Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

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Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., DEC. 18, 1863.

ST. DAVID'S WARD.

THE MEETING ON TUESDAY EVENING.

On Tuesday evening last a very large crowd gathered at the Huron Hotel to hear speeches on that all-absorbing topic—the Mayoralty. The hall was filled to overflow. Besides electors and *non*-electors of the town, we noticed that nearly all the members of the County Council were present. No doubt our worthy reeves were anxious to hear a little "city" eloquence, and, we are happy to say, they were not disappointed.

Mayor Cameron was called to the chair. He explained that the meeting had been called for the purpose of giving one of the candidates an opportunity of defining his position, and rebutting charges brought against him. He was sorry to see only *one* of the candidates present, as, in his opinion, there was nothing better calculated to elicit truth than to hear both sides of a question. Mr. Watson had lived in Goderich for twenty years, and, as they were aware, had acquired a certain kind of reputation in the town. Mr. Detlor had not been here so long, but his residence in the place was long enough to enable the electors to judge of his fitness for the position to which he aspired, and it was for them to say whether his course had been such as to entitle him to be Mayor of Goderich. (Applause.) Without, in so many words, saying which was the best man, he would state that he had associated with Mr. Detlor for five years in various capacities, and he had always seen him evince a desire to advance the interests of the town of Goderich. (Applause.) After hearing him it was for the electors to say whether they would give him their suffrages.

Mr. Detlor then came forward and delivered a lengthy address, which we do not consider it necessary to give in full, as it was substantially the same as that of Thursday evening last, published in our columns. We will only say that, on this occasion, the speech was listened to attentively, and that it evidently produced a favorable impression.

When Mr. Detlor had resumed his seat there were loud cries of "Watson! Watson! Watson!"

Mr. Watson, it appeared, was not present.

Mr. Crabb was then called for and came forward. He said Mr. Detlor had delivered what he would call a good moral sermon. He should have taken for his text a passage in the Old Testament—[confusion and cries of "shame,"]—the text he alluded to was "Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's due." [A voice, "that's in the New Testament," great laughter.]

He expected Mr. Detlor would have explained his conduct during the past year, but instead of that they had listened to a good moral sermon. But, said the speaker, gentlemen, you don't want to hear moral sermons when you wish to know how much taxes you will have to pay next year. Neither sermons nor morality will advance the interests of this town (!) [Hisses and great confusion.] I defy any man to say, "Crabb, you are an immoral man!" [Continued hissing.] Sermons ought to be kept in their place and politics in their place. [Confusion.]

The chairman interfered and ordered those who were making a disturbance to keep quiet. After the tumult had subsided

Mr. Crabb proceeded. I will just allude to the 75ct. a day charge against Mr. Detlor. I can produce the man who heard the statement from Mr. Detlor's own lips. [Loud cries of "Produce him! produce him!"] I can, myself, vouch for the correctness of the charge second-handed—[laughter]—but as the man himself has left the country——[Hisses.] If Mr. Detlor had passed the matter over quietly I would not have said a word about it.—When a man comes here and speaks so much about morality I can put no dependence in him. He goes on refuting charges of partiality in the discharge of his duties as a magistrate that have never been brought against him. If these charges had ever been made, has any gentleman present ever heard them? ["yes," from several voices.] When a man comes to refute a thing before it has been made there must be some foundation for it. I have always found it so, and I am as old and have seen as much of life, if not a great deal more, than Mr. Detlor. [Laughter, and cries of "That's so!"] I believe Mr. Watson is the best man, although we are not the best of friends. When he had the moral courage to come here, the place was a complete wilderness, and he helped in building the town. He bought cargoes of grain when no other man in town would look at it. Such are facts. Mr. Detlor spoke of the great ships and commerce of Great Britain and little things of that sort—[laughter]—but what has that got to do with Goderich? I can tell him that he has not done as much for the commerce of the town as some others. I detest so much talk about morality. Mr. Detlor would seem to state that there is not a moral man at the Council Board. I have the honor to sit at that Board—[laughter, and "oh! oh!"]—and I don't consider myself an immoral man. [Immense merriment.] Mr. Watson, by his economy and perseverance, has acquired his present position in the town. He is the most capable postmaster we ever had.

MR. RUMBALL.—But you were getting up a petition to have him turned out of the post office! [Cheers.]

MR. CRABB.—I deny that such was the case, and I defy any man in the room to prove it! I wait for a response!

MR. RUMBALL.—I positively asse that you spoke to me one day about the desirability of having a change in the postmastership, as you didn't think Mr. Watson a fit person for the position.—Whether it was from political motives or otherwise I am not prepared to say. [Sensation.]

