month, and (to females) $32 per month. The lowest salary is $5, and the highest $333.33 per month.

The Rev. H. Ward Beecher, at a recent meeting in Brooklyn, made the following remarks on the question :—"Does it pay to hire cheap school teachers, which are worthy of note. He says :—A man tries to be a farmer and fails; tries to be a mechanic and fails; tries to be a minister and is not even good enough for that; but one thing he can do—he can be a schoolmaster. And so you will find throughout the country schoolmasters are selected because they are cheap. You can get him for $10 a month found. Shame on the parsimony that would take a cent from the pay of the men or women employed as teachers. If there is any profession which should be absolutely independent of all care as to the means of living, it is that. I do not undervalue my own profession, but I think the schoolmaster stands nearer to God than a minister can. For myself, I hated the school, I hated it in my mind, I hated it in my body, I hated it in my affections. I had no religious nature, so I could not hate it in that. I hated school, and yet there came a summer in old Litchfield when, in spite of tears and protestations, I was sent out of the house and to school, and I found a school ma'am comely, though with very pale face, and young—not over eighteen—who met me at the door and patted me on the head, and played with my curly hair, and she sat me down at her feet and made me happy. She was taken sick and died, but while she taught was the only pleasant time I ever had in school. There is no economy so penurious, no wrong so intolerable as that which cuts down the pay of the teacher, and simply because they with whom they have to do are only children? Only children! Whose children? Your children, my children, God's children, the sweetest blossoms in the garden of the world, for whom angels may be proud to do service. If they are neglected, you are to blame, for if you cared enough about it, it never would happen.

THE EXPLOSION AT THE LANDING.

Most of the Windows and Doors in Town Shattered—The Ice in Thunder Bay Broken Up.

The Thunder Bay *Sentinel* says :—"At six o'clock this morning (January 16th) the citizens of Prince Arthur's Landing were awakened from their slumbers by a most terrible shock, as if an earthquake had come upon us, and our whole town was to be engulfed in the bowels of the earth. Some thought the world had come to an end, while others took in the situation at once, and thought it must have been the Ontario Powder Co.'s works situate nearly a mile from the main part of the town. Such it proved to be. Our reporter was one of the first upon the scene, and he viewed a sight the likes of which he never wants to see again. Less than half an hour after the report there were over one hundred men on the scene. The cause of the explosion was fire in the main building. The buildings comprising the works are situated as follows :—On the right is the engine house, in connection with which is the composition room. In the rear of this is the residence of Dr. Volney, the proprietor, where some of the men in connection with the works board. To the left of the engine house is a storage building, and to the left of that again is the main building, where the nitro-glycerine and the Volney powder is manufactured. Again to the left of this is the magazine where the nitro-glycerine and powder is kept after being manufactured. From the engine-house to the factory are extended water and steam pipes, the place being heated by steam from the engine-house. A heat of 80° is required to be kept up all the time; therefore, they have a night-watchman to keep up the fire in the engine-house. The watchman was looking out of the window facing Thunder Bay, when he saw a reflection on the snow. He went over to the other window, and saw a light shining from the window of the main building. He took his lantern and went over, and, upon opening the door, saw the building was on fire. He grabbed some old clothes hanging near and threw upon the fire, but could not put it out. He then rushed out to the house to tell Dr. Volney, who, seeing how matters stood, told him to turn on the water, and get out of the way. He turned on the water, then ran outside and laid down behind a woodpile. He had barely got there when the terrible explosion occurred. Is so happened that the building] and its contents went in the direction of the engine house, riddling that and the residence into splinters and carried the *debris* for several hundred yards out into the bay. Large chunks of frozen earth, weighing at least fifty pounds, were carried for a quarter of a mile in various directions. The engine in the engine house was removed out of place, and everything else turned upside down. The shock must have exploded the glycerine in the magazine, for not a particle of that remains to be seen. Where it stood is a round hole fifty feet across and about twenty feet deep. The ice in Thunder Bay cracked, and a short distance out can be seen open water.

The escape of the occupants of the residence seems almost miraculous. Dr. Volney, Mr. Cole, and a lady, who was housekeeper, were in the building at the time and escaped without injury. Dr. Volney reckons his loss will be in the neighbourhood of three thousand dollars, while the damage in town and at Fort William is considerable. On the principal streets of Prince Arthur's Landing no end of windows are broken. The places that received the most damage are O'Connor's drug store, windows broken and bottles emptied on the floor, Marks' windows, Crush's saloon, bar and windows, also the windows of Messrs. Vigars, Kennedy, Daniels, Pratt, Peltier, Bonin, Clavet, Clarke, Street, Park, Griffin, Wilcox, Cook, the Queen's, Mining Exchange and American Hotels, Town Hall, school house, some of the churches, and private residences without number. In the *Sentinel* office the type was upset and made into pi, and the front of our building almost torn out. There is a great demand for glass in the stores this morning. The fire in the factory cannot be accounted for. Had the explosion come in the direction of the town the damage would have been much more serious. This day will long be remembered as a very startling one in the history of Prince Arthur's Landing.

