary daylight!—Though not many weeks before this discovery, stubborn and loyal liberals were lectured on the respect due to Her Maiesty and the Imperial advisers, when Ministers had land fortunes to make at the new Ottawa Metropolis! Popery again!

The Postmaster General has just managed to make us all pre-pay letters going to or by England, and he is marshalling his mischievous energies to reimpose a postage on newspapers, to the derogation and damage of the press and the people, but to the satisfaction of priests and partizans, who, like the despot of France, scout the freedom and independence of Journalism.

If I read the reports of Eastern British American proceedings without mistake, you have the counterpart of our political and ecclesiastical doings, on the Atlantic: Official men undermining constitutional liberty; Prelates brow-beating Protestantism! We have our "Non-Contents," and there is hope; though waiting will make the heart sick. With Mr. Howe, you have your JUDGE WILMOT, who, I am sure, made up his mind to manliness and a legitimate christianity, when he read in Scripture history of John, the bold forerunner, in English history of John Hampden, in Scottish history of John Knox, and in Methodist history of John Wesley; and he has not read of them in vain, for, from these four Johns, and from a fifth,—St. John,—he has derived great principles and graces, which distinguish him, besides possessing the vigour of a finished mind, and the intelligent teaching powers of a winning eloquence,—which, while heard in your favoured cities, is felt by the readers of his popular productions in Canada.

I must reserve some selected particulars, as I always have to do; but the adroit and pestiferous movements we abhor make it the time to say that the Papacy is the curse of Canada, as it is of many other countries. The fall of man is the devil's chief deed, and after atheism, the Papacy is the next notorious proof of his infernal malignity; and I fully consent to a paragraph in the profound RICHARD WATSON's review of Christianity:—"There never was any thing in ancient or modern Paganism, or in the impostures of Mahomet, so abstractedly bad, so worthy of the father of lies, so destructive of all moral principles, so bewildering to the understanding on all moral questions, so calculated to give to vice the sanction of virtue, and, in a word, so corrupting to the moral man in the interior springs of his conduct, his judgment, affections, and conscience,—as Popery perfected by Jesuitism."

Will you allow me to add, that two or three epistolary references in the *Provincial Wesleyan* to the health of the President of the Eastern Conference, the Rev. Dr. Richey, have not conveyed the specific intelligence your Canadian readers require, of the regretted and prolonged affliction of an old friend, whose official and ministerial services in Canada are, and will be, gratefully remembered; and, if you can, give us hope of the President soon resuming his important public functions.

ANGLO-SAXON.

[☞ Our Correspondent will have already seen the mention made of Dr. Richey's recovery. We record with gratitude to God the continued improvement of his health.—ED.]

Young Men's Christian Association.

We respond most cheerfully to the request of the Committee to place the following correspondence before our readers.—We have ourselves witnessed the assiduity and kind demeanour of Mr. Murray in discharging the duties of the office of Secretary Librarian, which he has held for the past six years. Cordially do we unite with the Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association in the prayer that as a Minister of Christ he may be abundantly useful and blessed.

TO THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE HALIFAX YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

GENTLEMEN,—In tendering to you my resignation of the office of Recording Secretary, which I have had the honour to hold for nearly five years, permit me to assure you that I fully appreciate the extreme courtesy and kindness with which I have been uniformly treated by all the officers and members of this Association, and that I now feel deeply the severing, to some extent at least, of ties which have been gathering strength ever since I first met you.

I have been intimately acquainted with all the affairs of this Association since its infancy. I have attended nearly all its meetings whether public or private, for business or for devotion. I have had much intercourse with many of its members on Committees, and in classes, and I can now most cheerfully testify that Christian charity and brotherly affection were always in the ascendant. Denominational peculiarities as well as distinctions of social position were forgotten while Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Wesleyans, and Baptists, rich and poor, learned and unlearned, associated together simply as Christians.

During my connexion with the Association I have learned many lessons which will have a permanent influence on my mind and life, both from yourselves and from the silent friends which occupy the shelves around me, and I feel thankful to God for having cast my lot among you and for having enabled me to discharge my duties in such a manner as to meet your approval.

Yours faithfully,

R. MURRAY.

Y. M. C. A. Rooms,
Halifax, 1st April, 1859.

REPLY.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION ROOMS, April 15, 1859.

