Huron Signal.

GODERICH, FEB. 7, 1867.

THE RIGHT OF APPEAL.

It is currently reported that the Quebec scheme of Confederation has been considerably modified by the delegates now in London, and that not for the better according to our way of thing. For example it is said that an attempt is being made to insert a provision in the Constitution of the Local Legislatures by virtue of which a minority might have a right to appeal to the Confederate Parliament, which again, of course, would have the privilege of vetoing or reversing the obnoxious measure. Such an arrangement, we feel satisfied was never contemplated by the people of Upper Canada when they tacitly consented to the scheme, and we very much question if they will look with favor on any such patchwork. The proposed Local Legislatures, even under the Quebec scheme, are considered by our people generally as mere County Councils on a large scale, and if every serious question that arises is to be carried to the higher tribunal of the general legislature, as the whim of a minority may dictate, there will be very little left upon which to base those feelings of respect with which an intelligent people should regard their governmental institutions. On this subject the *Globe* says:—

"If this right of appeal is accorded to the minorities of the Local Parliaments, then one of the greatest advantages anticipated from Confederation will be defeated. The very purpose for which these Local Parliaments are to be constituted is that of dealing with local questions—and the question of education especially—and it was intended thereby to remove these questions from the general Parliament forever. But if the minority in either Local Parliament is to have the right every time it is beaten to run with an appeal to the general Parliament, then the latter body will continue to be the scene of religious and sectional strife, and that in a greater degree than the Canada Parliament ever exhibited in its worst days. It was bad enough in the legislative Union to have Upper Canadian questions settled by Lower Canadian influence; but it will be far worse if, in the Federal Union, the Federal Parliament is to be allowed to over ride the local in the decision of local questions, and to impose upon Upper Canada or any other Province, local legislation odious to her people and inimical to her dearest interests."

THE LAST OF IT.

We think the world has seen the last of that hydra-headed monster, Fenianism—for some years at all events. Certainly, if the leaders of the organization have determined to sell off their muskets, &c., "at and below cost price," and retire definitely from the management of a business that has yielded no dividend to the stockholders, they can conscientiously plead that they are impelled to such a course by "circumstances over which they have no control!" At the heels of the cowardly defection of Stephens the great, comes news of an increased number of arrests in Ireland of the disaffected, and the discovery of their infernal machines, stink pots, Greek fire, and other devilish implements. As the fire of patriotism dwindles down to a few disconnected sparks in the breasts of misguided coal-heavers and 'canawl men', the Fenian heroes of Ridgeway notoriety are being transferred in squads to lodgings at Kingston, where they will find things ignobly tame and monotonous for some time to come. The Irish servant girls of New York and other big cities have come to the conclusion that any further contributions from their hard earnings would not tend very directly to the re-establishment of some modern descendent of King Canute on the newly-erected throne of Irish sovereignty, and at the same time the press of the United States, once so jubilent at the prospect of a rumpus in which the native born could stand by quietly, has decided in a rare spirit of consistency that the thing was a gross swindle from the first. Young Bennett hobnobs with Princes of the British Empire and the New York *Herald* is amiably inclined towards England. At present everything goes on merry as a marriage bell, and if the deluded Irish who fought the battles of the late war, *on one side*, are not satisfied with the back patting already received, they are doomed to disappointment, for they will receive little more of the same soothing article. Yes, Fenianism is sick unto death, and when it comes to "shuffle off this mortal coil", entirely we shall be constrained to cry: "Peace to its dirty ashes!"

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

The trials of the Fenian Prisoners in Toronto having terminated, the local papers give a list showing the decision arrived at in each case. It is more than probable that those condemned to death will be incarcerated in the Provincial Penitentiary for twenty years or so, and it is to be hoped that those who may survive that period will understand a few of the serious consequences of joining in an invasion of a peaceful people:—

Convicted.—Col Robt Bliss Lynch, Rev John McMahon, Wm Slavin, W Hayden, D'l Whelan, Thos School, John Quin, Jas Burke, Thos Cooney, Bernard Dunn, Jno Gallagher, Owen Kennedy, J Kiley, Peter Paul Ledwith, Pat McGrath, Thos H Maxwell, P. Norton, John O'Connor, P O'Neill, M Purtell, Dan'l Quinn, John Regan.

Acquitted.—Rev D F Lumsden, Benj Parry, Wm Baker, John Cooney, Michael Corcoran, James Diamond, John Dillon, Pat. Donoghue, Daniel Drummond, W. Duggan, Fred Fry, John Grace, John Hughes, Pat Keating, Francis King, Geo Matthews, Jas McDonough, William Orr, Jno Smith, James Spaulding.