The London *Free Press* favours the abolition of all laws for the collection of small debts as the best legal reform. The argument advanced is that it would strike an effective blow at the credit system under which the honest portion of the community have to pay increased prices to recoup the storekeeper for losses sustained at the hands of dead beats, or those who lack the ability to pay their bills. It quotes the opinion of Judge Leggatt, of Windsor, in response to a circular sent some time since by the Attorney-General to County Judges, in which the former says he would abolish the right to sue for amounts less than $100, or at all events $50. This would be regarded as a somewhat radical measure, and is hardly likely to be adopted; but if small debts are to be collectable, some cheaper, quicker and less formal method than the present is urgently required; something that will bear the same relation to the present clumsy and tedious system that the process of summary conviction before a Police Magistrate does to the old-fashioned mode of dispensing justice for petty offences. Time is money with most people nowadays, and even a wrong decision given in haste now and then in these vexatious petty cases would bear less hardly upon plaintiff or defendant than the loss of time and hanging round a Court House with an array of witnesses waiting till the case is reached.

We are glad to learn that the "PAIN-KILLER" is having so large a sale in our city. We have every reason to believe it to be an almost never-failing cure for pain, and is a medicine that no family should be without.—*Montreal Pilot.*

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

(Continued from Second Page.)

TUESDAY, Feb. 3.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

Mr. WOOD moved the House into Committee of Supply.

In Committee,

Mr. MERRICK suggested that as the Treasurer had promised the Public Accounts for 1879 80, it would be well to wait until the accounts were down.

Mr. WOOD said the accounts would be down in a few hours.

On the item $950, contingencies for the Lieutenant-Governor's office,

Mr. WOOD said that the Government had determined to return to the old system of handing over a cheque for $950 to the Lieutenant-Governor, who should be responsible for the proper expenditure of the money in contingencies.

Mr. MILLER held that the Government should take the responsibility of the expenditure on contingencies, and not throw it upon the Governor.

Mr. MOWAT said that was just what the Government was doing. They were fully prepared to take the entire responsibility for the expenditure, but they did not care to discuss every little item with the Lieutenant-Governor. "While we might discuss such items," he continued, "with an amount of freedom with such Lieutenant-Governors as we have already had, our next Lieutenant-Governor might not be so anxious to meet our views as others have been, and it would be utterly out of the way to enter into a hostile discussion with a hostile Governor on these little matters. We do not think we ought to be asked to battle with the Lieutenant-Governor over every item of contingencies in the Public Accounts.

Mr. MEREDITH—"I don't think we have any occasion to fear that there will be a hostile Lieutenant-Governor here. We do not have such Governors in this Province; and the only instance we have had of a hostile Governor has been in a neighbouring Province. (Hear, hear.) I certainly think with the hon. member for Muskoka, that the Lieutenant-Governor should not be made alone responsible for this expenditure." He wished to know if the Government still thought it necessary that the Governor should have an official secretary.

Mr. WOOD said such an officer had been found to be necessary, and the Government would not, at all events, think of dispensing with his services now, as a new Governor was about to come. "We don't know" he continued, "that he will be hostile to us, but we do know that he will be a Conservative, and it would be unfair to dispense with the official secretary now. Why, the hon. gentlemen opposite would be the first to cry out."

Mr. MEREDITH—No.

The item passed.

On the item, Education $20,800,

Mr. WOOD stated, in reply to Mr. Lauder, that the Minister of Education being a member of the Government, his salary was now properly classified under the head of civil government.

The item passed.

On the item Crown Lands, $44,750,

Mr. PARDEE stated that there was a reduction of $6,100, caused by the retirement of the chief clerk of the Land Sales and Free Grants and the Deputy Surveyor-General of the Surveys and Patents. Then as the accountant would retire in six months, he had only placed half a year's salary in the estimates. It was the intention of the Government to introduce a bill by which they would be enabled to dispense with the services of aged officials and allow them a superannuation.

In reply to Mr. Miller,

Mr. PARDEE said the superannuation would be equal to one month's pay for each year's service.

On the item $27,600 for the Administration of Justice,

Mr. MEREDITH asked if the Attorney-General expected there would be a reduction under this head when the new Judicature Act came into force?

Mr. MOWAT said experience alone would show.

Mr. GIBSON said he noticed that the Opposition were following different tactics to those they adopted last year. They moved last year for the reduction of the salaries of the officers in the various courts. The motions were lost, and he (Mr. Gibson) voted against them. One of the officers whose salary he voted to sustain had actually run round the streets of Toronto supporting the Opposition and opposing the Government. The officer to whom he alluded had not even common gratitude. (Laughter.)

Mr. MEREDITH—The hon. gentleman is sorry for voting to keep up salaries; and he now wants to apologize for it. (Laughter.)

