(*Continued from fourth page.*)

Mr. McGee numbered amongst his devoted friends the leading minds of the Irish race in this generation. Gavan Duffy, John O'Donovan, Eugene O'Curry, Samuel Ferguson, and his gifted wife, Father Charles Meehan, Henry Giles, Dr. and Shelton MacKenzie, were his life-long friends, as was also the prsent writer, to whom he dedicated his admirable History of Ireland. To Charles Gavan Duffy he dedicated his volume of "Canadian Ballads," published in Montreal, in 1859.

The published works of Thomas D'Arcy McGee are: O'Connell and His Friends; The Gallery of Irish Writers of the Seventeenth Century; Life of Art McMurrogh; Memoir of Duffy; Irish Settlers in America; History of the Reformation in Ireland; Catholic History of North America; Life of Bishop Maginn; Canadian Ballads; Popular History of Ireland; Notes on Federal Governments, past and present; and Speeches on British American Union, London, 1865.

His lectures comprised the following amongst many other subjects: The Reformation; The Jesuits; Columbus; Shakespeare; Milton; Moore and Burns; Daniel O'Connell; Edmund Burke and Gerald Griffin; The Moral of the Four Great Revolutions; Growth of the Middle Classes in England; The Irish Brigade in the Service of France; The American Revolution; The Spirit of Irish History; Will and Skill; Catholic Life in the Middle Ages, &c., &c.

Of late his mind, aided by his greater regularity of life, had taken an eminently religious turn He was connecting himself more and more with the Catholic press. To the Dublin *Nation*, and NEW YORK TABLET he was, and had been, a frequent and regular contributor; and had just commenced writing for the *Catholic World* the paper in the May number on "The United Churches of England and Ireland," being from his pen, (he did not live to see it in print); and he was busily engaged in an article on "Oliver Plunket, Archbishop and Martyr," for the same periodical at the time of his death. *That, alas! the assassin's bullet left unfinished!* Even in the *Ave Maria* appeared some weeks since, a graceful little poem of his, on "Humility." Truly, he died in the harness; one of the most industrious of literary men, one of the greatest, and most ceaseless brain-toilers we have ever known, or expect to know. But he is gone—we have lost him precisely

"When our need was the sorest!"

and this gentleman, at least, has none to supply his place. Truly do we mourn his loss.

THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.

In an article upon the charities of Paris, published over the signature of H. D.F. in a recent number of the N. Y. *Evangelist*, a Protestant journal, we find the following touching tribute to the Sisters of Charity:

"But little would be accomplished by the largest means and the most judicious organization, were it not for those humble auxiliaries who take upon themselves the hardest part of the work, the Sisters of Charity. They are not paid for it, they derive from it no worldly advantage, but devote their lives to it in the most beautiful spirit of Christian self-denial. On their banner is inscribed only these words of the Divine Master: 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me.' They may sometimes have a narrow superstitious conception of their calling, but I have seen a great deal of them, and my experience leads to a different opinion. I found them, on the contrary, remarkably free from bigoted prejudices; they deal too much with the saddest realities of life, not to be indulgent and liberal in their views.

"The sacrifice of domestic ties and affection seems to direct all the instincts of their womanly nature towards the suffering objects of their care. She, who can never have children of her own to return her love, can lavish her affection on the wretched little orphans committed to her; she can be a sister to the wounded soldier in the hospital, to all the sick and dying. The finer the womanly nature, the more beautifully is her duty fulfilled. It inquires their sweet words of consolation and sympathy, it leads them to relieve, by the most graceful devices, the dreariness of the hospital ward, making it really a home for the wanderer and the forsaken, and it truly justifies the names of mother and sister which suffering humanity has given them.