DEAR SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your note of the 1st inst., in which you inform us of your intention to resign your office, we avail ourselves of the opportunity to express our warm approval of your conduct while with us, and our regret at losing your valuable services. The long connexion which has existed between us, has, we trust and believe, been productive of mutual benefit to the institution and yourself.

The courtesy you have received from the officers and other members of the Association has, to a very large extent, resulted from your own conduct while connected with us. The unwavering ability, zeal, and urbanity with which you have discharged your duties and your willingness at all times to meet the views and suit the convenience of us all, have won our approval and produced those mutual feelings of confidence and good will which have invariably marked our intercourse with each other.

The absence of all sectarian or denominational feelings, to which you justly refer, has ever been a cause of thankfulness to us, for, while men of decided views, of the several evangelical denominations in this community have been from week to week assembling indiscriminately around our tables, and taking an active part in our affairs, we have the gratification to say that on no single occasion has anything been said or done to mar our harmony or interfere with our distinctive opinions. Here we have met as Christians, each, we trust, anxious to promote the glory of God and the best interests of our fellow creatures, questioning no man as to his creed or position, but in Christian brotherhood each striving for the good of the other, and thereby illustrating one of the loveliest features of our common faith.

Hearing that you propose to enter the ministry, our regret in parting with you is lessened by the hope that you are about to enter upon a more extended sphere of usefulness; and that God may in his goodness make you an honoured instrument of turning many to righteousness and grant you many seals to your ministry is the earnest prayer of

Yours, faithfully,

JAMES F. AVERY.

On behalf of the Committee.

R. MURRAY, Esq.

General Intelligence.

Colonial.

Domestic.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.—Halifax, 13th April, 1859.—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to make the following appointments:

To be Supervisor on the Main Post Road from the North West Arm to Inglis's, head of St. Margaret's Bay—Alex. Hubby.

To be Supervisor on the Main Post Road from Inglis's Hotel, St. Margaret's Bay, to Lunenburg County Line—John Inglis.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.—Halifax, 15th April, 1859.—To be additional Justices of the Peace for the County of Cape Breton—

John Richardson, (Sydney River.)
Hector McIntyre, (Glass Bay.)

To be Justices of the Peace for the County of Digby—

Jesse Harris, Brier Island.
Wm Coggins, Do
John Hains, Long Island.
Isaiah Thurber, Do
Benj Van Blaricom, Do

To be Justices of the Peace in the County of Richmond—

Simon Landry,
Jiffroi Boudrot,
Joseph Creamer, MD.
John Frehill,
Daniel O'C Maddox,
Peter Bosdet,
John H. Reindress,
Aimey Martell,
Isaac LeVisconte,
James Smith, (Gut of Canso.)

To be one of the Coroners of the County of Cumberland—Henry A. Davidson, (River Philip), in the place of Robert Donkin, resigned.

MOUNT UNIACKE, April 22nd,—FIRE. About 12 o'clock this day, whilst the men were at dinner, a fire broke out in the building known as Maitland Inn, on the Windsor road, about 25 miles from Halifax, and occupied by Mr. John Pentz; the flames spread with such rapidity that the building in a very short time was burned to the ground scarcely any furniture saved. A barn situated on the opposite side of the road, containing 100,000 pine shingles was also burned. Cause of fire unknown.—*Recorder.*

Canada.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS IN CANADA WEST.—The Toronto correspondent of the Montreal *Gazette* gives the following particulars respecting the appearance of the crops West of Toronto, he says:—

To begin with the worst feature, it cannot be concealed that winter wheat, in clay soils has been considerably winter-killed, owing to the frequent changes of temperature and the want of snow during the severest months. But on light soils it never looked better at this period of the year than now; the plant is firm and already looks beautifully green. The most cheering feature, however, as indicating a healthy change of practice among the farmers, is that they have not confined their attention so exclusively to wheat as hitherto. In those parts of the country which the destructive "fly" has visited in previous seasons, very little wheat has been sown; preparations for stock raising having been extensively made. In other parts, where the fly has not yet made its appearance, the wheat fields are very numerous.

