☞ The Fenians are going to "draw their swords" if a demand made by their President on the British Minister to guarantee the independence of Ireland is not complied with. They might as well draw them at once.

☞ We would remind Teachers that the Goderich Branch Association will meet in the Central School, on Saturday, Dec. 5th., at 10 o'clock, a. m.

☞ The Bruce *Review* speaks very highly of Clark's Excelsior Washing Composition.

☞ The Seaforth paper is awfully deep in a discussion of the Mosiac Cosmogony.

☞ Those in town having houses to rent or sell should advertise in the *Signal* at once.

☞ Wood now sells by the load in Goderich at $3,50 per cord. Hard times for poor people.

☞ If you want a first-rate job of printing done leave your order at the *Signal* office at once.

☞ Special attention is directed to the advertisement of Mr. J. S. Porter, Seaforth.

☞ The Ball circulars issued from this office cannot be surpassed for elegance and cheapness this side of Toronto.

☞ The Wesleyan Misionary Meeting held last evening was not attended so largely as it should have been. Addresses were delivered by J. V. Detlor Esq. and Revds. Messrs. Livingstone, Poole and Rice. Mr. Geo. Cox occupied the chair.

☞ The "Grand Rally" at the M. E. Church on Wednesday evening last was well attended. The principal feature of the entertainment was the singing, of a lady from Portland who pleased all present with her fine voice. Rev. Mr. Livingston, who is a most accomplished musician, rendered the accompaniments with grand and thrilling effect on his favorite organs.

☞ Goderich, in its rapid rise, is going a little too fast in some things: Petty thefts are of almost daily occurrence. We have heard during the past few days of cases where parties stole bags and buffalo robes, pieces of dry goods, silver spoons from restaurants, snatched from tills, &c. A few wholesome examples will be made, no doubt, as soon as possible.

☞ We hear that a strong company from Berlin contemplate starting a fresh Salt well in Goderich. Come on, gentlemen, there's plenty of room, providing a market large enough can be found!

OH, CHICKEY!—The Seaforth *Expositor can* do it, that's a fact. It says:—"We are indebted to the following prominent Periodicals in the United States for their very flattering notices given of the 'EXPOSITOR,' also for the papers put on the exchange list, *Clipper, Albion, Wilks Spirit of the Times, Daily Tribune, Frank Lesley, Peterson's, Harpers Monthly, Weekly & Bazar, &c.*

☞ The fresh prisoners in the Mullady murder case were brought before the Mayor and J. V. Detlor Esq., to-day (27) and remanded till next week in consequence of the absence, through indisposition, of the stipendary magistrate. Messrs. Doyle & Squire appeared for the prisoners, Mr. Lewis on behalf of the Crown.

SMALL COMFORT.—The *Star* takes comfort in saying that if the election as between Carling and Gibbons is declared void on account of the list used for Stanley being the wrong one, *then* Mr. Cameron *might have been* unseated. Consoling, very!

☞ Mr. Snider informs us that on and after the 1st prox. the tariff for telegraphing from Goderich to the various points along the line will be materially reduced. We hope the reduction will extend to newspaper telegraphing as well.

☞ The *Leader* says South Huron has been misrepresented long enough. We wonder if the country would feel impelled to congratulate itself on obtaining, in Mr. Gibbons' place, another representative of the Beatty stamp?

☞ The two pork packing houses in London, Ont., give good employment to about 200 people, while a large amount of capital is spent daily in the purchase of hogs. The speculation is said to be quite remunerative. One such establishment should be started in our own Lake city.—Who has ten thousand dollars to spare?

☞ A meeting of the Goderich St. George's Society will take place at the Maitland Hotel on Friday evening, Dec. 4th. A full attendance is requested.

☞ A gentleman named Foster writes from Metcalfe to say that he has invented and patented a new machine for the cheap evaporation of salt. We know nothing of its capability.

☞ The Huron Salt Co, sent a small cargo of salt to Oswego a few days ago. That is carrying coals to Newcastle with a vengeance!

☞ We regret to say that on Monday last the str *Silver Spray* broke her shaft when off Southampton. She was tugged to this port and will be compelled to lie up for the winter.

ANOTHER PICTURE.—Our talented townsman, Mr. J. Ratcliffe has shown us a view of Goderich Mills, the Railway Station and remainder of the Salt Wells. The work is highly recommended by the owners of the property upon which the views are taken as to the correctness of the work. We trust that he will meet with encouragement from the public and in particularly in Goderich, to enable him to get the work lithographed.

WINTER LEISURE.—Leisure is a blessing to the virtuous, and a great curse to the vicious. To suppose that leisure means a chance to do nothing, or next to nothing, would be a very dangerous blunder. It means only the substitution of a chosen employment for an involuntary one. The evening party, the singing school, the sleigh-drive, the neighborly visit, are things our families are all the better of; but for real enjoyment, without alloy, give quiet evening at home. The family that loves home is almost certain to have a happy future before its members, and the parent who succeeds in getting his family to love home, does more for them than he thinks. To this end a provision of wholesome reading is now-a-days indispensable, and better reading we could not recommend than the various publicotions of John Dougall & Son, Montreal.