"Once, in the Hospital for Foundlings, I was taken with a Sister having charge of the room which receives the children as soon as they are found, when a little being was brought to her. On the rags which hardly covered him, was pinned a paper, bearing this saddest of all human records, 'Father, mother, unknown!' It was a beautiful boy, four or five weeks old, but it had been exposed to the cold all night in an alley, and its short life was rapidly ebbing away. How many homes would have blessed the advent of such a child! But no young mother, exulting in the possession of her first-born, could have tended it more lovingly than did this humble Sister. She covered its pale face with kisses. As if recalled by them a moment to life, the child opened its eyes and met hers with a singular expression of intelligence, then shut them for ever, thus taking to Heaven the sweetest thing of this world, a mother's smile. This woman was young, very handsome, and naturally refined, yet her whole life was enclosed within those walls, where vice, shame and despair, threw their innocent victims into her arms. Long shall I remember the sweet saintly face and the thrilling sympathy which she whispered, as we were watching together the last moments of the poor little foundling. 'You have no children of your own!' our womanly hearts united in an almost unconscious yearning for this young life passed away. Was that a useless existence, the product of a weak superstition? On the contrary, its moral beauty illumined this saddest of all abodes of charity; for the mere thought that those poor little ones had been abandoned by those who gave them being, seemed to fill the very air of the place with chilliness and gloom. In the ward which receives children past the first stage of infancy, collected in alleys, in the streets and tenement houses, I found a group of poor little girls that neither caresses nor loving words could awaken from their sad apathy. One just brought from the hospital, where her mother had died, made the room resound with the piteous cry, 'mamma, mamma!' and they all stared at her, as if the sweet word had no meaning for them.

"Leaving with a shudder this scene of desolation, I turned my steps to the Hospital for Convalescent Children; there, all was hope, life and sunshine. From the homes of the poor, from the different hospitals for the sick, the children are brought when all danger is past, for the benefit of fresh air and good nourishment. Here, in spacious halls, under the shade of stately avenues, and amid beds of flowers, they romp and play, and get fresh blood in their cheeks. Each little face had a smile for the visitor, each small, emaciated hand had a sympathetic pressure. The Sisters were moving to and fro in a happy bustling way, propping up this one in his little chair, giving a kiss to another, distributing the nourishing food so greedily craved by all. It was one of the prettiest sights in the world; the sky seemed bluer, the flowers sweeter, as if nature joined in the work of love and charity.

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"Had I not already passed the limits of a letter, I could describe many other places where the same wise fore thought, the same devoted charity, are working equally beautiful results. Often, during these visits, I thought of St. Luke's Hospital, in New York, and of that apostolic man whose large heart has created this noble institution. He had once argued with me for a Protestant Sisterhood, devoted to works of religion and charity, while I contended that such an influence might best issue from the sphere of domestic life. But I now felt the force of his argument as I had not before. Such a lot can be very happy. One may be led to it by sorrow or disappointment, but it is often a pure, young, hopeful heart which is thus offered on the altar! Talking with the Sisters, I found that almost all had been brought to their resolution by a deep religious feeling.'

The Boston *Journal* says:—The Chief who assisted Gen. Napier in his movements against Theodore is to be placed upon the throne, and the Prince Theodorus is to be sent to England to be educated. Evidently, therefore, it is to be expected that there will be harmony between the two countries, and if the new King does not lose his throne or his head at the hands of the dead Theodore's partisans, there is no reason why the friendly relations between the two Governments may not be of service to both parties.

A little boy at Sunday school being asked 'What was the chief end of man?' replied, 'The end what's got the head on.'

News by Telegraph.

LONDON, May 15, midnight.—In the House of Commons to-night, John Bright presented a petition from Nova Scotia, praying that Parliament would Repeal the Act by which that Province was united to the Dominion of Canada. The petitioners denounce the Canadian Union Act as injurious, and the result of fraud perpetrated upon the people.....After the reading of the document, the evening of the 28th inst., was assigned for debate on the subject.

LONDON, May 18, midnight.—In the House of Commons to-night, the Scotch Reform Bill was under consideration. Mr. William E. Baxter moved to add to the number of Scotch members of the House, by taking the franchise from some of the small English boroughs. Mr. Baverie moved that the rating clause in the bill be thrown out. The Government opposed the motion, and on a division of the House were beaten in both cases. Mr. Disraeli, after the result of the last division was known, rose and said the Ministry must now consider their position.....The Paris newspapers of this day say that the Emperor Napoleon has been ill, but his condition has been much improved.

