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The Standard.

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

Parvitas sumendum est optimum. — Cic.

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LAW RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS

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THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY.

The education of the royal children being a matter in which all must feel interested, a few details of the manner in which the day of the royal scholars is divided may perhaps be entertaining to our readers. [These children are eight in number from fifteen to two years of age, viz: a daughter—a son—a daughter—a son—two daughters, and two sons.] A primary regard is paid to moral and religious duties. They rise early, breakfast at eight, and dine at one. Their various occupations are allotted out with almost military exactness. One hour finds them engaged in the study of the ancient, another of the modern authors; their acquaintance with languages is founded on a thorough knowledge of their grammatical construction. Next they are trained in those military exercises which give dignity and bearing. Another hour is given up to the lighter accomplishments of music and dancing. Again the happy little party assemble in the riding school, where they may be seen deeply interested in the various evolutions of the manege. Thence—while drawing and the further exercises of music, and the lighter accomplishments call off the attention of the sisters—the younger princes proceed to engage themselves in a carpenter's shop, fitted up expressly for them, at the wish of the royal consort, with a turning lathe and tools essential to a perfect knowledge of the craft. Thus they early become not only theoretically but practically acquainted with the useful arts of life. A small laboratory is occasionally brought into requisition, at the instance also of their royal father, and the minds of the children are thus led up from a contemplation of the curiosities of chemical science and the wonders of nature, to an inquiry into their causes. This done, the young carpenters and students throw down their saws and axes, unbuckle their philosophy, and shoulder their percussion guns—which they handle with the dexterity of practiced sportsmen—for a shooting stroll through the royal gardens. The evening meal, the preparation for the morning's lessons, and brief religious instruction closes the day. [London Court Journal.]

A TROUT-FISH LIVING IN A WELL 25 YEARS.

Mr. F. Hoyt, a correspondent of the Country Gentleman, writing from South East, New York, says: "Can any one tell how long a trout-fish will live? Twenty-five years the past summer, I caught the farm where I now am. Almost the first work that I did after getting in my spring crops, was to drain a bog swamp, the outlet of which leads into Croton river. I had an old Scotchman to do the ditching. One day he brought up a fish about the size of a finger, in his 'whisky' jug, (by the way we used a little then, and now since then) I put it in the well near the house, and it is there now, grown to a goodly size—say about a foot long and large in proportion. It has been fed, but very little, once in a while, some one throws in a grasshopper or cricket, to see him catch it. The well is thirty feet deep, and water hard, and he settles down nearly to the bottom, and then again rises to the top. He has been taken out a few times to clean the well, but not for the last five years. Friday last I got a grasshopper, the last one I expected to see this year, and gave it to him. The water is now twenty five deep, but it hardly touched the surface before he had it. If any one has a fish older than mine I would like to know it."

Many years ago a trout, was caught by the keeper of the Augusta Dye House, and was kept in a half-bushel which was set over a living spring. The fish grew to be a foot long, and wondrous fat, and what is true, and perhaps not strange always recognized his master, and one of two of his neighbors children, he would come up to the surface to take food out of their hands and play with them. When strangers came in, and he had many visitors, he would go down to the bottom of his tub. At the time of the great freshet in Augusta, the dye house was completely overflowed, but the trout remained in his tub, and was found there, by his gratified master when the water subsided. A year or two since, some unknown wretch furiously caught him, having broken into the dye house for this purpose. His loss was regretted by many admiring friends.

ARCHER'S MACHINE SHOP.

Walking over a portion of the frozen river St. Charles on Friday afternoon last, we were not a little startled at something which seemed to be a horse boat. At first we imagined that one of the old ferry boats had been cast ashore, and that the machinery was in motion. In the vain hope of getting the boat off again, it was quite a mistake. We were indeed at the lower extremity of Fran-

cis Street, St. Rochs, and were staring at the motive power or Archer's machine shop. There stands in this part of St. Francis St., a fine three story house, with a cut stone front, having two wings of brick, two stories in height. This property belongs to Mr. Joseph Archer, contractor and builder. The house is occupied by his family, and the left wing is fitted with machinery. Going upstairs we found one of Daniel's planing machines, moulding, tenon and grooving machines, surface-planers, circular saws, with quadrant regulators, and a large nipping circular saw, in full operation, the whole being driven by three horses yoked like horses in a threshing machine. There were also in use Fay's hand morticing machine, and there was every appearance of enterprise and business. It was a duplicate, indeed, of Peter's establishment driven by horse power instead of steam. This another evidence of progressiveness in Quebec. What next?—[Gazette.]

