

UNIVERSITY REFORM.

LETTER EIGHTH.

To the Editor of the C. P. Herald.

Dear Sir:—After I have perused your issue of the 22nd inst. I am glad to find that you have done all this, and that a fund consecrated by the will of royalty, and by successive acts of Parliament, and the press in Toronto, (the Canadian excepted) has been silent on the matter. If this waste of public money was carried on in any of our other cities, we would perhaps hear more from those public journals.

Another striking evidence of recklessness and injustice may be seen in the fact that, of the valuable collection of lands in the heart of the city of Toronto, fifty acres were late transferred to the city authorities, a donation which, while it conferred a boon of immense value on the city, was robbery to the whole country. Those 50 acres have been variously estimated at from \$8000 to \$10,000 an acre. If that land had been sold, and the proceeds invested in the city, it would have yielded sufficient income to endow any one of our colleges. It is said, Exodus, 23, 8, "For the blind the blind, and the lame the lame, and the words of the righteous." How far this donation to the city has influenced the press, I am not sure, but I would say that every true Canadian should wake up to the suppression of such flagrant injustice to the youth of the city. In all this the government is no doubt to blame; but the Senate of Toronto University is the chief promoter of the wrong. I close this letter by an extract from a work entitled, "Principles of Political Economy," by John Stewart Hill. It is a text book in the college, and must, therefore, be admitted to be orthodox, at least by all the advocates of Toronto college. He says:—"One thing must be strenuously insisted on, that the government should claim and actually pay for its education, either in the lower or in the higher branches, must exert neither authority nor influence to induce the people to resort to its teachers in preference to others, and must confer no peculiar advantage on those who have been instructed by it. Though the government teachers may probably be superior to the average of private instructors, they will not embody all the knowledge and sagacity to be found in all instructors taken together, and it is desirable to leave open as many roads as possible to the desired end. Nor is it to be forgotten, that a government should either enforce or defacto, have a complete control over the education of the people. To possess such control and actually to exert it is to be despotic. A government which would limit the opinions and sentiments of the people in their youth upwards can do with them whatever it pleases. The state government, therefore, may, and in many cases ought to, establish schools and colleges; it must neither compel nor bribe any person to come to them, nor ought the power of individuals to set up rival establishments to depend in any degree upon its authorization. It would be justified in requiring from all the people that they shall possess instructions in certain things, but not in prescribing to them, how or from whom they shall obtain it."

Yours &c.,
Jan. 8th 1862. W.

Further by the Bohemian.

The City of Baltimore, from New York, arrived at Liverpool on the 25th ult. The steamship North American, from Portland, arrived at Liverpool on the 25th ult. The steamship City of Manchester, from New York, arrived at Liverpool on the 25th ult. The ship, Dec. 26th, "Great excitement" existing here in regard to the death of the late King. His body is to be disinterred and analyzed. The public are greatly stirred up in regard to the matter, and troops are patrolling the streets.

LOSREX, Dec. 27th.—Advices from America are unfavorably construed in London, and funds are dropping in consequence. In Liverpool peaceful hopes are preponderant, and cotton is rising.

A number of gunboats had been ordered to the Straits of Gibraltar, to prevent the passage of privateers.

The frigate Algiers, from Liverpool, arrived at the Straits of Gibraltar, to prevent the passage of privateers.

The frigates Lily and Melopomene were ordered to leave Gibraltar on the 21st inst. for America.

It is reported in Paris that the Orleans Princes are to return to Europe forthwith. The English papers are still discussing the Trent affair in a hopeful view that the rebel commissioners will be given up by the Cabinet at Washington, and a war be thus avoided. The Paris Press says that now Southern Commissioners have arrived at the German port, and are now on route to Paris and London.

France is about to send reinforcements to the squadron off Mexico, and also to the squadron off the North Western coast of America. It is also rumored in Paris that a squadron of observation is to be sent to the eastern coast of America, under Admiral Renaud.

