The Herald.

Wednesday, February 8, 1871.

THE *Argus* of the 31st ult., offers some remarks upon our strictures on the Education system of the Colony. He does not understand why the HERALD should "come out in favor of sectarian grants and separate schools." The HERALD does not now "come out," if the phrase means making first appearance; for the HERALD has all along advocated religious education, and is perfectly free to discuss what topics seem to it best; and the education question will receive a fair share of its earnest attention.

Passing from this preliminary matter, the *Argus* says, "the whole theory of the HERALD's article consists in the proposition that the propagation of religious truth is the chief end of government, as government." In this there is some strange misapprehension on the part of the writer in the *Argus*. We never advanced any such proposition. We said that the Government abstained from interfering with any man's religion—that it neither dictated to its citizens what religion they were to support, nor how they were to support it; and we added: "to be consistent, the state should have carried the same theory into its education laws." It should have left its subjects as free to choose for their children a system of education, as to select for themselves a form of religion. The State, in assuming the province of an educator, has taken upon itself the exercise of a spiritual function, and is therefore bound to respect the spiritual rights of its subjects. This it has not done, but has established a system of schools, which a very numerous body of its subjects continuously protest against. This was the scope of the argument we used, and we do not understand how our contemporary missed it. He is candid in his defence of what he thinks a good system, and his error in this instance is, we infer, an involuntary mistake. It has, however, made half his article inapplicable to our argument.

The *Argus* makes some remarks not based on the misconception above alluded to, which we will notice under their heads.

I. Bishop McDonald preferred secular schools to schools in which the Bible was made compulsory. In doing this his Lordship only acted on the well known axiom: "of two evils choose the less." It was better to have Catholics children taught no religion at all in school, than to compel them to listen to the more than suspicious commentaries of a School-teacher on the Sacred Text. The State, however, had no right, we contend, to set before his Lordship such an alternative. In the assumption of a spiritual prerogative, as education is, the Spiritual Superior had a right to be consulted how he would have his people educated. This was not done, but two systems were presented for his choice, and he wisely chose the least objectionable. This does not involve sanction of the system chosen. The man who gets a choice of death or slavery and chooses the latter, cannot be accused of condemning a free life, or of sanctioning slavery.

II. The *Argus* accuses us of laying down a most intolerant doctrine, when we state that the softening down of religious differences is an objection to secular education. Here again we think our contemporary has mistaken our meaning. The differences we alluded to and mentioned were doctrinal differences—distinctive tenets of creed which every religious man upholds, and which cannot be either softened or impaired, without endangering the whole fabric of his belief. Our contemporary evidently thinks that we implied the maintenance of bigotry, jealousy, dissension, and the other offshoots of a spurious religious feeling, which are the pests of a mixed society. No one more than ourselves would rejoice to see all such things rooted from our midst; yet we do not think the way to accomplish this is by an irreligious training. Your thoroughly religious man is never a bigot. Bigotry is in religion what quackery is in the medical science—insufficient training begets both.

III. Both Catholics and Protestants, says the *Argus*, believe in a God, the Trinity, a Saviour, Heaven and Hell; and teachers can inculcate these truths, so long as they do not inflict their own views on their pupils. And how long, we ask, will that be? How long will a Catholic Teacher, for example, explain to his scholars the truth of the Incarnation or the Redemption, before he utters things that no Protestant would assent to, but which the Catholic Teacher believes to be important truths, quite necessary to be known by children? Say the same of the Protestant Teacher and his Catholic pupils. The difficulties in the way are so numerous and so obvious, that teachers to avoid them, and incur no complaints, desist from inculcating any religious truth, and leave the schools virtually what we called them, Infidel or Pagan.

IV. There is an objection frequently urged against denominational schools, the force of which we do not perceive. Protestants, say some, would object to see their money spent in paying for the religious teaching of other sects that differ from them. Catholics would do the same, and hence confusion and heart burnings. But if denominational schools were in operation, they would be more or less numerous according to the numbers of the religious body to which they belonged. The amount of taxation which that body would pay, would also be in proportion to its numbers. So far then from any religious persuasion receiving the money of another to propagate its own doctrines, it would only receive a portion of its own from the common Treasury of the nation. There need be no jealousy in this, or heart burnings either. We have always wondered how it came to pass that Protestant countries, Scotland, for example, never thought of any other school system save the denominational, so long as the Catholics were an insignificant minority, with no parliamentary representation, and staggered under a load of civil disabilities. When, however, the fetters were struck from their limbs—when the immigration from Ireland swelled their numbers, and the State came forward to offer aid to education, a portion of the Protestant conscience of Scotland suddenly became tender, and undenominational schools only would be tolerated. Archbishop Whately had taught his system of undermining Catholic belief in Ireland; and its adoption in Scotland would bring about the same end, no doubt of it. We do not accuse the Editor of the *Argus* of sinister motives in upholding an educational system which we consider captious, but we would ask our contemporary, how long would the secular school system last, if there were not a Catholic on the Island, or if we were only a despicable minority? We are much afraid that some blatant Editors, and would-be representatives of the people, who plume themselves upon being the pillars of the system, would be the first to cry out for a change.

