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St. John Weekly Freeman.

NEW SERIES, VOL. IV. ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1880. NO. 5.

NEW PRINTS! NEW PRINTS!

PER STEAMER "AUSTRIAN"—TWO BALES
ENGLISH PRINTED COTTONS
At 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 Cents Per Yard.
EXTRA GOOD VALUE.
ENGLISH KNITTING COTTON,
Wolf's Head Brand, Salmon Tie,
Nos. 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16.
M'CAFFERTY & DALY,
Corner King & Germain Streets.

IMMENSE SPRING STOCK OF FURNITURE.
WE HAVE ON HAND FOR SALE
80 PARLOR SUITES, ranging in price from $80 up to $600;
100 BEDROOM SUITES in Walnut, Ash, Oak and Pine, at prices ranging from $26 to $500 ;
Sideboards, Wardrobes, Bookcases, Dining, Centre and Library Tables, Patent Rockers, Easy Chairs, Lounges, Sofas, Dining and Chairs of Every Description ;
DAVENPORT AND OFFICE DESKS,
A Very Large Stock of Commoner Goods. Children's Carriages to Arrive.
A Splendid Lot of ENGLISH PLATE MIRRORS in Ebony and Gold and Gilt Frames, in stock and to arrive per first London Steamer.
A fine stock of Silks, Brocades, Cotelines, Raw Silks Plushes on hand, from which parties may select materials for Curtains to match Suits upholstered by ourselves. Some of the richest Suites in both Drawing and Bedroom Furniture are manufactured on our premises, and are well worthy the inspection we cordially invite.
STEWART & WHITE,
93 to 97 Charlotte Street.

