

be divided into sections, corresponding where possible with the established municipal boundaries. In preparing the bill he had taken every precaution to start a system of statistical information that should hereafter prove valuable to the whole country. Mr. McKENZIE made some remarks as to the importance of a correct Census and promised all the assistance in his power to make that of 1871 complete. In reply to Mr. BLAKE, Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that when the Census was complete it was the intention of the Government to introduce a measure to change the basis of representation according to the provisions of the Union Act. In reply to Mr. STREMESSON, Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the Government had fixed on a plan for the remuneration of country postmasters, based on a commission of forty per cent. on collections with ten per cent. additional for night work, with a small allowance for stationery; and an extra allowance according to work done at what was called forwarding offices. Where collections exceed a thousand dollars per annum an allowance would also be made for rent. Sir FRANCIS HICKS, in reply to Mr. HOLROYD, said he was sorry he was not yet in a position to say when he could bring down his financial statement. The House then went into Committee on the banking and currency resolutions. Sir FRANCIS HICKS explained that they provided that Government could issue four millions of notes on security of debentures, but that no further issue could take place, unless Government held twenty-five per cent. of gold in reserve against these four millions, and the same proportion for all further issues up to seven millions. With respect to the minimum of banking capital on which new banks might be chartered, the Government had consented to reduce the amount to \$500,000 instead of \$1,000,000, but to increase the amount to be paid up before commencing business from 20 to 40 per cent., or say \$200,000. Mr. COLBY spoke at length in favour of local banks with small capital, as did several other members. The resolutions were agreed to by the Government was agreed to, Sir FRANCIS HICKS asked the Committee to rise and report as he desired to consider the suggestions offered by a deputation of bankers just arrived from Nova Scotia. Mr. HOLROYD said the proposal was a very proper one. Committee rose and reported. The House then went into Committee on the Dominion Note-resolutions. Sir FRANCIS HICKS explained that it required six months to terminate the agreement respecting fiscal agency with the Bank of Montreal, and such notice had been given. With respect to the other agreement to pay the Bank of Montreal at five per cent. for surrendering the right to issue, during the period of its charter, there was no provision to terminate the agreement by Government giving notice. It rested with the Bank of Montreal to terminate the agreement which would last until the expiration of its charter. He had reason to believe the Bank of Montreal would give that subject its attention at an early day and would treat it fairly. To the third resolution, regarding the amount of issue, Sir FRANCIS HICKS said a clause making it explicit that for all the Dominion notes issued in excess of seven millions the Receiver General shall hold specie to their full amount. The remaining resolutions were then agreed to and reported. On the motion for going into Committee on the Currency resolutions, Dr. TIERNEY made a strong appeal for delay until it could be seen whether the Int. Monetary Conference as proposed by the Paris Convention would be adopted by the United States. The currency of Nova Scotia was almost identical with that system, and to change it now would be a great inconvenience to the people of Nova Scotia, especially as in a year or two might have to be changed back again. Their present currency, with the British shilling at 20 cents, and the Sovereign at five dollars, was entirely satisfactory to them and any change would create much discontent, confusion and loss. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD consented to postpone the motion till Friday. On motion of Mr. LASKY, the Bill extending the powers of judicial arbitrators; and on motion of Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, the bill to amend the act respecting the treatment of sick and distressed seamen, were read the second time. House adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

GENERAL NEWS.  
CANADA.

The Anti-Slavery League at Halifax which has had a quiet, though not secret, existence for some time, has commenced to advertise its meetings in the papers.

The City of Toronto has passed the By-law granting \$1,000,000 to the Toronto, Simcoe and Muskoka Junction Railway. The By-law granting a bonus to the Kingston and Madoc Railway has been carried by large majorities in several of the interested municipalities. It is expected that the construction of the Madoc Railway will be under the superintendance of C. Legge, Esq., Civil Engineer.

