Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

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

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE] GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, OCT. 13, 1864. [VOL. XVII.—NO 37.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., OCT. 7, 1864.

SAUGEEN DIVISION.

THE ELECTION of a member to represent the vast Constituency of Saugeen in the Legislative Council is an event of no ordinary importance. The constituency is composed of the Counties of Bruce, Grey and Simcoe—all comparatively new, and from their geographical position having important, and not infrequently conflicting interests, which a good legislator must seek to advance or reconcile, as the case may be. When the present agitation commenced, we frankly admit that we had not the slightest doubt of the triumphant return of the Hon. John McMurrich, but unfortunately for that gentleman's cause, a *cry* was raised against him which resulted in the withdrawal of the support of many who were his firm supporters at the last election. Now, as human nature is at present constituted, nothing can be easier than to raise an outcry against a man who has been in Parliament for a few sessions, especially if he represents a constituency like the Saugeen Division. No action that he can possibly take will be palatable to all sections, and it is equally fatal to exercise caution and abstain from action, for in that case he alienates the zealous friends who urge upon him a particular line of duty. Hence, when he comes back for re-election, he finds that his sins of omission and commission are set down in various *black-books*, and generally discovers that some particular cry has gone forth against him, to combat which would require ubiquity. The causes of popularity and unpopularity are wrapped up in profound mystery and must ever remain, to a certain extent, incomprehensible. One thing is certain, however, all history, sacred and profane, ancient and modern, teaches us this broad but painful fact: A man may, to-day, be exalted to the loftiest pinnacle of popular favor,—be worshipped almost as a god, and to-morrow he may be stripped of his honors, reviled, hooted and trampled in the mire. Then, a new favorite is selected, and the same process is repeated *ad infinitum*, and so it will be, we presume, until the advent of the Millenium. Mr. McMurrich's career was a short one. Carried in over Patton by an overwhelming majority, he endeavored to serve the Constituency faithfully for two years. True, he assisted in the appointment of a Registrar for Bruce who was distasteful to a great many of the people, and some staunch reformers, but a pause for reflection was necessary before condemning Mr. McMurrich. How was he to know that Mr. M'Lay was so bitterly hated by a certain number of people? Did he not for years hold a position in the County Council?—was he not a delegate from Bruce at the Toronto Convention?—Did he not nominate Mr. McMurrich and take an active part in the canvass which resulted in his return? It was too late for reformers to say that Mr. John M'Lay *thrust* himself upon them, and by sheer force of impudence pushed aside far better men. If they did not wish him to secure the reward of *bona fide* political service, they should have set him aside at once. To discard Mr. McMurrich because he believed he was honoring a gentleman possessing the full confidence of his brother reformers, was, to say the least, an instance of second-hand justice.

But the deed has been done, and, thoroughly disgusted, Mr. McMurrich has left the field to a candidate who has no parliamentary sins to answer for, and who, therefore, hopes to ride into power upon the strength of endless promises as to what he will do for the constituency, and it is confidently asserted, is lavish in the expenditure of his money in securing votes. Although Mr. McPherson is a gentleman of wealth, and all that, his antecedents are decidedly against him. *He is a tory and a Grand Trunk man!* The former might be winked at or nicely glossed over in these Coalition times, (although Conservative constituencies will not do as much by liberal candidates) but there is no earthly reason why the people of Bruce should sell themselves to or put themselves in the way of being sold by a candidate having any connection with the Provincial Monopoly. And again, Mr. McPherson is an absentee. If a sound, reliable local candidate offers, would it not be infinitely better to send him to Parliament than a person who lives at Toronto, has his interests centred there, and can never be intimately acquainted with the wants of his distant constituents. Such a candidate has offered in the person of GEORGE SNIDER, ESQ., of Owen Sound. That gentleman is a staunch liberal, is very popular in his own county, and certainly deserves well of the people whom he has served so faithfully for a long series of years. He was Crown Lands Agent for Grey five years, Sheriff of the county nine years, and has been Mayor of Owen Sound for the past five years. Here we have evidences of ability, and a guarantee that, if elected, the people will be rewarding not only a man who is thoroughly acquainted with their diversified wants, but who has done them good service in the past. *Reformers of Bruce!* Remember that you will be laughed at for your pains if you assist in electing one who can have no reasonable claim upon your suffrages. Will you refuse to vote for Mr. Snider because you thought you had reason for rejecting the Hon. John McMurrich?