1880. UNION LINE.
International Steam Ship Co.
For Fredericton! Daily Trips!!
FARE ONE DOLLAR.
Summer Arrangement.
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE Steamer "DAVID WESTON" will leave Indiantown for Fredericton and intermediate landings every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY morning, at 9 o'clock. Returning will leave Fredericton and the same days, TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY morning at 8 o'clock, N. B.—Will run on East side of Long Island.
TRI-WEEKLY LINE.
NIGHT BOAT.
Commencing SATURDAY, 5th inst., and until further notice, Steamer "MAY QUEEN," will leave Indiantown for Fredericton and Gibson, calling at intermediate landings, every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY evening, at 5 o'clock. Returning will leave Gibson every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY evening, at 4 o'clock, after arrival of Express Train from Edmundston; Fort Fairfield, Grand Falls, Woodstock, etc.
N. B.—Will leave Fredericton at 4.30 p. m.
The "May Queen" will come through the Falls and will be at the South Bank Wharf on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS and SATURDAYS, at such hours as the tide will permit, to deliver and receive freight, connecting with Trains of the New Brunswick Railway for Woodstock, Grand Falls, Edmunston and all other Stations ; also connecting with steamer "Florenceville," for Eel River, Woodstock, etc.
N. B.—Will run on West side of Long Island.
On and after MONDAY, June 14th, and until October 4th, the Splendid Sea Going Steamers "NEW YORK," E. B. Winchester, master and "CITY OF PORTLAND," S. H. Pike, master, will leave Reed's Point Wharf every
Monday, Wednesday and Friday Morning,
at 8 o'clock, for Eastport, Portland and Boston.
Returning will leave Commercial Wharf, Boston, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, at 8 o'clock, and Portland at 6 p. m., after arrival of noon train from Boston, for Eastport and St. John.
Connecting both ways at Eastport with the Steamer "Charles Houghton" for St. Andrews, St. Stephen and Calais, and at Portland and Boston with Steamers and Rail to all parts of the United States.
Through Tickets and Bills of Lading issued at this office and at H. Chubb & Co.'s to all points of Canada and the United States.
No claims for allowance after goods leave the Warehouse.
Freight received Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday only up to 6 o'clock, p. m.
H. W. CHISHOLM, Agent.
june19
FOR GRAND LAKE.
STEAMER "FAWN" will leave her wharf, Indiantown, for Salmon River, Grand Lake, calling at intermediate points, on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY mornings at 8 o'clock. Returning will leave Salmon River on THURSDAY and MONDAY morning.
Will touch at Gagetown Wharf both ways.
N. B.—Will run on West side of Long Island.
Careful Warehousemen in attendance at Indiantown to receive and deliver freight.
Tickets may be obtained on board Steamers, at H. Chubb & Co.'s Ticket Agency, Prince William street, and of
R. B. HUMPHREY, Agent,
Union Line Office,
41 Dock street.
july24
THREE TRIPS A WEEK!
Saint John to Halifax and Yarmouth via Steamer and Rail.
1880. 1880.
Str. "Empress," for Digby and Annapolis,
P. E. Island Steam Navagation Co.
Connecting at Digby with the Western Counties Railway for and from YARMOUTH, &c., and at Annapolis with the Windsor and Annapolis Railway for and from
Kentville, Windsor, Halifax
and intermediate Stations, also, with Stage for Liverpool.
THE STEAMER "EMPRESS" will leave her wharf, Reed's Point, (until further notice) every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY evening, at 6 o'clock, and return every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY evening.
THE Steamers of this Line will leave SHEDIAC daily (after the arrival of the morning train from St. John) for SUMMERSIDE, connecting with P. E. I. Railway for CHARLOTTETOWN and all parts of the Island. The steamer leaving Shediac on Saturday proceeds through to Charlottown same night.
Returning, leaves SUMMERSIDE daily (after arrival of train from CHARLOTTETOWN) for Shediac connecting with Intercolonial Railway for St. John and all parts of the United States and Canada, by International Steamship Co. and St. John and Maine Railway.
Leaves CHARLOTTETOWN at 7.30 a. m. for PICTOU on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, connecting with Intercolonial Railway for Halifax and all parts of Nova Scotia.
Returning, leaves PICTOU same days after arrival of train from Halifax.
F. W. HALES, Secretary, CHAS. U. HANFORD, Agent, Charlottetown. 79 Prince Wm. Street.
june26
FARE—To Digby $1.50
" Annapolis 2.00
" Halifax 5.00
" Halifax and return, ... 7.50
" Yarmouth, ... 3.50
" Yarmouth and return, ... 6.30
Round trip tickets to Halifax via this route good to return by Intercolonial Railway $9.00.
R. B. HUMPHREY, Agent,
F. PHEASANT, Freight Agent, "Union Line" Office, 41 Dock street.
Empress Warehouse, Reed's Point.
Tickets may also be obtained at H. CHUBB & Co.'s Ticket Agency, Prince Wm. street. june19
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FREEZE'S
Passenger Agency,
CARLETON FERRY BUILDING, Water Street,
AND satisfy yourselves, before purchasing tickets, who can offer the
BEST, CHEAPEST, AND LARGEST NUMBER OF ROUTES,
to the different points in Canada and the United States. feb28 1y
DOODY & TOLE,
Plumbers and Gas Fitters,
THE undersigned hereby give notice that they are now in occupation of the Store NO 31 DOCK STREET, and have in stock a full supply of Chandeliers, Store Pendants, Beer Pumps, Gas and Water Fixtures, &c., of every description.
They hope by paying strict attention to business, and by promptly executing all work entrusted to them, to merit a share of public patronage.
Estimates furnished at short notice and satisfaction guaranteed in all cases.
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FRANCIS COLLINS,
Commission Merchant,
IMPORTER OF
French and English Goods,
—AND—
WHOLESALE LEATHER DEALER,
Cor. Union and Smyth streets,
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M. McDONOUGH,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
2 North Market Street
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ENGLISH STIFF HATS!
WE have just opened our first shipment of
Christy's London Stiff Hats,
IN FINE AND MEDIUM QUALITIES.
BARDSLEY BROS,
38 Commercial Block,
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$72 A WEEK, $12 a day at home easily made Costly outfit free. Address TRUE & Co., Augusta, Maine