THE FORBES MACKENZIE ACT.—This celebrated law, which shuts up all places for the sale of intoxicating drinks from a given hour on Saturday evening till Monday morning, and which has proved remarkably beneficial in Scotland, has been adopted by the Legislature of Canada, though only, we believe, for the Upper Province. Why this distinction is made does not appear. Lower Canada suffers from Saturday night and Sunday tippling in the same way as Upper Canada, and she is as well or better prepared by the progress of temperance principles for it. Why then shut her out from the very great advantages of such a law? The reason, we think, is plain. The Jesuits are determined to make the Sabbath day a day of sports, and anything that has even the appearance of austerity on that day they will not permit, however beneficial it might be otherwise.—The French Canadians by a large majority would, we believe, vote for an entire prohibitory law if they could get the opportunity. They have showed this by passing local prohibitory laws whenever they were permitted, and there is no doubt they would have been almost unanimous in favor of this law. The Eastern Townships, too, would have rejoiced in such a law, as also the Ottawa country; but they are all debarred from it by the influence, we have indicated,—an influence which is not exerted to make men moral and intelligent, but to make them submissive to the Church of Rome.—*Montreal Witness.*

TORONTO, 14th March, 1859.—Just as we are about to levy a high rate of Customs' duties on imports, who should come along to pay us a visit but the English free trader, Mr. Cobden. Cobden looks as fresh as ever; his nose as square as in times of old, his hair as carelessly, his whiskers as carefully brushed as of yore, and I believe he has the identical cane he used to carry about at the time of the anti-Corn-Law League! But the conjuncture is the curious thing: Galt's new Tariff and Richard Cobden's policy.—whew!—He leaves for Detroit this P. M.

My letters have been very short of late, nor will this be a long one. The reason is, that I have so little reliable news to tell you. Mr. Galt's changes in the Tariff, made to conciliate the tee-totallers on the one hand, and the booksellers on the other, don't much allay the opposition of Western men, who still look as black as thunder. The speech of Mr. Galt, in his defence, is pronounced by many to be a masterpiece; and one Opposition editor calls it the finest and completest speech on the Budget ever made in Canada. It did not produce on me any very stirring impression, but it was undoubtedly clever, well prepared and well delivered. The key to the financial argument is just simply this—Mr. Galt thinks it better to tax ourselves highly, and not increase our debt.

Mr. Buchanan, it is said, is going to take the lead in opposing the Tariff. Mr. Brunskill, of Toronto, has made him a Tariff from the Protectionist point of view, which he is going to introduce. Mr. Buchanan thinks the policy of the country is to borrow money, and not to tax ourselves heavily. So he differs from Mr. Galt, *toto coelo.*

United States.

THE STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY IN MEXICO.—The two parties now struggling for the ascendency in Mexico are represented, the one under the leadership of Miramon as possessing the Spanish Blood, and the other under Juarez as being of the Indian race. Some of those who have watched Mexican affairs express the opinion that although the Juarez party are termed Liberals, and those following Miramon are devoted to the cause of the priests, yet there is in reality very little choice between them, not more perhaps than between the Chinese imperialists and rebels. If this is really true, there can be but little hope of the regeneration of Mexico until its population has become displaced and given way to a superior and more energetic race of inhabitants, who may acquire a position in the land either by colonization or conquest.

From present indications, however, the ascendancy of the Church party appears to be the most dangerous. They manifest a fierce political intolerance and bigotry which is vastly more to be dreaded than any imbecility on the part of the Indian blood.

The fierceness of the Church party may be understood from the tenor of the sermon delivered by the Bishop in the city of Mexico, before Miramon commenced his march upon the revolutionists at Vera Cruz. The reverend Bishop likened Vera Cruz to Sodom or Gomorrah, and invoked the vengeance of Heaven to alight and destroy it and its defenders. He urged Miramon to scourge with his sword every living creature in a place that had become so contaminated by foreign influence. It was, he said, a special evidence of Heaven's regard for Mexico, that while other and more powerful countries had succumbed to heresy, Mexico, could boast that not a heretical temple polluted its sacred soil. His whole sermon was couched in the same Christian style of language.

Gen. Marquez, the military ruffian for the time being at Guadalajara, has issued a decree intended to be an effectual revolution and sedition-extinguisher. It declares that three or more persons seen talking together shall be considered as enemies of "law and order," and are to be shot in 24 hours; all persons speaking against the Church party or government are to be shot in 24 hours; all persons writing against the government are to be shot in 24 hours; all persons aiding the Liberals, to be shot in 24 hours. He is no better nor worse than most of the other military commandants, and his uncivilized decree is a good picture of the style of liberty enjoyed in this model republic.—*American Traveller.*

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Letters received here from San Domingo state that previous to the Danish action against Santa Ana's Government the French had demanded the concession of all the gold, silver, copper and coal mines of the Republic. The writer of this letter is entitled to full credence.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The adjustment of the difficulty with Paraguay affords great gratification to the country, and is a matter of special congratulation to the Administration. The cost of the expedition is the only loss by the United States. All the objects effected by the treaty could probably have been gained without this expense. We escape the disgrace of a discomfiture, and the reproach of a victory attended by the slaughter of innocent people.

