

torial investigations. The accounts are kept now in the same manner that they were kept when the hon. member presided over the Board of Works. There has been no deviation from the old practice. He (hon. Attorney-General) regarded the hon. members motives in bringing forward this motion as purely personal and for the purpose of giving annoyance to the present head of the Board. Now the acts of this Board are, to a certain extent, the acts of the Government. If there are any malversations then the Government are responsible for it. If, therefore, they were at all aware that there was anything like malversation they would be the first to enquire into it.

Mr. Emerson—Would the Volunteer money have been paid if there had been a Financial Secretary at the time.

Hon. Attorney General—There was one at the time, and the warrant for the payment passed through the regular channels. He certainly would compliment the hon. Gentlemen opposite on the course they were adopting. It was evident, certainly, that they intended to make up for any laches in former sessions of which they may have to accuse themselves. It purifies the political atmosphere, keeps the public business in a wholesome state. If they did not so act the members of the government might become careless and indifferent to their several positions. It may be said that everything is fair in politics. But in this matter he did not see that there existed any reason why the motion of the hon. member opposite should be acceded to. If there was any cause for such an inquiry he would be the first to accede to it. He believed that the motion of the hon. member was not bona fide, but rather dictated by a spirit of opposition to the present head of that Department.

Mr. Munn thought that if the hon. and learned member who spoke last would give his statements just uttered a little consideration, he would find that his logic was bad. It certainly would be too late to try to catch a thief after conviction.

Hon. Attorney General—It would be a difficult thing to convict a thief in his absence.

Mr. Munn—The hon. and learned member would have us make good a charge of misconduct and then ask for the Committee. He would confess he was at a loss to know why the Chairman of the Board objected to this inquiry. It is a most legitimate action. All public institutions should have their accounts fairly audited, to see that the accounts of the different departments of the Government are correctly kept and the money voted by the House properly expended, is one of the great objects for which that house was convened. He (Mr. M.) was astonished that the hon. the Premier, after his fifty years mercantile and political experience, with knowledge of British Institutions, should refuse such a Committee. Investigation of all accounts was the great object he ever had in view, in the old House. Often was he the Chairman of such a Committee as was now moved for.

Hon. the Premier said he was prepared to grant the same privileges to the hon. member Mr. Munn, as to the mover of this measure.

Mr. Munn—This house has a right to stand upon its own independent privilege, and to demand that these privileges be not infringed. The hon. the Premier acted upon them for years, and he (Mr. M.) was now astonished that he refused them. Nothing can be more legitimate. The Government should solicit investigation, not shrink it. Imagine, for a moment, that he (Mr. M.) is addressed when he returns home, by one of his constituents in this manner:—"Well, I see there were large sums expended by the Board of Works last year, I notice, for instance, that there is one charge which I should like to see explained. Have you enquired into that matter?" He would be obliged to answer that they certainly did ask for a Select Committee for such a purpose, but that he was refused; that the hon. the Chairman of the Board refused it on the ground that it was a reflection upon his character; that the hon. the Premier refused it because he considered it a reflection upon his Government; and the hon. Attorney General because it was unparliamentary. Now this was not proper. The members of this House, as well as the people of the country, should be satisfied that large expenditure in this department was carried out legitimately and that the accounts were correct. He (Mr. M.) was, therefore, surprised that they should refuse to accede to this reasonable and legitimate request.

Hon. Receiver General—The hon. members on the other side of the House, each rises in his turn, and becomes warm in condemning the Government for the action taken by them in reference to this motion for a Select Committee. At last gets up the hon. member Mr. Munn. The opposition thinking that he is a great card in the community, they put him forward. He (hon. Receiver General) saw the hon. the leader of the Opposition give him the nod. The Opposition know now they are drawing near the general election, and they endeavour if possible to bring the anti-Confederate party into contact with the people. They are fully aware, and the country is aware what that party have done since they came into power. They have made improvements all over the Island, such as were never attempted before. It is a well known fact that the mercantile interests were always opposed to improvements except what suited themselves individually.