Some school children at Walton, in the township of Grey, came upon the dead body of a man in the road on the 1st inst. The man's name was McIntosh, and he acted as hostler for some time in one of the Ainsleyville hotels. On Monday, the 28th February, he assisted in driving some cattle to Senforth station, and seems to have performed the work assigned to him satisfactorily. He then started for Ainsleyville, and seems to have been overpowered by the cold.

It is impossible to exaggerate the painful anxiety which prevails in Halifax—and indeed throughout the Lower Provinces—respecting the steamer "City of Boston," which left Halifax on the 28th of January for Queenstown. At any time the safety of a vessel, sailing from Halifax, would be a matter of interest, but in the present case the very large number of passengers on board, including many leading business men of Halifax, has made the safety of the steamer the chief object of anxiety in every man's mind. All day long, at the clubs, the reading-rooms, on the streets, and in every place, the question is heard: Any news of the "City of Boston?" and the unwelcome answer "None," gives rise to the most gloomy forebodings.

The Ministers are having a busy time at Ottawa. In addition to Parliamentary business, they are being daily "interviewed" by deputations representing different interests. The Finance Minister is engaged with the bankers and the oilmen; the Premier has received an influential deputation on the subject of enlarging the canals and generally improving the inland navigation of the Dominion. There is represented to be a strong pressure upon the Government in favour of a protectionist, or, as it is called, a "national policy," by which the raw products of the United States would be removed from the free list and subjected to an import duty.

**THE RATE OF INTEREST.**—The Finance Minister has given notice that he will move the following resolutions:—  
"That it is expedient to provide, first, that six per cent per

annum shall continue to be the legal rate of interest in all cases where by the agreement of the parties or by law interest is payable, and no rate has been fixed by the parties in writing or by the law.

"2nd. Any rate of interest not exceeding eight per cent per annum may be paid in advance or otherwise, and being paid may be retained or may be stipulated in writing, and recovered.

"3rd. If any higher rate than eight per cent per annum is stipulated, such rate shall be *ipso facto* reduced to six per cent per annum as a penalty, and that rate only shall be recoverable, and, if any higher rate, than eight per cent per annum be paid.

"The excess of the rate paid over six per cent per annum shall be recoverable by the parties paying it, provided the action for recovering it be brought within six months from the payment.

"4th. All former laws respecting interest and usury shall be repealed.

"5th. The foregoing provisions shall apply to any loan or contract for the loan or forbearance of money made on or after the day of next.

"6th. These resolutions shall not apply to any body corporate which by any existing charter or act of incorporation may now lawfully stipulate for and receive a higher rate of interest than eight per cent."

UNITED STATES.

The white labourers employed in the city of Nevada, California, have driven off the Chinamen labouring on the railroad, destroying their tents and buildings.

Captain Hall has projected another expedition to the North Pole in the interests of science, geography, and commerce. He asks Congress to appropriate \$100,000 to defray the expenses.

A woman suffrage bill, submitting the question to a vote of male and female adult citizens at the Fall elections, passed the Minnesota Legislature, and was signed by Governor Austin, and is now law.

The Norwegian barque "Norge," Captain Ellesen, which left Havana for Copenhagen on the 25th ult., with 4,000 boxes of sugar, was burned at sea on the 3rd inst. Her crew arrived at Key West on the 7th.

General Butler has appointed Charles Sumner Wilson, of Salem, Mass., a cadet to the Military Academy at West Point. The appointee is a coloured boy. This is the first appointment of a coloured boy to the Military Academy.

In the House of Representatives on Monday, Mr. Churchill, of New York, offered a resolution calling on the President for information as to the determination of the Canadian authorities concerning the fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and along the Canadian coasts, and whether any action had been taken for the protection of American interests.

A despatch from Laramie City, dated 7th inst., says: Judge Cory, of Wyoming, sustained the right of women to serve as Grand Jurors. All of the women drawn as Grand Jurors were present in the Court-room at 11 o'clock this morning. A motion was made to quash the panel, but it was not sustained. At 11:55 this morning the first panel of feminine Grand Jurors in the world were sworn. None of them asked to be excused.