WITH the surrender of Paris terminates another Act in the "European War Tragedy." But is it the last? Does Paris mean France? We are by no means prepared to speak positively upon this head, especially when we remember the distracted state in which France at present finds herself. It is, in the first place, not to be expected that the Revolution will abandon its assumed prerogatives without a struggle. Gambetta, we are informed, refuses to recognize the armistice—he means to fight still, and calls upon Frenchmen to drill diligently and join the armies of the Republic, which will yet, he says, redeem France. With the capital in his possession, King William will be able to exercise a preponderating influence in the selection of the form of Government that is to be established there. M. Gambetta's views and theories are consequently little likely to receive any favorable consideration from one who is as fervent a believer in the divine right of kings, as ever was England's first James. He, who as a subject, stamped out so fiercely the fires of the Revolution in 1848, cannot be presumed to use his power, as a conquering sovereign, to fan them into vigorous life in a neighboring nation, from which they would in every likelihood spread to his own. The selection will, therefore, lie between a Legitimist, Imperial, or Orleanist Government, and no matter which is established, it will have the Revolution for its enemy. We may yet have to contemplate the outbreak of a civil war in France, as embittered and sanguinary as the struggle that has been going on for the last seven months. The Revolutionists were not remarkable for their fighting qualities against the Prussians. They had the knack of making themselves heard, rather than felt. Perhaps they have been husbanding their strength to maintain their principles of disorder against their countrymen who love order and rectitude. The struggle between these two powers must come sooner or later; and very likely M. Gambetta may think no time more propitious than now, when he enjoys a prominent place in the only existing government, and can cover the designs of his party with the cloak of patriotism and devotion to France. Had Gambetta even driven back the Prussians, he would nevertheless have had to confront those in France who believe in Christian Government and order. Success might have given the Revolution prestige in its subsequent contest, but it never could make its Government popular with the majority of Frenchmen. It is, perhaps, better for France to be as we see her, than to owe her liberation to such men as compose M. Gambetta's administration.

One of the conditions dictated by Prussia is the surrender of forty ships of the French navy. England will not fail to interpret clearly the meaning of this. She will see in it a distinct intention to menace, and if possible break down her own naval superiority. The very fact of England putting forth such vigor and activity in her dockyards, shows that she anticipates an attempt to humble her from some quarter. Some months ago an English journal strongly urged the Government to take some measures by which the French fleet might be prevented from falling into the hands of Prussia. Some sort of agreement could easily have been drawn up to secure this most important object. But no attention was paid to the suggestion and what was dreaded has occurred. England was not always so blind to her interests. When Russia, Sweden and Denmark, influenced by Napoleon, formed a confederacy to make England resign her naval rights, and the splendid fleet possessed by Denmark was suspected to lie at the service of France, Nelson was promptly in the Baltic, and the fleet either captured or destroyed. Everyone seems to be impressed with the notion that England is destined to be the next object of Prussian attack. The German Empire has a sea-board, which, if too contracted, can be enlarged by the means adopted to wrest it from Denmark. Suppose that Bismarck would say to-morrow that he had need of Holland and Denmark, in order that an empire so vast as that of Germany, might have naval stations proportionate to its vastness. What European power would gainsay him? England might protest, and assume a "dignified attitude," but that is about all she would do, and that would not prevent the Count from carrying out his designs. The harbors, dockyards and arsenals, which a few years would suffice to plant along that splendid coast line, would be formidable, and a hardy race of sailors could be obtained from the fishermen that swarm on its bays and estuaries. It would not in such circumstances be impossible for the Texel to send forth a fleet to menace England, more powerful than any that history has yet told us of. Whatever may be the complications of the future, England will in all probability have to rely for safety on her own strong arm, and on her sovereignty over that narrow strip of sea which keeps back the invader. She is now alone, without a friend on the continent worth reckoning on. Her Manchester politicians preached to her the glories of commerce and the folly of war. She listened to them and silenced the noise of her dockyards. The spell has been broken, in time, it may be, yet to save her.