LONDON, May 21.—The Queen has gone to Scotland. Her absence from the seat of Government during the present Parliamentary crisis is widely censured by the Press.....In the House of Commons to-night, the Scotch Reform Bill was again under discussion. Mr. Baxter member from Montrose offered a new clause to the bill, excusing the poor from payment of rates, on condition of not using the franchise. The amendment was accepted by Disraeli, and the further consideration of the bill was postponed.....Advices via Rio Janeiro, represent that the American Minister, Mr. Webb, urges Brazil and the other belligerent powers to accept the mediation of the United States in their quarrel with Paraguay; and it is said that he has told the Emperor of Brazil that unless the war is soon ended the government of the United States will interfere to prevent further bloodshed. Mr Webb has sent important despatches by the United States steamer *Wasp*, to Mr. Washburn, United States Minister to Paraguay..... Mr. Eyre, late Governor of Jamacia, has been held for trial on the charges against him.

LONDON, May 22, eve.—In the House of Commons to-night, Mr. D. J. Reardon, member for Athlone gave notice that he would propose to the government the following question. "If the health of the Queen is such as to detain Her Majesty from London, why do not the ministry advise abdication?" The question was ruled out of order.

MAY 23, 3 o'clock.—The debate on the Irish Church was again resumed, the suspensory bill being under consideration. Mr. Gladstone made a speech explaining the character and interests of the measure. He said the Liberals would not consent to subsidize any of the religions in Ireland. He expressed his surprise that the Tories should now threaten resistance to this bill after yielding their assent to resolves of which it was the logical result. The House of Lords might possibly reject it, but still it was the duty of the House of Commons to proceed with the movement of reform which it had commenced. Mr. Gladstone closed by moving that the bill have a second reading. Mr. Garthorne Hardy moved it be postponed six months, and supported his motion in a speech of much warmth. He declared that the bill was a surprise and meant confiscation; it misstated the Queen's reply to address of the House concerning the disposal of Ecclesiastical patronage, and relieved the Crown of some of its greatest prestige, including the veto power. He ascribed the origin of this movement to the enemies of the Church and State, and made an earnest appeal to all Protestants to oppose it. The debate continued at great length. Mr. Disraeli, at a late hour, rose. He defended the action of the Tory party in resisting the bill. The policy which had created this measure was disastrous to the country, and its direct result was to abolish both the Church and State. Mr. Gladstone replied. He said the step taken by the Liberal party was not hostile either to Protestantism or the Church of England. The debate terminated with Mr Gladstone's speech, and a division took place on the motion that the bill have a second reading with the following results: for the second reading 312, against it 258, majority 54. The announcement was received with loud and prolonged cheering from the liberal benches. A motion was then made that the House go into Committee for the consideration of the Bill on the 5th of June; the motion was carried without a division, and the House adjourned at 2 a. m. Gold 139¾.

LONDON, May 24.—The efforts made to prove an *alibi* in the case of the Fenian Barrett, the Clerkenwell conspirator, have failed, and his execution will take place at the expiration of the week for which he was respited. ....Telegrams from Sydney, Australia, in anticipation of overland mails, says that Prince Alfred had left there for England in command of the steam frigate *Galatea*, and that he was quite well. Farrell, the attempted assassin of Prince Alfred, was executed on 22nd of April. ....Despatches received from General Napier to the 5th inst. states that a portion of his troops had reached the coast, and embarked for Bombay, and that the remainder of the troops and stores belonging to the expedition had been hastened forward, to be shipped from Zoula as rapidly as possible, and that the evacuation of the country would be soon effected. The wounded are doing well, and rapidly becoming convalescent. The troops are generally in good health.

OTTAWA, May 18.—Bills assimilating the criminal laws of the Dominion were defeated in the Senate on Saturday last, by a vote of 25 to 22. The vote was only taken on one bill, and the Government withdrew the others.....In the Commons, the militia bill passed its final stage. The salary of the Adjutant General was reduced from $3,600 to $3,000, by 67 to 63—ministers voting in the minority. Deputy District Adjutants were also reduced from $1800 to $1200.....Fresh evidence discovered relative to the plot for the assassination of Mr. McGee, but it is not made public.

OTTAWA, May 22.—The House of Commons met today at 11 o'clock. Sir G. Cartier announced that the money already voted for militia purposes would be sufficient to pay Volunteer Officers without an additional appropriation. The House adjourned till two o'clock, when the Governor General will come down to sanction Bills and close the session.