MR. CRABB.—I did say so—[immense cheering, laughter, applause, &c.]—I said Mr. Watson should not be postmaster and merchant at the same time, as he might sometimes know the contents of our letters as well as we do ourselves—(renewed cheering and laughter)—that is, I mean with regard to protests. When asked by parties below as to the standing of merchants in town, he would be in a position to injure them. (Some one in the crowd, "bah!") Now, gentlemen, I can tell you a little thing. It is well known that Goderich is the oldest settled place in the county, and if there was any indulgence shown it should be to Goderich—(hear, hear,)—and no other place should have advantages over it. For some reason Goderich has not reaped the advantages it ought to have done. There is one little case in my memory. I allude to the small town of Wingham. Prior to Mr. Detlor assuming the office of deputy reeve, there was a move to build a bridge over the Maitland, but, through the influence of Mr. Wallace, who was then in the council, it was kept back. Mr Detlor voted the supplies for that bridge over Wingham—(merriment)—over the Maitland at Wingham, I mean, and now the traffic goes to Clinton instead of coming to Goderich. (Applause.) I have lost myself through that operation to the extent of $2,000 if I speak the truth. (Roars of laughter.) I believe my t-r-r——(hem) Mr. Watson is just as moral a man as Mr. Detlor and has a stronger claim upon the electors. (Exeunt Mr. Crabb amidst immense cheering from the opposition benches, and roars of laughter from the "ministerial" side, as he would call the Detlor men.)

Mr. Gibbons said this was the second Ward Meeting he had attended, and he was sorry not to see the opposition candidate on either occasion. Were he running he would feel that they had a right to hear an expression of his views on such an occasion. He wondered that Mr. Watson, being a Scotchman like himself, did not hoist the thistle and come out. He thought such remarks as Mr. Crabb's sadly out of place. He (Mr. G.) would speak of the municipal conduct of both men. He had sat in the Council with both for about the same length of time, and he had decided to take the one who had done his duty.—(Applause.) He had sat with Mr. Detlor at both boards, and had never known him to swerve from his duty. (Cheers.) With regard to Mr. Crabb's remarks about the Wingham bridge, that gentleman might not be aware that the gravel road to Clinton was built before the bridge was required at all. And besides, he could not appreciate Mr. Crabb's logic. Here were six or seven hundred people who wished to cross the river, and for all he (Mr. Crabb) cared they might swim it, if they did not prefer coming to Goderich.—(Cheers.) Mr. Detlor, as he before remarked, had been faithful in the discharge of his duties, while Mr. Watson, during the last two years he was in the Council, left them in the lurch. He did not blame Mr. Watson for attending to his private business, but he considered that the fact he had mentioned militated against him in the present contest. He, (Mr. G.) had given his reasons for supporting Mr. Detlor, and he was prepared to stick to him to the end. (Cheers and Applause.)

Mr. Wm. Wallace came forward and entered into some explanations about Mr. Gibbon's allusions to him, but as the point at issue was of no earthly importance one way or another, we will not trouble our readers with the discussion as to whether he was or was not Reeve or deputy in a particular year.

Three rousing cheers for the Queen terminated the proceedings.

Suicide in Elderslie.

In Elderslie, last week, an elderly man named Joseph Hall committed suicide by drowning. The Coroner's jury found that he committed the act under the influence of temporary insanity. He was a native of Ireland, and resided near Peterboro' before removing to Elderslie. He was a man in somewhat comfortable circumstances, and well respected by his neighbors; and, with the exception of sometimes evincing trouble on his mind about religious matters, was the last man people would have supposed likely to be driven to insanity. In a moment of weakness, reason had wavered, and the unfortunate man terminated his own life.—We have not heard whether he has left a family.

☞ An Americanized Scotchman named Thos. Gray has been committed for trial at Lodon for enticing soldiers to desert.

COUNTIES' COUNCIL.

As stated in our last, the United Counties' Council met on Tuesday last, the Warden in the chair.

The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. Mallough, Dutton, Whitehead, Hussey, Detlor, Piper, Churchill, McDonald, Mitchell, Knell, Case, Morrow, Morgan, Gibson, Strong, Downey, Wilson, Brown, Adamson, Anderson, Gidley, Yearly, Chesney, Sproat, Messer, Bishop, R. Hunter, Mathers, Cook, Howe, Lumsden, Kerr, Brockelbank, Walker, McLellan, McEwan, Fisher, Parsill, A. McIntyre, Gillies, Pinkerton, Jno. Hunter, McLay, Millar, J. P. McIntyre, Sutton, Purvis, Ruby, Conaway.

The Warden addressed the Council shortly, explaining that at the present meeting the most important business would be the winding up of the year's affairs.

A petition from Mr. Nairn was read and referred to the School Committee, as were also a number of Reports from local superintendents throughout the Counties.

A memorial from John Galt, Esq., asking for the use of the room at present occupied by the County Attorney, along with that at present used as Registry Office, was referred to a committee.

Letter from the County Treasurer, the most important portion of which will be published in Tuesday's *Signal*.

Petition from the Executors of the Estate of the late John Hawkins, was read and ordered to be fyled.