The most important part of the arrangement is the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation, by which the tributaries of the La Plata have been opened to our trade. The question is whether we can avail ourselves of the advantages offered by the treaty with the establishment of a line of mail and passenger steamers between New York and the La Plata.—*Corr. of Commercial Adv.*

MATTERS IN CALIFORNIA.—The San Francisco correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, writes under date of Feb. 20:

"The stock of goods now on their way to this port from the Atlantic, is enormously large, and must in the aggregate prove disastrous to all concerned in their ownership.

The trade of Japan is attracting some attention, and we are credibly informed that one or more ships will quietly be dispatched for Hakodadi within the next six weeks for the purposes of trade.

The overland mail arrivals have nearly broken up the immense newspaper dealers here, who have been coining money for years past out of the sales of tens of thousands of papers prepared expressly at the East for California readers. Now our own local papers give us late Atlantic news every two or three days.

Within the year past, our trade with the Northern coast, including Oregon Territory, Washington Territory and British Columbia, has increased fourfold, and will continue to increase.

As to the richness and permanency of the Frazer River gold mines, your correspondent is as strong in the faith as when he wrote you last summer the long letter which appeared in the editorial columns of the Journal of Commerce. Gold is abundant in all that country, but it is even more difficult and expensive mining than was California in her infant days; but your readers may rest assured that the Frazer River gold region is not a myth, but is and will be found a reality, and the mines rich, and will for centuries yield abundantly. It is for the interest of those who now do all the business of express and banking, &c., to suppress the facts in regard to the yield of those gold mines, but there is no doubt at all but that the Frazer River express business of W. F. & Co. yields them an enormous profit, and therefore it is clearly for their benefit to keep the business of gold carrying and exchanges as much to themselves as possible, and this they will do just as long as they have the exclusive monopoly of that vast gold region.

The long-talked of project of dividing California into two States, has at last been entered upon, the initiatory movement being taken in the Legislature on the 5th of March. All that portion of the State which lies to the south of the thirty-six (36th) degree of latitude is to be set off, and to be united, it is supposed, with Arizona; and from this marriage a State is expected to issue.—*Boston Traveller.*

KANSAS GOLD MINES.—Conflicting accounts continue to reach us from the Kansas gold mines. Late advices from Leavenworth represent the rush beyond all precedent. Upward of a thousand persons had arrived in that city during the three days previous, and the suburbs were covered with companies in camp—confident of making large fortunes. Ditch companies were being formed at the mines to carry water from the Platte river to Cherry Creek a distance of twenty miles.—*North Western Christian Advocate.*

SINGULAR APPEARANCE IN THE HEAVENS.—Mr. L. C. Yale, of Norfolk, Va., speaks of having noticed a singular appearance in the heavens on the 2d inst. It consisted of two perfect rings or circles. The first surrounded the sun, and was of common form and appearance, but of uncommon brightness, and fully equalled the rainbow in splendor. The second circle or ring, which excited curiosity most, commenced at the sun, and extended to the north end of it and at least two thirds of the way to the North or Polar Star. The sun being in the extreme south part of the circle or ring, it was considerably larger then the first mentioned circle, but not of equal brightness.—Its color resembled the Northern Lights in their greatest splendor. It was perfect in all its parts. Where the lines of the circles crossed each other, were spots of uncommon brightness, resembling sun-dogs or mock suns.

IMPORTATION OF AFRICANS.—It appears from information received at Washington that the business of importing Africans is far more extensive than heretofore supposed, and that the arrangements for that purpose are ingeniously devised. Small boats are employed to relieve the slavers of their cargoes and bring them into the Southern states. The government has been informed of some of their movements, and have taken efficient measures in the premises.