IMPORTATION OF.
FALL DRY GOODS
—PER—
"PARTHIA," "NESTORIAN," "TRINACRIA," &c
AUGUST!
1 CASE Black Silk Velvets ;
1 CASE Colored Silk Velvets ;
1 " Bl'k and Col'd French Silks ;
1 " Colored Satins, Lace Mitts and Ribbons ;
1 " Straw Hats ;
1 " Hat and Bonnet Shapes ;
1 " Dress Trimmings & Ornaments ;
2 " Dress and Ulster Buttons ;
2 " Fashionable Dress Materials ;
1 " French Wove Corsets ;
1 " Ladies' Belts ;
1 " Book Muslins ;
1 " I. R. Braces ;
1 " Scotch Tweeds ;
1 " Waterproof Coats ;
2 " Lining Cottons ;
1 " Ginghams and Dark Galatea ;
1 " Oxford Shirtings ;
1 " Table Damasks and Towels ;
1 " Towellings ;
1 " Pillow Cottons, all widths ;
2 " Bleached Sheetings ;
1 " English White Cotton ;
8 " Prints ;
1 " Gentlemen's Scarfs and Ties ;
3 " Knitting Yarns ;
14 " Cotton Swansdown Flannels ;
1 bale fine American unbleached cotton.
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MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON & ALLISON.
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NEW GOODS.
From Great Britain ex Steamships within ten days :
131 Bales and Cases
DRY AND FANCY GOODS!
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A Splendid Assortment
FOR THE
FALL TRADE!
For Sale at Lowest Rates,
Inspection Invited.
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BLARNEY TWEEDS,
In all the New Colourings and Designs.
Scotch Tweeds,
Scotch Cheviots,
Ulster Cloths,
also, a splendid assortment of
OVERCOATINGS
new mixtures, well worthy of inspection.
Gents' Underclothing,
Gent' Half-Hose,
Gents' Silk Scarfs,
Gents' Linen Collars and Cuffs,
Gents' Linen Hd'kfs,
" " hmkd and stitched,
Gents' Muslin Ties and Bows,
Gents' Kid Gloves,
—ALSO,—
Gents' Silk Hankerchiefs,
in new rich colorings and designs,
W. G. LAWTON'S SONS,
50 KING STREET.
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New Goods via Boston.
NOW OPENING :—
NEW POMPADOUR PRINTS ; New Pompadour Trimmings ;
Black and Colored Cashmeres ;
FANCY PRINTS, FANCY PRINTS ;
FANCY DRESS GOODS ;
Tartan Plaids, Wool Plaids.
ALSO,—White Flannels, Fancy Flannels, Colored Flannels, White Blankets, Grey Blankets, Brown Blankets, Rugs, etc., etc.
Wholesale and Retail.
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Superior Batting
Prepared in Large Sheets for QUILTS and COMFORTS.
COUNTERPANES
Full Size, at $1.03 and up.
ALHAMBRA QUILTS
60 Cents and Upwards.
SHEETINGS, PILLOWINGS, TABLINGS, TABLE CLOTHS, NAPKINS,
TOWELS and TOWELLINGS
With a Complete Stock of Household and Family Goods.
W. W. JORDAN,
MARKET SQUARE.
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JUST RECEIVED.
1 CASE Oil Bergamot ;
1 Bale Bac Capsici ;
3 Cases Nixey's Blacklead ;
1 Cask Nixey's Stove Varnish ;
7 Barboys Liquor Ammonia ;
55 Boxes Extract Logwood ;
75 Bbls. Ground Dyewood ;
10 Bbls. Spirits Turpentine ;
1 Case Robinson's Soaps ;
5 Bbls. Methylated Spirits ;
1 Case Insect Powder ;
1 Bbl. Chamomile Flowers ;
2 Bbls. Tinny Senna Leaves.
For Sale low by T. B. BARKER & SONS, sep18 35 and 37 King street.
BAKING POWDER
Of the following brands always in stock :—
WOODRILL'S BAKING POWDER ;
ROYAL " "
HECKER'S " "
COOK'S FRIEND " "
Preston & Merrill's " "
Gantz & Jones' Sea Foam Baking Powder ;
Horsford Preparation of Bread.
For sale by LOGAN, LINDSAY & CO. sep18
DEAN'S SAUSAGES
Fresh Every Morning!
LOGAN, LINDSAY & CO. sep18