Dismissed.—(No bills being being found in some cases, in others evidence insufficient to warrant detention)—James Bell, Pat Bellew, Thos Callahan, Pat Connors, Pat Dolan, M Duffey, John Dineen, David Dunn, Mich'l Flannigan, A Flansbrough, Pat Garvey, D.D. Hammill, Mich'l Hart, J H Hickman, James Hogan, John Johnston, Ed Kelley, Ed Keys, W Kerrigan, Pat Kilbride, M Killfeather, J Langtry, Dennis Lanahan, Wm Madigan, Jno Mahoney, John Mayfield, Geo Miller, T Monday, E M Morley, Jas Quinlan, John Reid, Jas Reilly, Thos Reynolds, Thos Ryall, Jas Rahill, Mich Shannon, John Sheridan, J N Seider, Jas Walters, Geo Wells, T Wilkes, P A Morrison, John A Murphy, M McCormack, Thos McDonald, J Needham, Francis Niles, Pat O'Malley.

Discharged on Bail.—John Carney, Jas Dillion, Thos Davis, Thos Ellis, Dan Foley, Augustus Godey, W Kirkland, Owen Kirk, John Lemmon, Hy Marvel, P O'Brien, Jas Webb.

For Trial—Peter Doyle, Henry Lavelle, John Morgan.

To be discharged—J H Mitchman.

GOLD IN CANADA.

The discoveries of gold in Madoc and elsewhere in Canada are attracting much attention just now, and it is possible that they may be of very great importance to us as a people. Should the predictions of old miners, who have been prospecting with the eagerness that is always connected with a search for the precious metal, be fulfilled, we may expect to see a rush from the States next spring which will largely increased our floating population, and introduce foreign capital to a very considerable extent. It is best not to be too sanguine in the matter of such discoveries, but we see no reason to doubt that a great increase is about to made to our resources—that indeed, the new nation of British North America is to be born with a *golden* spoon in its mouth instead of a silver one. The signs of the times are certainly propitious. As the great Confederation scheme goes on towards consummation we begin, very naturally, to enquire, upon what can we depend should the Imperial Authorities tell us to take upon ourselves the responsibilities involved in a separation from the mother country. The prospect, even in such a case, which most of us would wish to avoid as long as possible, is by no means disheartening. We have magnificent facilities for internal navigation, any amount of water power to drive all the machinery a country can require, forests of almost boundless extent and value, fertile fields, splendid fisheries, maritime harbors in which the navies of the world might have sufficient room, salt in abundance, peat when the woods fail, and if a large portion of our territory to the North is rough and rocky, it will, perhaps be as valuable as the plains on account of the minerals—iron, copper, &c.,—it is known to contain in vast quantities, besides gold, according to recent discoveries. A country thus possessing resources calculated to furnish a great diversity of remunerative employment to its population; and, moreover, blessed with the glorious institutions of civil and religious liberty, must go on and prosper. It may, in its infancy, be rockled in a cradle of storms, but energy and intelligent progress will surmount most obstacles, while every year will add strength to the limbs and courage to the heart of the stripling. In the important discoveries of the past year we should see a Providential opening up of the path of our Confederation to what, we fondly hope, will prove to be a glorious issue.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.—We print in another place an account of the awful famine in India which has already cut off a million of people. Occasional intimations have reached us of destitution in the East, but the details of the sufferings of such vast numbers of our unfortunate fellow subjects are most appaling. We sometimes complain of the climate of Canada, but how deeply grateful we should be that the cry of actual want is seldom, if ever, heard in our midst.

The Bruce Council.

The County Council of Bruce met for the first time at Walkerton, on Tuesday, the 22nd inst. James Broculbank, Esq., was re-elected Warden. The following appointments to office were made:—Mr. Sproat, Treasurer; Mr. Gould, Clerk; Mr. Hamlin, Engineer; Mr. Benson, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Mr. Richardson, Care-taker of Court House.

CORRECTION.—We made a slight mistake in stating that the salaries of our town officials were fixed at the same rate as last year, as we are informed a few small reductions were made. The following are the sums to be paid this year. Treasurer, $140.00; Clerk, $270.00; Assessors, ($80.00 each) $160.00; Collector, $140.00; Town Constable and Street Inspector, $200; Bell-ringer, $100; Inspector Weights and Measures $12.00.

A Serious Loss.

Mr. David Reid, teamster, a hard-working and worthy man, lost a fine horse yesterday while drawing wood from the bush. The animal in struggling through the snow ran against a pole which penetrated its bowels and caused death in a few minutes.

A Timely Thaw.

A twenty-four hours' thaw has greatly reduced the snow on the roads, and if followed by sharp frost, which seems probable, sleighing will be first-rate.

HAY.

Some of the inhabitants of this Township have been stricken with the gold fever, and it is said that an effort is being made to get up a company to proceed to the Canadian gold fields early in spring. Had they not better stay at home?

A Suggestion.

DEAR SIGNAL:—As the Town Council has to give relief to parties who say they are willing and able to work if employment could be found, I would suggest that they be employed in removing the snow mountains on some of the sidewalks. Our city fathers would thus have something to show for the large sums spent in charity.

☞ We would direct attention to the advertisement of Mr. John Douglas, whose stock of groceries, &c., is large and will be sold cheap.