Mr. GIBSON—No, I am not apologizing; but if I find that gentleman acting in such a way again I won't vote to keep up his salary. (Renewed laughter.)

The item passed.

On the item $83,238 for the Insane Asylum, Toronto,

Mr. WOOD said that in the way of supplies there was an increase of $100 asked for medicine and a reduction of $1,000 in fuel. The fuel was reduced because the Government had determined to use coal instead of wood.

Mr. MEREDITH—And there is a reduction.

Mr. WOOD—Yes, notwithstanding the N. P. There was an increase of $500 for flour.

Mr. MEREDITH—Then a better price must be asked for wheat.

Mr. WOOD—Yes. There was an increase in the groceries of $500 and a decrease of $1,000 in butchers' meat, fish and fowl.

Mr. LAUDER—There is no vote asked for beer, wine, and spirits for the asylums?

Mr. WOOD replied in the negative. The fact was that some of the superintendents were of the opinion that the use of beer, wine, and spirits could be dispensed with. Dr. Backe, of the London asylum, was strongly of this opinion, and the Government had resolved to buy, for the present, no such liquors for the use of the inmates.

The item passed.

Mr. MEREDITH asked if it was the intention of the Government, as foreshadowed in the Ministerial organ, to make some change in the method by which asylums were maintained, and to throw some portion of the burden upon the counties and upon the persons kept in the asylums?

Mr. WOOD could not say that it was altogether likely that the Attorney-General was about to make such a proposal to the House.

On the item, Central Prison, $62,070,

Mr. WOOD explained that there was an increase on the vote for brickmaking material. The Government had used the brick made at the prison on the Mercer Reformatory.

Mr. MEREDITH—Then are you going to sell brick in the future?

Mr. WOOD—No, we shall want this other brick for another building.

Mr. MEREDITH—But I thought the new Parliament Buildings were to be of stone?

Mr. WOOD—Well, but the partitions in stone buildings are of brick.

The House adjourned at 10 p.m.

Distance all Competitors.

The dairyman who uses Gilt-Edge Butter Maker will increase his product 6 per cent. Improve its quality 20 per cent., and distance all competitors who do not use it. 25 cents' worth of the powder will increase product and market value of some $3. Can you make a better investment? Sold by grocers, druggists and general storekeepers. Send stamp for "Hints to Butter-Makers." Address Butter Improvement Co., Buffalo, N.Y.

BEVERLEY, Mass., Feb. 2.—The summer residence of W. B. Pinkman has been burned; loss $30,000. By a falling chimney a boy was killed and several firemen hurt, one it is feared fatally.

HOME AGAIN.

Return of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise.

HALIFAX, N.S., Feb. 2.—The snow storm abated about three this morning, and then clear weather set in with biting cold. A steamer was signalled from the East shortly after six o'clock, which proved to be the George Shattuck, from St. Pierre. At nine o'clock another signal went up for a steamer east, and at fifteen minutes to eleven three guns were fired from the citadel hill, which announced that the look-out party at Camperdown had made out the steamer to be the Sarmatian, and that she was then some four miles from the coast in charge of a pilot. A moment later the mail steamer signals were hoisted, and as if by magic flags, bunting and streamers floated from the flagstaffs at the dockyard and various public and private residences, while the shipping in the harbour and at the wharves were decorated from stem to stern. Streets and wharves were immediately crowded with sightseers. The Sarmatian steamed slowly up the harbour. The Union Jack was lowered from the Citadel flagstaff and the Royal Standard floated in its place, while the signal staffs were handsomely dressed with bunting. At twelve o'clock the Sarmatian dropped anchor off the Ordnance yard, accompanied by the commissariat transport Lily, in which his Excellency the Governor-General had steamed down to the mouth of the harbour to meet his Royal wife. The guard of honour from the 63rd Halifax Volunteer Rifle Battalion, under command of Capt. M. J. Power, had taken up their position in the yard, but the guard of honour from the 97th regiment was late in arriving, her Royal Highness having landed, and being comfortably seated in the sleigh when they came along. The landing stand was neatly decorated with flags and bunting, and as her Royal Highness stepped from the Lily on to the landing stand, a ringing cheer rose from the people on the wharf, while a royal salute thundered forth from the citadel. The Princess was received by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Lady Macdougall, Col. Drayson, and his Worship the Mayor. She wore a fur cap and silk jacket lined with fur. Her face was covered by a white veil. She looked in good health, but a little pale, doubtless the result of sea-sickness, caused by the rough weather experienced off the coast. After the Princess and his Excellency were seated, her Royal Highness invited Governor Archibald to take a seat in their sleigh. The party were then driven to Government House, passing through Granville, George and Barrington streets. A large crowd had gathered outside of the Ordinance yard and cheered the Marquis and Princess as they drove off, and along the line of the drive there were many spectators. It had been announced that the party would pass through Hollis street, but they did not, and many people who assembled on that street were disappointed. They lunched at Government House, and during the afternoon the Marquis and Lieut.-Governor visited the rope factory and Turtle Grove brewery in Dartmouth. The viceregal party dined at Government House this evening, and leave for Ottawa to-morrow by special train at 11 a.m.

