PARNELL LAND LEAGUE FUND.

Brought forward..... $1,189 00

Hull Relief Fund.

Evening Post.....	$10 00
J. J. Curran, Q. C.....	2 00
O. J. Devlin.....	2 00
J. A.....	5 00
John Norton, Lachine.....	1 00
John Nagle, "	1 00
D. McGrath, "	1 00
Loughman & O'Flaherty.....	5 00

"True Witness" Irish Relief Fund.

Brought forward.....	$2,138 10
McNaughton Bros., Huntington..	$10 00
Henry Mills, Grand Pabos, Que...	1 00
John Doody, St. Mathias, Que....	10 00
Jas. Mullins, " "	5 00
Wm. Lacy, " "	5 00
Chas. O'Connor, " "	1 50
J. Gallagher, St. Marthe, Que.....	2 00
Mrs. Garragher, " "	2 00
T. Burke, " "	1 00
Friend of Ireland.....	1 00
Contributed by the residents of St. Patricks, Tingwick, Que.....	93 70
Contributed by the residents of St. Marthe, Que., per J. & E. McCabe.....	58 50
Contributed by the residents of Rockburn, Que., per Henry Duffin.....	27 00
From the residents of Chambly, Que.....	48 75
Patrick Duggan, Carden, Ont....	1 00
Thos. Dwyer, Three Rivers.....	3 00
W. Cooper, L'Epiphanie.....	3 00
W. Leblanc, Three Rivers.....	2 00
Thos. Daley, Lorette.....	1 00
L. Telfer, L'Epiphanie	1 00
Jean Cloutier, Three Rivers.....	1 00
E. Many, " "	50
U. Walsh, Quebec.....	5 00
R. J. Flanagan, Quebec.....	5 00
Thos. Powers, Piles Railway.....	5 00
J. J. Rogers, Three Rivers	5 00
Jas. McCaffrey, Three Rivers.....	4 00
And. Hickey, " "	4 00
M. J. Hogan, Quebec.....	4 00
E. Reynolds "	3 00
David O'Grady, Lombardy, Ont...	2 00
M. O'Mara, " " ...	2 00
James Murphy, " " ...	2 00
J. H. Leblanc, 547 Craig street...	5 00
O. McCarragher, Mongenais, Que..	1 00
From Rev. F. Woods, St. Joseph of Huntingdon, Q, per William Hassam, jr.....	27 00
From Rev. C. J. Duffus, Kemptville	57 00
D. J. Curry.....	2 00
J. Lynott.....	1 00
From Pembroke, per M. Dowsley.	90 00
Jas. Dunlavey, West Shefford, Q..	50
Parish of St. Patrick of Beauviage, Q., per Rev. L. A. Gauthier....	60 00
From Carrillon (2nd list).....	22 00
From Trenton, Ont., per Mr. F. J. Maguire.....	212 00
Cash from a Lady.....	1 00
Parish of Rigaud, Q., per J. Madden	30 00
M. Sweeney, Sr, Kemptville, Ont.	1 00
E. Donahue, Farnham.....$	5 00
George Mullin, do	2 00
John Kavanagh, do	5 00
Patrick Brennan, do	2 00
S. Choquette, do	1 00
Frank Howie, do	0 50
Jas. W. Donohue, do	2 00
Wm. Kinehan, do	1 00
W. A. Kinehan do	1 00
Frank Mullin, do	4 00
Piere Bieau, do	1 00
The. Berard, do	0 25
E. Audette, do	0 25
J.B. Archambault, do	0 25
A. Ouimette, do	0 25
J. J. Trudeau do	0 50
Aug. Demers, do	0 25
A. Tarte, do	0 25
M. Robidoux, do	1 00
Patrick McQuillen, do	1 00
Richard Buck, do	0 25
B. J. A. Burke, do	0 50
Thomas Landers, do	1 00
John Ryan, do	1 00
George Derby, do	1 00
Joseph Rowen, do	0 50

To the Editor of the POST *and* TRUE WITNESS.

SIR,—Enclosed herewith you will find two hundred and one dollars, thirty-eight cents ($201.38) collected in Hemmingford for the poor of Ireland (Irish Relief Fund), entrusted to you to forward to that part of Ireland in greatest distress, to be dealt out without distinction of creed, as all denominations have contributed thereto. I send you also the names of the contributors, which you will please publish in the EVENING POST and TRUE WITNESS. I also send you ten cents, for which you will send me as many copies of the POST as you can for that sum. Hoping compliance,

I remain, Sir,
Yours truly,
P. CLANCY.