SOMETHING NEW.
MOSCOW HOMESPUN!
THIS Material is specially adapted for
AUTUMN WEAR.
a perfectly soft and suitable for Ladies, Children, and Misses,
ONLY 11 1-2 CENTS PER YARD!
Well worth 18 Cents.
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SHOULD CALL AT
JAS. MANSON,
COMMERCIAL PALACE,
12 KING STREET,
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BARGAINS
—AT THE—
Popular Clothing House,
216 Union Street, (opp. Dockrill's Block.)
MEN'S COTTONADE PANTS, $1.00 and $1.20 per pair.
Men's Tweed Pants, assorted patterns, all sizes, $1.60, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50 and 2.75 per pair.
Men's Diagonal Pants, with welt on side, lined and unlined, $2.50, 2.75, and 3.00 per pair, up.
Men's Black Cloth Pants from $2.75 per pair, up.
Fine English and Scotch Tweed Pants, all wool, our price $3.50, 4.75, 4.25 per pair up.
The above are all of our own manufacture.
P. S.—All goods marked in plain figures and one price only.
J. CULLINAN & SON, Popular Clothing House, 216 Union street, opp. Dockrill Block.
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JEWELLERS' HALL,
14 KING STREET.
JUST OPENED :—
A VERY CHOICE ASSORMENT OF
LADIES' GOLD WATCHES,
IN PRICES FROM $25.00 UPWARDS.
These watches are all warranted for two years, and are first rate time-keepers. New Goods in all the Latest Patterns in fine gold and gold-plated Jewellery AT LOW PRICES.
T. L. COUGHLAN
sep18
TOBACCO!
JUST RECEIVED :
125 Pkgs. TOBACCO! Crown, Cameron, Pilot, Napoleon, Brunette.
J. & W. F. HARRISON,
11 and 12 North Wharf.
sep18
Sickle Pears. Bartlett Pears.
By Boat from Boston :—
1 BBL. SICKLE PEARS ;
1 bbl. Bartlett Pears ;
1 bbl. Louis Bonne de Jersey Pears ;
1 " Beurre de Ametist Pears ;
3 crates PEACHES ;
2 bbls. Sweet Potatoes ;
3 " ONIONS ;
Cases Delevare Grapes.
For Sale by PUDDINGTON & MERRITT, sep18 55 Charlotte street.
A. B. C. White Wheat!
A. B. C. Barley Food!
By Schooner from Boston :—
2 CASES WHITE WHEAT ;
2 Cases Barley Food ;
Cases Oatmeal.
For sale by PUDDINGTON & MERRITT, sep18 55 Charlotte street.
Hoegg Lobsters!
Hoegg Tomatoes!
Always at
HARDING & BATHAWAY'S,
sep18 17 and 18 South Wharf.
"CITY A."—Landing.
1 Car SUPERIOR FAMILY FLOUR.
of the above Favorite Brands.
GEO. MORRISON, JR.
sep18
BOLTING CLOTH!
WE CAN SUPPLY
All Numbers, best quality
BOLTING CLOTH,
AT LOW PRICES.
W. H. THORNE & CO.,
Market Square.
sep18
ENGLISH BRAUN
—AND—
LUNCH TONGUES,
In 1 lb. Tins,
Just Received and for Sale by
LOGAN, LINDSAY & CO.
sep4
NEW GOODS!
Ex. S. S. "UTOPIA," via Halifax :
WE ARE NOW SHOWING
NEW SWISS EMBROIDERY and MALTESE LACES ;
HONITON LACES ;
GOLD D'ALENCON LACES ;
LANGUEDOC LACES ;
BLACK SILK HORTENSE NETS ;
CHENILLE SPOT NETS ;
TARLATANS, MECHLINS, etc.
Wholesale and Retail.
H. & H. A. McCULLOUGH, sep11 Prince William street.
FACTORY CHEESE!
IN STORE :—
TWO HUNDRED BOXES Good
GEO. MORRISON, JR.
sep11
$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. Address H. HALLETT & Co., Portland Maine.

The Weekly Freeman.
Saturday, September 25, 1880.

United States Public Schools.