☞ We are happy to see that Masters Johnston, Smith and McDonald, of this town, passed a creditable examination at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, on the 22nd and 23rd insts., and were admitted as members of the Law Society. We wish them every success.

Accident on the G. T. Railway.

BRAKESMAN KILLED.—Yesterday, (Thursday) when within a few miles of Brantford, one of the passenger coaches of the express train coming west, ran off the track, through the spreading of the rails, instantly killing Wm. Archers, one of the brakesmen. Although the coach rolled over and tumbled into the ditch, none of the passengers with which it was filled were seriously injured. Deceased was a fine young man, and the only support of his mother, who resides in Clinton.

☞ All those interested in Business and a Business Education, will be pleased with a perusal of the "Order of Exercises" pursued at the London Commercial College and Seminary, which may be found in our advertising columns.

☞ In the absence of any local news of importance we lay before our readers to-day a very full summary of general intelligence, jokes, &c, which, we trust, will prove interesting.

GRAND ENTERTAINMENT.—Mr Wm Oakley, and (his wife) "Madame Jacque Joan," are to give a great exhibition of "Orating, Reciting and Singing," in the Court Room on Thursday evening the 7th inst. The bill issued by Mr Oakley announcing the programme is a standing witness of the indomitable perseverance of struggling genius. It is, in fact, a good sized poster, cut out of a block of wood, at a cost of time and trouble which, if applied to the less literary and scientific but more practical purposes of manufacturing boots and shoes, would bring in more quarters than half a dozen entertainments such as that proposed. Poor fellow, he is utterly unskilled in anything worldly or practical enough to provide bread for a large family. He follows the morbid bent of his mind, firmly convinced that the world will, some day, owe him a lasting debt of gratitude. We pity, and call him a harmless mono-maniac; but, after all, *who knows*; many of the greatest inventors of the past—men who have given us the means of accomplishing the scientific marvels of our day—were set down as fools, and even compelled to recant by the pious, who considered them under the influence of the father of evil. Who knows, we say, but the name of Oakley may, half a century hence, rank as equal with the names of Galileo, Newton, Watt, Stephenson or Franklin!

CHURCH OPENING.

The new Wesleyan Church, erected at Wilkinson's Corners, Goderich Township, will be formally opened for public worship on Sunday next when appropriate sermons will be preached. On the following evening a tea-meeting will be given in aid of the funds of the building committee. Several addresses may be expected, and altogether the occasion will be a very interesting one.

TEMPERANCE.

Mr. S. T. Hammond, lecturer for the Grand Temple of Canada I. O. G. T. has been holding a number of public temperance meetings in this county during the past month, some of which have been very successful. The following Temples were organized in connection with the meetings:

Lakeview Temple, located in the Township of Hay. Officers elected:

W. C. T.—Henry Vanvalkenburgh.
W. S.—Justus Mellick.
W. T.—Martha Corbett.
W. M.—Eli Loundsberry.
W. F. S.—James Gra n.
O. G.—John Mellick.
W. C.—James Loundsberry.

Night of Meeting, Monday.

Ever True Temple, located in Tuckersmith.

W. C. T.—Alexander Carroll.
W. V. T.—Christina Carroll.
W. S.—Edward Johns.
W. T.—Jemima Turner.
W. M.—Sydney Johns.
W. F. S. Richard Cudmore.
D. M.—Ann Carter.
O. G.—William Cudmore.

Night of Meetng Friday.

Star of the West Temple, organized in the village of Blythe.

W. C. T.—Robert Summers.
W. V. T.—Miss Campbell.
W. S.—Robert Richards
W. T.—George Quinn.
W. C.—Adam Glassier.
D. M.—Mary Gillies.
P. W. C. T.—Thomas Laidlaw.

Mr. Hammond will lecture at the following places:

Wingham, Feb. 7th; Bluevale 8th; Browns 9th; Blythe 14th; Turners 15th; Holmesville 18th; Tiperrary 19th, and organize Temples it required.

ASHFIELD.

January 23, 1867.

DEAR SIGNAL,—At our annual School meeting, which by mutual consent was conducted on the principal of a nomination, viz, on the nomination of two candidates to the office of Trustee, without any poll being taken, the chairman suggested that the voters of either party should file off two seperate sides of the house, which being done he (the chairman) proceeded to count the number of votes on both sides; which operation he repeated three distinct times, finding invariably fifteen on one side and fourteen on the other side; being himself in favor of the party in the minority and unwilling to loss the election he (the chairman) very audaciously asserted his claim to two votes, one as a qualified elector, and another in virtue of his office as chairman. Thereby giving the preponderance of one of a majority to the party he favored, and whom, in the face of all argument, he declared as being duly elected.—Moreover he questioned and negatived two persons votes belonging to the opposite party, although one is an assessed member of the section, and the other a householder having several children attending school; simply taking advantage of their want of the English language, to maintain their claims, and after previously allowing and counting both their votes. Now what I and many other in the section desire, is if you in a short paragraph in an early issue of your paper, would oblige us by stating whether the chairman could make good his claim to two votes, or indeed to any vote at all. And which of the two candidates you would consider the duly elected one.