Hemmingford, 3rd May, 1880.

Contributions by the residents of the Township of Hemmingford to Irish Relief Fund:—

Collected by Thomas Nolan and Patrick Clancy.

Julius Scriver, Esq, M P, $20, Rev Charles Collin, priest, 10, Mrs Maria S Cook 5, Thos Nolan 5, F S Proper, Esq, 3, John Ryan 3, J A V Amirault, N P, 3, P Clancy 3, Dr Wm Glover 2, Samuel Slavin 2, Antoine Joyal 1, James Latham 1, Thos Figsby 1, E Richardson 1, M E A Sweet 1, R & N Wood 1, Finlay McFee 1, Joseph Latham 75c, Thos Orr 75c, Thos P Clancy 50c, John McNaughton 50c, H O'Neill 50c, Wm Curry 50c, A N Bedell 50c, Dr Charbonneau 50c, Miss Margaret Childs 50c, Alex McCrea 50c, Donald McNaughton 50c, Wellington Wark 50c, Wm Reay 50c, J Clayland, jr, 50c, Henri Lavoie 50c, J Diotte 50c, Louis Monette 50c, Mrs Brennan 50c, Madame Pepin 25c, Joseph Cartier 25c, Mrs P Floody 25c, John M'Clancy 25c, Mrs O'Bradford 25c, Mrs Naney 25c, Jeremie Gongeon 25c, S Lussier 25c, J Tourangeau 25c, James McLean 25c, small sums 35c—$75.35.

Collected by James Hurley and Narcisse Stringer.

James Hurley $5, James Archer 5, John Murnane 4, Edward Kennedy 2, Nicholas Brazel 2, Narcisse Stringer 1, John Ryan 1, Donald McFee, Esq. 1, Duncan McNaughton 1, Terrence Dowd 1, Miss W McDonnell 50c, Patrick Dowd 50c, O W Baskin 25c, John Merlin 25c, R Nayer 25c, J B Lemaire 25c, Joseph Demers 25c, A Campbell 25c, Q Dauphinais 25c, Small sums 30c—$26.05.

Collected by James Dunigan and Michael Ryan.

Michael Ryan $4, James Gettens 1.25, James Dunigan 1, Patrick Smith sr. 1, A J C Roberts Esq. 1, Patrick Smith jr. 1, Hugh Ledwich 1, Daniel Gettens sr 1, Mrs Mary A Fisher 1, Patrick Conroy 1, Lawrence Conroy 1, Thomas Kenney 1, Thomas Morrison 1, James O'Kelly 1, William Barr 50c, Miss Nancy Morrison 50c, John Clayland sr 50c, Humphreys Nesbitt 50c, S Goodspeed 50c, Charles Wilson 50c, George Kingsbury sr 50c, Mrs Ellen Rodgers 50c, Miss Ellen Ryan 50, James Fisher 50c, Mrs Antoinette Smith 50c, W N Thompson 50c, Joseph Jackson 50c, John Kingsbury 50c, Mrs Kenny 50c, Ed. Kenny 50c, Wm N Kearns 50c, Daniel Ryan jr 50c, Alfred Fisher 25c, George Tappin 25c, Mrs Clark 25c, Mr Meader 25c.—$27.25.

Collected by James Maguire and Patrick McAleer.

Patrick McAleer $4, James Maguire 2, Mrs Hannah Maguire 1, Michael McAleer, Esq, 1, Wm Hamilton 1, Michael Heffernan 1, Eusebe Lacasse 1, John Ford 1, James Blair 75c, John Dolan 50c, Thomas Keddy 50c, Chas Ellerton 50c, Alex McKerryher 50c, Mrs Dolan 50c, John Quest 50c, Patrick McCann 50c, Mrs Ellen McCann 50c, Finlay Fisher 50c, Miss M McCann 25c, Mrs Catherine McCann 25c, John Kavanagh 25c, Michael Kavanagh 25c, Robt Woods, sr, 25c, Robt Woods, Jr, 25c, Patrick Perry 25c, George McCrea 25c, small sums 48c—$19.73.

Collected by John Ryan and Edward Stringer.

Jeremiah Ryan $10, Mrs Ellen Ryan 4, Patrick Dwyer 1.50, John Stringer, sr, 1, Edward Ryan, sr, 1, Mrs Patrick Dwyer 50c, Patrick Lahey 50c, James McDonnell 50c—$19.

Collected by Wm. Brogan and Timothy O'Connell.