The Madrid correspondent says that Spain is to send from six to seven thousand men to Mexico, and that the Spanish squadron will sail in three divisions.

The Liverpool Breadstuffs market generally quiet, with a declining tendency. Provision market is firm and steady.

Arrival of the Magdalena.

Halifax, Jan. 4th.

The steamship Magdalena, from Southampton on Saturday Dec. 21st, arrived at this port on Friday night. She has 1000 passengers for Canada. The Magdalena's news was anticipated by the Asia.

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MARKETS.

Brookville, January 7, 1862.		
Fall Flour	per 100 lbs.	\$2.50 @ 3.00
Spring Flour	per 100 lbs.	2.00 @ 2.25
Wheat	per bushel	1.00 @ 1.15
Spring Wheat	per bushel	0.90 @ 1.00
Barley	per bushel	0.25 @ 0.30
Indian Corn	per bushel	0.20 @ 0.25
Barley	per 48 lbs.	0.50 @ 0.60
Potatoes	per bushel	0.50 @ 0.60
Rye	per bushel	0.45 @ 0.50
Oatmeal	per 100 lbs.	0.20 @ 0.25
Peas	per bushel	0.50 @ 0.60
Oats	per bushel	0.40 @ 0.50
Hay	per 100 lbs.	4.00 @ 5.00
Beef	per 100 lbs.	4.00 @ 5.00
Pork	per 100 lbs.	4.00 @ 5.00

THE EXECUTION OF WILLIAMS.

On the 3rd inst., George Williams, who it will be remembered, murdered his wife on the 3rd of August last in the Township of Colchester, in the county of Essex, suffered the extreme penalty of the law at Sandwich in the presence of about 3,000 people. The following account we extract from the Detroit Advertiser of Saturday:—

On the first day of August last, Williams made a visit to his wife, in Colchester, Essex county, where she was staying, having left him sometime before, and who upon this occasion, did not receive him in a very cordial manner. Some unfriendly words passed between them on the evening of that day, and on the morning of the second, while the woman of the house was out on a errand, he fired a shot at her, which resulted in the former taking an axe, which was lying near, and beating out her brains in a most shocking manner. The cries of the woman attracted some of the neighbours to the house, upon their arrival, they discovered the murderer—his hands crimsoned in his wife's blood—in the back yard, running from the house. When he found that he was pursued he stopped for a moment as if in meditation, and then returned to the house, saying as he approached it, "I have killed his wife and I intend to kill myself." He then drew a razor and cut his own throat, and fell to the ground. He was taken up, and removed to Amherstburg, where his wound was dressed, after which he was moved to the Essex County Jail, at Sandwich, and in a few days after had been recovered from the effects of his wound as to be sent out of danger. He was tried before the fall assizes and on the 12th of November was found guilty of the murder in the first degree. On the 15th he was sentenced to be hanged.

Before the closing scene of the execution opened, Williams, who was standing on a high drop as to the person, declared: "I am glad to see so many persons assembled to see me leave this world. It makes my heart leap with joy, and I trust this will be a warning to all present. This is a large congregation, but not like the one which I shall soon meet. May this be a warning to all present, and to this following world. Good bye. Farewell forever."

During this time not the slightest agitation was discernible, and not a tear was visible in his eye, though many who listened to him wept like children. At the closing of these remarks, the Rev. Mr. Hurst offered a brief prayer, the prisoner, during the time kneeling and covering his face with his hands. After this they all arose and the prisoner stepped upon the platform, when the executioner entered in disguise, and pulling the cap over the face, only put the noose round the neck of the unfortunate man, and drew it up at the same time, receiving the execution, uttered in a low but distinct voice, "Not too tight," then stepping back, the lever was touched, and this misguided victim of passion was ushered into the other world without a struggle. The spectacle had departed this life, and was no more subject to its agonies.