The County Engineer was instructed to advertise the sale of Toll-gates in the *Signal*.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Messer, That a committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the subject of non-resident taxes on unpatented lands.—Carried.

The Committee was declared to consist of Messrs. Gibson, Conaway, Adamson, Whitehead and Mathers.

Mr. Robert Kerr was allowed to take his seat as Deputy Reeve of the township of Arran.

Four petitions from the inhabitants of the township of Howick, with reference to the alleged harship suffered by them in paying full tolls going and returning from market, whereas persons nearer market could go and come in a single day. Referred to the Finance Com.

Moved by Mr. Adamson, seconded by Mr. Knell, That the Treasurer be requested to furnish to the Council at his earliest convenience a list of all the monies the respective municipalities have received upon the credit of the non-resident Debentures, and what amount each or any municipality may be indebted to the United Counties on account of the non-resident debentures. Referred to Com.

A motion to appoint Rev. Mr. Simms Local Superintendent of Schools instead of Dr. Pritchard was carried.

The Report of the County Engineer was read and referred to committees.

Moved by Mr. Adamson, seconded by Mr. Anderson, That this Council take into consideration the necessity of finishing the Bayfield Harbor, or grant a certain sum for this purpose, as it is apparent that the township of Stanley is unable to complete this harbor, suppose we have now expended the sum of $28,000, and as it is an important check on the Railway, it is of the utmost importance to nearly the whole of the Co. of Huron that it should be completed. We would move that a committee of five be appointed to consider the matter.—Carried.

Committee—Messrs. Gibson, Whitehead, Adamson, Morrow, Mathers.

Moved by Mr. Case, seconded by Mr. Mathers, That a By-law be passed at this meeting of Council to prevent and punish any party or parties who may place obstructions upon the County Roads, by piling cordwood or any other material.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Lumsden, seconded by Mr. Gillies, That two fairs be held annually at Stark's Corners, Co. of Bruce, on the last Tuesdays in April and September in each year, and the sanction of this Council is hereby given for the establishment of said fairs.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Sutton, seconded by Mr. Conaway, That a committee of five members be appointed to consider the advisability of aiding in the repair of the harbors of Kincardine and Southampton, and that said committee consist of Messrs. Lumsden, Brocelbank, Conaway, McLay, and the mover.—Carried.

Minutes made by the Government Gaol Inspector, in the visitor's book of the Gaol, were read, when it was

Moved by Mr. Detlor, seconded by Mr. Whitehead, That the Gaol Committee be empowered to carry out the Gaol Inspector's suggestions as they think necessary.—Carried.

The Committee appointed to consider the advisability of aiding in the repair of Harbors at Kincardine and Southampton, reported, recommending that some action be taken at the January meeting of Council.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion to adopt the Report was negatived, on the following vote:

YEA—Messrs Ruby, Conaway, Sutton, Millar, J. P. McIntyre, McLay, Howe.—8.

NAY—Messrs. McIntyre, Lumsden. Parsill, Hunter, Fisher, Brockelbank, Pinkerton, Purvis, Gillies, Kerr, McLellan, McEwan.—12.

Report of the Gaol Committee was received, read and adopted.

Report of School Committee do. do.

Moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Downey, That the Reeves of the tp of Grey be allowed to expend a part or the whole of their County Road monies on side lines 25 and 26 of said township, leading out to Carronbrook Station, as it is impossible to open the town-line between Grey and Elma, the Government having abandoned the same.—Carried.

Sundry steps were taken towards securing an Agency of the Bank of Montreal in the Co. of Bruce.

$120 was granted to assist in the erection of a drill-shed in Kincardine.

Moved, by Mr. Gillies, seconded by Mr Brocelbank, That the bridge across the river Saugeen, on the town-line between Brant and Elderslie was likely to have been lost on account of its being undermined by the water. Be it therefore resolved, That the sum of $200 be refunded to Brant and Elderslie, for repairing it, the same to be charged to the funds of Bruce.—Referred Finance Com.

Moved by Mr. Sproat, seconded by Mr. Cook, That the Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to pay to Mr. H. B. O'Connor whatever balance he finds unpaid upon an order given to Michael Westrope for the sum of £103 14s. 1½d. and dated 31st Dec., upon Mr. O'Connor furnishing Westrope's receipt.—Carried.

A motion to grant $200 from Bruce funds for the erection of a bridge at Sinclair's Mills was referred to finance committee.

do do for $100 for making a road from a bridge now being built at Southampton—Referred to finance com.

The Finance Committee Reported, recommending payment of accounts, &c.—The Council went into Com. of the Whole, Mr. Detlor in the chair. In reference to the petition from the inhabitants of Howick with regard to tolls, it was recommended that return tickets be granted to persons going over the Co. Roads, to last for two days only.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Adamson, That the tolls be let same as last year and that no reduction be made.—Carried. For the Report:—Messrs. Case, Strong, Gibson, Messar, McDonald, Cook, Morgan, Wilson, Mitchell, Brown. 10. For the amendment, 18.