Following is the report of the steamer Sarmatian. She having been delayed off Lough Foyle by fog for fifteen hours, left Moville at two a.m. on Saturday, the 24th. The weather experience was most boisterous throughout the whole passage, and the vesselwas delayed by incessant gales of head winds. The Princess suffered much, but is now recovering, and with rest will regain her usual health. Nothing of any note occurred during the voyage. The Princess is accompanied by the Hon. Lady Pelly, Hon. Mrs. Langham, Col. McNeill, Equerry in waiting to the Queen, and Captains Chater and Collins were in attendance on her Royal Highness.

The following were the cabin passengers :—H. R. H. Princess Louise, Hon. Mrs. Langham, Hon. Lady Pelly, Miss Pelly, Miss Eva Pelly, Col. McNeil, V.C., C. B., Capt. Chater, Capt. Collins, Mr. King, Dr. Ryerson, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Clerke, Messrs. T. Hodgson, G. F. Gale, Geo. Iles, R. B. Penhall, W. Gillman and A. B. Boak, Mrs. G. S. Pickell, Mr. A. Lacroix, Mr. J. S. Carvell, and sixteen servants in attendance upon her Royal Highness and suite; total, 37 cabin, 14 intermediate and 104 steerage.

HALIFAX, N.S., Feb. 3.—At nine o'clock this morning the Imperial and Militia troops began to assemble. The Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, 101st and 97th Regulars lined the streets in open order from Government House to North street railway station. The station was beautifully decorated. Over the door was a well-executed shield, bearing arms of the Dominion. The ceiling of the waiting-room was festooned with red and white bunting. The passage from the main entrance out to the platform was carpeted with crimson, and screened off with rich foliage plants. The gasoliers were festooned with bright flowers, and the pillars and handrails were entwined with crimson and white bunting. The windows of the refreshment stand were filled with illuminated panels and the stand was surmounted by a coronet. The gallery in the station was festooned with flags, and strings of the same were run across from side to side through the building. About 11 o'clock the Governor-General and Princess entered Governor Archibald's sleigh, at Government House, the guard of honour from the 97th presenting arms, and the band playing "God Save the Queen." Then a pleasing incident occurred. An old pensioner who had seen long service in the army, came forward from the crowd at the door, and, offering his hand to the Princess, said he had shaken hands with her Royal mother. Her Royal Highness, with a pleasant smile, cordially shook hands with the old fellow, and he stepped back the proudest man in the crowd. The team then drove off through the military lines to the railway station, where the party were received by a guard of honour from the 101st regiment, and the 1st H. G. A. and the Halifax field battery in the yard, north of the station, fired a salute. Some thousands of people had assembled in and around the station. A noticeable feature was a number of very old people present, who had thought nothing of waiting an hour in the biting cold, seeming to care nothing for show and parade, but showing an intense anxiety to catch a glimpse of the daughter of their Queen. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed. As the viceregal train moved slowly off, three ringing cheers were given by those in the station and were caught up by the multitude outside and carried along the military line. Again the field battery thundered out a salute, and the citadel responded to the battery. A few moments more, and the train turned the bend in the road and was out of sight of these at the station. Far up the line, however, the inhabitants turned out to cheer the party.

THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Through Connection from Chicago to the Atlantic.

MONTREAL, Feb. 3.—A connection was made to-day between the eastern and western sections of the Grand Trunk Company's western road, and an engine was run over the new track. The company's system now extends from Chicago to the Atlantic, and it is intimated that they will be ready to do freight business over their new line in the course of a few days.

MAPLEWOOD BREEDING AND TRAINING FARM,
JEFFERSON, O., Dec. 17, 1877.

Dr. WILLIAM GILES, 120 West Broadway, N. Y. :—

DEAR SIR,—Please send me two quart bottles of your Liniment Iodide Ammonia (for horses). During the past two years I have used it in my stable to the exclusion of all other liniments. It is the best thing I have ever seen for either man or beast. I could not do without it.

Enclosed find draft for $5.

Very truly yours, H. P. WADE.

GILES' PILLS cures Billousness.

WHOLESALE MURDER.

Four Persons in One House Killed by Masked Men.

THE DWELLING AND BODIES THEN BURNT.

A Relative, Three Miles Distant, Shot Dead.

By Telegraph to The Mail.]

LUCAN, Feb. 4.—About 12 o'clock last night a body of men, blackened and masked, entered the dwelling of the somewhat notorious Donnelly family, and murdered the inmates, the father, mother, one son, and a girl, a niece. A small boy, named Connor, took refuge under the bed and escaped unhurt. The murderers then set fire to the house, which, together with the murdered bodies, was totally consumed. Another son, residing about three miles from the homestead, was called to his door about the same hour and shot. He is also dead. The township is wild with excitement.