Wm B Johnson Esq $5, Michael Tobin 2, Timothy O'Connell 1, Wm Brogan 1, Patrick Byrne 1, James Merlin 1, John Brogan 1, Mrs John Brogan 1, Mary Tobin 1, Edward Tobin 1, Michael Connors 1, Ambroise Laparre 50c, Stanislas Desautels 50c, Jeremiah O'Connell 50c, Matthew Brown 50c, Joseph Robinson 50c, Thomas Kyle 50c, James Emmerson 50c, Thomas Boyce 50c, Mrs George Hall 25c, Joseph Brault 25c, Thomas Hall 25c, small sums 25c—$21.

Collected by James Curran, Covey Hill.

James E Curran $1, Robert Hamell 50c, Charles Brisbin 50c, E M Gates 50c, C McDiarmid 50c, Charles Barr 50c, Daniel Downs 25c, S Churchill 25c, W N Kelley 25c, C N Gates 25c, A Friend 25c, A Friend 25c, L Gates 25c, A Friend 25c, A Friend 25c, Thos Waddell 25c, Jos Waddell 25c, E T Houghton 25c.—$6.50.

Collected by Thomas McAleer.

Thomas McAleer $2, William Keddy 1, Rev James Patterson 1, George Jackson 1, Narcisse Hebert 40c, John Hebert 35c, Richard Clarkson 25c, Francis Clarkson 25c, Joseph Clarkson 25c;—$6.50.

Total amount collected $201.38.

FAREWELL TO MARS.

AN INTERESTING PAPER BY AN EAST INDIAN PRIEST.

[*From the Indo-European Correspondence.*]

What has become of that bright red star which only a few months back simply startled one by its fiery brilliancy, set off by the sombre hue of the darkening east. Where is he lurking, this god of war? Sharpening some new-fangled deadly bolt, or framing some bloody design? Just look up to the spangled south. Here are your old friends, the Pacific Three Kings, whom you will at once recognize in the unaltered calm majesty of their modest splendor; their thrones in one row, sloping eastward towards the dazzling blue Sirius, another of our old acquaintances; and westward to . . . a dazzling, yet brilliant red star. Might this be our looked for planet? Not quite, though very closely resembling it at the present time in color, size, and position.

THIS IS ALDEBARAN, OR THE BULL'S EYE,

a fixed star of the first magnitude, which I now first introduce to you, as an interesting term of comparison. One step higher in the same direction, and here he is in person, midway between the Bull's Eye and the beautiful little cluster of the Pleiades in the Bull's Neck. But alas! *Quantum mutatus ab illo!* Of a truth he has not parted with his ruddy complexion, and even now vies with his neighbor Aldebaran. Yet, if you recollect the days of his glory, what a falling off! No wonder. Not only has he receded from us to nearly three times his former distance, so as to reduce his apparent disc and light to one-ninth of what it was, but, of this his reduced orb, he turns away from us about one-seventh of the illuminated half. (1) And the falling off will henceforth be yet more rapid, and soon cause our biennial visitor to vanish from our sight altogether, not only on account of his increasing distance and decreasing size, but also because of his waning light getting immersed and lost in the refulgent splendor of the god of day, thence to emerge again only after a long twelvemonth, and even then, for several months more, show himself only at impossible hours of the deep night or the early morning. If then you feel anxious to get more intimately acquainted with him, it is high time to take the matter in hand. What yet remains to be said might fill many a column,

MARS BEING OF ALL PLANETS,

and indeed all celestial bodies, except our moon (2), the best known to us. The difficulty is to determine what not to say, now to make a choice among so many interesting points, to abridge without mangling, and compress without squeezing out all the interest. The reader then must bear with the writer if he prove either too long or too dry, or may be both, and give credit for it not to the subject matter, but to the writer's inadequacy to handle it as it deserves. Our last *conversazione* took us, if I remember right,

TO THE VERY THRESHOLD OF THE PROMISED LAND

and from our stand-point at the telescope, we had just time to catch a glimpse of the glowing round disc, at present a little out of shape, and, as Herschel would have put it, somewhat *gibbous*. We might then already have remarked that the reddish glow seems paler to the naked eye—orange rather than red—and moreover, far from being uniformly diffused over the whole surface, is largely interspersed and intersected by irregular and far less luminous tracts and blotches of greyish green or greenish gray, besides being capped at two almost diametrically opposite points with dazzling white patches. (3) According to the current opinion of astronomers the fundamental ochre-y tinge which give the tone to the whole of the planet, is owing to the color of the soil, resembling our red sandstone districts, though some think the cause might be

A RED VEGETATION INSTEAD OF A GREEN ONE.