SCHOOL REPORT OF MAINE.—By this report it appears that there are 384 towns in the state, and all but five made return of their school statistics to Secretary's office. The number of scholars in the state is 238,248, of which less than one half is shown to have attended school during the year.

Teachers' Conventions were held in every county of the state, and attended in the aggregate, by 1608 teachers. But three towns in Washington County raised a less sum for the support of schools than required by law. Princeton shows an excess of \$260; Robinson \$486; Calais \$635; Eastport \$1737; Machias \$382; Trenton \$486. In the amount of money raised per scholar, Machias ranks the 29th; Eastport 20; Robinson 33; Lubec 75; Pembroke 96. In proportion to valuation, Machias 60; Perry 39; Lubec 41; Howland, Penobscot Co., raised the largest amount per scholar, being \$1.09; Bangor and Beddington next \$0.90 each.

We append the following abstract and remarks thereon from the Bangor Advertiser.

We have before us the annual report of the Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, the Superintendent of the Common Schools in Maine. During the year there has been an increasing interest in the schools, the people have raised fifty-four thousand dollars over the amount required by law for the support of schools, and the State has distributed sixteen thousand dollars more than last year. Many new and elegant school houses have taken the place of the old and dilapidated; the services of teachers have been better rewarded; many villages have adopted the plan of graded schools, the demands are more and more urgent for better teachers, and the people in all parts of the State readily give their friendly assistance in any plan which has for its object the greater efficiency of the public schools.

Penobscot county has the largest number of legal scholars—27,555—of any county, and raises a greater excess of money for support of schools than any county—\$14,200, of which excess Bangor contributes nearly \$10,000.

It is a cause of great regret that there is a falling off in the attendance of scholars between the ages of sixteen and twenty one years, the most important period in order to fit them to be good citizens of the State, and to be intelligent and virtuous, and prepared for successful action in any vocation in life.

WHO GENERAL WALKER IS.

William Walker was born in Nashville, Tenn., and is now about thirty-three years old. His father is James Walker Esq., a citizen of Nashville, of Scottish birth, and very much respected. His mother was a Miss Norvell, an estimable lady from Kentucky. Walker, after quitting school in his native State, which he did with much credit and honor, commenced the study of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated. He then went to Europe, entered the medical schools of Paris, as a student, and after some time spent in travel, returned to this country, went to Nashville, and commenced the study of the law. Walker is thus both lawyer and physician. From Nashville he went to New Orleans, and was for some time editor of the Crescent. In June, 1850, he went to San Francisco, and became one of the editors of the Herald. While in this position an article appeared in the Herald animadverting upon the judiciary, to which exception was taken by Judge Parsons, of the District Court, who forthwith summoned him before his Court, and indicted on the editor a fine of \$500. This Walker refused to pay, and was accordingly imprisoned, but was subsequently discharged on a writ of habeas corpus, issued from the Superior Court, which action was sustained by the Legislature at its next session. The next enterprise in which Walker was engaged, was the famous expedition to Sonora, with the disastrous result of which our readers are familiar as they are with his more recent history—Washington Star.

THE LIQUOR LAW IN NEW-BRUNSWICK.

Experience is a much more thorough teacher than precept; yet he is a wise man who can derive from precept the lessons of experience. We, in Maine, have gone through with a four years' experience of the prohibitory liquor law, and the result can be seen and read of all men. It is enough that professed temperance papers themselves—devoted body and soul to the interests of the Maine Law—confess, more in anger than in sorrow, that drunkenness has largely increased among us.

The people of New Brunswick are now commencing the experiment which we commenced five years ago—and are following very much in our footsteps. The Mayor of Portland, over four years ago, seized and destroyed liquors—patented and condemned sellers—published statistics and made fluent speeches—and went through all these famous exhibitions which for a time made his name a synonym for philanthropy and humanity.

The authorities of St. John, N. B., seem determined to try the experiment for themselves—unaided and undeterred by the failures in this city. We saw a few days since an account of the seizure of a sled belonging to a truckman, on suspicion of being engaged in transporting liquors. We have already published the statement of a correspondent of the Boston Journal, that the magistrate who discharged a person brought before him for violation of the Liquor Law, was subjected to such petty persecution as requesting him to resign his Sunday School superintendence, and other similar indignities. The incident not which occurred there only a few weeks since—shows the feelings of the populace on the subject, and the numerous meetings which have been held against it, place the opinions of the better classes in no equivocal light.

We counsel our provincial friends to beware how they go too far in this matter. The people of Maine are more liberating than those of New Brunswick. We know enough of English character to know that the inhabitants of St. John will not endure such usurpations as those to which we have submitted. Let them be warned in time, how they tamper with individual liberty. We have said enough of experience of such measures. The present Legislature of Maine will show the world how far the great experiment has been successful, and how much faith, after a five year's trial, is placed in the efficacy, wisdom, and sound principle of the boasted Prohibitory Liquor Law. [State of Maine.]