Yours, a SUBSCRIBER,

REMARKS.—If the case has been correctly put by our correspondent, which we have no reason to doubt, the answer is very simple. The chairman could only use a casting vote, and if the extraordinary step of a mere nomination was resorted to, he had no right to negative a vote which would probably be good in an ordinary election of the kind. If there is any feeling in the matter, the whole proceeding should be upset at once.—Ed. *Signal*.

Burns's Anniversary in Seaforth.

[From our special Correspondent.]

Seaforth, Jan. 23, 1867.

I have found my way here this evening in a tremendous snow-storm, which commenced at 11 a. m., through snow drifts 3 and 4 feet deep, to be present at the anniversary of Scotland's Poet, Robert Burns, to be celebrated by a dinner in Carmichel's Hotel in this place. Often during the journey, was I reminded of those couplets in Tam. O. Shanter,

"The win blew as twad blawn its last,
The rattling showers rose on the blast,
And sic a night to tak the road in
As neer poor sinner was abroad in."

In reaching Cormick's I found what I dreaded, that the storm had kept away most of our leading men of the county, who had been expected. Preparations had been made for over one hundred; and scarcely forty sat down to the very splended dinner, provided for the occasion. The table literally groaned with its load of good things. I have never seen a better spread in my life; but above all was an enormous Haggis, which every body dug into, it was pronounced by all to be a "guide ane."

After ample justice had been done to the eatables,—the cloth was removed,—the toddy brewed— and the company gathered round the table to enjoy the night. If the company was small they made up for it in enthusiasim, and proved themselves good fellows indeed,

"The night flew by wi sungs and clatter,
And aye the gill was growing better,
The storm without might rave and russel,
They did na mind the storm a whistle."

Peter Ramsay, Esq., of Seaforth, was called to the chair; and Hugh Love Esq. Junr., of Hay, to the Vice Chair.

The Chairman, introduced the proceedings of the evening, by craving a bumper to our noble Queen, "God bless her," drunk with all the honors, all hands joining in singing the Queen's national anthem.

Next, from the Chair, came the Governor General: Song for he is a jolly good fellow. Mr. Russel, of the Royal Canadian Bank of Seaforth, made a few very appropriate remarks in reply.

Next from the Chair, came the "Army and Navy, and Volunteers of Great Britain, and her dependencies"; drunk to with enthusiasm. The Chairman stated, that the Gentleman, who had consented to reply to this toast, and who he knew would have done ample justice to it, had like many others been kept back by the storm—he therefore would call on Mr. Kid, of Seaforth for a song—Mr. Kid, gave "Rule Britania," in good style.

The Chairman, said, we had now come to the toast of the evening, he requested them to fill their glasses, and in solemn silence, drink to the memory of Scotlands Poet, Robert Burns. He, the chairman, regretted that the Gentleman who had engaged to respond to this toast, had also been kept away by the inclemency of the weather; under these circumstances he would therefore call upon the Vice Chairman, Mr. Hugh McEwan, Teacher, and Mr Russel, as he knew these Gentlemen were well posted up in the history of the Poet, and great admirers of his writings, for a few remarks.—The Gentlemen alluded to, each, briefly addressed the meeting; their remarks showed them to be men of intelligence, and who thoroughly appreciated the writings and influence of the "Ayrshire Ploughman bard"; T. Dick, Esq., of Hay, followed with the song "There was a lad was born in Kyle", and T Johnstone, Esq., of Seaforth, sung "The Banks and Braes of bonnie Doon."

The next toast from the chair, was "The Land we left"; replyed to by Mr Winter of Seaforth; song by John Logan, Esq., of Seaforth, "Scotland yet", sung in fine style.

The Chairman then stated that he had only one more toast to bring before their notice, after which he expected the Vice Chairman to carry out the programme of the evening, he requested them to drink to "The Land we live in." Charles McLeod, Esq., of Kippen replied in a very neat little speech: followed by the landlord singing "Of a the airts the win can blaw", and T. Dick of Hay, singing "Tibbie I have seen the day."

The Vice Chairman, then gave "The Agricultural interests of Canada." In introducing this sentiment the Vice Chairman crowed a full bumper; the Agricultural interests being in his opinion the most important interests in Canada. He called upon Jas. Anderson, Esq., of Stanley to respond, Mr Anderson replied at considerable length, and with much applause. Comic songs by Mr. Russel and Wm Sproat, Esqs., of Tuckersmith which brought down the house.

Next came the "Commercial Interests of Canada," which the vice Chairman said he considered were next in importance to the agricultural, coupling it with the name of Jno. Logan Esq. merchant, of Seaforth. Mr. Logan made a very good speech in reply a speech worthy of an intelligent merchant, Song by J. Anderson, of Stanley "The Mason with his apron on."