You are welcome to adopt either of these surmises, neither being destitute of a certain amount of probability—unless perchance you prefer explaining the fact by the peculiar hue of the Martial inhabitants' hair and beards. (4) Of the darker greyish or greenish tracts, some looking all the greener from their contrast with the reddish ground, a certain number are variable and shifting, thus giving the idea of moving clouds or other atmospheric disturbances; whilst others are permanent, and are probably the Martial seas and oceans. Certain it is that, as Webb remarked, "the surface is usually mapped out in a way which at once gives

THE IMPRESSION OF LAND AND WATER."

As for the white brilliant patches, they are now generally considered to be produced by the accumulation of ice and snow near the planet's poles. And this opinion is borne out by the fact that they increase or decrease according as one pole or the other is turned towards the sun, so that, when in a favorable position, we may watch one of the white patches melting away from day to day, and shrinking up more and more, while the other, at the opposite pole, is daily stretching out and encroaching on the neighboring red and green parts. In all this, as in much that has gone before or yet remains to be told hereafter, observe the many striking points of analogy with our own terrestrial planet. To the inhabitants of Mars the latter must, in many respects, present very much the same appearances that Mars does to us, though on an almost double scale. Her poles, like his, are slightly depressed, and all glittering with ice and snow; neither do her poles of greatest cold, more than his, exactly coincide with her poles of rotation. Again, her most frost-bound pole is likewise the southern one, and for the same astronomical reasons. Our seas and clouds must offer the same aspect of greenish and greyish streaks and blotches, some regularly revolving round and round every 24 hours. Only they bear a much greater proportion to the rest of the surface, being rather more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the whole, whereas on Mars the proportions are nearly equal. Even our *dry land itself* must present a somewhat greenish and less fiery tint, on account of our green vegetation and mainly yellow soil. Lastly in place of Mars' twin telescopic and all but invisible moons, here is

OUR FAIR AND BEAUTIFUL SATELLITE,

whose brilliancy, even from that distance, must appear more than double that which Mars displays to our view at the present time. A truly lovely spectacle this radiant pair of indissolubly united planets, never parting company, nor increasing their mutual distance beyond one-quarter of a degree, or half the Moon's apparent (to us) diameter (5); meanwhile, exhibiting besides all the various phases which Mercury and Venus present to our eyes, rendered more interesting by their constant mutual proximity; likewise those mutual eclipses and transits which make of the Jovian world so splendid and wonderful an object; and all this again on a much larger and more magnificent scale.

BUT WHAT MANNER OF MEN ARE THEY

who enjoy the red shade, or till the red soil and plough the green deep? Our telescopes, I am sorry to state, are not yet perfect enough to allow us to descry their faces and discern their various pavilions, nor indeed to ascertain whether pavilions and faces there be. Nay, a categorical answer to such a question is of course beyond the reach even of the less material telescopic eye of either philosophy or theology. Suffice it to say that no serious objection from these lofty sciences, no more than from any other science human or divine, has ever been adduced against the probable existence of rational beings in "other worlds than ours," (6) whereas much, and very much, may be said in favor of the hypothesis. In fact, it might perhaps safely be asserted that in the present state of science

NO SCIENTIST OF COMMON SENSE AND THINKING MIND

will doubt it highly probable that in most, if not all, of the innumerable worlds, vegetative and animal life, as well as mineral active inertia, exists or has existed, or will exist and develop itself at some period or other, just as is the case with our Earth; aye, not animal life only, but also the all-crowning rational life, without which all the rest would appear unfinished and truncated, a body without head or without soul, a kingdom without a king. And it may afford some relief to all such as are not lost in egotism and self-admiration to think that the rational beings of millions upon millions of other worlds perhaps are less wicked and ignorant than the great bulk of the human race; knowing and loving their great Creator, praising and serving Him better than we do; murder and theft, on a small or a large scale being there unknown, and leaving the mind and heart free to employ themselves in loftier and more useful pursuits than the inventing of fire-arms and iron safes. But, you will perhaps object, in these other worlds so much closer to or remoter from, the central source of light and heat, would not man and beast and plant get frozen to death or grilled to ashes

GROPING IN BLACK DARKNESS, OR BLINDED BY THE BLAZING GLARE?