OTTAWA, May 23.—The Legislative chambers are completely deserted to-day, Mr. Savary left this morning. Mr. Stewart Campbell is still in town.....A report of a threatened Fenian Invasion in June or July next is in circulation here, but causes no alarm. The volunteers are held in readiness.....Adjutant General McDougall is indignant that the salaries of the Deputy district Adjutants should have been cut down from four hundred and fifty to three hundred pounds, and his resignation is reported, but I believe he will be induced to remain in office.

VIENNA, May 20.—The Emperor of Austria has given his assent to the law passed by the Reichrath, establishing the legal equality of religious sects.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A severe storm prevailed in Havana on Tuesday, during which several lives were lost. In the harbor many ships and steamers dragged their anchors.....The National Republican Convention at Chicago, nominated General Grant for President, amidst the greatest enthusiasm. No nomination of Vice President has been made up to this p. m. Gold steady.

NEW YORK, May 22.—The Republican Convention at Chicago has nominated Gen. Grant for President, and Schuyler Colfax, of Indianna, for Vice President. Colfax is the present Speaker of the National House of Representatives.

ARMS FOR FENIAN USE.—The *Hartford Courant* says; "General John O'Neill, President of the Fenian Brotherhood, and part of his staff, visited Colt's armory on Saturday, and inspected the Gatling battery gun and Berdan rifle; and it is rumored that he has effected a large contract for the above arms, and has also contracted for a number of thousand of Colt's revolvers, navy size, for use in Ireland and the dominion.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* affirms that the question of Cardinal Cullen's precedence at the Dublin Castle dinner was the subject of an 'elaborate preliminary negotiation' before the invitation was accepted, and that the Cardinal stipulated for precedence next to the royal guests, and before the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, which demand was finally accorded to his eminence.

The Herald.

Wednesday, May 27, 1868.

WE are indebted to an Australian friend, Mr. Walsh, —formerly of this Island—for late papers, *via* Panama, containing full particulars of the attempted assassination of H. R. H. Prince ALFRED. From these we learn that O'Farrell, the would-be assassin, is a native of Liverpool, England. His father and mother were both natives of Ireland, and shortly after their marriage they left Ireland for Liverpool, where Mr. O'Farrell started in business as a butcher. He was tolerably successful in this pursuit, and having saved a considerable sum of money, he left Liverpool and came to Melbourne. O'Farrell, the would-be assassin of His Royal Highness, in the year 1841, was placed under the charge of the Rev. David Boyd, who presided over a school in Melbourne. There he remained for about three years, and then left to join the Roman Catholic College, near St. Francis's. He spent several years at this College, and acquired a thorough knowledge of the classics, as well as the French language, which he speaks with refined purity. His father destined him for the Roman Catholic priesthood, and having passed through his preliminary studies, he left Victoria for France, Belgium and Rome, where he continued his studies, and at the expiration of ten years returned to the Colony. He was then prepared to take holy orders, but falling in love with a young lady prevented him from following this course, and he accordingly turned his attention to other pursuits. It seems O'Farrell spent some time mining. In or about the year 1862, he joined a man named Kennedy, and opened a hay and corn store at the corner of Doveton street, in the house occupied by Mr. Boyd as the Corn Exchange Hotel. The firm did not progress so well as they desired, and this partial failure caused Mr. Kennedy to take to drinking, and ultimately he was found dead in the yard at the rear of the building. O'Farrell also took to drinking; but, recovering from an attack of delirium tremens, he temporarily abandoned the habit, and for a time led a steady life. Subsequently he commenced to speculate in mining, and one morning he met his old school-mate, and showed him a cheque for £200, which he said he had made in the previous three days by buying and selling scrip. At this time Fenianism broke out in America, and he pronounced himself a decided partisan of Head Centre Stephens. He continued to speculate in mining, and ultimately not only lost all he had, but involved himself in debt to the amount of some £600. He was then sold off by the Sheriff of the District, under a writ of fi. fa., the whole of his assets only realising £60. This occurred in March, 1867. In the meantime, he continued to drink heavily, and had several attacks of delirium tremens, for one of which he was attended by Dr. Whitcombe. The particulars of the assassination state that the attempt was made upon the Prince's life at a pic-nic near Sydney, got up for the benefit of the "Sailor's Home," which he attended, to lend *eclat* to the affair, and to enable the managers to dispose more readily of their tickets. Everything, up to the time of the attempted assassination, went off admirably; the tickets sold like wildfire, and on the morning of a sunny autumn day, the beauty and wealth and fashion of Sydney gathered at Clontarf to amuse themselves as people on such occasions generally try to do. The spot selected for the pic-nic was one of the most charming and lovely to be found in any part of Sydney harbor, and every preparation had been made to insure the enjoyment of the pleasure seekers.