The Report was otherwise amended and finally passed.

Progress of the Civil War.

Special to the *Tribune*.—Washington, Dec, 15.—Gen. Schofield is on the way to Washington, and is expected to arrive tonight or to-morrow. There is no news that can be published from the army of the Potomac. There is no present prospect of a change of commanders. That the army will again start for Richmond, this fall is highly improbable. A letter received here from a naval officer on board the flagship Pensacola at New Orleans, states that the embers of a mutiny are gathering fast among the sailors of the men-of-war in that harbor. It seems that a great many of these sailors enlisted for one year, and their term has expired, but the Naval Department being pressed for men was obliged to issue an order that no sailors be allowed to come home, even if their time were expired, until they were relived by others. This order is said to be felt very severely by a portion of our sailors, and the officer who wrote the information fears that a mutiny may be the result of it.

Special to the *World*.—Washington, 15th.—Your correspondent telegraphs from the front that the army has not gone into winter quarters in its present location, and probably it will not do so. The guerillas are very troublesome.

The statement recently published by a coutemporary, that large numbers of deserters from Lee's army were availing themselves of the President's amnesty, is a fiction.—There are few deserters from Lee's army now than ever before, owing to the strict watch kept on the disaffected; none but malignant troops are placed on picket

A correspondent of the New York *Herald*, dating off Charleston, Dec 8, says:—I can say for a certainty that the reports sent North by the New York correspondents on Folly Island to the effect that Admiral Dahlgren has nearly decided not to operate with the iron-clads again to Charleston Harbor, but will send them South, perhaps to Mobile, is entirely false. The Admiral is preparing for a great movement, and the iron-clads will not leave this Department until the old flag once more waves over Charleston or its ruins. Admiral Dahlgren is very active just now.

The rebel rams still remain under the protection of the guns of Fort Johnston and above the harbor obstructions, so that our monitors cannot get at them. Sumter is still subjected to a heavy fire—shot and shell are daily flying through its ruins. Our guns have full possession of the harbor, and not a vessel or boat is seen moving about; in fact it is deserted. In the city at night darkness alone prevails, as, by order of Beauregard, the street lamps are not lighted, no lights either are allowed in the houses after dark, so through the long nights the remaining inhabitants lay, if they can do so, and hear nothing but the roar of guns and the explosion of monster shells. Nothing but famine, terror and fear, aided by military power, rule in Charleston. Were it not for the military leaders Charleston would soon be surrendered. All places of business are closed in the city.

PRESIDENT DAVIS'S last Message is about twice as long as any of those he has previously delivered before the Confederate Congress. It is not desponding, as the Federal journals have averred. It speaks the truth honestly, points out errors which demand correction and abuses which call for reformation, but is quite hopeful of the future. A large portion of it is devoted to the conduct of the British Government towards the Confederacy. It must be confessed that Earl Russell's truculency to the North has left him open to attack, and the opportunity is not lost upon Mr. Davis, who brings all the artillery of his industry, powerful logic and keen critical abilities to bear upon the Foreign Secretary. Measures of retaliation for what has been termed the "one-sided neutrality" of England suggest themselves to the Southern President; but he does not advise recourse to them. "To forego our "undeniable right to the exercise of those "pretensions," he says, "is a policy higher, worthier of us and our cause than to "revoke our adherence to principles that "we approve." Noble utterance of a great mind! The condition of the finances is bad. The currency has been increased much beyond the business requirements of the Confederacy. The usual result is to be seen—private speculations and the hampering of the Government. Mr. Davis recommends a compulsory reduction of the currency to the amount required by the business of the country, with a pledge that under no circumstances shall that amount be exceeded; and the imposition of such taxation as "shall distribute "the burthen uniformly and impartially on "the whole property of the people." The army is believed to be, in all respects, in better condition than at any previous period of the war, and suggestions are made by which it is hoped "the ranks of the army will be so "strengthened for the ensuing campaign as "to put at defiance the utmost efforts of the "enemy." To the "barbarous policy" of the Federals is attributed the non exchange of prisoners. The Southern navy is being largely increased. The President concludes his Message with "words which burn" and says the only hope of Peace lies in the vigor of Southern resistance. It is an able State paper, and contrasts strangely with the muddle, disjointed and badly worded Message of Mr. Lincoln which preceded that of the Southern President by a few days.—*Leader*.