In proposing "The Educational interests of Canada;" the vice Chairman, said all would admit their great importance; for without Education, we could neither be free, nor happy, nor have merchants, nor good Farmers: and called upon Wm Gerond Esq. teacher of Egmondville, to respond, Mr Gerond, replied in a happy speech, fraught with sound sense, and good argument, and gave a good sketch of the present state, and future prospects of education in Canada. Song by T. Dick, "Erin is my home."—Dick is a sweet singer. The next Toast, was the "Press"—the vice Chairman calling attention to its general usefulness, and mighty influence; and calling upon Mr. E. Davis, of the "Mitchell Advocate" to reply—Mr. Davis made a short but eloquent response—thanking the Company for the honor done the "Press, &c. &c." Songs—H. Love Senr. "The lass of Gowrie"—by C. McLeod, "The hights of Alma"—and another laughable comic by Wm. Sproat—I had no idea there was so much comic in friend Willie!

Next came the "Ladies"—humerously responded to by Jno. Logan, and H. McEwan—Songs—by Jno. Logan, "When the kye comes hame"—and by T. Downie Esq. of Seaforth, "Woman is the joy and pride of the Land," our Host, and Hostess followed—Mr. Carmichael, returned thank on behalf of Mrs. C. and himself: and sung with great glee, "We have aye been provided for and so will we yet." Several capital songs followed, and all was going merry as a marriage bell, when we were admonished by old Father time that we had got among "the wee short hours ayont the twall;" all joined in singing "Auld lang syne," and then took off their several ways. I must not forget to add that the company were much indebted to Robert McLean Esq. of Tuckersmith—whose canny stories, and sly jokes contributed much to the hilarity of the evening.

The greatest of good feeling prevailed, and all were sorry to part. So ended the first Burn's Anniversary ever held in Seaforth—I hope it will not be the last: and I hope when they have an otherone, they will have better weather, and a large company.

☞ Advices from Vera Cruz to the 19th inst. have been received. The embarkation of the French troops in Mexico, to return home, was proceeding, and the Liberals were advancing by every road towards the capital, sweeping everything before them. The French evacuation of the western cities was followed by the flight of the Mexican and French Imperialists.

☞ The Queen is spoken of as about to visit the Paris Exhibition.

☞ The Rev. Mr. Burnet, of Hamilton, will preach in St. Andrew's Church, Goderich in the morning, and also at six in the evening, of Sunday, the 10th inst.

A FENIAN AMBASSADOR.—Toronto was visited on Saturday by a secret envoy of the Fenian Bretherhood, sent to observe the condition of affairs, and to undertake the impossible task of kindling the flame of "liberty" there. The fellow left on the same day; evidently he saw no field for the dissemination of his principles.

By Atlantic Cable.

Paris Feb. 1, evening.—The Imperial army will camp this year near this city, and not at Chalons, as usual.

Athens, Feb. 1.—It is impossible for the Government of Greece to prevent the volunteers from leaving for Crete. 1,500 soldiers have just departed to aid their struggling brethren in that island.

Madrid, Feb 1.—More than one hundred arrests have been made in this city recently of persons believed to be connected with revolutionary schemes.

It is now certain that the Queen in her speech at the opening of Parliament will propose a Reform measure.

There is a rumour that Mr. Laird himself offers to pay the Alabama claims.

Paris, Feb 1.—The Emperor Napoleon will soon issue a decree granting the perpetual right of social and religious meetings.

Berlin, Feb 1.—The flag of the North German Confederation has been agreed on. It will consist of an eagle and a black, white and red stripe. Prussia declines to treat with the South German States on account of the provisions of the Prague.

Liverpool, Feb. 1, evening.—The ship Monmouth, which sailed from New Orleans on the 18th November for Liverpool, was abandoned at sea. Eight lives were lost. The remainder of the crew, twelve in number, were saved.

London, Feb 2, noon.—Garibaldi discontences any rising at Rome, and has written a note discouraging the scheme for the present. Advices have been received which state that the Government of Russia is protesting against the gathering of Poles in Galicia.

Paris, Feb 2, noon.—Mr. James G. Bennett, Jr., has had a private interview with his Imperial Majesty Napoleon.

Liverpool, Feb 1, evening.—Wheat and flour market much easier. Corn declined to 40s to 40s 6d per quarter for mixed western. Beef advanced half a crown. Lard quoted at 53s for American. Cheese declined 1s for middling to fine American. Petroleum quoted at 1s 6d to 1s 6½d per gallon for prime and Canada refined.

The Canadian Lake Trade.

While it is always a pleasing duty to mark and record the advances made in Canadian industry and commerce, it is not the less important to note those changes in the current of affairs which denote the operation of hostile influences. An occasion of this kind presents itself in the matter of our shipping interests, as set forth in the annual report of the Toronto Board of Trade, just published. Touching this they say:—

"One important branch of our industry has, however, been seriously affected by recent legislation of Congress. The shipping interests of our lakes, which have suffered for the past ten years from the construction of the Grand Trunk line of railway running parallel to our lake and river navigation, were just recovering from long depression, when the American government enacted a law prohibiting Canadian vessels from carrying American freight from one American port to another by transhipment over our railways, as hitherto permitted under the Reciprocity Treaty, the consequence has been that many Canadian bottoms have changed their registry to become American vessels, and nearly 100 are waiting the action of Congress to follow their example?"

