Secular Department.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

[From the London Standard July 9.]

The *Moniteur* of yesterday announced that the Emperor Napoleon has decided on reducing his land and sea forces to a peace footing without the least delay. The Emperor held a united sitting of the Privy Council and the Council of State on the previous day, and the probability is, that this measure was then resolved on. Contrasted with the assurance in the *Moniteur* we have the statement of our Paris correspondent, that applications for leave of absence are refused to the seamen on board the men of war at Toulon, and not only so, but that the ships are manned with picked crews, who have been provided with boarding pikes and tomahawks. Our correspondent's view of the question is supported by the opinions expressed in several continental journals.

Addresses to the Emperor Napoleon on the conclusion of the peace continue to pour in, and although these addresses are generally of a very flattering nature to his Majesty, they all express joy at the return of peace. With the exception, perhaps, of the military classes, the French have learned the inestimable blessings which peace confers.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany, Francis II., has resigned in favor of his son. What effect this will have on the projected annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont it is impossible to say.

The house of Lords was principally occupied last evening with discussing in committee the clauses of the Divorce Court Bill. The Diplomatic Pensions Bill was read a second time, and other Bills advanced a stage.

The early sitting of the House of Commons yesterday was occupied with the consideration of the civil service estimates and civil contingencies in committee of supply. At the evening sitting Sir C. Wood gave notice that on Monday he would bring forward his Indian budget; and Sir G. C. Lewis announced he should not pass the London Corporation Bill or the the Highways Bill this session. At six o'clock the House was very full, when Lord John Russell rose to make his promised statement on the present state of foreign affairs. The noble lord said he was glad to have seen in the *Moniteur* of that day a statement to the effect that the Emperor of the French was about to part the land and sea forces on a peace footing. Without going into detail upon the events which had already taken place, he would observe that the peace was sudden and unexpected. It was stated, as a reason for the peace, by France, that if the war was to be continued its arena must be enlarged, and it must extend from the Adige to the Rhine. On the other hand, Austria said that she made peace because she obtained from her opponent better terms than had been proposed for her acceptance by the neutral powers. With respect to the last assertion the noble lord said that no concert had ever taken place between the neutral powers, and no terms, could, therefore, have been proposed for acceptance by Austria. He believed the real reason for the sudden peace, though stated by neither party, was the horror of the two Emperors at witnessing the field of battle, and the frightful carnage which had taken place, and it was no disparagement to them both to say that they had the feelings of men. The treaty of peace consisted of two parts—one that, by which Lombardy was ceded to Sardinia, and upon this it was not for this country, which had taken no part in the war, to comment or criticise; the other portion proposed an organisation for the future of Italy. It was proposed by the Emperor of the French, through Count Walewski, that the great powers of Europe should meet in a congress or conference at Zurich for the purpose of considering all questions respecting Italy which could have any connection with the general interests of Europe. Her Majesty's Government had not returned any precise answer, but caused it to be signified, through its ambassador at Paris, that two things were necessary before this country could take part in the proposed conference—that they should see the treaty at Zurich, for it must depend upon that treaty whether it would take part in the conference; and, secondly, that in the opinion of the British Government any such conference would be useless unless Austria was a party to it. The treaty of Villafranca contained no settlement of the affairs of Italy. It only stated that two great Sovereigns were in favour of a confederation of the Italian states. He doubted much if the time had yet arrived for such a confederation. The noble lord entered into some details as to the conflicting materials to be dealt with in such a conference, in order to show the difficulty of arriving at a satisfactory solution, in the course of which he said that though he had received no official assurance on the subject, he felt confident that the Emperor of France would not restore the Italian Sovereigns who had recently fled from their states by force; neither would the Emperor of Austria, and if the latter was disposed to do so the former would not permit him. After dwelling on the difficulties of the case he proceeded to intimate that a confidential agent had been sent by the French Government to Vienna to settle the basis of the projected treaty The British Government felt convinced that a confederation of the independent states of Italy would be of great advantage to the welfare of Europe, and they thought it would be very unwise to come to any decision beforehand as to taking no part in a congress or conference which might be of great importance to the best interests of Europe.—Mr Disraeli regretted that the noble lord should have spoken so ambiguously as to the project of settlement submitted to the Emperor of Austria. There could be no doubt but that such a proposal had been made, or the Emperor would not have said so; and it had reached him that that scheme for settlement had found its way through the agency of Her Majesty's Government. If so, it was by no means unnatural even if unaccompanied by any opinion, that it should be assumed that the project was approved of by the power which transmitted it.—Lord Palmerston, in reply to Mr Disraeli, said that while the war was yet progressing the British Government had received from that of France a project of peace, which it wished to have conveyed to Austria. The ambassador was told the document would be sent with an intimation that it came from France and not from England. The British Government felt it could not refuse to be the medium of communicating a message which might be the precursor of peace, but without giving any opinion whatever upon the proposition transmitted.—Mr. Whiteside commented at length upon the whole policy of Lord Palmerston, and contended that there could be no use in any conference when the noble lord and his colleague, Lord J. Russell, were both of opinion that the federation of the states of Italy were so difficult as to be almost an impossibility.—Mr H. Drummond said, that unless the ecclesiastical power could be made subservent to the civil power, there could be no such thing as liberty. Unless some means were taken to control the Austrian and Italian priesthood the people must be slaves. He referred to articles in the *Univers* which went the length of intimating that the existance of England as a Protestant state, could not do any good by meddling in a question with which the religious element was so deeply bound up.—A long discussion ensued and occupied a considerable portion of the evening.