☞ For a unique and charming entertainment, go to the Convent on Tuesday night next. Read the advertisement of the Musical and Social Soiree, to be given there on that night.

THE literary pabulum with which Mr. Laird regales his readers, is seldom of the choicest kind; but we present one or two samples which we should think would be absolutely nauseating to the greatest "bare-bones" amongst them. By way of preface we may say that Mr. Laird is a sort of secretary, treasurer and general agent of a man who was once known as Father Chiniquy. We will say nothing of the ex-Priest, because if we did, our motives would be misrepresented, and we should be accused of being in the interest of "the man of sin" in endeavoring to prevent assistance reaching one of Zion's sentinels; but we shall give a few extracts from his letter to show what sort of stuff Mr. Laird and his aids expect the unfortunate man to write for the unknown sums of money sent him from this Colony. In a highly dramatic letter, dated St. Anne, Kankakee County, Illinois, Dec. 13, 1870, "Father" Chiniquy addresses Mr. Laird, "his dear brother in Christ," as follows:—

You know that the Church of Rome has often declared that "Excommunication" is "death;" an excommunicated man has no right to his property, to his honor or to his life. This will be proved in the evidence the first week of January, from the very Bishops lips. * * * * He will have to confess before an American jury that the law of his church gives him the right to *exterminate* all the heretics.

* * * * *

There are too many Protestants to-day who believe that the Church of Rome of this age is not the persecuting church which dragged their ancestors to the scaffold, and exterminated them. The Priests of Rome to-day are so skilful and so bold in their pulpits and press in deceiving the world about their *love* for liberty; they conceal their horrible system with so much care, they deny their principles with such an effrontery, that many Protestants are deceived. They can hardly believe that there is such treachery, such want of christian and manly principles in those Priests and Bishops, who look so pious, so genteel, so learned. * * * * *

Ah! if the Protestants of P. E. Island had heard the multitudes of the poor slaves of Rome, in the streets of Montreal, crying against me, "Kill him, kill him!" If they had seen the hails of stone thrown at me many a time, and the windows of the churches where I was speaking smashed in during the dark night! And if they could see here the smoking ruins of my poor college, and my dear church, they would soon understand that the church of Rome, even under the shade of the British flag of the "American Stripes and Stars," is the same church which has watered England, Scotland, France and the whole of Europe, with tears and blood. A few days ago the Sheriff of Kankakee came to warn me that there is a plot among the Romanists *to murder me*. Last Sabbath eight days, several Roman Catholics publicly said: "Now that the destruction of his college and his church by fire cannot stop him, the only thing to do is to kill him!"

Protestants "be on your guard," when you have to deal with the subjects of Rome. Let them be as free as possible—but "be on your guard." I know what I say; I am not an idle dreamer. I have seen their daggers on my breast—I have felt their stones on my flesh and my bones—my ears have heard their murderous cries: "Kill him, kill him." I have here, under my eyes day and night, in the heaps of ruin by which Rome has surrounded me, the irrefutable witnesses which tell you and me, "Be on your guard." Do not trust the smiling lips of the Priests, and of their obedient people—fear the dust they throw into your eyes to prevent you from seeing and understanding what they are plotting in the dark against you and the institutions which are dearer to you than your own life.

Believing this, it is no wonder that Mr. Laird has such a horror of Coalition Governments, in which Catholics are represented, and labors so zealously to bring about a purely Protestant Government.

In another letter the *Patriot* gives us the following as the creed to which every Catholic must subscribe in order to be recognized a true son of the Church:—

"Every heretic must be exterminated—an heretic has no right to his own property, to his honor or to his life. No heretic can sit on any tribunal as a judge, no lawyer who is a heretic can plead in any civil court; no heretic witness can be received in any civil court to give his testimony."

Comment on these extracts is unnecessary. Mr. Laird knows their value, and the full meaning of the word "bamboozling." We beg of him, however, not to entertain the foolish idea that he can bamboozle Catholics either in religious or political matters. He is welcome to be the representative of the Puritanism of a bye-gone age and of the stick-in-the-mud-policy of a few persons of the present day. He should aspire to no higher leadership.

