

hands, shoots him down, it gives the laconic verdict of the Kentucky jury—"served him right." Could anything be more calculated to shame our vicious civilization and pretentious faith than this? We provide no adequate punishment for the wickedest of crimes; those who perpetrate it walk about in God's sunlight unscathed by the law, honorable men shake them by the hand and fair ladies smile upon them. Suddenly he is shot down in the midst and they coolly declare he deserved it. Could anything be more cruelly devoid of reason? The right of private revenge thus granted society rights itself, and a thousand villains escape for one that is punished. And such will be the case until the law fixes the penalty at something approaching proportion to the crime. Those whose are most given to its perpetration are of that class generally styled gentlemen, on whom the infliction of a paltry fine is a very small affair, they pay it as the equivalent of their sin, and walk off to do the very same thing again. If, however, our fine gentleman had to fulfil a protracted term of imprisonment in the penitentiary after being publicly flogged, he would not be so ready to entail ruin and disgrace for the gratification of his miserable passions. The evil is one which can only be reached through such punishments as will make the culprit suffer in a manner similar to his victim. The murderer when convicted pays with his life for the life he has taken, and he who wantonly brings shame upon the innocent and the honorable should be made to suffer shame.

We are well convinced of the impossibility of making people moral by enactments, but vice and crime can be rendered less dangerous and frequent by making disgrace surely follow on detection.

PRESIDENT GRANT seems determined to commence a new era in politics at Washington, knowing nothing whatever of the art of statecraft himself, he, with one or two exceptions, has selected for his cabinet persons totally unknown to the political world. This may be an indication of wisdom, but such has yet to be demonstrated. We were always of the opinion that a person, to fulfil successfully the duties of a trade or profession, should have previously learned something about it; more especially did we think this rule applied to the science of government, and that most difficult of problems—"To make men happy and to keep them so." Not so however, does the new President think, and with the exception of Washburne, who has been the acknowledged leader of the Republican party since the death of Thaddeus Stevens, he has chosen his advisers from the ranks of the great unknown, we were going to say unwashed, multitude of the Republicans. Having adopted "honesty" as his motto he has, unlike the Cynic of old, found honest men to carry out his intentions, indeed, the characters

borne by the Gentlemen he has selected are, if we accept what the papers say, *sans puer et sans reproche*. We hope they will continue so through their term of office, but the American mode of dealing with their public men will have to undergo an astonishing change if the same will be said of them this day four years. General Grant enters upon his Presidency with unexampled good prospects and our only desire is that his lease of office may be marked in history as that in which peace and prosperity was restored to all parts of the union.

ON several occasions we have had to set our contemporary the Woodstock (O.) *Times* right on subjects connected with military matters. In the last number of that paper which came to us we find the following:—

"THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW," quoting from a New Brunswick paper, speaks of a person in the latter place as the only remaining representative of the gallant 10th Regiment, that performed such brilliant achievements during the war of 1812. The authority we quote was in error. There is at present in the neighborhood of Ingersoll a Mr. C. Dobin, who was one of that regiment. The 10th was a colonial corps, raised in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and their march to aid in the defence of Upper Canada was no less heroic than their actions on the Niagara frontier. The late Col. Moody, who was murdered by McKenzies' men at Montgomery's, on Yonge Street, had been Colonel of the historic regiment, and was a brave and accomplished officer."

There are two errors in the above paragraph:

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW did not quote from a New Brunswick paper, but in one of a series of letters now in course of publication in our columns, contributed thereto by a gallant officer in St. John under the *nom de plume* "New Brunswick Artilleryman," the following sentence occurs:

"The only man of the regiment now living in St. John is William Munford, who was one of its drummers during the whole period of its existence."

Our valued correspondent was perfectly correct, as the paragraphist of the *Times* might have known if he had taken the trouble to observe what he read before venturing to comment upon it.

THE next meeting of the Dominion Commons is definitely fixed for the 15th of April, and will be, it is anticipated, of more than ordinary importance. The great questions which will have to be discussed are the settlement of the Nova Scotia difficulty, the North West transfer, and the admission of Newfoundland into the Confederacy. With reference to the first of these it is to be hoped that the new President of the Council will be able to take his place in the House and there be enabled, not only to defend his course of action, but devote to the public service his great abilities and experience. Regarding the transfer of the North West territory to Canada the whole affair has been resolved into a stock exchange speculation, and the difficulty lies, not in the unwillingness of the Imperial Government to accede to our demands, but in the political influence of the shareholders of the Hudson's Bay Company. These people seem to imagine that they possess sovereign territorial rights over that vast tract of country and that they

can absolutely sell every foot of it to any purchaser they please, as Russia disposed of Alaska to the United States. The question now is whether Canadians are willing to submit to being shut out from the North West. We believe that before long immigration and the growing political power of the Dominion will resolve the difficulty before a very great while, and the stock-jobbers will find it to their interest to come to terms before it is too late.

A misapprehension exists in Nova Scotia regarding the position of Volunteer Officers under the New Act, some believing they will have to qualify to retain their appointments. Such is not the case. All officers of corps that re-enrolled and complied with the 7th clause of the Militia Act, are confirmed in their rank by that clause. It is therefore unnecessary for them to undergo a new examination, but officers who have been appointed since re-enrolment will have to qualify in the usual manner. Our subscribers in Nova Scotia will please take notice of the fact.

The *Broad Arrow* speaking in reference to His Royal Highness Prince Arthur joining the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, says:—"It would probably be premature to specify this as the first opportunity the Prince will have of becoming acquainted with what may prove to be his future kingdom." The announcement of the young Prince's sojourn amongst us in Canada was received with great satisfaction by all classes of our people who will be delighted to show every mark of loyalty and respect to a son of our beloved Queen. And we sincerely hope the anticipation may prove correct, and the Dominion become, what it was first intended, the Kingdom of Canada.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

EDINBURGH REVIEW.—The January number of this Quarterly has come to us from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company of New York. The contents are:—Spain under Charles I. Lord Kingsdown's recollections of the Bar. Caesarian Rome. Trencho's realities of Irish Life. The Legend of Tell and Rutii. Government telegraphs. Dean Milman's Annals of St. Paul's. Hunter's Annals of rural Bengal. General Ulysses Simpson Grant. Mr. Bright's speeches. The above headings will be quite enough to show our readers that in the *Edinburgh* they will find a varied and amply satisfying addition to the critical literature of the day.

PETERS' MUSICAL MONTHLY; J. L. Peters publisher, 198 Broadway, New York. At the present time when our tables are flooded with the trashy productions of the immoral sensational press of the United States, it is a matter for congratulation to find a periodical like the one under notice every way fit to be carried within the home circle. In addition to a quantity of well printed and selected music there are well written articles on topics kindred to the publication, with stories, anecdotes, &c., also a review of the current music published. We cordially recommend it to the patronage of the Canadian public interested in that most pleasing of home recreations—music.