Latest by Telegraph.

A telegram, dated St. John's, Nfld., was received at the Merchants' Exchange, Halifax, on Saturday evening last, stating that a steamship (name not reported) had passed Cape Race same day, with Liverpool dates to the 4th instant.

Breadstuffs very dull, previous quotations barely sustained. The weather continued exceedingly favorable for the crops. Provisions dull with a declining tendency. Coffee market quoted firm. Sugar and Tea steady. Money market more stringent.

The news is pacific The French army on the Rhine has been withdrawn France is also preparing for Naval disarmament Nothing is known respecting the "Peace Conference" at Zurich

United States and Colonial.

United States.

Verily we live in a marvelous age—an age of fast men and fast women, fast boys and fast girls; but still more marvelous, fast pastors of fast congregations A wonderfully fast age it surely is. Three aeronauts, (taking with them a courageous reporter, as ballast, whom they intended dropping when his weight prevented them from soaring high enough into the heavens) fly from St. Louis to Troy at the rate of a mile a minute, and we are amazed; a wild Irishman proposes to ascend in a small balloon from the Battery up as near the moon as he can go, and there remain till St. Paul's, in London, is directly under him, and then drop down upon it—his theory being that if the world goes round, London will be right under him in twenty-four hours, and we laugh at him; a daring Frenchman dances upon a rope over the boiling waters of Niagara, and now proposes to carry across the same waters a foolhardy youth who pants for fame, and we shudder at the proposal; but the most surprising of all surprising events will take place under the superintendence of the pastor of St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, on the 26th day of the present month. It is a monster picnic, which the huge placards that have been posted over the city, state is to be the greatest that ever took place here. We have not a doubt of it, and we venture to say that if it is carried out as intended it will be the greatest picnic, under religious auspices, that ever took place either in this or any other city, for there will be sack-racing, blindfold racing, smoking, laughing, and eating matches, dancing, and other *intellectual and moral sports!* But in order that our readers may fully understand what is in store for the congregation of St. Bridget's and the rest of mankind who are willing to spend fifty cents, we copy the programme:

"St. Bridget's Grand Mammoth Excursion and Picnic to Jones's Wood will take place on Tuesday, July 26, on which occasion there will be sack-racing, blindfold-racing, smoking matches, laughing matches, hot-dish matches, for valuable prizes, consisting of silver goblets, watches, hats, tea-sets, purses of money, &c. With these there will be other old country amusements, which will afford the most agreeable pleasure to all present There will also be several balloon ascensions during the day. Neither pains nor money will be spared to make this picnic attractive and agreeable to young and old. Every possible caution has been taken to see that everything comes off in perfect harmony, and to the universal satisfaction of all. There will be twenty places for dancing, under the direction of a committee, who will enforce the rules of the most respectable balls. And to render this pleasure complete, upward of 100 talented musicians have been engaged, who will be under the direction of a competent leader. Other popular musicians will be in attendance, and perform a variety of old country dances, &c. No one should forget to be present on this occasion, as there will be the greatest day's amusement ever offered in this city. Admission tickets, fifty cents each; children under seven years of age, accompanied by their parents or guardians, free. Tickets can be obtained at the vestry room of the church, and from the members of the congregation."

There, Christian reader, what think you of that! Under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church are to be introduced the lowest and most debasing of games—games which are at this day prohibited in Ireland, and are practised only by the most degraded classes of Englishmen at horse races—and then but seldom. The dancing part of the sports is really bad enough, but the others are intolerable! If these so called amusements are too gross to be tolerated in Ireland, surely they should not be permitted here, and it is the duty of our city authorities to prevent the indecent exhibition. Permit this to come off, and next year there will be still worse; for instead of friars running races in sacks, or smoking or eating against each other, we may expect to see introduced the gross games practised in the semi-barbarous South American States What a tearful account will the men who claim to be the religious instructors of the people, the only true disciples of the Lord, have to render at the last day! God be with our people, and save them from the training of such pleasure-loving divines!—*N. Y. Christian Advocate and Jour.*

Utah advices are of interest. Judge Eckel's reception on his return to Salt Lake City is not only an indication of an awakening on the part of the saints, but that Brigham's power is fast crumbling to the dust. Though the judge struck a heavy blow at a prominent point in their creed—polygamy—yet he was met about twelve miles east of the city by a cavalcade of officers and citizens, escorted in state.

California news is of interest. A perod of terrible heat is reported as having occurred in the latter part of June. Several deaths from sun-stroke had occurred in San Francisco and elsewhere, and a sirocco had passed over Santa Barbara, blasting vegetation, killing trees, and injuring vines in the vine district. A personal difficulty, which had occurred between Senator Broderick and Mr. D. A. Perley, led to a challenge of the latter, which was declined.

Reports from Lower California announce a scarcity of money and provisions, and many of the inhabitants were in want.

News from Humboldt Bay, received via San Francisco, reports a new gold excitement, but no results from the diggings mentioned. There is nothing later from the Sandwich Islands or Fraser's River.

Nicaragua advices give assurance of fair prospects of a satisfactory settlement of the transit difficulties and speak in confident terms of the ability of Gen. Juarez to secure the rejection by Congress of the article in the Lamar-Zeledo treaty which is objected to by our government.—*N. Y. Christian Advocate.*

New Brunswick.

We take pleasure in complying with the request to publish the following communication. Although the writer is a stranger to us, we take the liberty of endorsing the sentiments, especially as regards the propriety of having a pleasure excursion set on foot forthwith, for we are confident the owners of the steamer would thereby be serving themselves as well as the public.—[WESTMORLAND TIMES.

"We cannot but congratulate the residents of St. John, and the dwellers on the coast, on the arrival of the *Princess Royal* to take the place of the lost *Maid of Erin*. This boat has commenced her regular trips, and we learn from those who have been in her that she is both clean and comfortable, as well as ably commanded. Though old, as regards her timbers, she has undergone the most complete remodelling, and is now in every way entitled to public confidence; and we do hope that her proprietors will hasten to enlist friends for the line by planning, and that speedily, an excursion which will enable every one to take a trip to that lovely little England of the West—Prince Edward Island. We believe the proprietors to be possessed of too much energy, kindness, and good taste not to avail themselves of this mode of puttin money into their own coffers, and sending the bracing glow of health through many enervated frames. J. M. C."

Nova Scotia.