Richard Grant White, a publicist of some note, in a letter published in the New York *Times*, asserts boldly that the Common School system of the United States is a deplorable failure ; that it does not make of those who are dependent on such schools for their education better men or women, or render them more fit to do their share of the real work of life. He says :—

"My recent mention of our public school system was not in terms of respect ; nor could it have been so without wholly falsifying my opinion and my feeling. This may seem strange to some, perhaps to many, who are accustomed to hear our public schools spoken of as if they were at once the corner-stone and the keystone, the foundation and the crown, of our political system. They may possibly think that I would abolish the present system as it at present exists, but the connection of reciprocal cause and effect between the two has never been satisfactorily shown, to my knowledge, and the burden of proof lies with those who hold the affirmative ; but that they exert any wholesome influence upon our society, either morally or intellectually, that they make their pupils better men and women, or better citizens, or that they fit them for the duties and the business of their lives, I do not hesitate to deny. The proof of the pudding is in the eating ; the proof of the value of our public school system is in the quality of the young men and the young women that it produces. What is their actual worth in practical life ? How much better are they morally and intellectually than young men and young women who have never been to public schools ? To this question there will be but one answer from those who are qualified to speak upon it, unless my observation and information are both very erroneous, and the answer will be against the usefulness of our public schools in fitting their pupils for the duties and the business of life. Go into any household, the mistress of which has had twenty years' experience of her position, and ask if in any employment she may have to offer, whether requiring skill and intelligence or mere faithful obedience to orders, she would prefer a public school pupil to one who, although a 'greenhorn,' has been well brought up in a respectable, but humble, family, and you will be astonished, if you have not been so astonished before, at the quickness and the earnestness of the decision against the product of the public school. The young women who, after a few years of education at the public expense, seek situations, are (with very rare and notable exceptions) entirely unfit for their position, and not only so, but incapable of being fitted for them by constant instructions given in the kindest manner. They are ignorant, slovenly, heedless, head-strong, self-conceited, disrespectful, and altogether unamenable to the discipline of a well-ordered household. Their 'education' has simply fitted them to read dime novels and cheap newspapers, to covet dress altogether unsuited to their position, and to go to the theatre or on excursions with a 'young man.' Their view of the requirements of their position is that they are to do just so much work as is absolutely necessary to demand the money that will enable them to compass the aforesaid enjoyments, and that they are to do no more. Of notions of duty, of interest in their work, of a desire to learn it thoroughly, of docility, of that respectful bearing which begets respect, they are as innocent as Hottentots or Yahoos. As to their morals, they are generally in every respect somewhat inferior to young women who have had no public school education, and who can hardly read and cannot write. No housekeeper of experience desires to take a public school pupil into her service in any capacity. Nor are the boys who come from our public schools much more admirable products of the system. A small number of them are of that human order which is born for intellectual labor, and is impelled to it by a resistless inward force ; some, of course many more, of moderate mental ability, of sober, reserved, and almost timid dispositions, and these profit in a certain degree by their education, although it is doubtful whether the benefit resulting to themselves or to society justifies the means and the expenditure by which it is attained. But as to the majority of the boys who come from our public schools, ask those who employ them. Ask the master mechanics whose memory goes back to a time when apprentices came only with the instruction and the training received at home, or in a dame-school. The answer, unless I am much in error, is sure to be that, although the public school boy may be more glib of tongue, and know superficially a little about geography and history, of which his predecessor was ignorant, he is generally inferior in all that makes a good apprentice, a good workman, a thrifty, substantial respectable man. He is less respectful, less docile, less in earnest about his work, and, on the whole, inferior in principle, in faithfulness, and even in manners, to the boy who had been taught merely to read and write, to fear God, and to honor his father and his mother. Nor do the records of crime justify the general assumption that public schools are a conservative moral force in society. And indeed he must be a heedless observer of human life who regards intelligence or any kind or degree of education as a moral safeguard. Intelligence and education may teach caution, but they do not inculcate principle ; and not unfrequently natural gifts of mind and acquired knowledge are made merely the effective engines and promoters of crime. It would be interesting to know what proportion of our native criminals have been pupils of our public schools. I have not accumulated any