Mr. Munn—It is not true. Hon. Receiver General—You made two hundred thousand pounds in the country and you will soon leave it and the people from whom you dragged your money, without a single monument. You come here and you sustain this humbug of a committee of audit to enquire into the expenditure of the Board of Works department. There is no item of the accounts in any department of the Government that will not be laid upon the table of the

House. Every hon. member of the House has the privilege of taking up any paper, and asking for an explanation, which will most assuredly be granted. He (hon. Receiver General) remembered asking the present Sir Hugh Hoyle, when he was Premier of the Government, for an order to go into one of the offices for the purpose of examining some papers, when he replied, certainly, he should have it. The same thing can be done now. He (hon. Receiver General) was fully aware that, in the present instance it was political capital only they were trying to make out of that motion. But it could effect nothing for the country. The people knew full well, and the opposition knew equally well, what great things the present administration have done for the country; and when the time again comes round, to give an account to the people of their stewardship, he (hon. Receiver General) felt assured, that the anti-Confederate party would be triumphantly returned by the great tidal wave—the universal voice of the people.

Mr. Norke—The hon. Attorney General said that the motion of the hon. member Mr. Warren, was calculated to cast suspicions upon the Government; but he (Mr. R.) was sorry to say that outside doors there were strong suspicions amongst the people, Hon. members of that House had a right to insist upon an investigation of those accounts, and the refusal to sanction such investigation came indeed with a very bad grace from a Government that abolished the office of Financial Secretary.

Hon. Chairman Board of Works—There is an official now acting in the capacity of Financial Secretary, and all warrants for payments pass from the Colonial Secretary's office to the Financial office, and from thence to the Receiver General's office for payment. The same checks against undue payments that existed under former Governments are now in existence, and even more, as Mr. E. D. Shea, being Financial Secretary had not ensured more regularity in the payment of warrants.

The motion was then put and lost on division.

Hon. Mr. Carter, pursuant to notice, asked the Acting Surveyor General to furnish a detailed account of all Licenses and Grants for Mining purposes, applied for or issued since the end of 1869, with the names of parties, localities, dates of application and issue, fees paid, and when, opposite each lot and contents; also to mark those renewals of former applications, when and by whom made, and why the first applicants, or discoverers if any, did not have their applications acceded to, and if any remuneration made to them, or any, and which of them, and by whom, before Licenses or Grants were issued to others.

Hon. Acting Surveyor General—The return is in course of preparation, and will be laid on the table as soon as practicable.

The House then adjourned until tomorrow at 4 o'clock.

HARBOR GRACE, FEBRUARY 25, 1873.

The funeral obsequies of the late and lamented H. T. Moore, Esq.,—who, after a very severe and prolonged illness, borne with truly Christian fortitude and resignation, died on the morning of Thursday last,—took place yesterday afternoon.

As he was held in universal esteem by his neighbours and fellow-townsmen there is sincere and widespread sorrow over his decease. This sorrow is the more intense, because his sun went down at noon. The deceased was for many years Sub-Collector of H. M. Customs at this port, discharging the onerous duties of that position faithfully and impartially, and at one time had the honour (by the people's choice) of representing this district in the Honourable, the House of Assembly. As a citizen he was never behind in acts of benevolence or in giving his interest and hearty co-operation toward any thing promotive of the public weal. His genial presence and upright, downright, straightforward character ever deservedly won for him the confidence of all, so that the lamentation over his demise is deep and general.

The funeral procession was a large and imposing one. The Masonic Brotherhood, of which deceased was a member, turned out handsomely, while the members of the British Society, to which he also subscribed, came out in strong numbers, while a multitude of friends from far and near swelled up the train to several hundreds, anxious to pay tribute to the memory of deceased. The streets were lined with eager and mournful onlookers. Our sincerest sympathies are with those who are thus compelled to mourn a true friend, an amiable husband, and a loving father.

Arrival of the S.S. "Vanguard."

Messrs. PUNTON & MUNN's new and beautiful steamer, the "Vanguard," a description of which recently appeared in our columns, arrived here on Sunday afternoon, having made the passage from Aberdeen in twelve days. She encountered some very severe weather in the Atlantic, but proved herself a worthy and efficient sea-boat.

The "Vanguard," we presume, is not surpassed by any sailing steamer in the island for gracefulness and durability of build. In the coming voyage she

will be commanded by Capt. A. Munn, who, last year, had the honor of bringing into this port 31,500 seals in the S. S. "Commodore." In consequence of this fine addition to the sealing fleet considerable stir and bustle is manifested at Messrs. Punton & Munn's premises. We trust that the whole fleet, will meet with great success, and that in our prosperity we will not neglect to thank Him from whom all blessings flow.