This is no encouraging report, and one could wish it were otherwise. It will be observed that the wholesale desertion of Canadian bottoms to the American nationality is attributed directly to the action of Congress, which, by imposing certain disabilities, has rendered the lake unprofitable to the majority of the lake schooners, and forced them over in self-defence. Some might think that this course is an unpatriotic one, and that the owners should have continued to hold their vessels under the Union Jack. But the owners seem to have thought that Commercial considerations should be their guide, and hence the defection so forcibly brought out in the report of the Toronto Board of Trade.

The Cretan Insurrection.

The following extract from a letter written by a young Greek of education who is now in Washington, to a friend in Boston, will be read with profound and painful interest:

"I had very sad letters from home. Nine of my fellow scholars while in the college (the University of Athens), have been killed by the Turks. Three of them have been taken prisoners by the Turks and have been roasted to the fire. The Turks asked them to submit themselves to the Sultan, and give up the Christian faith, which they refused of course. The Pacha asked to see those three, and after he saw them he asked them to submit to the Sultan again, which they refused again; then he ordered his soldiers to take them away, to make fire, to roast them, and to give them to the dogs, which they executed immediately. They were young men of education and spirit, graduates of the University, and spoke as many languages as I do, except English and Arabic. Two of them practiced the law and one the civil engineering. They died the death of the hero and they have slept their last sleep upon the arms of Liberty. They have left a great many relations and friends who will mourn for them. If you will look back to the annals of the history of civilized nations, you shall find no equal barbarity between two belligerent nations, only in the Greek revolution of 1821 and in this present sacred war. But patience, we cannot do otherwise, we must accept all the things as they come from Heaven, but this is a bitter thing for one."

STEPHENS.

The New York Tribune of Thursday says:—"Mr. James Stephens, the late head centre, is still stopping in Brooklyn, No. 59.—Second-place, all rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Stephens is, however, making his preparations for an early departure to the South of France as soon as the storm blows over in regard to his late eccentric movements. Mr. Stephens sent a draft for £500 to his wife by her brother, Mr. G. Hopper, who was in New York a short time ago, in order to provide for any contingencies that might occur. Mrs. Stephens is at present located in Kingstown, Ireland, and is pleasantly occupied in shopping, etc., according to the latest advices. Two of Mr. Stephen's friends left for Europe on Saturday, Col. Halpin and Col. Kelley, and Stephens accompanied them down the bay, but returned to the city in a pilot boat the same afternoon. Mr. Stephens is enjoying excellent health, and is altogether undisturbed by the outside clamor and rumors in regard to his movements.

NEW YORK, Feb 1—A rumor prevails in Wall St. that a crises of a threatening nature hangs over many of the insurance corporations of the city owing to unprecedented losses by fires and marine disasters during the year just passed. Yearly statements were published by some of the most prominent companies yesterday, by which it appears that many of them cancel all the capital represented by scrip. The navigation of Long Island Sound is completely closed. 15 miles of ice extend to the right and left of Throgg's Neck, and heavy loaded wagons cross in safety from New Rochelle to City Island. Three steamers and eight schooners were frozen in on Thursday but the steamers succeeded in making their way out of the dangerous position.

Bruce County Council.

A. Sprout has been appointed Treasurer at a salary of $800; L. B. Hamlin, engineer, $1150; Geo. Gould, clerk, $400; J. Benson, inspector of weights and measures.

A resolution was passed by the council to give a bonus of $1000 to any party boring for coal oil or salt in the county to the depth of 1000 feet, or deep enough to discover either. Should two companies commence operations the amount to be divided.

The balance of $1432 left on hand of the sum voted on account of the volunteers is to be supplemented by a further sum of over $600, and given towards the drill sheds in the county. The battalion drill shed at Walkerton is to get $800, and the company drill sheds from $200 to 250 each.

The council decided against granting anything towards extending the telegraph wires through the county.

Prince Edward Island.

The Halifax *Reporter* states that Governor Dundas, of Prince Edward Island, "has been notified of the probability of his administrative services not being required in the colony after May next," and that the government have decided not to have any elections until the fate of confederation is known. It also gives currency to the following little imbroglio:—

"A rapid anti-unionist, Hon. K. Henderson, has been compelled to resign his seat in the Executive Council. This gentleman, no longer possessing a constituency in the island, and making himself decidedly obnoxious to his former colleagues, received a notification from the President of the Council that his services were no longer required as he had ceased to be a member of the Legislative Council in virtue of which he was elevated to a place in the executive. Notwithstanding this gentle dismissal, he boldly stalked into the council chamber at the last meeting of the executive, and took his seat as usual. Thereupon the president ordered him out; but this he refused to do. The board, however, would not transact business in his presence, and the crest-fallen minister was compelled to leave. Political meetings are being held in various sections of the island, and much opposition manifested towards the present government."