## HAY.

Some miscreants have, on two different

## SEAFORTH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

MARKETS.—The present state of the roads is sadly against business—hardly any grain coming in—Wheat buyers nothing to do but wish for sleighing, at present there is just enough snow to make it very disagreeable.

OUR STREETS.—There never was, in any town, in any country, a street that could boast of more dirt than the Main street in Seaforth. A person, on being asked why the authorities did not keep the streets cleaner, pointed to the new Market house and said.—It cannot be done without money, and the money is all gone down there.

PETITION.—On Saturday signatures were being taken to a petition to the County Council, praying that body to reconsider the basis upon which they placed the county tax of the municipality of Seaforth for the current year. As the council of Seaforth conceived said basis to be incorrect. Some were signing it thinking it right. More were not, thinking it merely an electioneering dodge on a small scale.

Mr. Logan, has on hand just now, one of the best selected and cheapest stocks of ready made clothing that ever came into Seaforth It is hard to conceive that clothing of the very best quality, and newest style can be sold so cheap. Any one wanting a winter suit should give him a call.

Hickson, has a great quantity of skates on hand.

John Martin's new churn was tried on Saimplay at Mr. Modelau's house Tuckersmith. We witnessed the trial, and must say that we were very much astonished to see butter come out, just five minutes after the cream was put in, further comment is unnecessary as that churn will introduce itself.

Gibbons. Considerable feeling is manifested here by both Liberals and Conservatives about the trial of Mr. Gibbons. The way the trial is conducted is honestly and indignantly condemned by all parties as not being fair play.

Carter's grain Store house is the best at Seaforth Station.

Goderich Salt is in great demand here now.

CENSUS.—Mr. Bull, took the census of Seaforth last week and found 1502 resident inhabitants.

SIGNAL.—The people here, after a fair trial all round, have come to the conclusion that the *Signal* is the best newspaper in the County.

## Seaforth Council

The Municipal Council of the village of Seaforth met pursuant to adjournment at Sharp's hotel, on the 24th inst. Present Councillors, Strong, McDougall, Cash and Beattie. It was moved, seconded and carried, That Mr. Strong take the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted. The reeve having arrived took the chair. A report was presented by the committee appointed to examine the assessment rolls of Tuckersmith and McKillop, and petition by John Douglas and Peter Markey, also several accounts were present. It was moved by A. McDougall, sec. by J. Beattie, That the report of the committee appointed to examine the rolls of Tuckersmith and McKillop, be received and adopted.—Carried. Moved by E. Cash, sec. by J. Beattie, That the petition of J. Douglas be received and lay over till next meeting of Council, and Mr. Douglass in the mean time be advised to pay his taxes and await the action of the Council afterwards.—Carried. Moved by A. McDougall, sec. by E. Cash, That the petition of Peter Markey be received and the prayer thereof granted, and that T. P. Bull, clerk, do take the census of the population of the Municipality of the village of Seaforth, according to law, upon condition that the said Peter Markey do pay the sum of $5 as the Clerk's fee for said service, prior to his taking said census, and that said census be taken on the sixth, seventh, and eighth days of November.—Carried. The following accounts were ordered to be paid, and debentures issued for the same. J. D. Fee, nails, &c., $9.60; E. Lindsay, services as constable, $5.15; G. McPhillips, surveying, $15 00; R. Fisher, plan and specification Market House, $6.00. The act of Mr. Homestead, was laid over until a future meeting, and Mr. Cull's account referred back to him as the Council thinks some articles are overcharged. Moved by E. Cash, sec. by A. Strong, That the Clerk be hereby instructed to write to the Council of McKillop requesting them to pay over to this municipality the share of Clergy Reserve fund accruing to us for the year 1867.—Carried. Moved by E. Cash, sec. by A. McDougall, and resolved that the Treasurer of this Municipality is hereby instructed to place four hundred dollars to the credit of the Board of School Trustees, and paid to their order presented in due form.—Carried. Moved by A. McDougall, sec. by J. Beattie, That the petition be drafted and circulated amongst the ratepayers of this Municipality for signature, to be presented to the County Council at its first session, praying them to reconsider the basis upon which they placed the County tax of the Municipality of Seaforth for the current year, inasmuch as we conceive said basis to be incorrect.—Carried. The Reeve having left, it was moved, sec. and carried, that Mr. Strong do take the chair.—Moved by A. McDougall, sec. by J. Beattie, That rule 22nd of Council be suspended for this night.—Carried. Moved by A. McDougall, sec. by J. Beattie. That the committee on public improvements do ascertain if the Lock-up can be finished this week, and if so to instruct the Clerk of the Council to write to Mr. Bay the County Engineer, to inspect the same in order that his certificate may be presented to the County Council to draw the amount of money granted for said Lock-up.—Carried. The Council adjourned to meet again on Tuesday evening next, at Sharp's hotel, at 7.30 p. m.