About half-past one the Prince arrived in a special steamer, and the people collected at the wharf and cheered lustily, while the Prince smiled and bowed his thanks. Immediately upon landing he was conducted to the luncheon tent, and in company with the Governor of the colony, Lady Belmore and several others, partook of some refreshment.

Leaving the tent, the Prince led Lady Belmore to a special pavilion which had been erected for the use of the *elite* of the party, and then sauntered away with Sir William Manning, (an old resident of Sydney), to enjoy a walk about the grounds. As he went along he met a gentleman named Allen, with whom he shook hands and chatted for a few moments, and then handed an envelope to Sir William Manning, saying that it contained a donation to the Sailors' Home.

Scarcely had he finished speaking, when a man, whose name is now known to be O'Farrell, was observed to run quickly across to where he was standing, and fire with a revolver at the Prince, who immediately fell forward, crying out, "Oh, my God, I am shot; my back is broken."

Sir William Manning turned hastily round upon hearing the report of the revolver, and seeing that the man who had just fired had pointed the weapon towards him (Sir W. Manning), he stooped to get out of the line of fire, and in doing so fell. This time, however, the revolver snapped, and while O'Farrell was again levelling his pistol at the Prince, a gentleman named Vial, who had witnessed the whole occurrence, ran up and pinioned his arms to his body, thus changing the direction of the weapon, which, however, exploded, the bullet hitting a Mr. Thorne in the foot.

Meanwhile, the report of the revolver had drawn together the pic-nicers from all parts of the grounds, and a scene of confusion and disorder ensued which no words can depict.

O'Farrell struggled hard to get free from Vial, swearing fiercely and loudly, and in the tussle the identity of the combatants became a little confused. When, therefore, the by-standers, who had now discovered that the Prince had been shot, rushed in and separated the men, they were uncertain as to which of them was the assassin, and while the majority of the crowd pitched upon the right man, Mr. Vial was also seized upon and very severely maltreated. After a while, the police succeeded in getting hold of O'Farrell, but not before he had been terribly and brutally beaten. The people called savagely out, "Kill him!" "Hang him!" "Lynch him!" and fought desperately with the police to possess themselves again of his body, the wretch getting a dozen kicks and blows for every yard the police progressed down to the wharf. The police, however, at last succeeded in getting to the water, and here a last determined effort was made by the mob, who had been yet further infuriated by a speech which was made by one of their number appealing to them not to let "the assassin leave the ground alive." But the police were again victorious, and O'Farrell, bleeding and unconscious from the injuries he had received, was conveyed to Sydney and lodged in Darlinghurst jail.

Meanwhile, the Prince had been raised from the ground and conveyed to his private tent. He was evidently in great pain, and once or twice asked the gentlemen who were bearing him along to carry him more slowly and gently. Although very weak from loss of blood, he did not become unconscious, and noticing that the people crowded around the tent, he desired a gentleman to assure them that "he was not much hurt, and would be better presently."

An examination of his wound, however, showed it to be a very serious one, and, indeed, it is strange that the bullet, entering where it did, an inch or two to the right of the spine, about the middle of the back, did not produce instant death, or, at any rate, more serious results than it has done. In describing the sensation he felt when the bullet struck him, the Prince said it seemed to him as if he were lifted from the ground.

Towards evening he was placed in a litter and taken by water to Sydney, where a carriage was waiting to convey him to Government House. The best medical aid in the city was, of course, obtained, and although for several days the physicians were unable to extract the bullet, and the Prince was unable to lie down lest it should change its position, no unfavorable symptoms occurred, there was no appearance of hemorrhage, which was naturally the chief danger, and at last the necessary operation was successfully accomplished. It has now been officially announced that he is out of danger, and for the past few days he has been out through the streets in a carriage, guarded by a strong escort. Even with youth, robust health, and a strong constitution in his favor, it is singular that he has escaped so lightly as he has.