IT is melancholy to contemplate the woful plight to which Mr. Laird, of the *Patriot*, has been reduced. His grief began with his rejection at the polls; it assumed a furious character when the present Ministry was formed; it sank back into despondency at the period of the postage stamp persecution; and now it has taken a fatuous phase, varied at times with wild outbursts. One of his late fancies was that he had been elected a member of the Legislature. No one could persuade him that it was a hallucination; so he gravely went to the Lieut. Governor and handed in his resignation of his imaginary seat. Some were heartless enough to laugh at this mournful exhibition; but we saw in it only the instructive lesson of how trivial events can untune the greatest minds. Last Saturday saw him in one of his furious fits. Some injudicious person told him that the *Argus* had written a better defence against the attack of the HERALD upon godless education than the one which appeared in the *Patriot*. The little restraint which he exercised over his temper immediately gave way, and weeping with rage, he called out to the HERALD that it had no business to publish such articles; that its arguments were taken from Dr. Brownson; and that it had committed several acts of plagiarism from the London *Tablet*. Of course, David, of his own knowledge, knew nothing either of Dr. Brownson or the London *Tablet*; but he has some *queer* Catholic friends—two at least—who said this only to soothe the poor fellow's paroxysm. The discovery was worthy of a modern Euclid, and will doubtless, receive its reward.

We had no idea when we recommended the Government last week to give Mr. Laird the printing in connection with the census, after which he seemed to have an intense yearning, that we were going to wound his unselfish feelings. Unfortunately, we have unconsciously touched him on the raw—and he immediately becomes both mendacious and abusive. "We do not wonder at it." In September last, Mr. Laird assured his readers that the ex-Queen's Printer received the "lion's share" of the Government printing, for supporting the Coalition. In the *Patriot* of the 4th inst., the noble beast's proportion of the public plunder is reduced to "one-third." When David reconciles these two statements, we shall be prepared to give him all the information at our disposal, relative to the exact number of pounds, shillings and pence which the HERALD receives from the public treasury. At present, the question is—who is to be believed?—Elder Laird of September, or the same individual of February? We try to please our contemporary in every way that we possibly can; but the more complimentary we are to him, the greater is the fume into which he gets. We know that Mr. Laird "neither asks nor expects any patronage from the Government," but we may be permitted to supply the *hiatus* and add in his behalf the fact which excessive modesty on his part forbids him publishing, viz: that if the patronage were offered to him, he would not be so rude as to refuse it, even though doing violence to his conscience by the condescension. We condole with Mr. Laird at the turpitude of those friends who accepted his support previous to the general election, and who now leave him in the lurch when their ends are served, to bestow their smiles upon Messrs. Reilly and Ings. Baseness could not descend lower. "Sorely tried" as Mr. Laird has been in this way, yet he has not compromised his principles. He wishes to retain the people's confidence, as every patriot has a right to do; and, mark you, observant reader, the public plunder at the disposal of the Government "not being enough to satisfy its present recipients," David will, therefore, *patris virtutibus*, be found in the Opposition ranks, using his sling with terrible effect. We leave the redolent purist for the present.

CONVENT TEA PARTY.—The Convent Tea Party held in aid of the Convent of Notre Dame, on Thursday evening last, was very successful. The large Hall, from 6 till 10 o'clock, was densely crowded, and everyone seemed bent on seeking enjoyment, and appeared also to succeed in obtaining it. There were four tables elegantly laid out and furnished with every variety of rich and delicate tea cakes. The tables were presided over by Mrs. Brenan, Miss McDonald, the Misses Small McDonald, Miss Morrissey, Miss Cahill, Mrs. Benoit, Miss Leonard, Miss McDade, Mrs. McIntyre, Miss Coyle, Mrs. Burris, Mrs. Caven, Mrs. Walker, and Miss Hogan. Some of the cakes were exceedingly beautiful in design, and attracted great admiration. Throughout the evening, musical selections were, from time to time, given from the platform. The duetts (Pianoforte and Violin) were especially good and did credit to the performers, Madame St. Estelle and Mr. Vinnicomb. Miss Smith sang her songs tastefully, and "Bonnie Dundee" would have been improved had the time been taken a shade quicker. There was no lack of raffles, lotteries, and sales. The Gypsy's craft was also undertaken, and fortunes told, for less money, and as truly as such things are generally done. A table well supplied with choice refreshments, became a place of great resort when the tea was over. The warmth of the Hall made an ice-cream a very seasonable refreshment. We noticed a number of our Protestant fellow citizens present; and we understand that some valuable contributions were handed in for the party by Protestant ladies and gentlemen. The exact proceeds we have not learned; but we shall publish them when they have been ascertained.