## EGMONDVILLE.

G & H. Jackson, not contented with having a first class stock of dry goods and groceries, have added a drug department.

The Brass Band is improving fast, they played on Friday night, it is quite a treat to hear them.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

DEAR SIR.—Could you inform us what the Goderich *Star* means by stealing so much of the *Globe's* thunder in favor of the pet colleges at Toronto, and the mixing it up with so much twaddle about the kirk of Scotland, the Episcopalian Church, the Congressional and the Methodist Churches. He says:—"*The enemies of pure and undefiled religion could take no more sure way of deadening a religious spirit in the country, than by making governmental provisions for all the church requirments.*" Does he mean that the deadening religious influence of his church is owing to the governmental provisions for his favorite college in Toronto. It is very strange, that he wants all that deadening influence to be given to his church. It is a bad thing for churches to have their colleges aided from the endowment fund, it deadens their religious spirit very much. and yet, somehow, the twinkling '*Star*' wants the whole vast endowment fund for his pet college and his own Church. The *Star* dont want to deaden the religious spirit of the quarter of a million Wesleyans, nor to deaden the Church of England, nor the Kirk, nor the M. E. Church, nor the Independents, nor the R. Catholics. He wants to keep them alive working hard as they have done for 30 years on the voluntary principle supporting their colleges but he is quite willing to have his own and the *Globe's* Church deadened outright, by the whole government endowment.

What does he mean?

Yours, X.

## AINLEYVILLE.

To the 'Signal.'

A letter appears in the last issue of the Goderich *Star* in which my name is brought out with special prominency by the same anonymous scribler, to whom I referred in one of my former communications. He stills shrinks from attaching his name to his incubrations for reasons that he doubtless regards as being insuperable. The meanest, the most contemptable characters, are those who give a stab in the dark—and if one happens to meet them pretend a friendship they do not feel. The criticism of this disguised foe falls as harmlessly as a flake of snow on a rock of adamant, not worthy of a passing notice. He goes on to say that his design is not to question my veracity and the proceeds to do the very thing he had just disavowed. His first narrative of the affair appeared in the *Star* of 16th of October, in which he represents the occurrence as having taken place on the preceding Friday evening. For the information of my disguised friend, I would say, that that would be 8th of October. His mind appears to be in a state of confusion with regard to dates. In reply, I stated, my engagement at a Missionary meeting held in Leethville on that Friday night. Finding the ground sinking beneath his feet, he selects the next preceding Friday night, evidently wishing to create the impression that he had said so from the beginning and that his meaning had been misapprehended. Wishing to convince his readers of the truth of his asseveration, he tells them he was a spectator. Then I would regard him as being on a level with the persons of whose doings he is the gratuitous historian. Such acquiescence from a person who makes any pretension to respectability is both inexcusable and reprehensible. How is it he is a thoroughly posted up in this matter while others who had opportunities of observation equal to his own, neither saw nor heard of these doings except in the columns of the Goderich *Star*? Mr. Grant the Postmaster, authorizes me to say, that to the best of his knowledge the statements of this scribbler are entirely false. Mr. Grant says he remonstrated by letter with the editor of the *Star* for allowing such anonymous slanders to appear in his paper. I sent a denial immediately after I heard of its appearance, but for some reason, of which I am ignorant, it was not published. If base truthless men are allowed to eject their venom through that medium, the proprietor of the Western Luminary will soon find his subscribers here, as well as other places I could name, getting small and beautifully less. There are a few characters here, who are capable of getting up a plausible story and then asserting it with a positiveness worthy of a better cause, among whom figures my rotten egg friend. I do not intend noticing anything more from my pen on this subject. Hoping that he may find more legitimate employment than attempting to injure the influence of ministers is my worst wish to any other enemy. I did not intend to write so much when I commenced; perhaps it was not worth while, I mean merely to kill a flea.

W. Paterson.

## Salt Works

Windsor on following re-

pleasure I beg to ur enterprise so far, ness. Our well is feet of solid salt strongest brine feet order, and the ; and, in one finished. proper mode of

tion thousand ten thousand method, and as tioned sum has Company will be balance of one hundred credit, so I feel subscribed will manufacture of salt.

"I have our investment following facts: and, no others manufactures have been the price of barrel advance obtained in for profit after paying duties the Respondent should consummate property, valuable."

Moved by Hiram Walker, seconded by Wm. McGregor, Esq., That the report is most satisfactory and be adopted.—Carried.

Moved by Henry Kennedy, Esq., seconded by G. W. Girdlestone, Esq., That a call of 10 per cent, be made payable on December 10th, 1867, to cover all expenses to date.—Carried.