On the evening of Friday last the Stage stables, with dwelling house adjoining, at Salmon River were totally consumed by fire. The loss by this fire is as follows: ten horses, and fifteen set of harness; 200 bushels of oats, and over 20 tons hay. The value of this stock, with the buildings, is estimated at £800.—*Pictou Standard.*

The St. John *Globe* states that a Coal mine has been discovered on Mr. Price's farm at Musquash, in this county. General Williams left this city on Monday, for Canada. Great preparations are being made at Portland, Maine, for the reception of the Great Eastern steamship; new wharves have been built at an expense of £15,000. The Duke of Newcastle is expected in Canada next year with the Prince of Wales. It is again stated that Mr. Cobden has been offered the Governor Generalship of Canada.

THE STORM AT YARMOUTH.—The storm of the 12th was felt severely at Yarmouth. The thunder and rain are described as awful. People who were on the sea, not far from the harbor, speak of it as the most terrible they ever witnessed. Its effects at Kelly's Cove were startling. The house of Israel Kelly was the doomed object on the occasion. The electric fluid passed down the chimney into the body of the house, where it played all manner of strange pranks, driving the front of a large stove in the parlor across the room, dislodging bricks in the kitchen which were broken into fragments, pitching kettles, pots, pans, etc., in an out kitchen in every direction, and tearing up the flooring. A large brass kettle, partly filled with milk, was upset, and the bottom driven in more than two inches. Almost every beam in the chambers were more or less shattered, and some of the beams and posts were split. Five panes of glass were taken out of a window beside which two of the family were asleep. The roof of the house was considerably injured, and an outhouse not far off received damage. The whole of the family were in bed, and to this fact it is owing, under providence, that none of them were injured. A man lying in the chamber says that for a while his skin felt that peculiar prickley effect which is familiar to those who have had their bodies charged with electricity while standing upon a glass stool or some other non-conductor. The *Herald* thinks it high time that the precaution of lightning rods were adopted for buildings.—*Hx Morning Journal.*

FROM BERMUDA.—By the arrival of the *Delta*, advices to 11th inst. have been received. The Legislature continued in session. The weather had been very favourable to the growing crops. Increased attention is about to be paid to the culture of lemons for supplying the American market. There is a rumor that Sir Dominick Daly, late Governor of P. E. Island, is to succeed Governor Murray at Bermuda. No civilian has held such an appointment in Bermuda for many years. The coloured population of the Bermudas celebrated Emancipation Day with a picnic, horse races, and other amusements.

The Protestant.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1859.

Normal School.

By an advertisement in another column, our readers will observe that the Government are desirous of obtaining the services of a gentleman qualified to fill the vacant mastership of the Normal School. This move is in the right direction. If the school is to be continued, let it be conducted by a person thoroughly acquainted with the natural or training system, and of such moral character as will command the respect of the community. Owing to dissatisfaction both in town and country, respecting the institution, we had apprehensions that the present majority in the House of Assembly would discontinue the grant, and close the school. The late appointment, however, of Mr. M'Neill as acting master, and the advertisement in to-day's paper show the determination of the Government to support the institution, and procure for it a suitable teacher. We hope that it is unnecessary to mention any of the advantages likely to accrue from its continuance. Though cramped by unwise regulations, what it has already accomplished we consider a sufficient guaranty for its future usefulness. To show that it has been productive of good, we need only give the following extract from the School Visiter's Report for 1857:—

"Although time sufficient has not been afforded to test the results of the engrafting of the Normal system on our common schools, yet it must strike even a cursory observer that schools taught by those Normal Teachers present a degree of order and a systematic arrangement of classes and lessons not generally found elsewhere; a discipline effective without being too stringent, and a consequent absence of that confusion so fatal to the welfare of a school, joined to an economy of time, itself invaluable. In such schools every thing goes on—in common parlance—with the regularity of clock-work, and the simultaneous plan of instruction whereby the attention of all is excited and sustained through the "sympathy of numbers," is one of the most pleasing features of the system, and these teachers are generally preferred throughout the country."