statistics upon this subject ; but judging by my observation, I venture to say that the proportion is very large, so large that if it were authentically ascertained the publication of it would produce a profound and painful sensation. It is to be remarked before the further examination of our subject that, beyond question, there is a very considerable number of the pupils, in both sexes, of our public schools who do profit by their instruction there, and who do become good citizens, estimable men and women, and efficient workers in various departments of the business of the world. But these, it will be found, are, with comparatively few exceptions, young persons who, if our public school system did not exist, would receive in other ways all the instruction necessary to fit them for their positions in life. But as the public school system exists in its present state, and as the fathers of these young people are taxed to support it—taxed not only directly if they have property of any kind, however little, taxed indirectly, if they have property or not, on every expenditure they make—this being the case, it would be strange indeed, most unwise and most unthrifty, if parents of moderate means did not send their children to take advantage of the elaborate and expensive system of public instruction which year by year they are heavily mulcted to maintain. But these boys and girls cannot be set down either in their adolescence or in their maturity, to the credit of the public school system, and used as the basis of an argument for its maintenance. They are merely public school pupils by accident, and would receive all necessary instruction if our public school system as it now exists had not been developed. For instruction beyond that point who will venture to say that even their own parents should be taxed against their will? Still greater is the reason against taxing the rest of the public for their superfluity. There remains the point that our public school system fits the people for an intelligent discharge of the political functions or duties peculiar to a democracy. Does any man of sense believe this? Could any man who can render a reason believe it in the face of the history of the country during the last half century? If our public school system can do any thing for the benefit of our politics, it must certainly and primarily be in the fitting of its pupils to choose good men for the making and administration of our laws. But the facts of the case are so flagrant, so notoriously, to the contrary that it is needless to set the times of our fathers, or even for the mature man to become, as Horace says, a praiser of the doings of the times when he was a boy. We have, all of us who have reached the fulness of manhood, seen the steady deterioration of the public service—a deterioration equally remarkable in the capabilities, in the morals, and in the manners of those who are called into it either by appointment or by election, but most particularly in the character of the latter, which [illegible] test of the political value of our public school system. We all remember Tweed, and the flock of unclean birds of prey of which he was only the uncleanest and the most ravenous. To say anything of the criminality of these creatures, is now unnecessary ; but they were not only criminal, they were sordid, vile, and vulgar. They were men who, in their tone of mind and in their habits and manners, were loathsome to all decent people. They had the gift of making vice more hideous than it is intrinsically. They were no pretended philanthropists professing universal benevolence, no brilliant demagogues setting themselves up as the high priests of freedom, no successful soldiers dazzling the popular eye with military glory ; they were not even decent, well-mannered, well-educated gentlemen, which some rogues have been. They sought their sordid ends openly (among themselves and their supporters) by the most sordid and vulgar means. And yet we have seen miles of the streets of New York filled with a procession in which was borne at short intervals transparencies with the portrait of this vulgar villain, and the legend, "The man we delight to honor." And yet we narrowly escaped seeing a bronze statue erected to such a man, who was base in all the ways of baseness. Now the worst of Tweedism (which is not confined to the City of New York, but pervades the State, and, indeed, more or less all the States except two or three in New England and at the South), was not Tweed himself, but the condition of society which made Tweed possible, that such people as he and those of whom he was the chief should come to the top in our Municipal politics, and that men whom he and his like could use should make our State laws and administer them, is the greatest reproach that could be brought against the moral and political condition of the country. Worse could never have been said of any country ; anything so bad cannot now be said of any country in civilized Christendom. Now the significant fact in relation to our subject is that this condition of our society, and particularly this condition in respect to politics, has been developed *pari passu* with the development of our public school system and that it still exists. This, indeed, does not prove that the condition in question is the consequences of the public school system ; but it does prove unanswerably that the system is absolutely powerless to prevent or correct such a condition of society. And the truth is that the public school system has (through no peculiar fault of its own, but inevitably) become itself an element and a cause of pestilent corruption. For "there's money in it," and where the carcase is there will the eagles be gathered together."