Moved by Henry Prince, Esq., seconded by Hiram Walker, Esq., Esq., That Messrs. Kennedy and McGregor do proceed at once to Goderich to receive the well from the contractor, and to thoroughly examine the different modes of evaporating, decide upon the best and most economical, and to receive tenders from contractors for building the same, and to report to the Directors at a meeting to be called immediately after their return.—Carried.

Moved by G. W. Girdlestone, Esq., seconded by Hiram Walker, Esq., That the proceedings of this meeting be printed and forwarded to the different shareholders.—Carried.

# PLOT IN THE PENITENTIARY.

## Determined Attempt to Escape

## ONE OF THE PRISONERS KILLED.

*From the Leader.*

KINGSTON, Nov. 26

A great deal of excitement prevailed in the city this morning from a rumor that an extensive and deep laid plot had been discovered and frustrated at the provincial penitentiary, and that the effort had been attended with the death of one of the inmates. The deceased convict was known as Christopher Murray, and had been sentenced for a period of ten years, eight of which had transpired. He was not one of the Fenian prisoners, although associated with them in the plot.

At an inquest to day the following evidence was given by Henry Connolly, a guard who was on duty last night and the early part of this morning. He said he was in the south wing about a quarter to one o'clock when one of the guard's came running to him and said "Look out! the prisoners have broken out of their cells." He looked up to the gallery above and saw one of the prisoners endeavoring to cut the rope of the alarm bell. Witness called out to him to surrender and ran up stairs after him. When witness arrived there the convict was gone and witness followed in the direction he thought the convict had taken. It was in the south-west range. Witness came came down then into the fourth range into the railing and saw the convict endeavoring to pick the lock of the wicket doorleading out of the dome. Witness called again to him to surrender but he did not answer, when witness fired a round from his revolver. The convict still persisted in his object, when witness fired a second round. The convict then gave over and ran down the west wing and witness followed and found convict on the ground floor, lying on his back, his feet toward the stove. He was not yet dead. Witness then gave the alarm to the warden and told him one of the convicts was shot. The warden came down with witness and as soon as the warden saw the convict he sent for Mr. Halliday, the hospital keeper, who came in a few minutes and gave it as his opinion that the man was dead. Witness could not tell whether his was the fatal shot as there were other shots fired by the guard. Upon examining the deceased false keys were found upon his person. The rope of the bell was cut and fastened to the banister to prevent its making a noise by its fall.

The evidence of the guard is an epitome of the events of last night.

At dinner to-day the convicts were in a state of intense excitement and every precaution was taken to prevent an outbreak.

## Changes in the School Law.

A Committee having been drafted by the House to enquire into the working of the Grammar and Common Schools, both at the head office and throughout the country, commenced its labors last Thursday. It would seem that certain changes are proposed by Dr. Ryerson, which, we must say, will meet the general approbation of the country. In the first place, he asks that his own office should be abolished, and that the head of the Department should be a responsible Minister of the Crown. The second proposition was that the practice of having local or township superintendents should cease, and that there should only be county superintendents, except where the county was so large as to require a second or assistant superintendent ought to be a person who has, at least, the qualifications of a first class teacher, and who has had experience in teaching. The Chief Superintendent, in addressing the Committee on these points, said "the appointment of local superintendents had been the weak point in our system hitherto. Some of them, in communicating with the Department were in the habit of writing the personal pronoun with a letter i, and making similar mistakes. Others, however, he admitted, were highly qualified. He thought the Minister of Education should be a person who should soon have such a Minister—with the advice of the Council of Public Instruction, should make the appointments; and he would propose that these officers should be paid, one-half by the County Council, and one-half out of the public treasury. The minimum salary he would fix at $5 or $6 per school, instead of $4, as at present. The Department, with the assistance of these highly qualified superintendents, would then be able to prescribe the course of study in the schools." It was also brought out during the discussion that the superintendent was to give his whole time to the work, and that the qualification might be defined the same as in Pensylvania—"a person of literary and scientific acquirements, and of skill and experience in teaching." Dr. Ryerson insisted that the appointment should rest with the Government; otherwise the Government would not be responsible for the working of the system. They might be made by the Minister of Public Instruction, with the advice of the Council of Public Instruction, a non-political body. After a good deal of discussion over the point, as to what body should appoint the County Superintendent, it was moved and carried that the County Superintendent should be nominated by the County Council, from those holding certificates of qualification from the Board of Public Instruction, and shall be appointed by the Governor in Council to hold office during pleasure.

## SOUTH HURON ELECTION CASE

*(From the Globe of Thursday.)*

The Committee met yesterday at 10 o'clock. Counsel for both the sitting member and petitioner were present, as upon the previous day.