Some may be ready to inquire, if the schools under the management of the teachers who attended the Normal School are, generally speaking, the best conducted, and if these teachers are commonly preferred throughout the country, whence arose the dissatisfaction with the institution? A concurrence of circumstances seem to have rendered it unpopular. In the first place, the exclusion of the Bible from the school by the late Government in compliance with the wishes, or rather demands of the Romanists, laid a blow at the most important feature of the system—moral training. In the second place, many of the students who attended the institution were disappointed in reference to the facilities there afforded for prosecuting their studies in the branches required to qualify them for receiving license, as appears from another paragraph in the above mentioned report:—

"Before the close of the first term of the Normal School no little dissatisfaction was manifested, and which still continues, arising out of a mistaken idea, on the part of many of the students, that their attendance during the three months' session, as prescribed by law, should suffice to complete their apprenticeship, as well as supply the requisite amount of scholarship demanded. Others of them again entertained the belief that the greatest facilities would be afforded them in the Normal School to prosecute the study of such branches as they imperfectly understood, and, at the end of their term, they might reasonably reckon on passing the Board. Not a few were in consequence, doomed to disappointment, having found that the brief period referred to did not suffice for the acquisition of any thing like a thorough knowledge of the art of teaching any more than it did for the learning of the necessary branches, and in which they should have been well skilled before entering the class at all."

Another cause of feeling against the institution seems to have arisen from dissatisfaction in some quarters, in reference to the conduct of the former Master. But we fear that a large amount of the opposition to the Normal and Model Schools had its origin in popular prejudice. Every departure from what is called by some "the good old way," is certain, for a time at least, to cause more or less dissatisfaction in every community.

We hope that in process of time every real cause of complaint in regard to the Normal School will be removed. It is but just to say that the late Government, though they at first excluded the Bible from the institution, afterwards admitted it into the Model School, but did not permit any analyses or explanation of its moral lessons. We trust that if this restriction is still in force, it will very soon be set aside, for unless the emblems and other passages of Scripture are pictured out by familiar illustrations, or explained to the children, they cannot be expected to understand the lessons intended to be conveyed.

We believe that the Normal students have had some reason to be dissatisfied with the School. No doubt its principal design was to give instruction in the art of teaching, with the understanding that candidates for license should be sufficiently skilled in the necessary branches before entering the institution. The deficiency of many in this respect results from want of opportunities, and consequently is their misfortune, and not their fault. For the benefit of such, we may say for the benefit of all who enter the institution, opportunities ought to be afforded them for receiving instruction in the prescribed branches during the term, and if one term is not sufficient, let them remain two. This matter might be rectified either by appointing an assistant, whose duty it would be to conduct the Model School, while the Head Master was imparting instruction to the students; or by connecting the institution with the Central Academy. Were the students to prosecute their studies in the Academy, and go out two or three times a week to the Model School, which is close by, to look on, or practice teaching under the direction of the master, we think the evil complained of might be remedied. But as this, or any other arrangement can only be made while the House is in session, we hope, in the meantime, that no pains will be spared to obtain a skilful and experienced Normal-trained Teacher to conduct the school as at present organised.

The Lieut. Governor at Belfast, &c.

[For the Protestant.]

DEAR MR EDITOR:

Permit me to forward to your widely circulated paper a few paragraphs about the visit of his Excellency Governor Dundas and Lady, accompanied by his Aide-de-camp, the Hon. Col. Gray, who arrived here to-day on his tour through the Southern section of Queen's County.

Previously to his Excellency's arrival, several young men met to make arrangements for his reception. A triumphal arch, with a suitable inscription, was erected, which, along with other decorations, rendered the spot selected peculiarly picturesque. About 12 o'clock, the Governor and suite appeared, when an address was presented to him, to which he delivered a most admirable reply. Then three hearty cheers were given for the Queen, three for his Excellency and Lady, three for Col. Gray and his Lady, and three for William Douse, Esq.

His Excellency and escort then proceeded to the New Harbor which is being opened here, and after returning to pursue his journey to Little Sands his progress was arrested by a heavy shower of rain, which obliged him to retire to Mr Duncan Taylor's, where he remained about an hour, conversing very freely with the inhabitants upon local matters. After that, he pursued his way to the residence of Duncan Munn, Esq., where he remained a short time, and thence proceeded through Ross Settlement, to Murray Harbor Road.