NEW YORK.—The rebel Secretary of the Treasury's report says the entire debt of the Confederacy, in round numbers, $1,000,000,000, of which $800,000,000 are treasury notes, and $700,000,000, of these notes are in circulation. The Secretary says that the amount needed to carry on the Confederacy to the 30th of June, 1864, $475,000,000 besides the amount withdrawn appropriation of the last Congress, which reaches $476,000,000; and if the estimates are extended so as to include the entire year of 1864, the amount will reach $1,427,000,000, which says the hopeful Secretary, Congress is formally called on to provide. And so if the legs of the Confederacy last so long, it will have at the end of the year 1864, the respectable debt of $2,500,000,000. Mr. Memmenger argues that the reduction of the currency will reduce prices in a proportionate ratio, and therefore if the currency be reduced by the sum of $500,000,000, as he proposes, Government will have just that much less to provide for in consequence of the depreciation in prices. The scheme proposed slaughters the present rebel currency indiscriminately. The treasury notes now in circulation have a provision which states that they are receivable for public dues. This scheme ignores that entirely; they can be used for nothing but investment in the loan, and after the 1st of April next, not for that. The report concludes as follows:—"The continuance of the notes as a circulating medium to their present extent involves the ruin of public and private credit, and will deprive the Government of the means of defending the lives and property of its citizens. If the currency remains in its present expanded state, no measure of relief can be made effectual.—Prices must advance, and the means of the Government to pay these prices must daily lose efficiency and become worthless, by reason of depreciation of the money. The army can neither be paid, clothed nor fed; arms and munitions of war could no longer be supplied; officers of the Government cannot longer be supported, and the country must succumb."

Sinking of the Iron-Clad Weehawken.

By the arrival of the steamer Fulton from Port Royal, we have the intelligence of the loss of the monitor iron clad Weehawken, which sunk at her anchor inside of Charleston bar, on the afternoon of Sunday last. Four of her engineers and twenty-six of her crew were drowned. A furious gale prevailed at the time, but no damage was sustained by the rest of Admiral Dahlgren's fleet. An account of the disaster says:

"At day the Weehawken labored heavily in the sea, which kept her decks constantly submerged, and which frequently swept in huge volumes into her forward hatch. Towards noon the crew commenced to pay out chain to ease her, but, accustomed as they were in every gale to the shipping of such seas, it is believed that they had grown confident and careless of danger, and paid no heed to the encroaching waters until it was too late to resist them.

They dreamed of no peril till the waves had fairly yawned to swallow them. Then, when it was known for a certainty that the vessel was to be lost, a panic of fright and fear benumbed them, and the terror-stricken crew below had little power to help themselves.—There were men in irons in between decks, and the sergeant at arms rushed frantically away to release them. Poor fellows, they all went down. There were invalids in the sick bay, and to their relief the surgeon sent his steward, who never returned. There were firemen at the furnaces, to whom vain shrieks for a helping hand at the pumps were made. A few of the confident were rushing to their quarters to save their effects, jostling the timid on their way to the deck to save themselves. It was in the midst of scenes like these that the Weehawken went down.

I believe that none of the officers perished save the four assistant engineers, who were overtaken by the flood before they could make any effort to escape. Commander Duncan had only taken command of the Weehawken on Saturday, having been detached from the Paul Jones to relieve Commander Calhoun. The officers' clothing, the paymaster's funds, and the papers of the ship sank with her.

The yeoman was brought alive on board the flagship, but died in spasms a few minutes afterward. Various persons were picked up and taken to the nearest vessels, where every provision was made for their comfort and restoration. Those of the crew who were saved are now scattered in small squads throughout the fleet. It is impossible to procure at present the names of those who were lost.

The Weehawken is lying in five fathoms of water, and will soon be raised. Until she is brought up, no one can tell with certainty why she sank. It was through no fault of her 'overhaing', for she apparently took in no water except at her forward hatch and hawse hole. It was, to the best of my knowledge, through the inattention, neglect, and bad management of those on board, that the vessel has been lost. Had the pumps been set at work when the waves first dashed in, it is probable that the Weehawken would at this moment have been afloat. Had the bars with which her compartments were made watertight been in their proper places, it is quite likely that the dire calamity would never have occurred.

☞ The composer of the beautiful Irish ballad "Kathleen Mavourneen" is a private in the Seventeenth (Confederate) regiment.

SIR WILLIAM ARMSTRONG'S 600-POUNDER GUN.