Dr. McMICHAEL proceeded to reply to the arguments urged by Mr Paterson on Tuesday. He considered first the objection taken as to the alleged contract between Mr. Carling and the Government, and contended that the Bonds—copies of which were filed—and to each of which Mr. Carling was a party, did not render the obligor a contractor within the scope of the statute. The words used in the Act (naming them) which defined what contracting relationship to the Government should render a candidate ineligible, did not—when rightly construed—take in the case of Mr. Carling. The whole tone of the enactment implied that some financial interest must be attachable to the aspirant for the seat to establish his noneligibility. There must be a money interest on the part of the obligor as well as to the Government. The reading of the Act indicated a bilateral and not a milateral phrase. Dr. McMichael cited several cases in support of his views. Then as to the charge of bribery, the learned Counsel contended that our Canadian Act having repealed the disqualifying English Act, by implication the effect of the Common Law, of which the last mentioned Act was merely declaratory, was also in effect extinguished. The Committee, he argued, had therefore no right to enter this charge, inasmuch as the statute gave the power of expulsion to the House. But even if the Common Law obtained as before, the rescinding of the English Act—which he confidently submitted it did not—even on that view he denied the right of the committee to take cognizance of the charge.

Mr. Gow—Well, Mr. McMichael, let me understand you thoroughly. Do you deny our right to entertain the charge of bribery against Mr. Carling, but not against Mr. Gibbons, if alleged?

Dr. McMICHAEL—Understand me. I deny the right of the Committee to deal with a charge of bribery as regards the admission of a contestant, such as Mr. Carling is, for a seat in parliament. I admit that you can, upon proof of individual cases of bribery, strike off vote after vote, and so upset an election; but I combat the idea that you can entertain a wholesale allegation of bribery on general grounds, such as my learned friend promulgates.

Mr. PATTERSON—We don't go upon general grounds. We adduce specific grounds, and support them by specific cases, as will be seen by reference to our affidavits. Moreover, we don't pretend to go into the question of bribery at the present time elaborately or thoroughly. We present the Committee what evidence we could hurriedly get, but sufficient to warrant the Committee in seriously entertaining the charge.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't think that we ought to trouble ourselves much about these affidavits, for there is not a member in the House, I apprehend, against whom depositions of a like nature might not be obtained. With respect to the argument against the lists, I am inclined to the belief that Mr. Patterson's objection *per se* is fatal enough. The only difficulty, and I must say that it is a serious one, towards its acceptance by us is, that Mr. Gibbons is too late in making it. The raising of an objection of this nature, and at this stage of the proceedings, is most inconsistent with his two years occupancy of the seat.

Mr. Gow held a different opinion. It was obviously not for Mr. Gibbons to attack his own position.

Mr. PATTERSON.—In the strict legal construction Mr. Clark must know that such an argument as he now promulgates is of the crudest and most obsolete description. Then view it in a mere social light, and the greatest tyro in such matters will admit that it would have been the height of silliness for Mr. Gibbons to say, 'Although I feel confident that you have obtained bad votes in a variety of ways; although I have proof of bribery on your part; and although I know that you are legally disqualified from sitting, inasmuch as you are a Government contractor; yet, because I am aware (if you choose to assume that we were aware at the time) that defective lists have been used, I will resign my seat and allow my constituents to be unfairly represented.' This is practically the procedure which you would inculcate as being the correct one to be pursued by us.

Dr. McMICHAEL recapitulated his arguments against the bribery objections, and contended in any case there was no sufficient *basis* eliminated by the affidavits to ground the charge. They were vague and pointless, and educed nothing for the Committee to deal with. Mr Gibbons had the right to attack the votes individually, on the ground of particular instances of bribery, as contained in those alleged defective lists, but not by a general accusation against the petitioner, and so against the lists, *in to*. Many of the votes in those lists must be good; and is the mere fact that they are defective to disfranchise the voters? Does the fact the defective lists are used in one or two townships invalidate an election; or does it not render scrutiny by the committee of the alleged bad votes the only thing necessary? The learned counsel contended that the latter was the correct course.

Mr. PATERSON then proceeded to reply to Dr. McMichael's arguments. He would say—he said—take them up in the order in which his learned friend dealt with them. He then read the words in the statute referred to by Dr. McMichael, as bearing on the question of contract or non-contract by Mr. Carling, viz.: 'holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing.' These, he went on to show at great length, were comprehensive in the fullest sense, and not having merely a bilateral effect, as contended by his learned friend, but also unilateral. The word—'contract'—was sometimes used in a popular sense, and not in a strictly legal one. It might, therefore, be argued, that it was to be construed so in this instance and under this statute; but fortunately we were not left to conjecture herein, for the statute adds an explanatory and broader term, viz., 'agreement.' The statute reads "contract and agreement," so that our case is taken in even by the very "letter" of it. Mr. Patterson then proceeded to attack the alleged analogy of the Maidstone case, (a decision of an English Election Committee cited by Dr. McMichael,) as viewed by Mr. McMichael. He reviewed this and other cases cited by the latter, and quoted other authorities bearing more appositely on the point at issue. This decision in the Maidstone case, he argued, when rightly viewed and properly construed, was in favour of his client. Mr. Patterson went into an elaborate discussion of the various cases which bear on the point, together with statute, and showed the result of the majority of opinions. As to the decisions of election committees, however, with all due deference, he would submit that they are not considered authority in any of the Courts. It is not usual to quote them as authoritative, although in one case he had found that a decision of such a committee was cited in England, but was ignored by the Courts.