Gen. Birney has again pushed his force up to the very outskirts of the city, and has only refrained from entering it and taking possession *because his orders would not permit him to do so.*

What tremendous issues sometimes hang upon a scrape of a pen, or some small accident that at first appears to be of the most insignificant description. History is dotted with instances in point, but one will suffice: Victor Hugo, in his wonderful description of the battle of Waterloo—one of the grandest word-pictures in existence—says that the hero of Wagram, Marengo and Lodi was hurled from Waterloo because of a combination of the simplest accidents: the miscarriage of an order, the shake of a guide's head, a few drops of rain, a hollow road. And now we have another instance to add to the long chapter of accidents. Birney's instructions might have run thus: "You will push up to the outskirts of Richmond, giving any rebels you may meet particular fits, but you need not enter the city."—Now, had the gallant Birney been blind of an eye like Nelson, he might at a hasty glance have read, "*and you are to*" instead of "but you need not." In that event Richmond would have fallen, and in a few hours Jeff. might have been "hanging on a sour apple tree," as the song has it. But Birney had no *carte blanche*, and as a military man, the first rule of whose life is *obedience*, he refrained from taking possession because his orders would not permit him to do so. Excellent Birney! Fortunate Richmond.

DEATH OF SPEKE.—English papers give details of the melancholy death of Captain Speke, the now famous African explorer. He was out gunning in the neighbourhood of London, and while drawing his gun towards him over a stone wall, one of the barrels was discharged, and the man who was as familiar with guns as with his own hat fell back mortally wounded. Upon what an attenuated thread does our mortal existence depend.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—Republished by L. Scott & Co., New York. Sold by T. J. Moorhouse, Goderich.

The September number of old Ebony is a splendid one in every respect. Contents: Chronicles of Carlingford: The Perpetual Curate—conclusion; Cornelius O'Dowd upon Men and Women, and other Things in General—Part VIII.; Rev. Charles Kingsley and Dr. Newman; Tony Butler, part XII.: The Alphabeticals; Letters from the Principalities—No. III.; Prince Couza's Coup d'Etat; The City of Gold.

☞ Prince Humbert, eldest son of the King of Italy, is at present in England. On Wednesday, the 21st ult., he went to Woolwich, and witnessed the manœuvres of a brigade field day.

☞ The London *Star* of Sept 20, says:—His Grace the Duke of Newcastle remain in much the same languid state as when he first arrived at Clumber. His airings are less frequent, and no decided improvement in his health can be reported.

FOUND DEAD.—This morning a man known as Captain Stansfield, was found dead at his own residence, in Petersville, a small village over Blackfriars's bridge. An inquest was held by Dr. Flock, Coroner. Dr. Moore made the postmortem examination. The jury, after deliberation, returned a verdict of "death from suffocation, arising from intemperance." It would appear from the evidence that deceased had lost the key of his door, and was attempting to get into the premises by a narrow cellar window. The aperture being two small, when he got his legs in he could neither get in nor out, and in that way the unfortunate man was suffocated. Deceased was a man of considerable means, and has no friends whatever in this country. He was much addicted to strong drink.—[London Advertiser, 3rd.

BORING FOR OIL IN BARTON.—Probably not many of our readers are aware that "boring for oil" is now going on with considerable vigour at just a little distance from Hamilton. That there existed what are called "indications of oil," is portions of the township of Barton, lying between the Albion Mills and the Limestone hill, on the stone road just south of the city, has for some years been known, and boring is now being proceeded with, under the direction of Mr. Fiskett, of Oil Springs. The spot selected is about two miles south of the city limits, and about one mile east of the macadamized road, on lot No. 11, in the 6th concession of Barton, belonging to Mr. John Finton. The depth already reached is not far from 300 ft., and the indications so far are highly encouraging, in fact, just the same, Mr. Fiskett says, as he has observed in Enniskillen.—[Hamilton Times.

On Wednesday afternoon, two children, one of them seven years of age, the other four—the first a son of T. C. Clarke's, esq., and the second, a son of Mr. R. W. Smart—were spending the day at Mr. Edward Haycock's residence at Kingfisher Point. The children strayed off to the river unobserved, taking with them a favourite Irish "retriever" dog belonging to Mr Haycock. They got out on a raft and fell into the water, where the depth was about twenty feet. The youngest having fallen in, the elder boy fell in his efforts to save him. The cries of the children alarmed workmen some distance off, who hurried to the spot, and took the youngest child from a stick of timber to which he was clinging. They found the dog and the other boy in the water, the dog holding him up, and exhausting all his efforts to drag him to shore. The children have had a most narrow and fortunate escape. The occasion also furnishes another instance of canine sagacity.—*Ottawa Union.*

Interesting Items.

☞ The Prince and Princess of Wales had an enthusiastic reception in Denmark.

☞ The Confederates will endeavor by destroying Sherman's communications to force him from Atlanta.

☞ An accident took place on the Welland Railway on the 2nd, resulting in the serious injury of three men and a woman.

☞ The old man Fleming, whose name was so intimately mixed up with the Sandyford murder case two years ago, died on Tuesday at Dunoon.

☞ A young man named Price was murdered on Saturday, the 3rd, near Staffordville, Co. Elgin, by a married man whose wife deceased had seduced.

☞ One Mr. Whalley, a British member of Parliament, has invited "all his constituents to pay him a visit." This is as much as if a Congressman in the United States should invite all persons who voted for him to dine with him at their convenience.