In the debate on the estimate for the support of the Irish police force, Mr. Bright made a speech in which he acknowledged that the objections to the character of that force are well-founded, but he argued that in the present state of the country such a force is necessary. He hoped that it would soon become unnecessary. He described the many great reforms which have been effected in Ireland through the Imperial Parliament, and strove to persuade the Irish members and the people of Ireland that all further necessary reforms can be effected in the same way. He said :—

An Irish gentleman told him the other day—and he thought it a very fair observation—that in Ireland the only history that the people read and understood was a history of the wrongs of their country. Well, that was a history of a sad and melancholy character, and persons who had preceded them in that House of Parliament in past years—he spoke of the last two centuries—had been responsible for that melancholy history. But still, if they looked back to that history, and especially to the records of the last fifty years, they would find that even as to Ireland, backward as it was, there had been changes so remarkable that he thought an Irishman must be unable to take a fair view of what had been done if he did not come to the conclusion that the case was not absolutely hopeless, and that the Parliaments which had in past times made such great reforms were succeeded by Parliaments more capable and more willing to effect reforms. Therefore it was an injustice to their country and to themselves, and an injustice to the people of England, to suppose that the progress of reform had been permanently arrested and that the great things yet required to be done for Ireland were not attainable by the ordinary modes by which that progress had been hitherto achieved. If they looked back to within the last fifty years, the whole population of Ireland—Catholic and Protestant—had been represented as a very powerful party in that House. Within the memory of all of them—and many of them had taken part in those transactions—perfect religious equality had been established in that country and in a succeeding year an Act was passed which violated almost all the notions of property which were held not only by proprietors in Ireland, but by proprietors in England and Scotland. Every contract between landlord and tenant in Ireland was forcibly broken by the Land Act of 1870, and the conditions on which the tenants as a whole held their farms were changed, greatly to the advantage of the tenants ; and all that was done, he did not say by the unanimous vote, but by a very large majority in that House, and by a sufficient majority in the other House of Parliament. Again, the Irish population had gained greatly in the last few years. During the last Liberal Government, to Ireland was given, as to Great Britain the system of voting by ballot.