The CHAIRMAN—Have we not the same right? We can ignore their decision.

Mr. PATTERSON—Of course; I don't controvert that idea. To proceed, however, Dr. McMichael contended that the committee had no right to entertain or be guided by the common law. This is a *prima facie* absurdity; for this committee is created by statute, as well as are the Courts, whose judgments undeniably conform to the common law, unless there moulded by statute

Dr. McMICHAEL—What I contended was, that in this particular case the common law should not enter into the deliberation of the Committee; not that as a general principle the idea was irrefragible.

Mr. PATTERSON—Very well, then we

on. In England, the statute repealed the Common Law; but when that repeal was taken off, I submit that the Common Law was—as it were—elastic and broad, resumed in fact its prestine power. Now, this being the case, then how much more so must it be with us here where the statute is not rescindatory, but declaratory. The doctrine as laid down in a case cited by my learned friend (naming it), is, that the statute gives fuller effect, if anything, to the Common Law, and completely knocks on the head my learned friend's argument, that any details not tabulated and set forth by statute, though formerly obtained under the Common Law, must become obsolete. Then as to my learned friend's query, "What if a man bribed voted for the opposite party, would that constitute bribery against the briber?"—I say, most decidedly, "yes." Again, as to the argument generally, that the committee have no right to deal with these objections of mine, I may just say that there is really no authority whatever for such contentions. Now, as to the allegation that our affidavits are insufficient, pray understand my explanation. This is our position. We do not say that we have proved Mr. Carling guilty of bribery. We say that in case the committee decide against us on other points, we crave leave to go into an examination of the facts as to bribery, and to be furnished with the proper facilities for producing oral evidence thereon, and we show by our affidavits good foundation for asking that leave.—We can't produce before you Mr. Carling's affidavit establishing his own acts of bribery; but we can, if allowed and provided with the necessary machinery, compel him to appear before you and subject him to question under oath, and the facts as brought out in our affidavit will fully warrant such procedure. We come now to the objection as to the lists. My learned friend says that we are taking the wrong course. We should, says he, in effect, go into a scrutiny of the votes rendered bad through bribery and not urge a general accusation of bribery. But my learned friend forgets, for per adventure he does it knowing that the committee have prescribed us in the premises, have said that they will not allow us to scrutinize Mr. Carling's bad votes. But aside from this the argument is unsound. The whole thing is in a nutshell. These statutes before me give us the power to hold the election, and upon their existance do we depend for our authority for holding election at all.—They define, also, the form and mode of procedure thereat and therein, therefore, we shall find words to guide us. Mr. Patterson then read over the various applicable sections, and showed that the procedure as laid down had not been complied with as far as regarded the township of Stanley. Very well, then, he went on to say—if you can hold the election valid and omit Stanley all together your objection a good, but not otherwise, for Stanley remains under the statute unprosecuted.—Then the lists are *prima facie* evidence of their internal truth; unless contradictory evidence is adduced, and such evidence my learned friend has not put in. Therefore I submit that the election is legally invalid.

The Committee then adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning, when they will deliberate upon the arguments of counsel.

## A Maniac Alarms a Boarding House.

On Sunday night, a scene which may truly be described as "terrible," as long as it lasted, occured in the Robinson House, Bay Street. About half-past two o'clock, one of the boarders was awakened by somebody kicking at his door, and was saluted by a series of shouts, which alarmed the whole of the inmates. The person who created the alarm cried out in broad Scotch accents, which resounded throughout the house, 'I am Jesus Christ. I have the power to kill. Come out of this room, on my soul; I will strike you dead as you sleep.' He then rambled on in an extraordinary manner about 'damnation,' 'hell-fire,' spiritual life,' and things of that sort. He stated how he had wandered in this city of Toronto, and found nowhere to lay his head until he came to the Robinson House, when he was charitably allowed to sleep there. He added that he had paid his a-dollar—not as board, but as a token of his presence among them. He then required his supposed 'son' to open the door, but the 'son' didn't see it, and remained obstinately silent, when the maniac, still shouting and vociferating, said if he did not at once open the door he would strike him dead in his bed. Other lodgers came in for sentence, and most of them were ordered to die, but didn't. By this time several of the boarders had come out, and were descending the stairs to see the cause of all this hubbub, when the lunatic commanded them to desist, and said, if one of you dares to move I will strike him dead. One of the foremost, a Mr. Sharp, apparently the most courageous of the party, proceeded to descend, when with stentorian voice the man cried "you are dead! Don's move! Close your eyes; you are dead!" Not satisfied with this he proceeded to kill them off without benefit of clergy and seemed astonished that they all remained alive despite his commands. At logth, after considerable time had elapsed, the poor fellow insisted upon being led into the street, and with much reluctance Mr. Matthews was compelled to let him go. This singular affair has created quite a stir in the neighborhood, and occasioned an amount of excitement and speculation as to who the poor fellow may be. He was afterwards arrested by the police—*Telegraph.*