THE subjoined extract from the New York "Tribune" will doubtless prove interesting to many of our readers:—

The following is a record of snows of a depth greater than six inches, for the past 18 years, taken from the tables of Prof. Morris, meteorological observer of the city for the Smithsonian Institution. The depths are given in inches:—

Table with 2 columns: Year and Depth in inches. Rows include 1854, Dec. 27... 9; 1855, Jan. 25... 7; 1856, Feb. 9... 14; 1857, Jan. 2 & 3, 8; 1857, None; 1858, Feb. 19 & 20, 6; 1859, Jan. 3 & 4, 16; 1859, Feb. 6... 14; 1860, Feb. 15... 8; 1860, Feb. 18... 12; 1861, None; 1862, Jan. 6... 7; 1863, None; 1864, Jan. 7 & 8, 8; 1864, Dec. 10... 8; 1865, Dec. 30... 6; 1866, Feb. 9... 8; 1867, Jan. 16 & 17, 12; 1867, Jan. 20... 6; 1867, Feb. 20 & 21, 23; 1867, Mar. 16 & 17, 13; 1867, Dec. 11 & 12, 12; 1868, March 21... 12; 1868, Dec. 4 & 5... 8; 1869, Dec. 6... 8; 1870, None; 1871, Jan. 20... 8; 1872, Dec. 26 & 27, 18.

From the above it will be seen that during the period 1854-72 there have been only 24 cases in which snow fell in this city to the depth of six inches or more. During the years 1857, 1861, 1863 and 1870 there was no storm on which snow fell to the depth of six inches. The year 1867, it will be seen, is the one most remarkable for heavy falls of snow, no less than five occurring during that year. The facts are at least curious, and a discussion of the subject would not be profitable.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR.]

Dear Sir,— Being aware that you are of that noble band whose aim is to stay the ravages of that all-devouring demon, intemperance I do not think you will object to insert these remarks, as I make them with the frail hope that they may prove a salutary warning to those of my fellow countrymen, who are being lured on in the road to destruction by the fascinations of the intoxicating cup; and I think that you will allow that I can tell something of the sufferings of a drunkard's life, when I say that I too was once on the downward road to ruin and degradation, and only through Providential interposition saved from a drunkard's fate. Now that I am descending the hill of life; when I reflect on the folly of my past days—when I look back and see how many precious years I have wasted in drunkenness and dissipation—and think they are gone forever, my soul is filled with the deepest anguish and remorse. Oh! if I could live my life over again, how different would I act! I could recall the golden opportunities of youth, how eagerly would I embrace them. But, alas! they will never return. As day after day I see the drunkard reel about the streets—degraded, reeling about the streets—degraded and throbbing with pity, and I breathe a silent thanksgiving for my own narrow escape. And then, again, I shudder when I hear him breathing nothing but curses—even blaspheming the name of his Maker. What infatuation leads to the fatal bowl? What advantage does the poor inebriate gain from the intoxicating draught? Is it the emaciated frame—the bloodshot eye, or tottering step? Is it the misery and woe he brings on those who look to him for support and comfort? If we go to the home of the drunkard, we witness nothing but poverty and desolation. See the wife—her wan cheek and sunken eye speak too plainly of the worm that gnaws at her heart. Her hair is whitened, but not by age! It is not time that has dimmed her eye; but grief, deep, bitter grief, as she sees him who should have shared with her the joys of prosperity—who should have been her prop and safeguard in the hour of adversity, oblivious of the ties that bind him to his family, and neglectful of all but the gratifications of his own evil passions. See his starving children, thinly clad, and shivering with the cold. See them look piteously in the mother's face, begging her for a morsel of bread to allay the pangs of hunger; then see the tears of agony fall down the pallid cheek. See the look of blank despair, for she knows there is no food for her famishing children, and she and they must die the dreadful death of starvation. Then say if the fruits of intemperance are not terrible.

Should there not be some barrier raised to stay this devastating tide—when we see it sweeping over the land like a pestilential gale. When we see its blighting effects on society, should we not raise a helping hand to aid the cause of temperance? Some there are who think they can drink moderately, and run no risk of becoming a confirmed drunkard. But let me warn such to beware of the first glass. Many have said this; but time has brought bitter repentance. Let us take an example: In his youth he receives a good education, and exhibits the gems of true genius. He bids fair to excel in all that is good and noble; but he takes the first glass, and from that time his fall commences. He indulges in all kinds of licentiousness, and has many companions in debauchery; but at last the severe hand of poverty—the sure attendant of vice—seizes him, and the chill blast of adversity blows over him. Then where are his summer friends—they who

swore eternal friendship. They have blown like the leaves of autumn before the storm. He wanders about a mere wreck of humanity, until his very existence becomes loathsome to him, and he dies drunk upon the street, or perhaps a suicidal death; and what a dreadful death. No one to grieve for him—no one to bid him a last adieu, or hear his expiring sigh; and then his corpse is not allowed a narrow bed within the pales of halcyon ground; but in the wild common—no stone to mark the spot where his body lies—no flowers to bloom or fade on his last resting place.