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They had now a condition of things which it was impossible to continue without disorder. They had 500,000 or nearly 600,000 tenants of the soil, who were really in the condition of tenants at will, and they had on the other side 10,000 proprietors, one-half of whom were absentees. It was the commonest thing in the world to hear it said that among the advantages enjoyed by the people of England was the presence among them of noblemen and gentlemen who were large proprietors; in fact, it was one of the terrible mischiefs which were to arise if the game were abolished that gentlemen would not live upon their estates, and the civilizing influences always supposed to accompany a sporting life would be withdrawn, and the rural population would sink into a condition of ignorance and degradation such as that which was assumed to prevail in our great towns. In Ireland one-half of the proprietors were absentees. He recollected staying a day or two in one of the central counties with a gentleman who was a magistrate, and he was talking to this gentleman about the magistracy and their duties. This magistrate said, "The great difficulty is that we have nobody to put on the bench. If a man has several thousands a year he lives in London or Paris ; if he has £1,000 a year he lives in Dublin—he does not live here. Looking round the whole of this district in which I act as a magistrate it is a great misfortune to find no gentleman suitable—suitable even in the eyes of the tenant farmers—to be placed on the bench." That was one of the misfortunes of the absenteeism which prevailed. They knew that landed estates managed by agents must be managed in circumstances very unfavorable in many cases to the tenants. The landlord might be not very well off ; he might be more or less impoverished ; he wrote to his agent to send him his rents ; and the agent was considered a good agent in proportion as the rents were high and regularly paid. With regard to the payment of rents, it any one was disposed to find fault with the Irish tenant in this matter, he wished to state that there was no country in the world in which the tenants comprising land had been more scrupulous and regular in the payment of their rents than they had been in Ireland. He had heard that even from Irish landlords. Only very recently he had been speaking to a gentleman with a great many thousands a year income from one of the southern [illegible] who assured him that the slightest at his rent, and [illegible] not the slightest reason to complain of the tenantry holding his land. He was of opinion that in that single fact of half a million of tenants looking in the face 10,000 proprietors was to be found the whole of the evils that afflicted the country, and that in a change of that condition lay the only remedy which Parliament could provide. Almost all people make mistakes about their own interests. If the Irish proprietors knew their own interests he believed they would be clamouring at the door of that house for a change in their condition. One proprietor told him that the condition of landed proprietors in Ireland was now such that they would almost consent to anything that would give them any probable security for their property. He would advise them not to be one of 10,000 resident proprietors in Ireland ; but he would wish to be one in 100,000 proprietors. If there were so many they would find that the proprietary class would be much more powerful, and that great solidity would be given to the political condition of Ireland, and the property of proprietors in Ireland would be just as secure as the property of proprietors in Great Britain. But, unfortunately, the Irish proprietors trusted to the support of the proprietors in Great Britain; they did not consider the condition of their own country and the danger in which they stood—they rested upon the votes of the country gentlemen in that House and those bigger country gentlemen who filled the benches in another House. There was a Government in power containing members who were well known for their sympathy with the Irish population. He need not point to his right hon. friend at the head of the Government. He would be ashamed to argue with hon. members from Ireland as to the disposition of the Prime Minister towards their country. He would be ashamed to ask them to believe—for none of them could doubt—that they ever had a Chief Secretary whose sympathies with the true interests of Ireland were so strong or so pronounced as those of his right hon. friend beside him. He would not draw any contrast between him and the Irish secretaries whom they had seen. He hoped it was unnecessary for him, after the extract read by the hon. member for Galway, to say that his own sympathies with Ireland had always been as strong as if he had been born in their midst, and that there was no sentence he had ever spoken in public in favor of justice to Ireland contrary to which he did now adhere, and which he did not rejoice to have had the sense and the intelligence to utter. The Government had issued a Land Commission also, but the object of that Commission was to deal with the whole of the United Kingdom. The Government, anxious to concentrate its views upon the pressing evils and necessities of Ireland, appointed a new and a smaller Commission, more competent speedily to examine and report upon the question submitted to them. Their inquiry was proceeding, and their report would, he hoped, on some early day be presented to Parliament. He was certain that no equal number of men could have been chosen who would more freely and openly accept the evidence of Irishmen than the members of the Commission which had been appointed. There were one or two things he wished to say to hon. gentlemen opposite, and he was sure he would say nothing which could offend any one of them. They had had for three nights extended debates upon the position of their country. He was not going to find fault with the debates. Some admirable speeches had been delivered, and he hoped they would have their effect both upon the Houses of Parliament and upon the public opinion of this country. But there was an unwisdom sometimes in pursuing even a good cause, and to a considerable extent the cause which hon. gentlemen from Ireland advocated—namely a substantial change in connexion with the tenure of land in that country—was a good cause which it was quite impossible that Parliament could close its eyes and ears to. The said question in Ireland would necessarily be one long come to be discussed upon the floor of that House. Progress was not effected by numerous leaps ; but nevertheless, within the lifetime of members of that House, prodigious changes had taken place in this country—changes which, in most cases, had come to be acknowledged, even by those who opposed him at the time, as just and valuable. Now, there had been a world of difficulty in getting beneficial changes both in England and Ireland; but there was a power in England, and in Ireland, too, which if exerted in an honorable and just cause, no other power in the country could long withstand. He believed those debates—which had an intense interest for himself—would not be without a great result. The Government were as anxious that the condition of Ireland should be changed as any hon. member upon those benches. They had no interest—no man is England had any interest—in maintaining the present condition of Ireland and with the fair co-operation of hon. members from Ireland with the party sitting on the Ministerial benches he could not doubt that before long the condition of affairs in Ireland would be changed and amended. At the present time there were very heavy clouds hanging over Ireland, and the anxiety which was felt by the representatives of that country was also felt in England. They knew, however, that the clouds which obscured the political and social aspect of a country often broke and were chased away. He was afraid with regard to many of these poor families in the West of Ireland, where the land was so bad and the climate so precarious—he was afraid that if many of those poor tenants even had their farms given to them, they would still be unable in some seasons to live without charitable contributions. But with regard to the greater part of Ireland, there could be no doubt that looking at the fertility of the soil, the character of the climate, and the industry of the people, expectations might be entertained that the whole face of Irish society might be changed, and hon. members opposite should not assume that nothing could be done in this Parliament and country. Something could be done and it required only the earnest and serious cooperation of Irish Reformers with the Liberal party of this country, led by a Liberal Government—to make changes which would be of immense and widespread benefit throughout the whole of Ireland, and from which he believed in his conscience the landed proprietors would gain at least as much as any one else.

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Sept. 16th.—An explosion of sulphur occurred at Kohinour colliery this morning, burning six men in a shocking manner. They were engaged in timbering the gangway at No. 3 lift. Early in the morning the mines were clear of the gas, but it accumulated in No. 3 lift afterward, and one of the miners, in putting up a plank, struck his naked lamp among the lagging at the top of the gangway where the sulphur nestled in a large body. The six men were blown in every direction and so severely burned that the recovery of some is doubtful. Their names are: Rich'd Frezier, inside boss; Frank Temple, William Manull, John Hargreves, Denis Coogan and John Coogan.

DALLAS, Texas, Sept. 17th.—Robert Harper