A Chinese Wall Wanted.

Speaking of the paragraph which appeared in the Washington telegrams of the New York *Times*, to the effect that a government detective had succeeded in making arrangements with twenty-two out of twenty-three American customs officers to smuggle goods into the United States, the New York *Post* says:—"We recommend this to the protectionists as an excellent argument for a higher tariff against Canadian products. But we fear even a higher tariff will not answer. Why will not some one bring in a bill appropriating seventy or eighty million dollars for the construction of a Chinese wall, to separate the United States from Canada? That might be effective—unless some shrewd Yankee should tunnel the wall. Why do not the protectionists pursuade the American people to buy only home manufactures, no matter how much dearer these may be than foreign manufactures? This would help them, but nothing else will. According to the protectionist notion, the American people are such fools that they do not know what is good for them, but need to be restrained by the wisdom of a little knot of protectionists from hurting themselves."

In another article on a subsequent day, the *Post* says that the tariffs have been passed in five years, each increasing the duties levied by the previous one. After giving the date of each of the ten tariffs the *Post* says:—

"And now Congress is tinkering at the eleventh bill. What is the use of such trifling? Why will not some sensible member of the Committee on Ways and Means introduce a bill 'to abolish all intercourse with foreign nations, close the ports of the United States except to coastwise traffic, and appropriate — millions for the construction of a Chinese wall, one hundred feet high and five hundred feet thick, around the land boundaries of the United States?

"That is what it all means, and it is mere trifling and tinkering, and beating about the bush, to do less. Let us have a wall by all means, and let the whole force of the United States navy be employed to bombard Merchantmen bringing the products of foreign countries to our ports."

The *Post* warns Congress against the effects of the passage of the new tariff bill:

"The tariff bill has gone to the House. It is, as we have shown by exact figures, one of the most oppressive and unequal revenue bills ever devised. It lays exceptionally heavy burdens upon the articles consumed by the poor and the workingmen, and their wives and children, and favors the rich in everyway. We once more warn members of the House of Representatives not to vote for this bill—unless they are sure that it will be defeated. If it becomes a law and goes into operation it will, as it ought to, kill politic ally every man who votes for it."

THE CONDITION OF AUSTRIA.

The *Vienna Gazette* calculates that, as the result of the new military system adopted in Austria, the army will amount to 1,300,000 men, of whom 800,000 will be on the active list, and the residue in the first and second reserves. The present population of Austria numbers about 32,500,000, of which 16,000,000 are males, and of these probably about a half are between the ages of sixteen and sixty. But of this number 8,000,000 adult men under sixty years of age, about one-fourth would be incapacitated for military service. There are, therefore, 6000,000 men to furnish an active army of 800,000 which is more than one seventh of all the available men, and a larger proportion still of the men who could really be obtained for the ranks of the army, and who constitute the labouring classes of the community.

A correspondent of the London *Times*, writing on the 3rd instant, says that the falling off of the revenue of Austria between January and may, 1866, "is attributed to the general stagnation of commerce and manufactures, the backward development of the railroad system in the empire, the impoverishment of landholders, the tightness of the money market, the want of capital and credit, and also to the bad harvests of the last two years in Galicia and Hungary and the prostration of the iron trade in Upper and Lower Austria and Styria.

New York, Feb. 1.—The *Herald's* Santiago, Chili, correspondence of Jan. 22nd says, foreign mediation between the allied republics and Spain had been definitely rejected and a vigorous prosecution of the war had been determined upon. Mediation on the part of the United States was looked forward to amicably and it was believed that a proposition for an adjustment from that quarter would be accepted. The Chilian government had received reliable information that Spain was making every preparation for war and would reinforce the naval division of Rio Janeiro.

The Fenian leaders in this city advertise for sale 2,000 stand of arms, principally muskets and Springfield rifles all ready for instant use.

☞ Passing lately through the city of Haarlem, I noticed on two houses in different streets a peculiar ornament of white lace and cardboard about 5 by 4 inches, hung just outside the street door. I was told that it signified the birth of a child, and that the inhabitants had the privilege from time immemorial of using such badges; and that for the period of six weeks after a birth while such badge was visible, no tax collector nor creditor of any kind was allowed to demand payment.

CLEVER DOG. THAT.—The Oswego *Times* says a gentleman recently advertised in our columns "a dog lost." This morning the dog went home of his own accord. He thought it of no use to attempt to run away if the newspapers were after him.

Counterfeit Greenback Swindle.

(From the London Free Press.)