SUGGESTED ALTERATION IN THE MUNICIPAL ACT.—Petitions are now being circulated in Toronto for signature for presentation to the local parliament, praying for changes in the municipal act, with respect to the municipal election. The changes asked for are: First, that the law may be so altered, that the election of mayors in cities may be made, not by the aldermen, as at present, but by the annual vote of the duly qualified municipal electors as formerly. Second, that the whole board, or council of aldermen, may retire annually, and be subjected to re-election, or rejection, as formerly; and not that one third should retire annually, as at present. And lastly, that the present high rate of qualification for municipal electors be reduced to the former standard; to the end, that the large class of valuable and intelligent ratepayers, who have been disfranchised by the present law, may have their franchise privilege restored.

☞ The London 'Telegraph,' says that the first English Ministry that counts John Bright among its members will command a joyful hearing for all it says, and a generous interpretation of all it does in Ireland, in the Colonies, in Australia, in India and in the United States—in fact wherever our flag flies and wherever our tongue is heard. It will be a curious rebuke to the old partizans, who called him un-English, and an enemy to the Empire, to find that his influence will then be imperial, and so happily used as to unite all parts of the Empire in closer and nobler bonds of interest and of love.

☞ The Quebec Parliament is not to meet for the despatch of business until next February. Behind as usual.

## OUR RICH MEN.

*From the New York Star.*

There are three men in this city whose aggregate wealth is not less than two hundred million dollars. There are at least a thousand others who are worth upwards of a million dollars each. These men have the power, through their money, to make cheerful and comfortable the home of every poor family in New York. The wealth held by them is equal to about $1-500 for every person on this island, or about eight thousand dollars for every family. These figures tell their own story about what our millionaries might do, but how different is that from what they actually do!

The three very rich men alluded to are Astor, Stewart and Vanderbilt. The income of each one of these men averages, perhaps, ten thousand dollars per day. It is absolutely impossible for them to spend more than a very small fraction of their enormous incomes, and their immense wealth is therefore daily growing larger and larger. Well, how do these men follow the Scriptural injunctions about giving to the poor? Astor owns fifteen hundred dwelling houses, half of them tenement houses, and is responsible more than any other men in New York, for the outrageous rents that are now extorted from the hard earnings of the poor. Astor practically controls the market in the matter of house rents. The smaller landlords are guided by him. If he puts prices up a notch, every other rent extortioner quickly follows, and thus it is to him that blame mainly attaches for the outrageous and unwarranted rents that we are now obliged to pay. So much for Astor's doing good with his wealth. Stewart is a meaner man than Astor. He is the hardest task master in New York, and grinds down his employees in a shameful manner. Whoever heard of his doing a good or generous thing? Vanderbilt owns, in great part, three or four of the best railroads in this country. Not long since he was elected President of the New York Central Road, and the first thing he did was to order a ruinous reduction in the wages of the poor employees. He is eighty years old, but, like Astor and Stewart, his whole soul is wrapped up in his wealth, and he thinks only of making his money pile higher.

The thousand other millionaires, with very few exceptions, are just such men as the three we have mentioned. They are all sordid avaricious men. Money is their deity and that alone they worship. They are all counterparts of the rich man spoken of in the Bible, and if they don't ultimately sweat like that individual, they won't get their deserts.

## LONDON WIT AND HUMOUR.

To London "Punch," having opened an exchange offices advertises as follows.

I want to exchange with any one who has two thousand a year, paid quarterly, and nothing to do for it. Address,

TUPPENCE, City.

I have got two curious old sixpences, date unknown. I will change them for two shillings with any one.

BANQUE.

MISS SPENSERE has a very handsome ring given to her years ago by her grandmother She will exchange it for a wedding ring, to be given to her by her husband.

MARTHA.

Wanted, a situation as housemaid, or house and parlor maid, in a private family. Age 90. Good reference,

Address L. P., etc.

We should think this gay young thing would suit those who are always saying that our servants now-a-days are not like the old ones. This "old one" ought to meet their requirements at any rate!

## THE EXACT TRUTH.

Two young masons were building a brick wall—the front wall of a high house. One of them, placing a brick, discovered that it was a little thicker on one side than on the other.

His companion advised him to throw it out. "It will make your wall untrue Ben," said he.

'Pooh' answered Ben, 'what difference will such a trifle as that make? You're too particular.'