ON last Tuesday night, according to announcement, Professor Caven, of St. Dunstan's College, lectured before the Catholic Institute. The Hall was well filled with an intelligent and respectable audience. The Professor occupied a little more than an hour in the delivery of his lecture. The subject chosen by him was one congenial to his mind, and he concentrated upon it the whole power and force of his genius. The effect upon the audience was at once perceptible. No sooner had the learned Professor delivered the first few sentences of his lecture, than his clear, distinct, and eloquent tones bespoke for him that attention which is everywhere awarded to talent and learning. Indeed, nothing could more forcibly convey the appreciation of the lecture by the intelligent audience assembled in St. Andrew's Hall, than the perfect quiet and stillness which prevailed during the entire time of the delivery. The learned lecturer's literary group comprised the names of Steel, Addison, Pope and Swift, and in the order in which we have just mentioned, were the lives, characters, and writings of these eminent men of letters brought prominently before the audience. The learned lecturer expressed himself to the effect that it was not so much for the purpose of pronouncing a criticism upon the writings of these gifted men, but rather to pass in review their private lives and characters, as the same are revealed to us in literary history; and from the picture which the talented lecturer drew of their private lives, the impression left upon the minds of his audience could be nothing but astonishment,—how men who led such irregular lives could have gained for themselves so eminent a position in the world of letters. The private life of Pope, as stated by the learned lecturer, was without one spot or blemish to detract from the reputation he has gained by his writings. But for the purpose of condensing our remarks, we have looked at the group as a whole. The picture which the learned lecturer drew of Swift, was in itself a masterpiece, and most certainly have left a lasting impression upon the minds of his eager listeners. We would say in closing, that this was the second lecture delivered by Professor Caven in this city, and he has certainly gained for himself a high reputation as a lecturer. We understand that the Charlottetown Debating Club intend requesting the learned Professor to redeliver his lecture before that body.

An English Mail was received at the General Post Office on Monday morning last. We give interesting extracts from our European exchanges.

LITERATURE.

THE CATHOLIC WORLD FOR FEBRUARY.—Dr. Newman's "Grammar of Assent" receives a first notice in this number. To those who intend to read and study the work itself, the explanation here given of its drift and reasoning will be a most excellent preparation. The Review indeed exhibits most completely the best characteristic of a Reviewer. It begets in the reader a desire to peruse the work it introduces to his notice. "Nature and God" is an article written to answer the very simple question—has God anything to do with the workings of the universe and nature? "Learned" men do not give the answer to the query, which an ordinary individual interrogated at random would. Prof. Tyndall, for example, declared before the British Association for the advancement of science, "that the progress of physicial science is destined to produce vast alterations in the popular conception of the origin, rule, and governance of things." Of this there cannot be a doubt, and the *alterations* will be all the more readily accomplished by shutting closely the school doors against religion. The old fashioned notion of a God ruling over the universe will disappear in a generation or two, and *madre natura* receive credit for all and homage from all. "Early missions in Acadia" we have read with great interest. It presents the Reader with some excellent pictures of hardships and struggle. The attempt to found Biblical commonwealths in New England, is well set forth in the article, "New England in the Seventeenth Century." The writer is of opinion that the grim old Puritans should be judged with a little more charity than is usually shown them. "They had at least," he says, "faith in God, which is more than many of their descendants have." "The origin and characteristics of the Milesian race" contains a great deal of valuable information worth remembering. There are also in this number two excellent biographical sketches—one of Sixtus V. the other of Lamartine. In fiction, "Dion and the Sibyls" and "Our Winter Evenings" are continued with unflagging interest; a pretty sketch from the French is also introduced. "Common Lodging Houses in New York" should also belong to the region of fancy, but unfortunately they belong to the terrible realities of life. "Our Lady of Lourdes" is continued. "Mystical Numbers" is an entertaining paper upon the importance attached to certain numbers, among all peoples and in all religions. Such is a brief outline of the contents of this excellent publication. Certainly the very best Catholic Magazine on this side of the Atlantic, and one which should be welcomed in every Catholic family.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY.—This is a fairly average number, presenting a good deal of desultory reading. It may not suit all tastes; but some will, no doubt, feel delight in its pages. The serial tale grows monthly more absurd. We wonder within ourselves when the climax will be reached. The following is from an article on Newfoundland:—

* * These noble, unpeopled valleys are a thousand miles nearer Britain than Canada, and as yet they are entirely overlooked. They command the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and here a coaling station for steamers might be established. Here, too, on the shore of St. George's Bay, will be the terminus of the railroad destined one day to traverse Newfoundland, and by connecting the western shores with St. John's, will furnish the shortest sea-route to Europe. It is calculated that swift steamers could make the passage from Valentia, in Ireland, to St. John's, in four and a-half days; the railroad across the island would be 250 miles in length; a steamer would run from St. George's Bay to Shippegan Harbor, Bay of Chaleur, in 12 or 15 hours, where a branch of the Intercolonial Railway would forward passengers and mails to all parts of the United States and Canada. By this route passengers and mails from London would reach New York in seven days, a short sea-passage would be secured, and all the dangers from fogs, ice, and storms along the American coasts would be avoided. The dangers of crossing the Atlantic would be reduced to a minimum, and three or four days would be saved.