Thus have I endeavored, but faintly, to paint the life and death of the drunkard; but it requires a more graphic pen than mine to describe the misery of such a life and death. These things are painful to dwell upon; and I would not have thus excited the feelings of your readers, but that it is my earnest desire that these remarks may be taken as the friendly and warning voice of one who has experienced some of the woes derivable from habits of intemperance. The man alluded to had opportunities, but didn't improve them. He had talents, but they were not used aright. That man might have been an ornament to his country; but he lived intemperately, and died despised and forsaken by all. Thus you see the effects of intemperance, and let me exhort all never to lift the fatal glass to their lips, for one glass may lead to another, and so on to inevitable destruction.

Yours &c., A TOTAL ABSTAINER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR.]

Dear Sir,— Now that the House is in session, would it not be well to petition the Government with a view to the introduction of a bill calculated to make marriage compulsory? It is necessary that something should be done to prevent men from "falling into the sea and yellow leaf" without partners in their joys and sorrows. We have a large number of bachelors here in Harbor Grace, and unless decisive measure be taken to remedy the evil, the chances are that this unfortunate class will be greatly augmented. In ancient times a bachelor was a *rara avis in terris*. Now a-days nothing is more common than one of these poor, forlorn creatures. In my opinion, when our authorities make bachelorhood amenable to law, then, and not till then, will we get rid of the nuisance. A man ought to be ashamed to spend his days in single misery, and eventually go down to his grave.

"Unwept, unhonored and unsung."

If you ask a bachelor his reasons for not getting married, you are answered, "Yes, and I be treated like poor Caudle." Poor fiddlestick!—poor Caudle! I'd like to know what woman could bear to have a man retire to his bed at night with "Milton's Paradise Lost" under his pillow and a light burnin' so that he may enjoy a read after every dose. No wonder Mrs. Caudle—dear, good soul that she was—lamented.

I must conclude for the present; not however, without advising all who are single to get married as soon as practicable. *Sic utur ad astra.*

Yours sincerely, FANNY.

HE COULDN'T DRINK WINE.—That was a noble youth who, on being urged to take wine at the table of a certain famous statesman, had the moral courage to refuse. He was a poor young man, just beginning the struggle of life. He brought letters of introduction to the great statesman, who kindly invited him home to dinner.—"Not take a glass of wine?" said the great statesman, in wonderment and surprise.—"Not one simple glass of wine?" echoed the statesman's beautiful and fascinating wife, as she arose, glass in hand, and, with a grace that would have charmed an anchorite, endeavored to press it upon him.—"No," said the heroic youth, resolutely, gently repelling the proffered glass. What a picture of moral grandeur was that! A poor, friendless youth refusing wine at the table of a wealthy and famous statesman, even though proffered by the fair hands of a beautiful lady.—"No," said the noble young man—and his voice trembled a little and his cheeks flushed—"I never drink wine, but—here he straightened himself up, and his words grew firmer, "if you've got a little good old Irish whisky, I don't mind trying a glass!"

An interesting case, hearing on the rights and immunities of reporters has just been decided in Chicago. Three reporters of city papers were in a gambling house when it was entered by the police, and were taken into custody with others. In defence they claimed that they were not there as gamblers or as ordinary spectators, but in the discharge of their duties. They had heard of the intentions of the police, and wanted to describe the descent from actual observation. On the other hand one of the officers swore that he saw one of the reporters handling some of the "chips" used in gambling. This statement was contradicted by several witnesses. The justice before whom the case was tried held that reporters were valuable public servants, to whom certain privileges and immunities were granted by common consent. They were allowed to go where no one else was admitted. In his opinion, neither the spirit nor the letter of the law had been violated by the accused, and he therefore ordered their unconditional discharge.



Latest Despatches.

LONDON, Feb. 18.

Castellar is about to send a circular to foreign powers to prevent them from interfering in the affairs of Spain. It will assure them that the Republic is not aggressive in character, and does not seek to interfere with other nations.

NEW YORK, 18.