☞ Dr. Allen, Mayor of Cornwall, against whom heavy judgments were lately given in court, has absconded to the Pacific coast.—He leaves some enormous debts upon his endorsers. He has not resigned the Mayoralty; but his insolvency will render the office vacant.

☞ The Presidential election is fixed to take place on Tuesday following the first Monday in November, and not the first Tuesday as many suppose. This year, the Monday not coming till the 7th, the election takes place on the second Tuesday, which is the 8th.

☞ The Montreal *Witness* learns from a private source that several failures among the Banks have taken place in Milwaukee, on account of the great fall in wheat. In Chicago there is also said to be a perfect panic, in which several produce houses and one or two bankers have failed for the same reason. The failure of banks in Chicago has created a fear that some Western roads may suffer from having their funds deposited in these institutions, and Western shares are weak in consequence.

☞ The Havanna's dates of the 24th give Canary Island news to the 31st of August.—The papers state that a fearful famine at the Cape of Derideno is still prevailing. In the Island of Santiago, which a year ago contained 55,000 inhabitants, 7,000 died of starvation from January to May. The Portuguese Government have given $75,000 to aid the sufferers.

☞ The Kingston libel suit has resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for $81,50. It is difficult to ascertain how the jury computed so nicely as to find even the odd cents worth of damage that Mr Carman has inflicted on Mr. Fergusson's character. The ground of the verdict in the plaintiff's favor was that the evidence entirely exculpated Mr. Fergusson from the act imputed to him in the libel, and fixed it on a Mr. Miller.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

PARTICULARS OF THE LATE FIGHT

FEDERALS BADLY HANDLED.

2000 Prisoners taken by the Confeds.

NEWS FROM MEXICO !!

NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—The following by the *Times* special correspondent is a detailed account of Gen Meade's operations south west of Petersburg, of which we had mere announcements:—

Headquarters 5th Corps, Oct 3.—On Friday morning about 8 o'clock, the first and second divisions of the 5th corps with Col. Huffman's brigade of the third division moved out on the road leading toward Poplar Tree Church, with the intention of striking the South Side railroad. Gen Crawford with the remainder of his division and some new regiments was ordered to hold the left flank and old line of the 5th corps having Gen Ferrero's division of colored troops from the 9th corps detailed to his command temporarily; the reserve batteries were kept in position. When Gen Warren reached the church and was establishing his line, Gen Parker, of the 9th corps, came up with the two remaining divisions of his corps, and forming on Warren's left, struck the Squirrel Level road, near Peeble's farm, finding an entrenched line of the enemy and a small unfinished work carrying six guns, but from some unaccountable reason failed to draw any fire from them.—Everything being now ready the lines were ordered to advance, and after a brief defence on the part of the enemy, the works were carried by two brigades of Gen. Griffin's division, capturing one gun and a few prisoners, consisting of dismounted cavalry and some infantry from Gen Health's division. This being accomplished, the line was then thrown forward. Gen Parker, on the left, with Wilcox's division joining the 5th corps, and Potter's division the extreme left. This line, captured by these manœuvres, was very feebly defended and incomplete. Our loss was trifling. Lt. Col. Otis, 14th New York, commanding the 3rd brigade, 2nd division, was wounded. Matters thus remained until near dark, when the enemy made a flank movement and succeeded in uncovering our left, and doubling it up, and capturing a few hundred prisioners. At this critical juncture some troops from the 5th corps were ordered up, and checked the further advance of the enemy. These two brigades were sent round by Gen Warren in the very nick of time.—The Confederates, failing to make any very serious impression upon our left, sullenly retreated. Our troops busied themselves all night in throwing up entrenchments. Thus closed the first day's operations. At daylight on Saturday morning, the enemy again assumed the offensive and made an assault, having, however, a very small force. No doubt seems to exist that the enemy's left had been heavily reinforced to meet Gen Butler's determined attack upon and successful operation against the forts below Richmond. The rain then commenced to fall on Saturday forenoon and soon made it impossible for either party to make any decisive movement, but at a little after 8 a.m., the enemy made another light attack on Gen Ayre's line in front, but finding our troops strongly entrenched fell back.—During all of Saturday but little artillery firing occurred. Toward noon the enemy seemingly determined to pierce our line somewhere suddenly struck out to the left of the Weldon road fell foul of Gen Crawford's front when considerable picket firing ensued and the Confederates ultimately contented themselves with quietly re-establishing their old line. In fact it appeared that but very few troops were on this side of the Appomatox, and our prisoners confirm that view. The whole of the Confederate army that could be spared had been sent to Richmond. The weather was the only thing that prevented our army being entirely successful. But few casualties occurred during Saturday. As our line now stands we have extended our left toward the south road although that road was not reached.