This monster gun—which weighs about 22 tons, is 15ft. long over all, and has a bore of 13½ inches—was submitted to a trial at Shoeburyness on Thursday. It carries a conical cast-iron hollow-headed shot weighing 510 pounds, or a shell of ordinary construction weighing 600 pounds, and capable of containing a bursting charge of no less than 40 lbs. of powder. The charge used on Thursday with shot was 70 lbs., with shell 60 lbs. By the time everything was ready the interest of the spectators had reached the highest pitch; and it was amid exclamations of surprise and wonder from even veteran artillerists that the men serving the gun put into it and rammed home first the powder, looking like a tolerable bolster, and next the conical cast iron hollow headed shot, measuring nearly thirty inches in length, by 13.3in. in diameter. The shot is first placed in a cradle and lifted to the mouth of the gun by means of moveable sheer legs provided with blocks and pulleys. The cradle hinges on to a couple of hooks on the mouth of the piece, and holds the ponderous shot in the proper position for being rammed home. The gun was given one degree of elevation, and the word passed that all was ready. The last bugle call was sounded, and the great gun was fired for the first time. The ponderous shot burst from the mouth of the piece with a terrific rush and roar, striking the sand at about 700 yards from the score, leaping and dashing onward, recoiletting five or six times, and finally burying itself near the 4000 yards target. After nine rounds had been fired with the solid shot three rounds were fired with blind shell, and the range obtained was the first shot 1,800 yards, and the second 1,800 yards, the elevation being five degrees. The steel shells which are to be employed for the gun, and which will possess penetrating power superior to ordinary solid shot, will contain 15 lbs. of powder, or about equal to the charge of powder for a 68-pounder. This monster gun will be able to send one of these steel shells a distance of 1,800 yards, and, on striking an object, its effects will, it is said, be equal to that of placing the muzzle of a 68-pounder close to or through a ship's side or fort and firing into it with the full service charge. Notwithstanding that the men were new to the gun, it was worked with comparative facility, and, after the first two or three rounds, the time required for loading and firing was ten minutes. Twenty men were sufficient to move, wash, load and fire the piece. The recoil ranged from 9ft. to 9ft. 6 in. The result of the trial was considered satisfactory in the highest degree. Taking into account the weight of the gun, and of the projectile, the comparatively small charge of powder, the range and accuracy attained, the War Department have full reason to be satisfied with the gun. The 600-pounder's ultimate range with higher degrees of elevation, and with 75 lbs. of powder, may, says the *Morning Post*, be safely set down at 10,000 yards, or as falling short by two or three hundred yards only of six miles.

The Germano-Danish Question.

The agitation in Germany in regard to the claim of the Prince of Augustenburg to the Dukedom of Holstien appears to be on the increase. Austria and Prussia are said to have raised objections to the claims of the Prince. Meetings in favor of the Prince's claim were being held in Hamburg, Frankfort, Leipsic, Hanover, &c., almost daily, and the formation of volunteer corps was openly advocated. It is said that the Prussian government, had agreed to send troops into Holstien immediately, while the two great German Powers are to place a supporting army corps in motion at once.—The London *Times* admits the possibility of a successful insurrection in Holstien; but it calls on the great Powers to demand that there shall be no Prussian or federal invasion. The latest despatch from London, dated the 26th of November, says:—The Holstein question creates considerable uneasiness. It is rumored that Russia desires to intervene. It is stated, Nov, 26, in the naval intelligence of the London *Times*, that the Channel fleet will shortly sail from Spithead to Copenhagen to do honor to his Majesty Christian IX., King of Denmark, on the occasion of the coronation. The London *News*, adds it is reported that a number of ships are to be all at once brought forward for foreign service, including four or five frigates, besides the Caesar and Duncan line of battle ships.

Matters and Things in Ireland.

The trade of the great town of Belfast—the capital of Ulster, from which I write—is in a condition of prosperity almost unparalleled. The linen trade—which at the beginning of the American war, and long afterwards, languished sadly—is now brisk and thriving. Linens, (especially the brown linens,), are in eager demand at even advancing prices, and the linen merchants of Ulster are more and more concentrating their houses of business in Belfast. The amount of money turned over every month is something enormous. American buyers, together with foreign ers, are constantly in the market. I saw in the office of a friend this morning, a Philadelphia merchant, (for his agent,) just arrived, and about to make extensive purchases.

The flax crop has been a boon to the North of Ireland, of priceless value. It has saved the farmers from ruin; it furnishes the busy mills with yarn; and instead of its being now valued as it was some two months since, at £3,000,000, the estimate approaches £1,000,000. The trade of flax is *confined* to Ulster. So also is it with the bleaching of linen. For a series of generation, since the Scotch and English colonization of Ulster, the linen trade has been the staple employment of a large portion of the population, including the weavers with their small looms, all over the country districts. In former times every farmer's house of the better class, had a number of Irish spinning wheels; the farmer's daughters spun the yarn, and, of greater or inferior fineness, the *hanks* could be seen hanging on the walls of the wainscotted parlor. Thus the young women of the family were able to provide themselves with dress, and to add very considerably to the resources of the family. The old Irish spinning-wheel has now disappeared, and specimens of it can only be seen in Museums, or in the room set apart for curiosities and antique relics in the mansions of the nobility or gentry. Steam power looms take their place, with all their amazing reproductiveness.

Many of the coarser linens here are *dyed*, and afterwards exported to the United States, Cambric, also, is a manufacture peculiar to the province. Nothing can be more cleanly than the aspect of the interior of a linen merchant's establishment and nothing more picturesque than the bleach fields along the banks of the Bann, or the Lagan, with their whitening webbs stretched out over the meadows and green fields, expressly reserved as bleaching grounds. The linen merchants, as a class, are men of great energy and public spirit; they are hospitable to strangers, who, besides being conducted through their works, will receive a cordial welcome to their tables. These gentlemen give their sons a superior education, and more are sending abroad those who are intended for business, in order that they may be able to become correspondents with Continental customers, as well as speak the various languages, the knowledge of which international intercourse—always increasing—is becoming an absolute necessity.