The rude conduct of the boys at a recent meeting of the Diocesan Church Society, held in the Infant School, and over which His Honor the Lieutenant Governor presided, is censured in the last *Islander*; but not sufficiently strong, we believe, to produce amendment. At all public gatherings the same growing nuisance on the part of the boys, and even young men, is observable, and it is time that the press took the embryo ruffianism in hand, and stamped it out of public places, at all events. The names of offenders should be published without regard to persons, as a warning to others, and even a severer chastisement administered, if necessary.

The railroad question is all the rage in Prince County,—in nearly every portion of which, public meetings have been held during the past week to discuss it. The limited space at our disposal prevents us from giving detailed reports of the meetings; as, if we were to do so, our whole space would be filled with nothing else for a month to come. We make way for a few reports which we have been specially requested to print; but we beg of our friends not to lumber us with too many favors of this kind. Let correspondents take the Georgetown report in to-day's paper as their model.

His Worship the Mayor and the City Councillors are very indignant at the extraordinary presentment made against them in their corporate capacity by the Grand Jury, at the late Term of the Supreme Court, in the matter of granting licenses to sell liquor. The presentment has called forth a report from the City Council, which successfully impugns the veracity of the Grand Jurors' statements. His Worship the Mayor has also written a rejoinder to the presentment, in which the hollow hypocrisy of the concern is shown with considerable vigor.

Judging from the report of the Charlottetown Woollen Factory, which appeared in the *Patriot* of the 2d inst., it would seem certain that the Factory is to be put in active operation early in spring—all the necessary funds for doing so having been nearly subscribed. The old directors and office-bearers were re-elected.

RAILROAD MEETINGS.

RAILROAD MEETING AT LOT 11.—Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the inhabitants of Lot 11 was convened at Freeland Schoolhouse, on Thursday the 26th ult., for the purpose of taking into consideration the advisability of constructing a railroad from Alberton to Georgetown. The representatives of the District, Hon. John Yeo and Wm. Richards, Esq., were present.

The meeting was organized by calling Mr. Robert Ramsay to the Chair, and the undersigned appointed to act as Secretary. The Chairman briefly explained the object of the meeting, and expressed a desire that the audience would pay particular attention to the several speakers about to address them.

Hon John Yeo, Wm. Richards, Esq., Jas. Barclay, Esq., Mr. Jas. Henderson, Augustine Callaghan, Esq., Mr. Arch. Ramsay, Mr. James W. Richards, Mr. Wm. Callaghan, the Secretary and two or three others addressed the meeting on the subject of railways, after which the following Resolution was moved by Augustine Callaghan, Esq., and seconded by James Barclay, Esq.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the construction of a Railroad through P. E. Island on the basis of outlay mentioned by certain companies, would be productive of material advantages to its inhabitants, and would tend greatly to develop its resources and extend trade.

The above Resolution being put to the meeting, it was passed by a majority of two to one. It was moved and seconded that Mr. Robert Ramsay vacate the Chair and Mr. James Henderson be called thereto. A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman for his impartial conduct in the Chair. A vote of thanks was also accorded to the Representatives of the District, which both gentlemen suitably acknowledged.

The meeting dispersed with the hope that the Railroad would go ahead.

JOSEPH MURPHY,
Sec'y.

Lot 11, Jan. 28, 1871.

KING'S COUNTY MEETING.—A large and influential meeting was held in the County Court House, Georgetown, on the evening of Friday last. Mr. G. A. Aitken was called to the chair.

Archibald McDonald, Esq., moved, and A. C. Stewart, Esq., seconded the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the meeting:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that a Railroad from Georgetown to Cascumpec *via* Summerside, with branch lines where most required, is a matter of vital importance to the commercial and agricultural prosperity of this Island. That nothing would tend more to facilitate trade, develop the resources of the country, increase its revenue and give farmers and shippers an additional advantage of easy export at this end of the Line, for several weeks later in the season.

