

officers of the garrison and from the provincial government, the first dated December 31st, the second, Jannary 4th, for information leading to the conviction of the murderer. No clue, however, was obtained by this means. The whole town continued to talk of nothing but the mysterious case.

The supreme court met on January 11th and the grand jury presented a bill of indictment charging the prisoner, Richard Cross, with having killed Shea.

At length the 18th of January came around, the day set for the trial. The court sat in the apartment which is now the legislative library, the room in which I write these lines. The day was very mild, all the snow having disappeared under the influence of a thaw. The court room was crowded to the utmost, even greater numbers attending than had been drawn by the preliminary examinations before the magistrate.

HARRY PIERS.

(To be concluded next month.)

WHEN TELEGRAPHY WAS YOUNG.

With nearly half a hundred telegraph operators in and around the city of St. John, with a network of wires all over the country and the clicking of relays and sounders in the most remote villages of the Maritime Provinces, we are so accustomed to think of the electric telegraph as an essential to do the business of the country that we cannot imagine a civilized people existing without it. Yet it may be well for the young folk to remember that the telegraph is a very modern affair, that very many of the living can recall the time when it was absolutely unknown, and that a still larger number remember the time when it was looked upon as an