RIVAL RAILWAY ROUTES.

A Competition with the Grand Trunk for Eastern Traffic.

MONTREAL, Feb. 3.—At the City Council meeting yesterday, the Mayor stated that a delegation had been received with regard to a proposed new railway line to Huntingdon and Dundee. Ald. Nelson explained in English that it was proposed to build a line from a point between St. Lambert and St. Johns, on the Grand Trunk railroad, to Dundee, at a cost of $900,000. The Grand Trunk Company declared its willingness to equip the road, provided a bonus of $200,000 was granted by the city to assist in its construction. It came to his knowledge afterwards that the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad Company were also seeking a charter for a line to Dundee, passing through the counties of Chateauguay, Beauharnois, and Huntingdon. This company had a station at Potsdam, and wished to get to Montreal, and be in a position to compete with the Grand Trunk railway to Buffalo or Niagara, which might be of more interest to Montreal than a road to Dundee without any connection on the other side. The American Company expressed their intention of building the road without any assistance from the city, so that he advised waiting for a time in order to witness the development of both schemes.

Ald. HOLLAND thought no time should be lost, as the Coteau Bridge was already looming over the heads of the people of Montreal, and much of the future of our city depended on the action to be taken by them. He instanced the remarkable growth of Toronto, which had subsidized a large number of railway lines, which were the means of opening up the country and keeping that city alive. He wished a similar policy to be pursued here, and although he considered $150,000 or $200,000too much, he felt confident that the additional trade derived from the road would pay in a few years, and be the means of opening up a fertile tract of country.

After some further discussion the matter was deferred to await further developments.

ESCAPED FROM SING SING.

Recognition of the Montreal Silk Robber as a Notorious Convict.

MONTREAL, Feb. 3.—The St. Albans, Vt., correspondent of the Montreal *Witness* telegraphs to-day that Isidore Marechal, who it will be remembered was arrested there for the Lewis, Black & Co. silk robbery, but who refused to return to Canada, had been recognized by Detective Jackson, of Sing Sing prison, as Gus Kindt, an escaped convict from there five years ago. He left on the 10 o'clock train this morning with the officer for New York. He has three years and seven months to serve, this being his second escape from Sing Sing, the first being in 1871. He recognized the officer, and was visibly surprised.

ST. ALBANS, Vt., Feb. 3.—To-day Gustav Kindt was transferred to Sing Sing prison, whence he twice escaped while undergoing a sentence of ten years for robbing a jewellery store in Brooklyn. Kindt's second escape was in 1875, since which time he served three years in a Canadian penitentiary for robbing a jewellery safe of $20,000.

TROY, N.Y., Feb. 3.—Detective Jackson arrived to-night with Kindt, the Sing Sing convict, mentioned in a St. Alban's despatch. At the depot the prisoner attempted to escape and knocked Jackson down. Kindt was shot twice by Jackson in the face and behind the ear. A policeman came to Jackson's assistance. Kindt was secured and taken to the station house, where he lies unconscious.

IMPERIAL CABINET COUNCIL.

Consideration of the Queen's Speech—Rumoured Dissolution.

LONDON, Jan. 31.

Lord Beaconsfield presided at the Cabinet meeting to-day. It is reported at the Carleton Club that the leading question under discussion was the tone and terms of the Queen's speech. The near approach of the time of assembling of Parliament making it imperative that an agreement should be reached at once in relation to the matter. The Cabinet is by no means a unit concerning the policy to be suggested by the Speech in reference to the principal issues raised by the condition of the country and by the complications in foreign affairs, but it is believed that Lord Beaconsfield's influence will prove sufficient to bring about a consensus of opinion. Lord Salisbury was absent, and, although he is known to have been recently ill, it is whispered among the Club that he made an unnecessary use of his bronchitis to evade being present at a meeting where his opposition to the Premier will only end in a defeat for himself. The Queen's Speech is expected to recommend several important measures. A proposal to abolish primogeniture and facilitate the sale of lands with a bill to permit life tenants to dispose of their interest will immediately be brought forward. Relief measures are promised to Ireland. The criminal code will receive a prominent place in the Ministerial programme. An announcement is expected that the British forces will retire from Afghanistan after crushing the military resistance and recognizing some native ruler, but retaining sufficient frontier. The Irish members threaten obstruction at the start, and the Liberal leaders intimate that the Government must henceforth fight the obstruction without Liberal help.

Hull Iron Mines.

OTTAWA, Feb. 3.—During the month of January there were 1,500 tons of ore taken out at the Hull iron mines. The ore is being shipped by rail to Niles, Ohio, at the rate of 48 car-loads per week. Col. Robbins states that the total amount of ore taken out of the mines since he began operations is 2,500 tons.