The City Point correspondent of the New York *Herald* says:—

"In the fight for the South Side railroad about 2,000 prisoners fell into the hands of the Confederates, belonging principally to the 51st New York, 21st Massachuseits, 45th Pennsylvania, and 7th Rhode Island regiments; but both the *Times'* and *World's* special from the same place put the number at only a few hundreds."

NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—The steamer McClellan, from New Orleans on the 28th ult., has arrived. She passed on the 29th the steamer Constitution from New Orleans, for New York, with prisoners.

Advices from Brazos state that the French who advanced from Bagdad were badly whipped by Cortinas. The rebels appeared on the Texas side of the river and covered the retreat of the French.

One of Juarez's special agents brings word to the Union commander at Brazos, that during the absence of Maximilian, Miramon, backed by the Archbishop, is confident of holding out against all opposition.

The French have a frigate and 2 corvettes off Rio Grande. Admiral Bosse refuses to allow a messenger to pass his lines to our consul at Matamoras. His orders are to shoot everybody who approaches his lines after dark.

Abou 60 Mexicans are at Brazos released from French prisons. They refuse to take the oath to support the empire and can enter Mexico on no other terms.

The English frigate Liverpool, corvette Buzzard, and the U. S. gunboat Penobscot, are off the mouth of the Rio Grande.

After several skirmishes the rebels were driven from the Atchafalaya of Mexico and the clergy issued a pronunciamento declaring against Maximilian.

Halt of the city of Mexico has been taken by Miramon. An appeal to the people to sustain him and drive out the invaders has been issued.

The French left Monterey to co-operate with the forces from Bagdad, leaving only a small garrison. The Liberal General Quiroga issued a pronunciamento and took the garrison prisoners and began fortifying.

The French at Bagdad are fortifying within range of their ships.

Nashville, Oct. 4—On Saturday, General Buford, with a part of Forrest's command, including all his artillery, attacked Athens, also shelling the place for two hours, and demanding its surrender from the commandant, Col Wade of the 73rd Indiana, who refused. Buford soon after retired. The fears of an attack on Columbia were unfounded, Forrest having gone in the direction of Florence.

A party just from Chattanooga reports that a demand for the surrender of Dalton, Ga., was made yesterday by a body of Confederates, claiming to be Forrest's force. No further particulars have been received.

The telegraph is working to Chattanooga and Columbia.

Major-General Thomas and Brigadier-Gen. T. E. Meagher arrived here last night.

NEW YORK, October 2.—The *Herald's* 10th army corps correspondent says of the operations, that the corps in advance on Richmond broke camp at 3 p. m. on the 28th and by a rapid march reached and crossed the James river at daylight on the 29th. At Deep Bottom, immediately on advancing they met the enemy, who had furnished up roads and across fields till near New Market road. This road was occupied by the enemy, strongly entrenched on the heights. The advance obstinately contested the position, which in addition to its naturally strong character was rendered doubly formidable by almost every impenetrable slashing that covered the slopes. The colored troops, under General Pain, were ordered to carry the position. Their charge was one of the grand features of the operations of the day. They never halted or faltered, though their ranks were sadly thinned, as they advanced. The successful accomplishment of their task put the enemy in confusion and sent them rapidly up the road towards Richmond.

Gens. Grant and Butler came on the field during the struggle, and were enthusiastically received by the troops. When the former rode along the lines the shouts and cheers of the men were beyond example. Three miles above Newmarket the enemy have a very strong work, but Birney pressed his advantage and pursued the retreating Confederates so closely that they could not stop to re-form. Two miles further on the Confederates have a strong line of redoubts perfect in their character, carrying heavy artillery, and located at such brief intervals that it is impossible to force a column of troops through them. Their works cross the Newmarket road, just beyond the Laurel Hill Church, and their guns sweep the road in all directions. Gen. Berney at once determined to carry such of those works as lay in his front by general assault, reconnoitering the ground himself amid a storm of shells I have never seen surpassed. The assault was made at two o'clock, p. m., the men cheering and starting on a run. They were met with a murderous fire of grape and cannister and increasing volleys of musketry that worked terrible havoc in their ranks still unflinching they held their way. In crossing an intervening crest of open land they were exposed to a frightful enfilading fire of artillery, and the casualities were terrible. Still the line pressed forward. On approaching the redoubts they were found even more formidable than was at first supposed. A perfect abbatis held them at bay while the Confederate infantry literally mowed them down. These forts were surrounded by a broad ditch eight feet deep, into which some of the colored troops leaped only to find themselves penned in with no door of retreat. These works had no sally ports and were accessible only by drawbridges over the ditches. These, of course, were drawn up. The line was withdrawn to the farthest side of the crest, which position was held till night, when a demonstration was made against the works in the ditch of which our men were cooped up. Thus giving them an opportunity to escape through an advance up the road. The gain of one-half to three quarters of a mile was accomplished, but it cost dearly. The corps lost over 500 men killed and wounded. At the same time that this was going on Kentz's cavalry dashed wildly up to the very gates of Richmond, which fact he reported to Butler, who at once despatched a division of infantry to his support. This division marched unresisted to within musket range of the city, and probably might have marched into the Confederate capital, though it is clear they could not have held it. On arriving in the suburbs of the city, they found Kantz had withdrawn for a wise purpose. The division was then ordered to return, although our advance was checked at Laurel Hill. Our expedition is by no means terminated.