It is almost impossible to describe the excitement in Sydney the night of the attempted assassination. The cafes and saloons were crowded with people, whose sole topic of conversation seemed to be the disaster to the Prince. The theatre and all other places of amusement were closed; the evening paper hourly issued extras; and immense crowds gathered round the bulletins giving an official account of the condition of the Prince, that were posted up in various quarters of the city.

Arrangements were made for all sorts of meetings to express the indignation felt by the various classes of the community. The first one that came off was a general meeting of the citizens of Sydney, the following day, at the Pavilion, a temporary building, accommodating about four thousand people. The place was, of course, crowded. Since that there have been meetings of every description; of Catholics and Protestants, Masons, Odd Fellows and Foresters; of native Australians and Colonists; of American, Hungarian, Polish, French, Welsh, Swedish, Chinese, Spanish and Italian residents, and innumerable others besides.

The day after the pic-nic, Henry James O'Farrell was arraigned before a special court in the debtor's prison, Darlinghurst Jail, Mr. H. H. Voss presiding as magistrate. Most of the members of the suite of the Prince, together with the Governor and several of the Ministry, were present.

The prisoner, who was dressed in the prison uniform of white canvass, presented a very horrible and repulsive appearance. The left side of his face was frightfully swollen, and the right side cut and bruised in several places. His right eye was black, protruding and closed, and his left livid with bruises and only partially opened. His nose was considerably swollen and distorted, and the skin down the front of that feature cut open. His lips were also swelled. A very few witnesses were examined, and their evidence gave the same account of the affair as that detailed above. The superintendent of police testified that after he had been taken into custody the prisoner had said, "I've made a mess of it, and all for no good; but it can't be helped now," adding subsequently, "I am a Fenian; I've done my duty, and am not afraid to die, and may God save Ireland." It was also testified that in addition to the revolver with which he shot at the Prince, and which was found on the picnic ground, another six-shooting revolver, loaded, was found upon him after his capture. The weapon which he fired was an American revolver, bearing the names of Smith & Wesson, Massachusetts.

After the testimony had been taken, the prisoner was told to stand up, and was then asked if he had anything to say. He replied, without hesitation, "I have nothing to say but that the task of executing the Duke was sent out and allotted to me." The Crown Solicitor asked him to repeat what he had just said, and he then added, "The task of executing the Prince was sent out to me, but I failed, and am not very sorry that I did fail. That is all I have to say."

The Prince, who is styled the Duke of Edinburgh, was to leave Sydney on April 4. He comes as far as Suez in his own ship, the *Galatea*. After crossing the Isthmus by rail, he will go on board a royal yacht, which will be at Alexandria to receive him. The passage from Sydney to London by the mail steamer is estimated at fifty days.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTH-DAY CELEBRATION.