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

is true of old coats and mouths. When the former shows the first defect, take a "stitch," and always keep the mouth right by using SOZODONT. It costs less for a new coat than a set of teeth. False teeth are not as pleasant as natural ones.

It must be annoying to our fair readers to find that many hours of toil on sewing have been wasted, because they used a thread that had not sufficient strength to hold seams together. If they will buy the "Eagle" silk thread, they will not be subject to such troubles.

An Excellent Article.—Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP is an excellent article for all diseases of children. It relieves the child from pain, regulates the stomach and bowels, and, by giving health to the child, comforts and rests the mother During the process of teething its value is inestimable: cures wind colic and griping in the bowels.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

A Canadian Claims the Invention of Edison's Patent.

Dr. Woodward's Invention to be Utilized by a Home Company—Application made to the Ontario Legislature for a Charter.

HAMILTON, Feb. 3.—The great notoriety given to Edison, the alleged inventor of the electric light, through the press on this continent, is likely to fade into as great oblivion as the surprise of his announcement to revolutionize the present system of lighting burst upon the public. In a conversation with one of the local directors of the "Woodward Electric Light Company" to-day, your correspondent learned the following facts, as concerning the new enterprise about to be entered into in Canada :—A few years ago Dr. Woodward, then of Toronto, invented a system for producing electric light, which turns out to be the same as that used by Edison, with but a slight alteration or enlargement of some of the parts. In 1876 it was patented for the United States and Canada, and shortly afterwards assigned to some gentlemen who paid a consideration for it. Two years later a patent was obtained by one Sawyer, of New York, which differed in no material point from the original. In his application for it appears the following, which has direct reference, it is claimed, to the Woodward patent :—"At the present day it is not new to produce a light by causing the electric current to heat a carbon conducted to incandescence in a vacuum, or in a nitrogen or other gas; but no lamp has yet been devised which would be practically operative for various reasons." The Canadian Company claims that this is a clear encroachment on their patent, and they can prohibit Sawyer from using it in a like manner as he has put a stop to Edison's experiments, as being the patentee of what he states to be his invention. There is every reason to expect that this Canadian enterprise will be a success, as it is in the hands of gentlemen of means, who are determined to set the ball rolling as soon as they obtain a charter from Parliament, application having been made at the present session of the Ontario Legislature for that purpose. The capital of the company is $280,000 in shares of $10 each, and it is proposed to have the headquarters in Toronto. At a meeting recently held there the following Directors were appointed:—R. M. Wells, E. Heimrich, Thos. R. Fuller and James Peppler, Toronto, and J. E. O'Reilly, A. M. Ross and Philip Martin, Hamilton. There are some twenty shareholders in the company at present who hold a large number of shares, those held in Hamilton alone amounting to 6,450, or $64,500, and in Toronto to about twice this amount.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

EUROPE.

Lord Beaconsfield, for the third successive half-year, has given his tenants an abatement of 20 per cent of their rents with an extension of time for payment.

The recent death of the Suffragan Bishop of Guildford is spoken of as "strangely dramatic" "His Lordship preached from Matthew xxv., 24—'Then he who had received the one talent came.' Those who had heard him before thought his Lordship even more impressive than usual. It was noticed that he referred to the mercy which had been shown in sparing them through another year. After the sermon his Lordship descended to the chancel and read the prayers for the church militant, and having uttered the words 'that it may please Thee shortly to accomplish the number of Thine elect,' he knelt down before the communion table, fell forward, and died. His Lordship's wife was in the church, and exclaimed in piteous accents that she had begged him not to venture out in the cold weather."

UNITED STATES.

The United States Consul at Geneva reports large importations of anthracite coal into Switzerland from the United States. American stoves find read sale.

The New York *Herald* makes disclosures regarding the ill-treatment of idiot children in the asylum on Randall's Island. Of four hundred children, one hundred and eighty are in the hospital.

The Republican State Committee of New York have resolved to call a State convention for Wednesday, the 25th February next, in Utica, to elect delegates to the National Convention at Chicago.

There is great excitement over the discovery of gold near the mouth of the canon of the platte, only twenty miles from Denver, Colorado. A specimen of the one assayed $20,000 per ton. People flocking to the scene.

Sidney B. Thomas, Mark Falden, John Boyd and Thomas Stewart, recently convicted at Philadelphia of making fraudulent election returns, on Saturday were sentenced to a fine of $100 and costs with imprisonment for twelve months.

Some residents of Turin, Italy, have been sending thousands of letters to residents of New York city with postage unpaid. The letters are filled with nonsense in Italian, and the matter has become such a nuisance that the postmaster is investigating it.

The Commissioner of Fairmount Park, at Philadelphia, has agreed to withdraw a notice requiring the Permanent Exhibition building to be removed from the Park, providing the Exhibition Company raise $100,000 to place the building in a proper condition.