THE ADMINISTRATION BRAND.—The Abolition newspapers having pronounced it a falsehood—that accepted recruits are to be marked with the letter "I" at Springfield. We republish the order, which is all the reply necessary to its denial:—

"PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE
"WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 19, 1864.

"Dr. Z. H. Whitmore, Surgeon Board of Enrollment, Springfield, Illinois.

"DOCTOR—In addition to my suggestion to mark all rejected recruits and substitutes, I would suggest that all accepted recruits and substitutes be marked thus: 'I' in small of back.

"Your friend. J. H. BAXTER, Surg. U. S. Vols. Chief Med. Off. Prov. Mar. Gen'l's. Bureau."

It will take something besides the denial of an abolition newspaper to make the public believe that the above is a "copperhead" calumny.

OUR SOLDIERS USED LIKE CATTLE.—The two-penny tyrants at Washington have been guilty of a new infamy. Some time ago they commenced the system of branding rejected recruits, and now they have actually extended that degrading practice to soldiers who are accepted. Here is the official document:—

PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., Aug 19.

Dr. Z. H. Whitmore, Surgeon Board of Enrollment, Springfield, Illinois.

DOCTOR—In addition to my suggestion, to mark all rejected recruits and substitutes, I would suggest that all the accepted recruits and substitutes be marked thus "I," in small of back.

This will, I think, prevent to a great extent the practice of bounty-jumping.

Your friend. J. H. BAXTER, Surg. U.S Vols. Chief Med. Off. Prov. Mar. Gen'l's Bureau.

Is not this enough to stir a fever in the blood of age? To prevent bounty-jumping, the brave men who are to fight our battles and save our country, are to be marked with a brand, which they will carry to their graves. —*N. Y. World.*

Federation—an American Opinion.

Referring to the efforts now being made to promote a Confederation of the British North American Colonies, the New York *Times* remarks:

The important announcement has been made by Sir Richard Grave Macdonnell, the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, that he has instructions from the Imperial authorities to give all the official aid and encouragement is his power to the proposed scheme of Federation. And we find that at the Halifax banquet Admiral Sir James Hope, speaking, as he said, from an intimate knowledge of the state of public feeling in England is thus reported, on the question of ultimate independence for the confederated Colonies:—"Rest well assured that your aspirations for nationality will find nothing else than a cordial response among us."

It is not a matter of minor interest to call to mind what this great section of British America is to-day in its industrial aspect. It holds a community of 3,800,000 souls, of whom 700,000 are males between the ages of 20 and 60—more than half a million being of the ordinary military age. At its present rate of improvement, in five years it will outnumber in population Belgium and Bavaria; and in ten years, Sweden and Norway. Of its lands, over forty-five million acres are in private hands, and over thirteen million acres are cultivated. Four years ago, the annual products of its fields and gardens were valued at $150,000,000, and the assessed value of its farms was $550,000,000.

Eastern British America, as a maritime State, already holds high rank. Its sailors and fishermen number to-day over 70,000. In 1863 it built 628 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 230,312 tons. It exported $15,000,000 worth of timber and $13,000,000 worth of fish, and its total exports are over $65,000,000 annually.

Such is the community to which, in its political organizations, it is proposed to apply the Federal system of government under new conditions. The experiment must be watched with interest. That its logical result ultimately is separation from the parent State, every one must see. And yet, nine-tenths of those whose votes will finally settle the question, cherish an indistinct notion that a Confederation on the plan proposed is not incompatible with the colonial relationship. The delusion is one which a few years practical experience will effectually uproot. English statesmen see the matter in a more common-sense light. And hence, Sir James Hope is frank enough to tell the assembled delegates that their aspirations for a nationality will not be blighted by an opposition from Imperial quarters. In short, they are civilly assured that they may go—as soon as they have summoned sufficient courage.

And it is this question of ultimately cutting loose from the monarchial system that will be found to be the great source of sectional division and strife. The purest monarchists in this hemisphere to-day are the descendants of the French noblesse of Lower Canada.—All their traditions go back beyond the imperial and revolutionary era. The edicts of the Kings of France are their law; the customs of the monarchial era are still their rule. And from these it will be an almost hopeless task to undertake to wean them by any specious promise of independence.

The Briggs Murder.

From the London Star, Sept. 21.