THE birth-day of Her Majesty the Queen having fallen on Sunday, the Anniversary was celebrated on Monday, the 25th inst. A General Holiday was ordered by the Government and the City Council. The City presented a gay appearance from the quantity of bunting displayed from public and private buildings, and the numbers of volunteers in gay uniforms, and crowds of well-dressed people who thronged the streets. At eleven o'clock a feu de joie was fired on Queen Square, and the City Companies of Volunteers, under command of Major Haviland, were reviewed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. A numerously attended Levee was held at Government House at 12 o'clock, noon,—not the least interesting feature of which was the presentation by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the part of the Imperial Government, of a Sextant to Capt. Brown, of the ship *L. C. Owen*, for his bravery and humanity, in rescuing, last winter, while on the voyage from this Island to Liverpool, G. B., the crew of the ship *Norwood*, in a sinking condition. In presenting the sextant, His Excellency said:—"The Sextant, which I hold in my hand, has been awarded to you by Her Majesty's Government in acknowledgment of your humanity to British seamen in distress. In a heavy gale of wind you fell in with the ship *Norwood*, water-logged and in a sinking condition. For *thirty* hours you remained by that wreck, waiting an opportunity for taking off its crew. At great risk to your boat's crew, you at length, (happily without loss of life), succeeded in rescuing all hands. Her Majesty's Government has, for your conduct on this occasion, awarded you the highest reward which, I believe, is ever given for such services, and has forwarded to me this Sextant for presentation to you. It affords me very great pleasure to present it to you in the name of Her Majesty's Government; for you are never likely to forget that, on the first voyage in which you had charge of a ship, you were the means of saving the lives of twenty-five of your fellow-creatures. This Sextant is presented to you as a recognition—on the part of the Government of the Nation of which we form a part—of your conduct on that occasion, and will, I am sure, be ever regarded by you with the greatest interest in remembrance of that voyage." Capt. Brown, on receiving the very valuable present of Her Majesty's Government, and in reply to the Lieutenant Governor, spoke at follows:—"Your Excellency,—In rescuing the Captain and crew of the ship *Norwood*, I considered I was only doing my duty when beholding fellow-creatures in distress, and rescuing them from a watery grave. I have assisted several times, while mate of the *L. C. Owen*, with Captain Fraser, her Commander, in giving aid to shipwrecked sailors; and, actuated by feelings of humanity, I always felt, as a British seaman, I was bound to do so, not knowing what time I might be placed in the same perilous situation. I heartily thank Her Majesty's Government and Your Excellency for presenting me with this valuable Sextant, and I can assure Your Excellency, and, through you, the British Government, that I will always recollect, with feelings of extreme gratitude, this handsome presentation. That I may employ it hereafter with honor to the service to which I belong, and with credit to myself and employers, shall be my constant aim." In the afternoon, the various City Fire Companies, under command of Captain Strickland, paraded the streets, with Engines and paraphernalia, and made a very fine appearance. These constituted the public demonstrations connected with the celebration of the forty-ninth anniversary of Her Majesty's Birth-day. Long may Her Gracious Majesty live to dignify, by her virtue and wisdom, the exalted position which she has now held for thirty-one years.

THE *Islander* is very anxious to know why the Hon. B. Davies retired from the Executive Council, and asks one of the organs to give the reason. All we can say is, that the hon. gentleman alluded to has not given us the reasons of his resignation, nor do we believe that it is our place to pry into the secrets of his conduct. He may have retired because his ordinary business avocations require his whole time and attention; or perhaps he may not have been in harmony with his late collegues in the Government upon every question. In fact, there may be many reasons to induce him to take the step which he has done, and for precise information on the subject, we refer the Editor of the *Islander* to Mr. Davies himself, who, we have no doubt, will give all the satisfaction which the importance of the case, and his own position demand.

THE *Eastern Chronicle* says that Manganese, on the East River, and Copper at Piedmont Valley, are among the latest mineral discoveries in the County of Pictou.

THE Chicago Republican Convention has nominated General Grant for President, and Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, for Vice President.

THE *Patriot* gives 2,600 of potatoes and 30,029 bushels of oats as being among the exports of last week from the port of Charlottetown.

THE *Islander*, of the 22nd inst., contains an article headed "Hard Times," in which some very interesting questions are proposed to a leading member of the Executive Council. Our contemporary thus discourses:—

"Why have we so many poor farmers in the Island, seeing that the farmers have had such good crops and high prices? Do they encourage trade by spending too much money in the shops of storekeepers and of mechanics? Do they drink too much rum? Do they keep too many cattle, to devour, during the seven months of Winter, the produce of the other five months; or is the country to blame? It is very evident that something is wrong, and the sooner this something is discovered, the better. If we have hard times among our farmers, after crops have been good, and when oats sell from 3s. to 3s. 9d., and potatoes from 3s. to 4s. a bushel; when butter is 1s. 8d. a lb., and pork and beef at extravagant prices, what would be the state of the Island should we have years of bad crops, as we have had, with very low prices for everything?"

We do not know whether "a reader of Adam Smith and J. Stuart Mill," has the time or the desire to answer those querics, but as they really are, in our opinion, deserving of some attention, we shall address ourself to their consideration as far as our space and time will permit. One cause of poverty among certain farmers is, that they spend too much money in purchasing American flour; another is that they are too fond of running into debt. Instead of keeping a few cattle of good breeds, they keep a large stock, upon which fodder is almost thrown away. Proportionately, there is not more rum drunk now than in years gone by, when poorer crops were raised, and less prices received for them than at present. But the great reason of the "hard times," so generally experienced, is, in our opinion, over-exertion on the part of the tenants to purchase the fee simple of their farms. Just as over-trading produces a panic in commercial circles, so has the great efforts of the tenants to rid themselves of the incubus of rent-paying, caused the present "hard times." Upon no other hypothesis can we account for the fact; for the people generally are as industrious and economical now as in any previous period of the history of the Island. Our contemporary, whose knowledge exhausts the Heavens and the earth, may have his own peculiar theories about the matter, and we have no doubt an expression of his views thereon would prove intensely interesting and edifying; but at the same time, we may be permitted to remark that if his judgment is no more reliable than in the case of the "Wonderful Meteoric Appearance," which he fancied he witnessed from Cape Traverse, the more profound his silence on the subject is, the better for his reputation.