Miss Rauck, whom it is reported ex-Governor Tilden is about to marry, is a sister of Mr. J. M. Rauck, a prominent member of the Scranton, Pa., bar, and is said to be a young lady of unusual brilliancy and mental culture. Her meeting with Tilden was in Philadelphia during the Centennial summer. The lady's relatives confirm the report of the engagements.

GHILZAIS AND HAZARAS.

Internecine Wars in Afghanistan—Defeat of Ayoob Khan—Tranquility in Cabul.

A correspondent at Candahar, after mentioning the disastrous results of the strife between the Ghilzais and Hazaras without the British lines, adds that similar tales of internecine war came from the direction of Farah. A representative sent by Ayoob Khan to Farah has been defeated by Ibrahim Khan, of Chaknasar, who is putting the country under contribution. Ayoob Khan is reported to have sent two regiments, six guns, and 2,000 horses against Ibrahim Khan. Other accounts, however, say these troops of Ayoob Khan refused to march.

A Cabul correspondent says no apprehension is felt that the present tranquility will soon be disturbed. Business in the city has been entirely resumed.

The *Times* semi-officially denies that Lord Lytton is desirous of leaving India.

A Cabul despatch says the prophecies of the impending defeat and disaster published in some newspapers have been read here with astonishment. The data of the writers are as inaccurate as their deductions are gloomy. Mahmoud Jan was not a soldier of great repute in the wars of Turkestan. Until lately he was an unknown subordinate officer of artillery. General Gough never was in danger during his march to the relief of Cabul. Gen. Roberts was right when he reckoned on his ability to bring up reinforcements. He never had to fight his way around the city to Shirpur. He had in in December firewood for four months and forage for fifty-four days. The idea of a forced retreat upon Jellalabad never suggested itself here.

SCUTTLED AT SEA.

Serious Charges Against a Captain and His Mate.

Confession and Arrest of the Boatswain.

By Telegraph to The Mail.]

ST. JOHN, N.B., Feb. 3.—In May last the barque Bronte's Pride, 444 tons register, of this port, was reported as having been abandoned fifty miles off Jacksonville, Florida. She was on her way to New York from Cardenas with a cargo of melado, which, with the vessel, was declared a total loss. The insurance amounted to $80,000, and the underwriters not being satisfied with the manner in which the vessel was lost, instituted an enquiry. Information was laid before the Police Magistrate yesterday charging Capt. Wm. H. Tower, who was master at the time, and Howard C. Thomas, mate, with scuttling her. The depositions made were those of Thomas and two others of the crew. Captain Tower was arrested in Carleton. The vessel was owned here by Judge Palmer, Mr. D. G. McLachlin, and others.

A NEW FEATURE

has been developed in the vessel scuttling case, which came up in the Police Court this morning. Henry C. Thomas, boatswain, who made the original information against Capt. Tower, for destroying the vessel, was taken into custody, the Magistrate saying that as Thomas had admitted he had bored the auger holes in the vessel, he required looking after. Capt. Tower denies the charge. The magistrate offered to release Tower on $10,000 and Thomas on $50,000 bail, but neither could find security in the amounts.

AN UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE.

A Sleeping Woman's Nose Gnawed by a Rat.

By Telegraph to the Mail.]

QUEBEC, Feb. 3.—A night or two ago, Mrs. Dixon, of Little Champlain street, while lying asleep in her bed, having by her side her little child of two years old, woke up with the painful sensation of something gnawing at her face. Putting up her hand, she caught hold of a huge rat, which had its teeth fastened upon her nose. She tried to pull it off, but without avail, until she sat upright in bed, when it fell off. Having given an alarm, the people from another room came in and discovered the rat hiding under the pillow of the bed, evidently awaiting its chance of renewing the attack. The rat was killed, and Dr. Henchey called in to dress the partly eaten nose. It is fortunate that the rat did not attack the throat of the child, instead of the mother's nose, as they have been known to eat children while asleep.

ONTARIO POULTRY SHOW.

Opening of the Exhibition at Guelph.

By Telegraph to The Mail.

GUELPH, Feb. 3.—The Exhibition of the Ontario Poultry Association, at present being held here, is the grandest exhibition of birds ever held in the Province, and is patronized by all who visit it, and is attended by many of the most prominent breeders. The fowl now are in position, and are ready for the judge, Mr Todd, of Vermillion, Ohio, to commence his arduous task.

Felonious Assault on a Child of Tender Years.

BELLEVILLE, Feb. 3.—Wm. Post, aged 18, was charged in the Police Court to-day with committing a felonious assault upon the person of Ellen Shiner, a child of 12. The prosecutor did not appear, but as the Chief of Police asserted that an attempt had been made to compound the felony, the prisoner was remanded until to-morrow.

C. J. Whellam's Denial.

OTTAWA, Feb. 2.—A statement appeared in the Ottawa *Free Press* to-night to the effect that Mr. Whellam, of Rapid City, had cleared out to England with $680 belonging to a widow of that place. He denies it in the *Citizen* over his own signature, and holds the publisher chargeable to an action for libel. He is here on business for the Rapid City railway.