On Christmas morning a terrible accident happened in the Episcopal Church at Oswego, New York, the sexton, who was engaged to the fire in the basement of the building, when he was taken with a fit, and fell on the stairs which he had just removed from the furnace, in which position he remained until he returned to consciousness. The coils had burned the right side of his head, and he lay in a most horrible manner—his ear being entirely burnt off, his head being so shockingly burned as to expose the brain, and his arm and body badly injured. As soon as he came out of the fit, he ran into the street with his clothes still burning, and was met by a citizen who extinguished the fire. It will probably die, he has not already done so.

A serious affray occurred on board one of the Jersey City boats about 1 o'clock yesterday morning, during which an Englishman named Young, employed on board the Cunard steamer America, was stabbed. It appeared as the boat was crossing to Jersey City, the conversation turned upon the Slidell and Mason affair, and the Englishman, who was a passenger, stated the fact that these two persons had been given up to the English Government.

Some unknown Jonathan feeling little tender at that point attempted to punish the Englishman for his arrogance, and while the fight was progressing pretty briskly on both sides, a third person, unknown, stabbed the Englishman, and apparently intended to kill him. The knife was a common pocket knife, the small blade of which entered the head at the lower part of the ear and just back of it, and was broken off.

An attempt was made to remove the man, but he was unable to get up, and was taken to the hospital. The man was taken to the hospital, and upon a second attempt the Doctor succeeded in removing the blade with a pair of nippers and dressed the wound. The person who committed the act succeeded in making his escape.

N. Y. Tribune.

A DISMANTLED RAILWAY.

A correspondent to the Leader, while speaking of the Niagara frontier defences, calls attention to the condition of the Erie and Ontario Railway. He says that it has been recently broken up by the tearing up of about two miles of rails leading into Clifton, and the whole of its rolling stock, locomotives, and cars is now lying in the Northern Depot at Toronto. So that in case of a sudden emergency, this road, on the efficiency of which the safety of the whole Province might depend, would be useless. It is this point to which the military authorities have been directed to direct the attention of the Government, because these circumstances having been recently occurred, are most likely not known to them, and they suppose that the Erie and Ontario is a line available for immediate military service. This frontier road ought at once to be repaired and the rolling stock replaced upon it.

The Times Malta correspondent writes from Valetta on the 11th,—"The greatest excitement has prevailed here during the past few days owing to orders having been received by telegraph by the naval command-in-chief to despatch a war to Gibraltar, all the disposable ships of the fleet to be ready, in case of war with the North American States, to send off into American waters. The despatch conveying these orders preceded by about ten days of four hours, the fleet of battle ships, the Albatross, the R. K. E. Baird, have already left, and two other liners, the Agamemnon, 94, Captain E. C. Good, and another gunboat, the Foxhound, commanded by the Hon. A. C. Hubert, will, I hear, leave for the same destination as soon as they are ready for sea—probably about Saturday next."

The Governor General has declined to accept any Volunteer Battalion or Company other than Canadian.

THE FARM FOR SALE.

LOT No. 8 E 4 in 1st Con. of Brookville, 100 acres more or less, formerly owned by late John Hamilton, and now in about 80 acres cleared and 20 acres in grass, Spring Wheat, and 20 acres new and in grass. Terms liberal.

Apply to
GEORGE E. FLEMING,
Near the Town Hall,
Diamond,
30th Dec. 1861. 1862

NOTICE.

ALL Parties indebted to the undersigned by note or account are hereby requested to pay the same forthwith and save costs.

RORISON & McLEWEN,
Arnprior, Dec. 23rd, 1861. 16

FOR SALE.

FOUR GOOD FARMS in the Township of Brantley, County of Renfrew, within from two to four miles of the town of Douglas, each lot having from 10 to 20 acres, and all cleared, with House, &c., the land is all of an excellent quality, and will be sold low, apply to
A. W. BELL,
Douglas, Dec. 23rd, 1861. 16

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