'My master,' replied his companion, 'taught me that 'truth is truth,' and ever so little an untruth is a lie, and a lie is no trifle.'

'O,' said Ben, 'that's all very well; but I am not ing, and have no intention of doing so.

'Very well; but you make your wall tell a lie and I have somewhere read that a lie in one work, like a lie in his character will show self sooner or latter, and bring harm if not ruin.'

'There is in that case,' answered Ben, and he walked away, laying more bricks, and carrying the wall up higher, till the close of the day, when they quit work and went home.

The next morning they went to resume their work when behold, the lie had wrought out the result of all lies! The wall getting a little slant from the untrue brick, had become more and more untrue as it got higher, and at last in the night had toppled over obliging the masons to do all their work over again.

Just so with ever so little an untruth in your character—it grows more and more untrue if you permit it to remain, till it brings you low and ruin.

A story is told of a Scotch dog which, whenever a penny was given him, used to go and give to a baker with the coin in his mouth, then, on dropping it, the baker would give him a penny roll. On one occasion the baker cheated him, taking his penny but only giving him a half-penny roll—and then the dog went and fetched a policeman! It should be remembered, however, that it was a Scotch dog. Another case of canine instinct may be given. A lady in London had a favourite poodle, which carried her letters from the postman to a corner in the lady's parlor. On one occasion the lady, to her astonishment observed her favourite dog putting the only letter it carried into the fire, instead of putting it on the couch. Amazed she rushed forward and rescued the letter, although partly half burned; and, lo and behold, it was a dog-tax schedule!

☞ Ottawa is sending a petition to the Assembly against grants to Sectarian Colleges. ☞ Boston is doing the same.

☞ The Wesleyans of Toronto intend building a grand church in McGill square. The ground alone costs $25,000. Nearly $12,000 has already been subscribed, and a further sum will be secured by the sale of their Adelaide Street Church.

A couple of neighbours became so inimical that they would not speak to each other; but one, having been converted at camp meeting, on seeing his former enemy, held out his hand saying. "How d'ye do, Kempf? I am humble enough now to shake hands with a dog."

A mother admonishing her son, a lad of some seven years of age told him that he should never defer until to-morrow what he could do to-day. The little chap replied, 'Then, mother, let's eat all the plum pudding to-night.'

☞ A doubtful rumor mentions that the Province of Quebec is already about to ask for a loan.

☞ The Toronto police have got their new helmets from England, and paraded in them on Thursday.

☞ One thousand cords of wood have reached Toronto in five barges, coming from above Port Rowan.

—Scovil, the New Brunswick defaulter, made his escape from the Sheriff's custody. $200 reward is offered for his apprehension, Judge Wates has issued warrants under the Absconding Debtors' Act, for the seizure of all his property, but it is suppose that most all has been disposed of.

☞ J. C. McIntosh, who was committed recently to await trial by the magistrates on a charge of arson, was admitted to bail on Monday by order of judge Brough. The bondsmen, we understand, are Messrs. P. O'Dea and James Hays in the sum of $500 00 each. There is a good deal of feeling in town on the subject, but whether the learned Judge was right or not we leave to the judgment of those who are better authorities in such matters than we can pretend to be. It has always been our object to avoid the utterance of anything calculated to prejudice a case likely to come before the courts.

☞ The Collector for the Town requests us to remind the Ratepayers that all Taxes should be paid on or before the 16th inst., so as to enable every man to vote for the forthcoming Mayor; and it would not be advisable to delay payment till the last day, as the Collector will not be able to receive $14,000 and grant receipts for the same. It is hoped that the Ratepayers will govern themselve accordingly.

☞ The new cooperage! will soon be in a position to turn out from 800 to 1000 barrels per day.

☞ Mr. L. W. Watson, will open out in a few days.

James Watson, who has done business in Goderich for so many years, commenced next door to Mr. Savage.

the orchard belonging to Mr. Adam Berry, of the 4th concession of this Township, and girdled some of his best apple trees, thereby, rendering them useless. Mr. Berry offers a reward of $50 to the person or persons who will give information that may lead to the conviction of the villains; so the rascals had better look out. Such instances of mallicious destruction of property, are rare in this this part of the world, and we hope we have heard the last of this.

COTTON IN ILLINOIS.—It is estimated that Illinois alone will produce five hundred thousand bales of cotton next year, and we understand that the Government of the United States have given instructions to their General in command of the Army in the South to have all the seed saved that is possible, for planting in that and other western states, but should their expectations not be fulfilled it is gratifying to know that we have a sovereign remedy for coughs, colds, cramps in the stomach, cholic, cholera morbus, and all complaints of the like nature, in the "Canadian Pain Destroyer," sold by all Medicine Dealers, 25 cts per bottle.

☞ A sharp old gentleman travelling out west, got a seat beside his wife in a crowded car, by requesting the young man *who* sat beside her, to "please watch that woman while he went into another car, as she had fits."