Increase in Belleville's Exports.

BELLEVILLE, Feb. 3.—The Customs returns of this port for January, compare as follows, with those of the same month of the preceding year :—Imports, 1880, value $13,976, duty $2,967.24; 1879, value $11,393, duty $2,755 64. Exports, 1880, $15,976. 1879, $2,475, showing an increase of $11,351.

Elora Cattle Fair.

ELORA, Feb. 3.—The Elora monthly fair was held to-day, and was well attended. Beef sold at from three and a half to four cents per pound. Over one thousand head of cattle have been bought in this section, to be delivered in May, at from five to six cents per pound.

A Leap for Life.

PORT HOPE, Feb. 3.—Yesterday a freight engine on the Midland railway jumped the track near Midland village. The engineer reversed and then, along with the fireman, jumped for life. The engineer slightted unhurt, but the fireman had his face badly cut.

LATEST HOME NEWS.

Mr. E. V. Bodwell will leave for British Columbia about the 1st of March.

The official return for West Hastings fixes Mr. Robertson's majority at 149.

General Sir Selby Smythe's period of service in Canada terminates in April next.

The London bar have asked for a delay of a year in the passage of the Judicature Act.

Experiments are to be made in the lighting of the Parliament buildings at Quebec with the electric light.

The town of Portland, N.B., authorities have given up the use of gas in all their offices, and the streets are lighted by oil lamps.

Prof. Crawford, of Woodstock, is in Ottawa, in connection with the Prairie College, which it is proposed to establish in Manitoba.

Patterson, the bandman, who attempted suicide at Guelph on Saturday night, is not in a dangerous condition, but is pronounced insane.

The number of small-pox patients at Ottawa has been reduced to twenty-eight, most of which are convalescent. No new cases have been reported this week.

Mr. Duhamel has written to the press of Montreal that he will not run for Mayor on the ground that it is the turn of an English-speaking Mayor.

The Kingston City Council will send a delegation to Toronto to protest against the passage of the bill now before the Legislature proposing to abolish market tolls.

The members of the staff of the Geological Survey living in Montreal have been notified not to renew leases of houses in that city. This bodes an early flitting.

John Scanlon, of London, Ont., has been arrested on a warrant issued at Ingersoll, charging him with obtaining money under false pretences. He will appear in the latter town on Monday for examination.

A meeting of the most influential men of St. Stephen and Milltown, N.B., was held on Saturday in reference to the establishment of a cotton factory in the former town. The tone of the meeting was encouraging to the enterprise.

A young man named Paul Martin, aged sixteen years and nine months, died suddenly on Saturday evening, at his residence, Stadacona village, from heart disease. His father, Alexander Martin, is now absent at Detroit.

Mr. Asa Schermerhorn, one of the veterans who served in the rebellion and did duty at Kingston, died suddenly in his chair at Napanee last evening, at the advanced age of 82 years. He was highly respected, and one of the oldest pioneers in the township of Richmond.

At a citizen's meeting in St. John, N.B., yesterday in reference to the exhibition next October, it was resolved to assess the city to erect the buildings. The Provincial Government will bear the expense of running the show and give half the gate receipts to St. John.

A soldier of the Royal Artillery disappeared very mysteriously from the Royal Artillery park at Halifax some time ago, and was suppose to have deserted. Yesterday another member of the same corps, while suffering from a fit of *delirium tremens*, said he had killed his comrade, the missing man, with his sword, and thrown his body into the harbour. His story is not credited by the militia authorities, as they not think it possible that he could have been in company with the missing man at the time of his disappearance. An enquiry will, however, be made.

PIMPLES AND HUMOURS ON THE FACE.—In this condition of the skin, the VEGETINE is the great remedy, as it acts directly upon the cause. Its cleanses and purifies the blood, thereby causing humors of all kinds to disappear.

**"The Canadian Farm Annual for 1880" will not be issued at as early a date as was anticipated, owing to the delay in obtaining some special information. It will probably not be in the hands of subscribers before the end of February.

BIRTHS.

HAGEL—On the 29th inst., at No. 70 Wellesley street, Toronto, the wife of N. F. Hagel, Esq., of a daughter.

CARNEGY—At Barrie, on Monday, 26th inst., the wife of Jas. S. Carnegy, Manager Canadian Bank of Commerce, of a daughter.

JARVIS—At Chatham, Ont., on Tuesday, 27th inst., the wife of Frederick S. Jarvis, Manager Merchants' Bank of Canada, of a daughter.

ROLPH—On the 27th inst., Mrs. Frank Rolph, 324 Adelaide street west, of a son.

HUSTON—At Elkfrid, on the 22nd inst., the wife of Henry Huston, of a son.

WINNETT—At 51 Simcoe street, on the 23rd inst., the wife of Henry Winnett, of a daughter.

ATKINSON—On the 31st January, at Jameson avenue, Parkdale, the wife of William F