As proof of the kind condescension of his Excellency to the poor, I may mention that, on his way through Ross, he called upon a very destitute family, and performed the part of the good Samaritan to the afflicted parents, in such a way as revived their drooping spirits and cheered their desponding hearts. It ought not to be omitted, that the Hon. Col. Gray did likewise, with princely munificence.

The presence of Mrs Dundas marvellously won the hearts of the people, by her engaging manners and amiable address, in conversing freely with them at the several stations, occasionally enlivening her speech by an appropriate Gaelic expression. His Excellency will finish his tour for the present by calling upon the Rev. Mr. Munroe, of Brown's Creek, where he is sure to be greeted with enthusiasm by the loyal inhabitants.

Sandy Terrier, from Skye, awakened agreeable reminiscences in the minds of some of the oldest inhabitants, many of whom were present on this interesting occasion. And my neighbor, Sandy M'Lauchlan, was an indispensable appendage, who, with his melodious pibroch, increased the harmony and happiness of those assembled

Woodville, August 18, 1859. GAEL.

Summary.

There was quite a smart frost in some parts of the Island on Monday night last.

The annual Masonic Picnic came off at Warren Farm on Thursday, the 11th instant. We understand that the Brethren of the mystic tye enjoyed themselves largely on the occasion.

MOONLIGHT EXCURSION.—Last evening, the Sacred Harmonic Society, with a number of their friends, had a pleasure excursion on the Hillsborough in the Steamer "Ino." The boat, which was illuminated with various colored lights, left the Ferry Wharf at 8 o'clock, and steamed up and down the river, opposite the city, for full two hours. Fireworks were occasionally set off on board with good effect, and at intervals the members of the Society regaled the company with music of no ordinary description. What with the moonlight, the fireworks, the gentle breeze, the rippling of the waters, and the delightful singing, the whole party spent the evening very pleasantly.

BURGLARY.—We understand that the store of Wm. Brown, Esq. Queen Square, was burglariously entered on the night of Sunday, the 14th instant, and robbed of a considerable amount of property, consisting of clothing, jewellery and groceries, besides some loose change which happened to be in the shop tills. The entrance was effected through a cellar hatch at the rear of the building; and we regret to learn that the perpetrators of the robbery have not yet been apprehended.—*Examiner.*

We learn that the debt of Canada, since the union of the two provinces, has increased from six to sixty millions of dollars, and the annual expense of the government from a million and a quarter to eleven millions and a half. This is paying pretty dear for the whistle, and will account for the agitation now rife in the western section of the province, for a repeal of the Union and a reconstruction of the government.

The *Nova Scotian* says:—A very neat uniform for the projected Rifle Corps, of Nova Scotia homespun (grey), with black facings, has lately been brought out by Messrs. W. & J. Campbell, Clothiers, Hollis Street.

The small-pox, we regret to learn, prevails to an alarming extent in St John. We have also heard of its being in Truro, but are not aware of its spreading in that healthy locality. We trust the authorities are using every proper means to prevent its introduction here.

The "Princess Royal," Captain Belmour, has commenced running on the bay, making, weekly, two trips to Moncton, and one to Sackville. She appears to be a good sea-going boat, and is comfortably fitted up. We hope she will prove remunerative to her owners, who are principally Westmorland farmers.—*Colonial Presbyterian.*

MASSACRE OF FIFTY EUROPEANS IN THE DUTCH SETTLEMENT IN BORNEO.—A correspondent at Batavia has forwarded to Messrs. James Finlay & Co., of Glasgow, Scotland, the following intelligence:—"We have the greatest regret in informing you that the whole of the European employees here have been brutally murdered, without leaving one to tell the tale. The tragedy was enacted on the 18th of June, and attended with horrors not exceeded by any thing which occurred at Cawapore. Reinforcements of troops are being sent in all haste from this and Samarang, with three or four steamers, which will no doubt be sufficient to restore peace and order in the country, and we trust may arrive in time to save the remaining Europeans at Banjermassing and neighbourhood. This disaffection among the people, excited to revolt and murder by some Mohammedan priests lately returned from Mecca, is supposed to have been the cause which has led to the sacrifice of so many precious lives, already amounting, so far as known to fifty or fifty-one in number. Among these, four German missionaries, three of their wives, and nineteen children are stated to have fallen victims to the knives of the assassins."—*Manchester Guardian.*

A Bill to enable the Legislative Council of Canada to elect their own Speaker, lately passed the House of Lords, on motion of the Duke of Newcastle.