At the close of the magisterial examination of Muller at Bow street on Monday, and after his removal to the station-house on the opposite side of the way, the prisoner spoke very bitterly of the evidence given by the cabman Matthews. Muller, in speaking to Rhymer, one of the A division, a very clever officer and accomplished modern linguist, who had been in attendance at the police court to interpret any evidence that might be necessary, said that Matthews had given his evidence about the hat falsely, that there was not one word of truth in it, that Matthews knew the hat he (Matthews) had bought for him at Walker's long ago, and that the rim on one side was broken. Muller further said that Matthews gave his evidence out of spite because he (Muller) had threatened to give Matthews brother-in-law into custody some time since. Upon the subject of the identification of the hat some very important information has been obtained by Inspector Tanner, Chief of the Metropolitan Detective Force, assisted by Inspector Williamson, which will, it is believed, supply the only required link in the chain of evidence upon which a committal for trial will be asked for by the prosecution. One of the shopmen formerly in the service of Messrs. Digance & Co., the hatters, is stated to have been found, who distinctly remembers selling the hat found in Muller's box to the late Mr. Briggs, and further identified it by a peculiar alteration made in the lining as it did not fit the unfortunate gentleman at the time he tried it on and purchased it. It is also stated to have been a practice with Messrs. Digance to mark the inside lining of the hats sold by the firm the date on which the sale takes place, and, should that be so, and the date be found, it will materially affect the issue.

☞ The city editor of the London *Times* says:—All the statements thus far of the trade of 1864 show that it has been the most prosperous on record. Not only has the aggregate value of our exports exhibited an unprecedented increase, but this increase has been diffused almost with uniformity over our dealings with each individual country, so that our commerce has not been swollen exceptionally by an augmented traffic in one or two directions, but by the general activity of our relations with nearly every part of the globe.

THE WAY LINCOLN MAKES MONEY.—It has been stated repeatedly during the past year and never contradicted, that Mr. Lincoln, by an arrangement with the Treasury Department, has been in the habit of drawing his constitutional salary of $25,000 a year in gold certificates of the treasury, worth, actually, from $45,000 to $70,000—thus "whipping the devil round a stump," and complying with the letter of the Constitution while grossly violating its spirit.

Miscellaneous Paragraphs.

A man named Richard Hale has been committed for trial at Cosley, in Staffordshire, for the murder of his child, a girl about 8 or 9 years old.

A young man formerly of humble circumstances has an income of $7,000 per day paid him as his share of certain oil lands in Pennsylvania. This amounts to $2,548,090 per annum. He may be able to live on it.

The United States sloop of war 'Brooklyn,' which arrived at Charlestown last week, from Mobile, has 59 shots in her sides, 73 in other parts, and 1,200 pounds of iron shot and shell buried in her decks.

There is a paragraph in the London *Times* of Sept. 14, announcing that a screw has been invented which will propel vessels at the rate of forty miles an hour, and that the Government are taking up the invention.

A man was found drunk in a street in Boston, on Thursday morning, about 3 o'clock, with $2,440 in his pockets. That he did not find his pockets empty when he got sober may be set down to his extraordinary good luck.

Thirteen hundred dollars was the sum charged for the dinners of eight men who were employed in counting the votes at the last charter election in New York. They met for ten days, and each man was charged $16.21 for each single dinner. The champagne and cigars were probably included.

Woodruff & Beach, of Hartford, "run" the heaviest casting ever made in Connecticut, at their foundry, on Wednesday. It was a channel plate for one of the large frigate engines now building for the Government—took 26 tons of melted iron, 14 workmen 5 days to prepare the mould, and will require 10 days or two weeks to cool off.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT AT OLDHAM.—Last night James Heaton, landlord of the Coach and Horses Inn, Church Lane, Oldham, died from the effects of scalding. He rose at an early hour in the morning to brew, and whilst emptying a quantity of malt into the mash tub he fell in, the liquid being then almost at the boiling point. The poor man succeeded in getting out of the vessel, and managed to crawl into the lobby of the house, where his groans aroused the inmates. He was found to be dreadfully barned, the skin peeling off his back when the removal of his clothes was attempted. Every assistance was rendered, but he died after lingering about 16 hours in great agony.

A frightful accident took place a few days ago, at Stockholm. An engineer, named Nobel, the inventor of submarine mines, had established in one of the suburbs of that city a manufactory of nitroglycerine, having discovered a process by which that fulminating composition could be used with great effect in mining operations. From some unexplained cause, an explosion took place in the manufactory, and the building, with some of the adjoining houses, were completely destroyed. Several persons were killed and others dreadfully wounded. One of the sons of M. Nobel, is among the former, his body having been found at a considerable distance, horribly mutilated.

GENIUS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.—Themistocles, when asked to play upon a lute, said, "I cannot fiddle, but I can make a village and a great city." Cornwlie did not speak correctly the language of which he was such a master. Addison was unable to converse in company. La Fontaine was coarse and stupid when surrounded by men. The Countess of Pembroke said of Chaucer, that his silence was more agreeable to her than his conversation. Dryden said he was unfit for company. Hence it has been remarked, "Mediocrity can talk; it is for genius to observe!"