The Alabama River at Selma is within three feet of the great July flood, and is still rising.

The Credit Mobilier investigating committee reported to-day. They recommend the expulsion of James Brooks and Oakes Ames from Congress. As to the other members implicated, the committee exonerated them as to improper motives, but intimate that they were imprudent in the investigation. The Committee characterize the credit of Mobilier as a gigantic swindle.

The Carlist chieftain Olo, with 15,000 men yesterday attacked Tafalla in Navarre, but was repulsed. Gold 114 1/2, Exchange 10.

LONDON, 19.

It is rumoured that some of the great Powers have intimated to the Spanish Authorities that they will oppose the formation of a Federal Republic.

Austria will recognize the Republic of Spain as soon as officially notified of its definite establishment.

The Spanish journals express surprise that Don Carlos is suffered by the French to remain so near the Spanish frontier.

An explosion occurred yesterday in a coal mine, "Valk of the Hill," Staffordshire, where the men were at work. Between 30 and 40 are reported killed. The fire was with difficulty extinguished. No bodies yet recovered.

Queen Victoria has ordered a granite sarcophagus for the reception of Napoleon's remains.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the North Germany "Gazette" says that the expeditious force to Khiva, will not exceed 7,000 men.

Negotiations between Germany and France are proceeding satisfactorily.

The Extreme Left of the French Assembly have abandoned the idea of sending a congratulatory address to the Republicans of Spain.

Gold 114 3/8. LONDON, 20.

The estimated expenditures for the financial year 1873-74 is \$36,150,000, which is a reduction of \$2,040,000 from those of the current year.

The Rev. Dr. Dugan, Bishop of Clonfert, and the Rev. Canon Quinn of Dublin, have been acquitted of the charges of using spiritual influence to intimidate voters at the Parliamentary Galway election.

A decision was rendered yesterday in the case of Prince Napoleon against ex-Minister La Fracure for illegal expulsion from France. The Court declares its incompetency to try the case, and ordered the plaintiff to pay the costs.

At a meeting of the leading Spanish Conservatives it was decided not to oppose the present government, but urged the dissolution of the Assembly and a convocation of a constituent Cortes.

LONDON, 20—p.m.

The coal mine explosion at Staffordshire on Tuesday killed twenty miners, not forty as reported. The bodies have been recovered.

A Cafe, in Smyrna, undermined by tides, was suddenly swallowed up by the waves, and between one hundred and two hundred persons, mostly Greeks, drowned.

General Sickles has intimated to the Spanish government that the United States is not disposed to press embarrassing questions relative to Cuba, and desiring to place no obstacle in the way of the Republic.

The Governorship of the forty-eight provinces of Spain are to be equally divided between the Radicals and Republicans. The secretaries of the Radical Governors are to be Republicans, and those of Republican Governors, Radicals.

Senor Fiol will retain the Governorship of Madrid for the present. NEW YORK, 20.

Gold 114 1/2.

LONDON, 21.

The bullion in the Bank of England has increased £273,000 during the past week. The amount of bullion gone into Bank in that balance yesterday was £10,000.

The annual race between the Oxford and Cambridge crews is fixed for 23rd March.

BERLIN, 20.

In the Prussian Diet, Herr Compaussen, Minister of Finance, reported the surplus of last year was 20,000,000 thalers, and proposed measures for the reduction of the Public Debt.

LONDON, 21.

It is reported that the European governments are negotiating with a view of

Jointly published... The vote of... He snow... The m... midl... west... Onta... rence... rain... Engla... The hund... Aleut... west... small... (or n... Russi... large... of sh... ing w... land... time... seals... four... time... above... ally... take... above... for the... first... of the... sleep... upon... four... food... stand... passe... mean... and v... armer... the r... ly kid... femal... young... older... ing g... to ha... either... ground... from... lora... made... are... The f... die... som... of the... and a... ber be... now... eat t... one p... some... twins... ed the... ed in... rough... he had... and... caref... of the... lands... of the... seal... secur... 000... receive... \$340,0... collect... an th... the tr... tions... out... number... and re... males... of the... Were... be ext... their... States... The paper... Club, B... course... posing... ward... the ent... Gate, f... mentary... with the... tive hom... "The... ter of fac... both ne... writers... have a... possible... would be... annihil... which th... and inte... mation i... the wor... ers be... has impa... ened, all... stimulat... what sta... pose the... Would n... fancy hin... dark age... what the... society?... upon the... exercised... Journal, a... any other... compar...