OFFICIAL CONTRADICTION OF WAR RUMORS.

The Washington Union refers to the rumor that the President was about to send into Congress a special message relating to our difficulties with England and says: "The effect, if not the design, of all rumors of this kind, is to excite apprehensions as to a rupture between our government and that of Great Britain. To avoid any such consequences, it is only necessary for us to say that the whole batch of reports of the character alluded to are entirely without foundation, and deserve no sort of attention from the readers of the journals to which they are sent. They not only do gross injustice to the President, but they are calculated to affect the interests of commercial men, who are kept in a state of suspense by the repetition of these mischievous inventions."

THE AUSTRIAN CONCORDAT.—It was expected that the convention with Rome would give internal peace to the empire, but there has seldom or never been such a general ferment in the country as now. In Bohemia the indignation of the Catholic population is so great that the authorities are so founded and at a loss how to act. A person whose words deserve full credit, assures me that if the police were to undertake to arrest all those individuals who in Bohemia openly rail against the concordat, they would have to incarcerate half the population of the Province. In the Italian Provinces the state of the public feeling is quite as bad, and the disaffected have now a new grievance. Until now the Hungarian bishops have remained quiet, but you may be sure they will soon be up and doing. —Times Correspondent.

Why is a dog with a broken leg like a boy at arithmetic? Because he puts down three and carries one.

The banquet to Mr. W. H. Russell, the special correspondent of the Times in the Crimea, now at home upon a short leave of absence, is to come off at the London Tavern. The entertainment has been got up by Mr. Albert Smith and some of the choice spirits of the Fielding Club, and will be con-

fined to three or four score of Mr. Russell's personal friends and admirers in the literary, dramatic, and legal world.

MEETING OF THE NOVA-SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.—On Thursday afternoon last both branches of the Legislature were opened with the usual formalities. Stewart Campbell was elected Speaker of the House without opposition, and Alex. James Esq. Clerk, by a majority of eight over H. C. D. Twining Esq. the two incumbents. James G. Tobin Esq. was elected Clerk-Assistant by the same majority; George R. Gassie Esq. was elected Sergeant-at-arms without opposition; Mr. E. Jones was elected Assistant-Sergeant-at-arms; Dr. Fitzgibbon was elected Chaplain, and John Fitzgerald Esq. was elected a member of the Legislature on the exemption of the Province from war and pestilence, and on the success which, in the last session, had attended the principal industrial pursuits of the Province. The revenue is stated to be somewhat diminished in productiveness, when compared with the preceding year, owing to a reduction of duties; but is, nevertheless, amply sufficient to meet all demands upon it, and affords satisfactory evidence of the increased energies and growing prosperity of the people. His Excellency then directed the attention of the Legislature to the leading business which would be brought before it.

GREAT DECLINE IN PRICES AT CHICAGO.

The Chicago Democrat has the following on the state of trade in that city: "Business is quite dull in our city, unusually so indeed; and we notice a continual tendency to a decline in prices of all descriptions of produce. Our parkers who contracted early in the season for hogs must lose a great deal; and prices have gone down from six and a half and seven dollars to four and a half and five dollars. Wheat has also declined, while corn is almost unsaleable, and the small quantity forwarded is generally stored on holders' accounts. The Prince of Wales took the estate the other day on a public occasion. The Prince has been attending Faraday's lectures. Prince Albert, it so happened, was unable to attend—the chair was vacant—it must be filled. The boy-Prince took the chair, and, to the surprise of many, behaved like other boys, with great modesty, and of course, good sense."

A REMARKABLE SPEAKING TUBE.

A fact in acoustics has just been established at Mr. H. Greenwood's printing establishment. Mr. Greenwood's private office is in Cannon-place, his printing office in Trafford-chambers, South John Street. The distance is 4000 feet, and on Monday a gutta percha tube, of an inch diameter, was carried through yards, houses, cellars, &c., and then passed up to the upper story of Trafford-chambers. When completed, the effect was, tested with perfect success. A person speaking at one extremity in Cannon-place was heard as distinctly in South John street as if he had been within a yard of the speaker. The tube was manufactured and fixed up by Mr. S. Hollowell, of the Quadrant, Lime street. Some scientific gentlemen recommended a tube of a larger diameter, and one of an inch and a half was tried without success; and the inference is, the smaller the tube the more distinct the words were conveyed. Does this suggest the possibility of a speaking tube for miles long a Railway?—(Liverpool Journal.)