☞ During a thunderstorm which passed over Worcestershire a few days ago, a fine oak tree, standing in the middle of a pasture field at Hanley Castle, near Malvern, was struck by lightning, and the effects produced by the shock were extraordinary. The tree appears to have been struck at a height of about twelve feet from the ground, from which point a portion of the trunk, increasing in thickness down to the root of the tree, was split off, and hundreds of splinters, some being little thicker than paper, were shivered off the trunk and scattered in one direction over the grass for a distance of 20 yards. At the root the electric current seems to have entered the ground and thrown up the soil. None of the branches of the tree were touched.

MULLER THE ALLEGED MURDERER.—The alleged murderer Muller, arrived in London from Liverpool on the 17th ult. He was in charge of Inspector Tanner, who brought him through from New York. There were immense crowds collected at the railway stations in London, where Muller was expected to arrive, and excited crowds followed the prison van which carried him from Euston Square station to Bow street. Muller did not seem in the least disconcerted by the hooting with which he was assailed by the mob, and to them his appearance was evidently disappointing. Slim, pale, short, with light sandy hair, and anything but attractive features, dressed in thin, shabby clothes, and wearing a battered white straw hat, he had a very ordinary appearance. This opinion was freely expressed among the crowd, and a stalwart costermonger declared, with unpleasant vehemence, that 'he could fight six 'on 'em at once.'—Others declared their belief that he could not have done the deed without assistance.

THE INDIANS OF MANITOULIN.—An appeal on behalf of these Indians appears in the Toronto papers, signed by the Rev. Messrs. Givins and O'Meara. The red men appear to have suffered so alarmingly from the fires in the woods during the past season that the affording of them immediate relief is a matter of absolute necessity. The small tracts of cultivated land on which were growing the corn and potatoes for their winter's support, have been swept over by the devouring element, their scanty crops in a great measure destroyed; and in many cases even the vegetable soil burnt to a considerable depth, or to the underlying strata of clay or rock. The very game which furnished a portion of their food has perished or disappeared before the fires which have left a great extent of the forest a charred and blackened wilderness.—All have suffered alike, and as at the best all are poor, none having any resources to fall back upon, and none are able to help the others, starvation stares them in the face, unless the means of maintaining life during the approaching winter and into the following summer can be obtained for them. These are very distressing circumstances, which cannot fail to open the hearts and the hands of the charitable and humane.

Probable Revolution in Steam—Extraordinary Discovery.

Mr. W. H. James, C. E., who is already favorably known in connection with the originating of our railway system, has, after devoting a whole life to scientific improvements, at length succeeded in producing a steam generator and engine of such extraordinary power, in proportion to its weight, the space it occupies, the fuel consumed, and the cost at which it can be manufactured, that not the slightest doubt is entertained by those who have seen the invention in operation, and in whose opinions and judgement confidence can be placed, that when properly and fully understood, appreciated, and brought into use, it will, by degrees, effect a complete revolution in all kinds of steam machinery, and become applicable to numerous purposes for which the powers of other steam engines are totally inadequate. It may be remembered that it was Mr. W. H. James who first suggested to the late George Stephenson the advisability of his introducing tubes into his locomotive boilers, with a view of making them suitable for the propulsion of carriages, (for which, at that period, they were totally inadequate,) for the conveyance of passengers or railways, as shown by an agreement between the parties in the year 1821, ten years before the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester railway, the principle of which improvement has never been surpassed. It will be curious, indeed, if it should fall to the lot of the same individual, after an interval of forty-three years, to be again in the field, and the originator of the second great revolution in steam locomotion, which very likely will be the case if he is properly supported with capital to carry out his present invention. We hope shortly to be enabled to give the details of the invention.—*Mining Journal.*

British American Confederation.

The New York *Herald* concludes an article, on this subject, thus:—

"While here we have parties favoring a disunion of our own territories, the Canadian statesmen are endeavoring to unite and consolidate their own. The success of the scheme is as yet by no means certain, and for the following causes: There is no reason whatever why the lower provinces should adopt it. The commercial relations between Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and the Canadas are very slight. They are more intimate with the United States than with the upper provinces. Why they should give up their present institutions, policy and maritime connections to inland majorities, with entirely different interests, they will not be very easily made to comprehend. New Brunswick, if it has any speciality of interests to protect, would more naturally look to the United States than the Canadas.

"In the next place, some of the wisest men in the upper provinces ask this question: of what use will this confederacy be unless it possesses national powers, the object of all union among weak States unable to exercise them by themselves? What will be the advantage of such a government if it is not perfectly independent? It cannot make treaties, or maintain armies or navies, either for its own defence or to secure the respect of foreign Powers. Canada has had a long succession of Governors, few of them being men of ability, or being anything more than favorites sent from the mother country by their relatives and friends, when in power, to recruit their broken fortunes, and utterly unable to be of any real advantage to the province, where they are continually met by factions and oppositions with local politics. The new confederacy, even if it might elect better men to govern it than are now sent to Canada, would not gain a single political or commercial advantage by the change. Nothing short of a total and complete separation from the mother country and the assumption of independence in all respects would be any remuneration for the expense and trouble of creating the proposed change. If the British Americans are prepared to adopt this view, then the new project will have a purpose and be worth the trial. If not, it is a mere sham, and will not pay.