The Death of Lord Elgin.

The last steamer from Europe brings intelligence that a telegram had been received at the India House, in London, announcing that on the 14th ult. Lord Elgin's life had been despaired of. With the restless energy which marked his whole official career, he is reported to have taken a journey over the mountains in the season of the year most unfitted for travelling, and thus hastened his death by a heart complaint, from which he has long been suffering.

The following is an extract of a letter of Gen. Meade to a friend in Newark, New Jersey, written just before the last movement of the Army of the Potomac:

I am fully aware of the anxiety in the public mind that something should be done. I am in receipt of many letters, some from persons in high positions, telling me that I had better have my army destroyed and the country filled up with the bodies of the soldiers than remain inactive. Whilst I do not suffer myself to be influenced by such communications, I am and have been most anxious to effect something but am determined, at every hazard, not to attempt anything unless my judgment indicates a probability of accomplishing some object commensurate with the destruction of life necessarily involved. I would rather a thousand times, be relived, charged with tardiness or incompetency, than have my conscience burdened with a wanton slaughter, uselessly, of brave men, or with having jeopardized the great cause by doing what I thought wrong.

A BOSTON BOY IN THE FRENCH LEGISLATIVE BODY.—The New York *Times* says:—Among the new members of the French Legislative Corps, whose election was contested, is Mr. Samuel Welles de Lavalette. He was born in Boston in 1834. His father afterwards moved to France, where he died after amassing a fortune in the banking and commission business. His widow married the Marquis de Lavalette, a leading French diplomatist, who, under the present dynasty, has represented his government at Constantinople, at Vienna and Rome. The son of Mr. Welles has been adopted by his step-father, under the title of the Count Welles de Lava'ette, and it is under this title that he has been elected to the Chamber by one of the country districts. His election was contested on the ground of some informalities, which brought up the question of his being a foreigner. He established his right to his seat, however.

"PLUG UGLIES" IN MONTREAL.—Some years ago there existed a rowdy and thieving organization in Baltimore called the "Plugugliies," which was guilty of all sorts of crimes upon the residents of that city. The murderous band was finally broken, and some of its members have found their way to Montreal. The *Telegraph* says:—"Several noted members of the gang may be seen daily loafing about vestibules, and entrances to places of public resort. Whether their mission is one of robbery, murder or kidnapping we do not know, but from the company they keep with leading Federals and Federal sympathisers it is probable they are in a project to abduct some enemy of the Federal government. We are glad to learn that the attention of the police has already been attracted to these men, and that their movements are carefully watched. It is hardly as possible for a second kidnapping to be as successful as the first, as foreign refugees now know their rights; but they may not know that in case of an attempt to capture or restrain them of their liberty without the warrant of a Canadian Court, they will be justified in killing the party so attempting if the killing appears necessary to preserve, or to regain their liberty while on Canadian soil."

HEAR THE ORACLE.—The Detroit *Free Press* has the following:—"Ryan, the immortal weather prophet, has again opened his mouth for the instruction of the people. He communicates to us the following with regard to the weather for the coming winter:—'Southwest and northeast are the contending points of the wind till the 1st of March next Southwest will prevail. Some west, northwest, then cold, sudden changes, doing and undoing is the order for the winter. If we have south or southwest wind on the 7th and 8th of January, we will have no good sleighing for that month, but if we have northwest wind, cold, or snowing on those days, we will have sleighing. The 4th or 5th of February is the last chance for sleighing this winter, and these are the days for the February treats. Water courses should be put in order for those days. We are going to have rather a mild winter.

BOMBARDMENT OF SUMTER.—Since the commencement of the bombardment of Fort Sumter (on the 17th of August) up to Thursday, 12th Nov., 15,583 shots have been fired at it, of which 12,302 struck. Of the garrison 27 have been killed and 69 wounded. The flag during the same time has been cut down thirty-four times. The average weight of shot being 200 lbs., the weight of iron was 3,116,600 lbs., or 115.43 tbs. of iron to each man killed, 30,370 lbs. of iron to each casualty. If the charges of powder averaged 15 lbs., we have 233,745 lbs. of powder used, or 8,657 lbs. of powder to each man killed, and 2,437 lbs. of powder to each casualty. Sumter in ruins laughs at her enemy, who still fears to pass her battered walls. Charleston will have a valuable iron mine in the ruins of Sumter, and even now, when iron is scarce and sells high, industry, at very little risk, might make a fortune.

Lamartine says the Philadelphia *Age*, contrasts the barbarities still practised in war, in spite of our advanced civilization, with the humane precepts of Abou beker, who, after the death of Mohammed, invaded Syria to convert the people who had fallen into idolatry to the worship of the true God. On starting he addressed his troops as follows:—"Warriors of Islam, attend a moment, and listen to the precepts which I am about to promulgate to you for observation in time of war. Fight with bravery and loyalty.—Never use artifice or perfidy towards your enemies; do not mutilate the fallen; do not slay the aged nor children, nor the woman; do not burn the crops; do not cut the fruit trees; do not slaughter the animals, except what will be necessary for your nourishment, you will find, upon your route men living in solitude, in meditation, in the adoration of God, do them no injury—give them no offence.