THRILLING SCENE AT THE WRECK OF THE SHIP "ADONIS."—A correspondent of the Monmouth *Democrat* gives the following account of the wreck of the ship "Adonis," at Long Branch, at 11 o'clock on the night of the 7th inst. Mr. Green, the station keeper, was on the spot the following morning with a crew of wreckers. They launched the surf boat, boarded the ship, and brought the captain ashore. The captain insisted upon returning to the ship, but the wind breezing up, it was found impossible to do so, as upon the second attempt the surf boat was filled. All haste was then made to shoot a line over the vessel. The crew soon understood the working of the life car upon the hawser, and five of them landed the first voyage to the shore. The life car was again despatched upon its errand of mercy; this time, better satisfied, six of them got into the car, but, when within about thirty yards of the shore, the line attached to the shore end of the car gave way. Then there was a universal shout of agony, the men on the beach hurrying to and fro; there was quite a number of ladies present, who, as they looked upon the scene, turned from it with a shudder. Thus the car was at one moment upon the top of a large wave, and at another in the trough of the sea. The daring and impulsive boat's crew could not stand tamely by and see a car load of human beings in this doubtful condition, but rushed in up to their arm-pits, seized the car and brought it ashore. The name of Joseph West and his crew should be written in letters of gold upon the records of the Life Saving Association. The damage was repaired, and again the car was despatched, and the remaining seven were soon upon the beach.

From Late English Papers.

THE ITALIAN REVOLUTIONISTS AND PIEDMONT.—Mazzini and his Republican associates have issued a manifesto in which they declare "that if the Italian war be carried on under the direction or patronage of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, or even in alliance with him, they will sorrowfully abstain from taking part therein; that as far as the Pidmontese monarch is concerned, the present question is not in their eyes a question of Republicanism, but of unity and general sovereignty; that reserving their right of vote, and peaceful propagandism, they, now as ever ready to sacrifice the immediate triumph of their individual belief to the welfare or opinion of the majority, would follow the Piedmontese monarchy to the field, and use their every endeavour to promote the fortunate issue of the war, provided that its explicit reason was National Italian Unity." In conclusion, they demand some explicit guarantee as to the intention of the Piedmontese Government; object even in such case to any "dictatorship" by Piedmont, and state that the whole Italian people, when free, will have the right of fixing the form of government.

After the decisive majority of Thursday night says the *Watchman* of April 6th against the second reading of their Reform Bill, Ministers were never in two minds as to the course they should follow. Consequently there was less excuse for the common delusion into which so many of our contemporaries unanimously fell on Monday, that the Earl of Derby meant, according to Lord Palmerston's sinister prediction, neither to resign nor to dissolve Parliament, but to plead the exigencies of foreign affairs and the commands of the Queen, and instead of appealing to the country against the adverse majority of the Commons, to seek refuge in the sanctuary rights of the Court. A prorogation, to be forthwith followed by a dissolution, instead of the usual holiday adjournment over Easter, then the bustle of a General Election, and finally the commencement, about the end of May, or possibly so late as June, of the first session of a new Parliament, appears to be the order of events most pleasing to the Ministers of the Crown. It will allow Lord Malmesbury to attend the Congress, if Congress there is to be, for which the preparations of France are certainly of the most formidable description—an increase of military activity, and, it is said, the assembling of an army of 60,000 strong on the frontier of Sardinia. It will also exclude the question of Parliamentary Reform altogether, if Ministers are not deceived, for the present year; and for how much longer if, notwithstanding the meditation of the Queen of England, war should after all break out? To dissolve Parliament is in itself one efficient means of postponing Representative changes, which imply of course a second dissolution, to which a newly elected House of Commons must have an instinctive aversion.

THE WAR NEWS.—The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* gives some details of the hosts marshalled between the Rhine and the Alps. At Antibes there are 12,000 men, at Grenoble 40,000, at Valence 30,000, at Lyons 50,000, at Besancon 20,000, at Toulon there are transports for 60,000 men and materials, and out of the 80,000 troops in Algeria, it is stated that 50,000 are expecting to be drafted into Italy.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the night of the 7th, says that all the news during the day was excessively warlike. The Director-General of the Sardinian Railways had had a long interview with the Emperor. It was announced that the National Guard of Paris was likely to be increased from 30,000 men to 150,000 so as to render the regular army of Paris available for a campaign. Lastly, it was reported that the English squadron at Malta had been ordered to the Adriauc.

TURIN, April 8.—Letters from Milan announce the arrival at that town of two battalions of Croats. Orders had been issued to the railway directors to hold their l