A YANKEE MOVE.—A New York paper says a strapping Yankee having got out of employment in that big city, hit upon a plan by which to raise the wind. He is a painter by trade, and goes with his pot and brush to a house and inquires who lives there, and at what time he will be home to dinner.

Having found out, he stations himself at the door just about the time he expects the owner out from dinner, and commences painting the railing around the footstep.

The astonished proprietor comes out and finds a man painting his railing.

"Who gave you, sir, authority to paint this?"

"Nobody," says the Yankee; "but you see, squire, I was coming along, and kinder thought that it would look a little better painted—Don't you think so?"

The proprietor gets a little wrathful, but the Yankee is very cool, and keeps on.

"It will never do," says the proprietor, "to let it go so, half-painted."

"I'll finish it very cheap for ye," says the Yankee.

And so he goes a good job. He has been practising in the neighborhood of Bowmore and Varick streets lately.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan 29. We are authorized to state that the Hon. G. M. Dallas has accepted the mission to England tendered him by the President, vice Mr. Buchanan.

FIGHT WITH A DEER.—As B. W. Farrar, Esq., of this place, was coming from Lubec with his horse and sleigh, on the 24th ult., when a few miles this side of Whiting, he discovered a large buck deer cross the road and pass on to the mill pond in that vicinity where he fell through the ice, but the water being shoal he broke his way to the opposite shore, where he was met by Mr. F. who had secured a club with which to give him battle. The deer turned, approached the mill near by, where he was overtaken by his pursuer, again turned, jumped at Mr. F., when by some mishap both man and deer fell some six feet down into walled limits beside the flume of the mill where for either to escape required exertion and judicious management; so now the contest became animated, the deer butting and striking with his feet, and his adversary fending off with well directed blows from his club.

"Long time in even scale the battle hung," But after a contest of some half an hour, the noble buck yielded and laid down his life, and Mr. Farrar could rejoice that his adversary was slain.—*Machias Union.*

CALIFORNIA STYLES.—Not long since, a German was riding along Sansone street, near Sacramento, when he heard a pistol shot behind him, heard the whizzing of a ball near him, and felt his hat shaken. He turned and saw a man with a revolver in his hand, and took off his hat and found a fresh bullet hole in it.

"Did you shoot at me?" asked the German.

"Yes," replied the other party, "that's my horse, it was stolen from me recently."

"You must be mistaken," said the German; "I have owned the horse for three years."

"Well," says the other, "when I come to look at him, I believe I am mistaken." The rider dismounted, tied his horse, the we found a drinking saloon, went by, they hobnobbed and drank together, and parted friends. That is California fashion of making acquaintances.—(California Pioneer.)

HEARD THROUGH THE TEETH.—Lay a watch upon the table, glass side downwards; then stand so far from it that you cannot in the ordinary way hear the ticking. Now place one end of a small stick (say six feet long) upon the back of the watch, and grip the teeth to the other; with the fingers close each ear to exclude all external noise; the beat of the watch will then be as audible as if placed against the ear. All other sounds can be conveyed in the same manner, no matter how long the stick is; for instance, if one end is put upon a piano forte in a sitting room facing a garden, and the stick is thirty or forty feet long, extending to the further end of the lawn or walk; now if the instrument is played, or a light played, "the tune" will be instantly distinguished by any person applying the teeth to the opposite end of the stick.

GOOD FOR FAR.—A gentleman residing in Albany, as the story goes, seeing an Irishman removing an embankment from a dwelling, inquired:—"Patrick, what are you doing?" "Opening the cellar window, to be sure." "And what are you doing that for?" "May it please yer honor," said Patrick, "to let out the dark."

PROSPERITY.—We have heard a great deal this year of the unexampled prosperity of Upper Canada, and now we are getting the proofs of it. The diminution of customs duties at Toronto is £20,903, and at Hamilton £28,002. (Montreal Advertiser.)

Our contemporary appears not to have been aware of the fact that the diminution of customs duties is attributable to the appointments of Ports of Entry at nearly every town and village which had no Custom House nearer than Toronto or Hamilton.—Hamilton Spectator.

INTELLECTUAL FAVORITISM.—A child exhibits considerable talents, as it is supposed, and perhaps a great propensity to reading. It is decided to be a little genius. Undue efforts are made to cultivate his mental powers, and this cultivation is not confined to the faculties proper to youth, but as it occasionally exhibits reasoning powers, every effort is made to cultivate these; of, in short, "honoring the class of intellectual powers."

The mind is now so trained, the general health is impaired, and he who was a bright ardent or ten, is stupid or an idiot when he comes to maturity.

The Hartford Times says he will be looking after the effects of the late fire, and that he will be looking after the effects of the late fire, and that he will be looking after the effects of the late fire.

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