WE are sometimes questioned as to the powers conferred upon the Board of Education by the recent amendments to the Law, in the matter of attendance at the Normal School on the part of candidates for teachership. Many persons imagine that ordinary candidates for teachership can, on the mere motion of the Board, be dispensed from attendance at the Normal School. This is altogether a mistake. The amendment in the Education Act simply contemplates that graduates from superior Educational establishments, such as Colleges and Convents, may, after passing a brilliant examination, be allowed a certificate to teach without spending five months at a so-called Normal School, where the teachers are inferior in point of education to the graduates. In no case can an ordinary candidate from the common schools be allowed to escape the prescribed five months training at the Normal School. This is the actual state and spirit of the law, as affected by the consolidation and amendments of last session, in reference to this particular point. The other changes in the Education Act were detailed in the summary of Mr. A. McNeill, which appeared in these colomns a short time ago, and we, therefore, deem it unnecessary to reiterate them just now, feeling satisfied that this explanation is sufficiently explicit to be understood by those who take an interest in the subject.

THE Eleventh article of Impeachment, upon which the President was acquitted, is as follows:—"Declaring that Congress, as now constituted, is not a legal body, to the end that he might carry out only such laws as he saw fit to approve; and violating, in pursuance of such declaration, the Act of March, 1867, the Tenure of Office Act, and the Reconstruction Act." Immediately after the vote on this article, the Senate adjourned for four weeks. The rest of the articles being a mere repetition of the foregoing, are weak, and will not, in all probability, be brought to a vote after the reassembling of the Senate. The Democrats all over the Union have manifested great joy at the acquittal of the President, who, if he exercises ordinary discretion during the remainder of his tenure of office,—which constitutionally expires in November next,—he will be a stronger man than ever, and will stand a good chance of being re-elected President or Vice President at that time.

A Cascumpec writer, in Thursday's *Patriot*, blames the Government for having appropriated £3,000 to relieve poor farmers this spring, and insinuates that most of that sum was converted into "grog money." If this be so, it is to be regretted; but we think that it would be a difficult matter for any government to devise a scheme of relief which would not admit of misdirection in exceptional cases. To blame the Government for having come to the rescue of the people because of those exceptional cases, savors very much of the conduct of a political "humbug," and if the *Patriot's* correspondent had signed himself by that name, no exception would have been taken to his communication.

SOME of the London papers are belittling General Napier, because he accomplished his glorious success without the loss of a single man. In this, one would think his real greatness consists, considering the almost insurmountable difficulties he had to overcome in his march to Magadala. This Napier is not a scion of the family which produced the Admirals and Generals of the last generation, and of which Lord Napier, the present Governor of Madras, is the head. He belongs to a comparatively obscure family of gentle blood in the Highlands, and is a Roman Catholic by religion.

AT a meeting of the Charlottetown Cricket Club, on the 16th instant, the Hon. J. C. Pope was elected Patron; John Breeken, Esquire, President; Dr. Jenkins and Albert Hensley, Esqrs., Committee; G. D. Atkinson, Esq., Field Captain; E. R. Fitzgerald, Secretary and Treasurer; Hon. D. Davies and Wm. Welsh, Esqr., Committee to collect subscriptions.

ON Monday night the office of Francis Longworth, Esq., was feloniously entered by three juveniles, who walked off with Mr. Longworth's cash box containing about £100, besides valuable papers. One of the thieves was caught yesterday, and the police are hunting up his accomplices. So far the money has not been recovered.

THE last letter that Mr. McGee ever wrote (to the Earl of Mayo, Chief Secretaary for Ireland,) is published in the Canadian papers. It relates chiefly to the position and feelings of the Irish in Canada—given specially to favorably influence Imperial legislation with regard to Ireland.