We regret to learn from the St. John *Globe* that the potato blight is making sad ravages in New-Brunswick.

The people about Kingston, Canada, are hunting a wild woman who has lately been seen there. She has approached dwelling houses several times, but when any one appears she runs, and is so swift that neither man nor horse can overtake her.

The value of the Strawberry crop raised this season in New Jersey is estimated at $250,000.

THE COMET OF 1859.—This new comet, discovered by M. Temple at Venice, about the beginning of April last, has been observed at Rome by Father Secchi, and at Paris by M. E. Von Villeneau. It has been rapidly approaching the sun, and at one time was only about 8,000,000 leagues from it. Since the 29th of June, however, it has begun to recede at the rate of 2,000,000 leagues in twenty-four hours, or twenty-four leagues per second, being a velocity of at least two hundred times greater than that of a cannon ball. This velocity is, indeed, gradually diminishing; nevertheless, enough of it remains to carry the comet a distance of 36,000,000 leagues from the sun. As to the distance of the comet from the earth, its nearest approach, which occurred on the 24th of April, was to within 26,000,000 leagues. At present, its distance is about 42,000,000, and by the 30th of the present month it will be 49,000,000 leagues distant from our globe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROTESTANT.

SIR:

As your paper is an organ for the dissemination of knowledge, I shall begin my acquaintance with you by submitting to your consideration a few things upon which I wish to be enlightened. But allow me first, Sir, to state that the very superior appearance, and excellent matter of your paper do you much credit, and, that so far as I can learn, the manner in which you have hitherto acquitted yourself as Editor perfectly satisfies your readers in this part of the country. We farmers are not very much interested in the excitement, zeal, and abuse of politics and politicians; the temperate tone and instructive articles of your paper suit us far better. Having thus introduced myself to your good graces, allow me to ask—

1st. Why is the present Emperor of the French styled Napoleon the *Third?* In other words, who was Napoleon the *Second?*

2d. Who are the *Zouaves* of whom we see such frequent mention made lately?—when and what was their origin, and how do they differ from the rest of the French military?

Information upon these points by yourself or some one of your intelligent contributors would much oblige

Yours, &c.,

A BACKWOODSMAN.

North Cape, 6th Aug., 1859.

We answer our correspondent's first question, viz: "Who was Napoleon II.?" by copying the following declaration of Napoleon I. to the French people, after the battle of Waterloo:—

"In commencing a war to maintain the independence of the nation, I reckoned on the joint efforts of all, the unanimity of all, and the concurrence of all the national authorities. From these, I had reason to hope for success, and I set at defiance all the declarations of the foreign powers against me.

"Circumstances appear to be changed: I offer up myself as a sacrifice to the animosity of the enemies of France: may they prove themselves sincere in their declarations, and that they really aimed at me, personally, alone! My political life is at an end: and I proclaim my son, under the title of Napoleon II., emperor of the French.

"The present ministers will form provisionally the council of government. The interest I feel in what concerns my son, induces me to desire the chambers to form a new regency without delay by a law.

"Unite, all of you, for the public safety, and to remain an independent nation.

(Signed) "NAPOLEON.

"*Palace of the Elysium, June 22d*, 1815."

When Louis Napoleon re-established the Empire, he was under the necessity either of setting aside this declaration of his uncle as null and void, or of assuming the title of Napoleon III. His cry shows that he chose the latter alternative.