Duncan Fraser, Esq., then moved, and Alex. J. McDonald, Esq., seconded the following resolution:

Resolved, That if a Railway adapted to the requirements of P. E. Island, can be constructed and furnished with the requisite rolling stock and stations, at a cost not exceeding five thousand pounds, currency, per mile, it is the opinion of this meeting the resources of this Island are such as to justify the construction of a Railroad forthwith.

This resolution was also unanimously adopted by the meeting. Several able speeches were delivered in support of the resolutions, but want of space precludes their insertion in our present issue. The speakers were the Hon. A. A. McDonald, Hon. D. Gordon, W. Sanderson, R. Munro, M. P. P., George Moar, M. P. P., Archibald McDonald, A. C. Stewart, A. C. McDonald, M. P. P., (Montague), Duncan Fraser and J. S. Carvell, (Charlottetown), Esquires, Messrs. John McCormack, (Cardigan), and Mr. Howlett, (Georgetown).

A vote of thanks having been presented to Mr. Aitken, for his impartial conduct in the chair, at a late hour this very interesting and enthusiastic meeting broke up, all parties being apparently well satisfied with the evening's proceedings, and the brilliant prospects now looming in the distance.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, Jan. 26, 1871.—His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council, has been pleased to appoint the following persons to the Commission of the Peace:—

For Queen's County: Mr. Roderick McNeill, M. D., of Stanley Bridge, in the place of Benjamin Bell, Esq., who has left the Island; Mr. Angus McLeod, senior, Glasbhein, Belfast; Mr. Hector McKenzie, sen'r, of Flat Rock; Mr. Roderick McNeill, of Point Prim; Mr. John McGregor, junior, of Township No. 48. For King's County: Mr. Peter J. Ryan, Head of St. Peter's Bay.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council has been pleased to establish Post Offices at the undermentioned places, and to appoint Postmasters thereat, as follows: Byrne's Road, Morell River, James Phelan, Postmaster; Saint Andrew's, John Carey, Postmaster; Rose Valley, Malcolm Mathewson, Postmaster.

The *Argus* reports the death by drowning, on the 17th ult., at Murray River, of a boy named Mathew McLeod, who fell through the ice and perished before assistance could reach him. He was only seven years old. The same paper states that a man named McRae, belonging to Bonshaw, while returning from the city on the night of the 31st ult., missed his way, and instead of taking the track up the West River, drove out the harbor, and when near St. Peter's Island, the horse broke through the ice and was drowned.

The Montreal *Daily News* for January 31st, is decidedly the largest and most complete newspaper that has come under our observation for some time past. It is a large octavo containing 72 columns of diversified reading matter, and should surely command an extensive patronage in the Dominion of Canada.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Incontrovertible principles.—All ulcers require for their cure a free supply of pure blood and power in local nerves and vessels to build up the desired new flesh. That Holloway's remedies can effect both these objects is now an unquestioned fact, which has been proved beyond all doubt in both hemispheres, by the afflicted of both sexes. When a sore appears on any other part of the body except the leg it is always constitutional and will need the united influence of Ointment and Pills to heal it up; when the ulceration is on the leg it may be merely a local ailment which the Ointment unaided, well and diligently applied, is competent to cure.

General News.

About the middle of December last, a Berlin journal speculated upon the fall of Paris and its consequences, thus:—