The monthly meeting of the Women Suffrage Association was held at the Cooper Institute, New York, on the 4th, and the members proceeded to congratulate each other upon the appointment of a female Justice of the Peace in Illinois and a jury of women in Wyoming. Miss L. Hallock made a speech, and advanced the theory that women, as the Conservative element in politics, ought to form the United States Senate.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

An Australian, named Strachan, will row in the Cambridge boat at the approaching race with Oxford.

The London *Times* confirms the statement that no successor will be appointed to Lieut.-General Windham in Canada.

The Prince of Wales is to visit Ireland immediately. The Princess of Wales will accompany him.

It is asserted that the sessions of the Oecumenical Council will be suspended during May, June, and July.

The ice in the Baltic has broken up, and navigation will soon be resumed.

The *Freeman Journal* understands that the late Mr. Charles Egan has bequeathed over £200,000 to the Roman Catholic charities of Dublin.

Sir Charles Mordaunt of divorce notoriety, will, it is said, leave England at an early day for America, to spend the hunting season on the Western prairies.

The new postal treaty between Belgium and the United States, which reduces ocean postage to one half the present rates, has been ratified by the former Government.

Strong evidence has been elicited before the Chancellor that the claimant to the Earldom of Wicklow was a foundling, and taken from the Liverpool Workhouse.

The Turkish Government has abolished the collection of tolls from foreign vessels passing through the Bosphorus. Merchantmen are no longer subjected to delay and visitation during passage.

A monster petition signed by 104,000 English workmen, was lately presented to the Home Secretary, praying government to maintain the existing relations between England and her colonies.

The Duke of Edinburgh has been formally gazetted an Extra Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India. His Royal Highness has declined the valuable presents offered him by various Indian princes.

A new project is on foot for laying a new trans-Atlantic cable, which is to be smaller and lighter than those heretofore used, the estimated cost of cable wire not to exceed £250,000. A scheme is talked of for connecting England with all her colonies by telegraph.

Ten of the released Fenians from Australia arrived on the 18th in Dublin. A large crowd assembled on the quay when the steamer came in. There was great cheering, but no other demonstration. The returned Fenians visited the Theatre Royal in the evening, and a demonstration of welcome was made. The audience in the pit and galleries stood, singing "God save Ireland!" The performance was suspended for a considerable time.

Bernal Osborne has been elected for Waterford, and Mr. Heron, Q. C., the former candidate, was the successful contestant against Kiekhain in the new election for Tipperary. Mr. Heron's election will be contested on the ground of alleged bribery.

The Executive Committee of the British and Colonial Emigration Society met in the Mansion House, London, recently, when it was stated that fully £2 5s. per head for the first 2,000 emigrants had already been promised, and in great part paid. Arrangements were in progress for sending a number of families to Quebec in April.

Dame Caroline Daley, widow of the late Sir Dominic, a gentleman who was connected with the Canadian Government for many years as Secretary, and died Governor of South Australia, has received a pension of £100 a year, payable from the Civil List, "in consideration of the services of her late husband."

In the Imperial House of Commons on Monday evening, the Irish Land Scheme of the Government came on for discussion upon the motion for a second reading. It was virulently assailed by the Irish Tory members, who monopolized most of the evening, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Chichester Fortescue replying on behalf of the Government. The debate was adjourned.

An explosion of gunpowder took place at the Morfa Collieries, near Neath, South Wales, on the morning of the 14th. The bodies of several men had been recovered, and upwards of twenty more remained in the pit. The coal-seam were on fire, and the danger of a second explosion imminent. The works belong to the Messrs. Vivian. As far as can be ascertained, thirteen men were killed and upwards of twenty more injured.