"A Backwoodsman's" second question, viz: "Who are the Zouaves?" we answer by giving the following extract from Chambers's History of the Russian War:—

"The Zouaves were originally a tribe of Arabs, in or near the regency of Algeria. When the French effected an occupation in that country, some of the Zouaves agreed to join their army; and being active, fearless and dashing fellows, they became great favorites; young Parisians joined their corps, although in distinct companies; and by degrees there was established a regular branch of infantry under the name of Zouaves—French in composition but Arab in dress, and fitted for a particular kind of service in active warfare. The Zouave dress is picturesque—an open, simply ornamented jacket of blue cloth, faced with red; an under tunic of red, descending to the hips; a broad silken sash coiled round the waist; dazzling scarlet pantaloons, very full above the knee, and gathered in folds just below it; embroidered yellow leather greaves, covering the leg from the knee to the ankle; a red fez cap, with a roll of cloth at the edge to protect the head—such was the dress of the sunburnt Zouaves, upon whom the British troops gazed in the harbor of Valetta. The full-pantalooned Zouave and the kilted Highlander might well scrutinise each other with some curiosity."

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, August 4, 1859.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint the following Gentlemen to the Commission of the Peace, viz.—

Queen's County.—John Myrie Holl, Kenwith, Lot 33; Robert S. Findley, Orwell; Alexander Williams, Pinette.

King's County.—Duncan Fraser, Albion Mills, Three Rivers; Charles Clay, Grand River, Lot 56.

COUNCIL OFFICE, 23d July, 1859.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Mr. JOHN DONALD MCLEOD, additional Assistant in the Office of the Postmaster General, in the place of Mr. Arthur Swabey.

COUNCIL OFFICE, 4th August, 1859.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint DAVID ROSS, of Hillsborough River, Esq., a Commissioner for Ascertaining and Establishing the Boundary Lines of Counties and Townships, and parts of Townships, in this Island, in the place of William Walter Irving, Esq., resigned.

CHARLES DESBRISAY, C. E. C.

SHIPPING—PORT OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

INWARDS.

Aug 11—Schr. Arabecca, Brundage, Tidnish, deal.

13—Brigt. Afton, Atwater, Boston, goods. Native Lass, Gerrior, do, do. George Dundas, Hubbard, Pictou, coal. Ellen, Pentz, do., do. Brigt. Minos, Arbour, Montreal, flour, &c. Velocity, Wetherbee, Richibucto, lumber. Bee, McRae, Pictou, coal.

14—Mary, Arbuckle, Richibucto, lumber.

15—Sarah Jane, Hingley, Cape John, N. S., limestone. Ploughboy, Robertson, Pictou, coal. Brigt. James Henry, Cameron, Shediac, lumber.

16—Schr. Elizabeth, Scott, Sydney, coal.

18—Woodbine, Robertson, Sydney, coal. Sarah, Gillis, do. do. Schr. Dove, Landry, Halifax, goods.

OUTWARDS.

Aug. 15—Brigt. Bothesda, Phillips, Plymouth, G. B., timber and deal. Schr. Bee, McRae, Pictou, bal. Brigt. James Henry, Cameron, St. John's N. F., lumber, &c. Schr. Venus, Boston, Pugwash, bal.

16—Mary, Arbuckle, Richibucto, bal. Ellen Pentz, Pugwash, do. Schr. Sarah Jane, Hingley, Tatmagouche, bal. Dove, Campbell, Pictou, do.

17—Plowboy, Robertson, Pictou, bal.

18—Native Lass, Gerrior, Pictou, bal.

MRS. MACREADY!

THE ONLY DRAMATIC READER AND RECITATIONISTE

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ENTERTAINMENTS

On THURSDAY EVENING, August 25th, at the

TEMPERANCE HALL.

PROGRAMME:

Nothing to Wear,	Wm. A. Butler.
The Lady's Request to her Lover,	A Burlesque.
THE RAVEN,	Edgar A. Poe.
The Ballad of the Oysterman,	O. W. Holmes.
The Boy and his Angel,	Caroline St. Dwyer.
MACBETH—Act 1, Scenes 5 and 7;	Shakespeare.
School for Scandal—Act 2, Scene 1,	Sheridan.

Doors open at 7½—To commence at 8 o'clock.

Tickets, 5s. To be procured at the Door.

August 20, 1859.