But suppose that Paris had once fallen, what would be the consequences? The troops of the line which are there would fall into our hand, together with the Republican Government. The Mobile Guards, who have hitherto for the most part been eager for war, could according to circumstances either be taken prisoners or be released, if by that time they had become peacefully disposed. The National Guards, the true children of Paris, we could for the most part confidently release, with no fear that they would break their parole; for they have no love for war, and Trochu himself sorrowfully admits that he praises them in his orders of the day for bravery only because he wishes to flatter them, in order that they may allow him to continue his resistance against the besieger. There can be no doubt that there are plenty of such men throughout the country. In all parts there are many who, if they saw the capital fallen, and the head Government taken prisoners, would gain courage enough to have opinions of their own, and to express them against Gambetta. A great number of the present defenders of their country have been forced by Gambetta to enter voluntarily into the armies of the Republic, and to become Mobile Guards with feigned enthusiasm; many fight with decided ill-will, and readily allow themselves to be taken prisoners by the Germans; but as long as the present state of things continues, the mass will, in spite of all, obey the Dictator. The strong impression produced by the fall of Paris, would alone "restore" the mass "to itself." After that great blow and loss, the people would entertain grave doubts as to the use of making any further resistance, and Gambetta should be more powerful than he is to be able of himself alone to persuade the people that the fall of Paris was of no importance. This would be contrary to the common French way of thinking, which is the cause why the people have considered it their duty to make great efforts for the relief of Paris as long as that city defends itself. But we must not overlook the fact that the Parisians themselves have hitherto had little to force them to surrender. When they are aware that the whole of France is actively fighting and bleeding for them, they must, for the sake of honor, bear a little hunger in order not to remain too far behind the rest of the country. We is there that has not fasted for a time in his life, and afterwards lost all memory of his suffering? People do not all at once, because their supply of food is scanty, lose sight of every duty and every calculation of their lasting advantage. The Parisians need not indeed rise above the general standard of humanity, if they resolve to hold out, and do hold out, to the last crust of bread. By this sacrifice, of which any average human being is capable, they procure for their country a respite, of which it makes as much use as possible in the field. The position would at once become quite different if the Parisians had not only to struggle with want of provisions, but also with the horrors of a bombardment. Then they would ask themselves whether it was necessary to expose themselves to such danger, whether the provinces could require Paris to allow itself to be reduced to ashes without there being any prospect that France would thereby ultimately conquer the enemy; and these questions would then produce very different answers from those at present given by the capital to the provinces. The Parisians would then say: If the country cannot relieve us, and if it leaves us from week to week in need, we, too, are in no position to bring back victory to the banners of France. We have suffered and sacrificed enough; our walls are in ruins; and if the provinces cannot beat the enemy in the field, the capital and the country cannot reproach each other if the former surrenders to the foe.

Earl Russell on the military resources of England.

Earl Russell, in a letter to the *Times*, says—I share in your anxiety respecting our armed forces, and it seems to me that, during the five or six weeks before Parliament meets, the public mind could not be more usefully employed than in considering our defences, and, when a conclusion is reached in asking Government to supply our wants by armaments, neither superfluous nor inadequate. We are, unfortunately, a mark for national animosity. On many sides during the South American revolution, the United States checked the building and sailing of their cruisers to intercept and plunder the trade of Spain and Portugal, according to their own views of their obligations. When remonstrated with for not doing more, they answered that they would allow no interference with their domestic measures. When one Southern cruiser escaped from Birkenhead during the American civil war, and our Government copied the answer of Mr. Secretary Adams, we were immediately told that our repression was designedly and wilfully inadequate. In the same spirit, when arms are, during the present war, imported into France from England, but in much larger quantities from the United States, in conformity in both instances with the law of nations, the Prussian ministers, ambassadors, officers and soldiers, through whose country supplies of arms were carried to Russia during the Crimean war, and used by Russian soldiers to kill British troops engaged in a European cause, these same Prussians inveigh against us as enemies, and treat the Americans as blameless friends. From these two instances I infer that the envy and hostility which have pursued every wealthy commercial nation in ancient and modern times are now dogging our steps, and will, one of these days, burst out into open aggression. The facility with which Prince Gortchakoff and Count Bismarck threw off the trammels of treaties in their own cause, and upon their own testimony, shows, but too clearly, how easy it will be to find a pretext for attacking, first, an ally of England, such as Hollahd or Austria, and then England herself. Why should we suppose the British Channel impassable to the ships and boats of an enemy? Is it impossible that a fleet may be required to relieve from danger our fellow-subjects in Jamaica, while an expedition is preparing in the Texel for the invasion of England? Could we send a part of our army to assist an ally while we have so small a force of regular troops, and so few thousands of embodied militia? In six months they would be admirable troops. Captain Sherrard Osborne holds that a fleet equipped in the Scheld against us ought to inspire no apprehensions, and, at the same time, advises us to line our east and and north coasts with ships of war. His practical advice proves that he does not feel the security he affects. Lord Derby warns us against an essentially retrograde step, and, at the same time, assumes that we might possibly be called upon to repel an invasion of one hundred thousand men. I wish to see England made impregnable, with the mob of our volunteers—"Defence, not Defiance."

The honor of being the heaviest taxed city on this continent may be safely awarded to Boston. One could hardly have suspected that shrewd, careful New England should set such an example of municipal life. The taxes in Boston amount to $34.41 per head. New York follows at a respectful distance. The citizens of that favored locality only pay $25.38 per head.

In Halifax on Monday evening, a master shoemaker, named John C. O'Neill, got into an altercation with one of his men named Kennedy, and a scuffle ensued, in which O'Neill was struck on the head with a last and thrown against the stove. He died within a few minutes.