AGED PEOPLE.—In July, 1768, a couple were living in Essex, England, who had been married eighty one years, the husband being 107, and the wife 103 years of age. At the Church of St. Clement Danes, in 1772, a woman of eighty-five was married to her sixth husband.

PARAGRAPHIST'S BUDGET.

☞ The Port Hope *Canadian* reports the discovery of gold in the vicinity of Rice Lake.

☞ Ice has formed in the river at Quebec, and the horrible canoe ferry has again become a partial necessity.

☞ On Tuesday evening last a lad about 15 years of age was drowned in the canal at Edwardsburgh. He had been at a dance and had drank considerable liquor.

☞ The New York *Independent*, Beecher's "religious" paper, devotes three pages weekly to the advertisement of quack medicines of the filthiest kind.

☞ The annual report of General Hay on the musketry proficiency of the British army shows a satisfactory improvement. In a few regiments a failing off in skill is shown.

☞ A man named Ward, living near Sarnia, has been missing since September last. A bottle of whiskey was the last companion seen with him.

☞ The Hamilton *Times* says that observers of cause and effect in that city have remarked that since the sausage season commenced dogs are much less numerous than formerly.

☞ Mr. Dunbar E. Ross, son of Mr. D. Ross, Q. C., of Quebec, died in Washington on the 27th ult., from wounds received in the Federal service, in which he had foolishly enlisted.

☞ We learn from the London *Prototype* that a house of Refuge is about being established in that city. As the ladies have taken the affair in hand, the project will undoubtedly succeed.

One hundred and nineteen thousand emigrants have arrived at New York since January last. The number who arrived during the same period last year was forty one thousand.

There are 200 Life Insurance Companies in the United Kingdom. Last year their new business amounted to £66,795,440 insured, and the amount paid for claims was about £11,000,000.

A Schenectady lady was recently relieved of a tape-worm, which measured eighteen feet nine inches. The monster was expelled by the use of a very simple remedy, namely—pumpkin seeds.

Eleven ugly and eleven handsome men played a cricket match at Tunbridge Wells the other day. We wonder whether they classified themselves or not? The handsome ones won the match.

A loaf of bread at one of the thanksgiving dinners in New York was eleven feet long, ten inches thick, twenty-two inches wide, and required a whole barrel of flour for its construction. It was needed.

Great panic in the New York Academy of Music, Thursday night—men rushing, women fainting, and children screaming—all because there was an alarm of fire proceeding from a neighboring bakeshop.

☞ It is said that Mr. Louis Desfosses, of St. Francois, Yamaska, discovered a rich vein of copper, last week, on a lot of ground near Mrs. Wurtele's mill, and that he has already taken out several hundred pounds of fine ore.

☞ A man in Monaghan, Ireland, stole a cart and was sentenced to four years imprisonment. His wife appealed to the Lord Lieut. for a mitigation of the punishment on the ground that she had had three children at a birth.

Great Crimes.

1. To be a merchant who has raised himself to a position of eminence by his own exertions. Example:—Mr. A. M. Smith.

2. In the eyes of the Opposition it is a great crime to lose faith in one's party, and take refuge in another. Mr. O'Halloran is a culprit, but Mr. Cockburn is a hero.

3. To be a local preacher in the Methodist denomination is also a great crime; and although Mr. W. Ryerson, a regular preacher, became an M. P. P., it was wicked in Mr. John Macdonald, a layman to follow his example.

4. To be a Scotchman is one of the most flagrant offences. Example:—Geo. Brown.

5. To be tall, thin, and in delicate health, is also a crime (excepting always in the case of John A. Macdonald.) Example:—John Sandfield Macdonald.

6. To be an Irishman who strives to adhere to the opinions of the party with which he has acted. We quote as an example Mr. Foley, not Mr. McGee.

7. To accept an office of honour and responsibility under Her Majesty, because proffered by political opponents. Flagrant example:—Mr. Sicotte.—*Crumbler*.

Jenny Lind Goldschmidt, seems to prefer England to her native land, as a place of residence. In city and in country, and always pleasently and agreeably, the people are in the constant habit of hearing her enjoying herself and giving pleasure to all around her. She and her husband, Otto Goldschmidt, have been taking a prominent part in a harvest festival, held at Little Houghton, in Northamtonshire. After the sermon, M. Goldschmidt took his seat at the organ, Madam Goldschmidt, standing by him sung a harvest hymn from a book of hymns and chorals arranged by M. Goldschmidt.

HOW TO MAKE A HUSBAND DIE EASY.—The husband of a buxom wife, near Exeter