On Friday, two of our citizens were cleverly swindled by a cute Yankee young man, under the following circumstances:—The individual in question is a young man, rather short, with brown hair and a light moustache. He favored Mr. Pannel, of the "City Arms" Hotel, with his patronage, and stopped there several days. Mr. Pannell, on Friday, was obliging enough to change a $20 counterfeit greenback for silver, and the "guest" did not return. On Thursday he visited the jewelry store of Mr. D. T. Ware, and brought some articles, paying good greenbacks for them. He also purchased a pair of spectacles, and paid for them in silver. He talked of buying a gold watch and chain, and was shown some watches, but the prices would not suit. On Friday evening he called again about the watch, and after a good deal of chaffering about a watch and chain for $135 in American money, and tendered seven $20 bills on the Fourth National Bank of Philadelphia. The notes looked new and crisp, and all suspicion was disarmed. The bills, were accepted, the jewelry handed over, and Mr. Yank sloped! On Saturday, when the bills were sent to be changed, their worthless character was ascertained. Of course he did not return to settle his hotel bill, nor has he since been seen. Possibly, the youth may be trying his confidence game elsewhere, and parties in other places had better be on the lookout for him. The bills are numbered 39,838. They are printed on darker paper than the originals, and appear to be lithographed, and are of a character to deceive those who do not handle much American money. We are sorry for Mr. Ware's and Mr. Pannell's loss, and hope that their unfortunate experience may be the means of saving others from similar victimizing.

United States Tariff.

Some of the ablest journals in the United States are attacking the tariff bill, now passing through Congress, very vigorously. The Chicago *Tribune* estimates that it will cost the people of Iowa above $20,000,000 a year. The New York *Evening Post*, after showing that it bears more heavily upon the poor than upon the rich, proceeds to say:

"If it becomes a law it will kill every man who voted for it. It is an enormous and cold-blooded swindle upon the working men of America; and it will be no use for Congress men to say, by-and by, when called to account by their constituents, that they did not know what they voted for. This tariff, if it passes, will very greatly increase the high prices of all necessaries of life; it will make all home productions more costly than at present; it will disable us from selling either our manufactures or our natural products abroad, except at a loss; and it will make the whole nation poor."

The Manitoulin Islands.

The *Globe's* Ottawa correspondent says that a line road is under construction on the great Manitoulin Island, to extend from Little Current to Sheguishudah, where there exists a valuable mill privilege and a town post has been located. Thence the road runs to Manitowaning, the present headquarters of the Indian staff in the Island. It is proposed to carry the road thence to Providence Bay, where saw mills are about to be erected by Messrs. Lyon & Co., of Milton, and where there is a good harbour, and land is being arranged for settlement likewise. This road, communicating with Little Current, which is the regular point of call for the steamers Algoma and Waubuno, on their trips from Collingwood to Sault Ste. Marie, will place it within easy reach of Toronto.

Homestead of the United State.

Few can understand without due enquiry what a great effect the policy of our neighbours in respect to the deeding of land as homesteads has upon emigration. With a view to attract immigrants, the policy of the Home Department as to public lands has been reversed, and rapid settlement is now preferred to immediate revenue. The homestead arrangements relieve the settler from the payment of purchase money, and secure him a permanent home, upon the condition of residence for a term of years, and the result of this liberal policy is seen in the rapidity with which solitudes are being peopled and waste lands brought under cultivation. Last year 4,629,312 acres of public lands were disposed of, 1,892,516 acres of which were entered under the Homestead Act; and there can be no doubt of the soundness of the policy which has been pursued. "Long experience and earnest discussion," says the President in a recent message, "have resulted in the conviction that the early development of our agricultural resources and the diffusion of an energetic population over our vast territory, are objects of far greater importance to the national growth and prosperity than the proceeds of the sale of the land to the highest bidder in open market." When will Canadian statesmen appreehend the truth of this, and give to those willing to settle grants of land similar to those which are so effective for good elsewhere.

The Impeachment Question.

The impeachment movement has made no progress since we last referred to the subject. The Judiciary Committee to whom the motions in the case were referred, have been professing to collect evidence; but we do not perceive that they have supoenaed any witnesses or taken such active steps as to give much evidence of their sincerity. Some of the more prominent members of the Republican party are evidently alarmed at the proposal. Impeachment without removal would be likely to prove more advantageous to the President than to any one else. Mr. Greeley, and others of his kind, have been at Washington consulting on the matter. They see that a forcible removal of the President—except in the way the constitution points out—means revolution. And to the remonstrance of these gentlemen the majority in the present Congress will probably defer, and let the matter rest till the new Congress assembles—which it will do in March. Well, then, if the question is postponed till March, it is likely that some compromise ground may be discovered which will obviate the danger of further collision between the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government. It has indeed been reported that the President is half inclined to urge on the Southern States to voluntarily adopt a qualified measure of negro enfranchisement. Should this prove true, it would bring a considerable party in Congress over to his side, and restoration of the South would become a comparatively easy thing. We trust there is nothing savoring of partisanship in, our giving expression to this hope. If neither the Executive nor Congress will yield it is clear that the basis of public order and credit must be assailed. And it is to no one's interest that such a thing as that should come to pass. The country wants rest—for the sake of its vast commercial social interests. And we earnestly look and pray for a compromise—without pretending to judge on which side lies the balance of right.—*Scot. Amer