A correspondent says, since the electric telegraphs have been in the hands of the Post Office there has been the most complete break down in the working of the various lines which the worst enemies of consolidation or centralization could have anticipated. The weather certainly has been very bad. For two days there has been a storm of unexampled severity, and the Thames, between as well as above the bridges, is almost as frozen as the Neva; but, making every excuse on these grounds for defects which have driven business men crazy, the fact still remains that a government department has not the same "go" in it as private enterprise stimulated by competition. Mr. Scudamore's reputation as an organizing genius is oozing out at his fingers' ends.

The first course of experimental firing and testing of the Martini-Henry rifle by the army shooting ranges at Brown-down, near Gosport, has been concluded, and in the general results is very favourable to the new arm as compared with the Snider. The trajectory is lower with the new arm than with the Snider, and, with a strong wind blowing across the range, the shooting is incomparably the straighter. The sword bayonet fitted to the Martini-Henry is also considered to be a much superior weapon to the old bayonet, as well as being more available for general use with troops in the field. The length of the Martini-Henry rifle also enables the two front ranks to fire standing, a most important consideration in the opinion of many military men, now that infantry are armed with breech-loaders whose rapidity of fire is being every day in proof.

SPRING CIRCUITS, ONTARIO, 1870.

The Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, and of Assize and Nisi Prius, in and for the several Counties of the Province of Ontario, will be held as follows:—

EASTERN.—HON. MR. JUSTICE GALT.

- 1. KINGSTON..... Tuesday..... 15th March.
- 2. BROCKVILLE..... Tuesday..... 29th "
- 3. PERTH..... Tuesday..... 5th April.
- 4. OTTAWA..... Tuesday..... 12th "
- 5. LORNGAL..... Wednesday..... 27th "
- 6. CORNWALL..... Monday..... 2nd May.
- 7. PEMBROKE..... Tuesday..... 10th "

MIDLAND.—HON. MR. JUSTICE GWYNNE.

- 1. LINDSAY..... Monday..... 14th March.
- 2. PETERBOROUGH..... Monday..... 21st "
- 3. COBOURG..... Friday..... 25th "
- 4. BELLEVILLE..... Thursday..... 31st "
- 5. WHITBY..... Monday..... 11th April.
- 6. NAPANEE..... Wednesday..... 27th "
- 7. PICTON..... Monday..... 2nd May.

NIAGARA.—HON. MR. JUSTICE WILSON.

- 1. MILTON..... Monday..... 14th March.
- 2. ST. CATHARINES..... Wednesday..... 30th "
- 3. WELLAND..... Monday..... 11th April.
- 4. BARRIE..... Monday..... 18th "
- 5. HAMILTON..... Monday..... 25th "
- 6. OWEN SOUND..... Tuesday..... 10th May.

OXFORD.—HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF ONTARIO.

- 1. BRANTFORD..... Monday..... 14th March.
- 2. BERLIN..... Friday..... 18th "
- 3. GUELPH..... Wednesday..... 23rd "
- 4. WOODSTOCK..... Monday..... 18th April.
- 5. STRATFORD..... Monday..... 25th "
- 6. SIMCOE..... Tuesday..... 3rd May.
- 7. CAYUGA..... Tuesday..... 10th "

WESTERN.—HON. MR. JUSTICE MORRISON.

- 1. LONDON..... Monday..... 21st March.
- 2. ST. THOMAS..... Wednesday..... 30th "
- 3. SANDWICH..... Tuesday..... 5th April.
- 4. CHATHAM..... Tuesday..... 12th "
- 5. GARNIA..... Tuesday..... 26th "
- 6. GODERICH..... Monday..... 2nd May.
- 7. WALKERTON..... Monday..... 9th "

HOME.—HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COMMON PLEAS.

- 1. BRAMPTON..... Tuesday..... 15th March.
- 2. TORONTO..... Monday..... 21st "

A Boston chronicler thus writes of "the passing of Arthur":  
So Arthur passed  
From the St. James Hotel to Peabody.  
And thence to Ottawa, where no one comes  
Or hath come since the making of the world,  
If he could help it.  
The Hub scribe must be jealous of the growing glories of the Canadian Capital.