"These are the views which are entertained by a numerous class in the provinces at this moment, and these very men, some of whom we know, propose as a cure for the troubles of Canada a very different plan—namely, that of making Montreal a free port, by which measure they feel confident they could take away the trade of New York, control the commerce of our Western States and establish the Canadas on a footing which would make them forget all the petty troubles over which they are now contending. The effect upon New York of such a policy as this we may consider at a more convenient moment."

An Elopement.

The large number of persons who congregated at the post office about 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon, were somewhat surprised to see Detectives Webb, and Kenny, who had been so quietly walking about the premises, suddenly approach a well dressed young man and take him into custody. The stranger made a short and desperate struggle to regain his liberty, but finding that this was in vain soon succumbed. The prisoner was conveyed to the central police station, and it was then ascertained that he was charged with having stolen a horse and buggy, together with another man's wife. The young man who gave his name as John C. Dickey, has been living at Wellandport, C. W., for the past five years. Within the past few months he has been paying continued attentions to a young and blooming woman, Mrs. Edward Durham, the wife of the principal hotel keeper of that place. There seems to have passed between the parties a great many letters of the usual amatory kind, all written in pencil.

The young and ardent individual foolishly tells his dear Jane that "those little bits of kisses that he makes so bold to steal sometimes, go through him like electric fire, and only make him the more anxious to press her to his heart and kiss her without fear of interruption." He urges upon her, in conclusion, to be more careful of her health, as she appears to fail every day, and finished by asking her to believe that the note is "from one that loves her more than life." The married lady is equally ardent in her expressions, and she tells her dear John that "he is always in her mind, and even in her midnight slumbers." She declares "he is all the world to her, and although she lives in hope, she may yet die in despair." Such is the general tenor of the tender epistles which eventually led to an elopement. Before leaving, Dickey hired a horse and buggy, which it is said he sold at Niagara Falls. The guilty pair arrived in this city about two weeks ago, and took up their quarters in a boarding house on State street, where they lived as man and wife. The women was taken into custody yesterday afternoon at the house in question, but was released in the evening. Her husband and brother have arrived in the city, and the matter is likely to come up for investigation before the Police Court to-day.—*Chicago Times.*

The authorities have at last taken steps to put a stop to the infamous practice of kidnapping men for the American army. A posse of Water Police, under Coxswain Fanning, were dispatched yesterday to Richmond with full authority to act in concert with the magistrates there, and to search the cars on their upward trips. A strict surveillance will be kept on the action of those most noted in the crimping business. Two of them have got into trouble at Sherbrooke, and are in jail, where they are likely to remain for some time, bail having been refused. The practice will be put an end to if an example is made of a few of the most noted characters.—*Quebec News.*

WORRY.

Don't you know that multitudes of human being turn away from the many blessings of their lot and dwell and brood upon its worries? Don't you know that multitudes persistently turn away from the numerous pleasant things they might contemplate, and look fixedly, and almost constantly, at painful and disagreeable things? You sit down, my friend, beside the evening fire. The blast without is hardly heard through the drawn curtains. Your wife is there, and your two grown up daughters. You feel thankful that, after the bustle of the day, you have this quiet retreat where you may rest and refit yourself for another day, with its bustles. But the conversation goes on. Nothing is talked of but the failings and idleness and the impudence of your boys. Every petty disagreeable in your lot, in short, is brought out, turned ingeniously in every possible light, and aggravated and exaggerated in the highest degree. The natural and necessary result follows. An hour, or less, of this discipline, brings all persons to a sulky and snappish frame of mind. And instead of the cheerful and thankful mood in which you were disposed to be when you sat down, you find that your whole moral nature is jarred and out of gear. And your wife, your daughters, and yourself, pass into moody, sullen silence.

Now, I put it to every sensible reader, whether there is not a great deal too much of this kind of thing. Are not families that never spend a quiet evening together, without embittering it by raking up every unpleasant subject in their lot and history? There are folks who, both in their own case and that of others, seemed to find a strange satisfaction in sticking the thorn in the hand further in; even in twisting the dagger in the heart.—Their lot has its innumerable blessings, but they will not look at these. Let the view around in a hundred directions be ever so charming, they cannot be got to turn their mental view to one of these. They persist in keeping nose and eyes at the moral pigsty.

ARMSTRONG AND WHITWORTH.—The competition between the Armstrong and Whitworth 70-pounder and 12 pounder field guns is still going on at Shoeburyness; but another phase will be shown by the competition between similar