There is Neptune receiving nine hundred times less of both heat and light than we do, whereas Mercury gets six times more, not to speak of Vulcan and other possible intramercurial worlds! To this objection we shall reply first that the nature and organization of life may be very different to them from what it is here, as even without leaving our sublunary planet, we meet in this respect with such vast diversity. Would not our glacial climes prove fatal to many of the animals and plants which live and thrive in the torrid zone? Night birds are simply blinded by that light which is indispensable to other animals to enable them to see. Some microscopical animalcules are known to resist, at least for a time, hard frost or boiling water. Then as regards light, let it be observed that so intense is the sun's illuminating power, that even though reduced to one nine-hundredth part of what he lavishes on us, it is yet equivalent to the light which would be shed on the earth by nine hundred of our full moons shining all together. Again, the remoter the day luminary, the greater, also, as a sort of compensation, the number of night luminaries. We have only one moon, whereas Mars has two, Jupiter four, Saturn eight. (7) Lastly, all does not depend on the distance of the illuminating and heating focus. Is not the Sun's distance from the Earth greater by three millions of miles in summer than in winter? The nature and conditions of the atmosphere, perhaps the internal heat of the planet itself, and sundrp other circumstances, may have a telling influence in this respect. If this be true of the planets in general, it will be much more so for Mars; for in none known to us are the conditions of life more similar to those the Earth herself enjoys. True it is that even at Mar's mean distance, the heat and light are reduced to less than one-half of the amount which reaches us. But then this only confirms what we were just now promising. For, were there no other influence brought into play, not only would its polar snows never melt, but its equatorial seas would themselves have been turned into anun broken mass of ice, which, as far as we can judge, is not actually the case.

TO LEAVE THE FIELD OF CONJECTURES,

what in fine are the chief features most positively known of our neighbor's meteorology and climatology? That Mars is surrounded by a substantial atmosphere in many points similar to our own, is inferred, among the rest, from its shifting and transitory spots and his polar snows already mentioned; and this is further confirmed by recent spectroscopic observation. The invariable and permanent spots, on the other hand, by their regular displacement, their periodic disappearance at the eastern and reappearance at the western limb, apprise us of his regular rotation round an axis, of the position of his poles of rotation, and the inclination of the axis on its orbit: thus furnishing us with a ready means of measuring the length of his days and the variation of his seasons. Mars' mean solar day is found to be longer than ours, only by 39m. 35s. (8) and $668\frac{2}{3}$ such days, or nearly 687 of our own days, make up one Martial year. His axis, and consequently his equator, being more inclined on his orbit than is the case with us, by nearly 3.50' by so much do his torrid and his frigid zones encroach on the temperate zones, the breadth of either of the latter being consequently reduced by nearly $7\frac{2}{3}$ degrees. Mars' has four seasons, bearing a close analogy to our own. Yet not only are they longer, on account of the almost double span of the Martial year, but there is more difference between the length of one season and the other. (9) This is a necessary result of the greater eccentricity of Mars' orbit, and consequent greater variation in his distance from the Sun. Hence also a more marked difference between the temperature of his summer and his winter on the southern, and a less marked on the northern hemisphere, than on the corresponding portions of our globe, unless haply some southern Gulf-Stream or other such factor tempers and modifies the natural outcome of the above causes As for the average intensity of heat and cold, before we can arrive at any positive conclusion, we should be acquainted with the constitution of Mars' atmosphere; and the diathermanous powers; perhaps also with many other circumstances of his geography, or areography, and areology. All this and much more will perhaps never be known in this life, and in spite of every possible progress and appliance of modern and future science, even the most favorably situated of all planets is likely ever to continue, in a great measure, a sealed book to the inhabitants of this world. But who knows whether at Mars' next visit, we shall be among their number.

AND WHO KNOWS,

seeing that wherever God can be enjoyed through the Beatific Vision, there is Heaven, for those who are admitted thus to enjoy Him; and seeing that wherever there is anything, there is God—who knows but that the blessed, whose society we earnestly hope and trust some day to join, are allowed to visit in turn not only Mars, not only Jupiter and the other known stars and planets, but myriads upon myriads of unknown ones "which the eye hath never seen," and there admire in detail the surpassing beauty and endless variety of the Creation, and praise and love the All Wise, All Powerful, and All Good Creator evermore.

A. DE PENARANDA, S. J.

(1) The planet has just past the *quadrature*, when its direction as seen from the earth is at right angles with the direction of the sun, in consequence of which he turns towards us a greater portion of his diffilluminated hemisphere than in any other position. For further particulars on this and other points, *cf. I. E. C.* 1879, pp. 902, 923, 943 and 982.

(2) Even the moon, in one respect, stands at a disadvantage as compared to Mars, since a great portion of her surface is perpetually turned away from us, whereas Mars brings to view in turn every single particle of his surface.

(3) Of a truth, this last particular we could then hardly have fully observed, seeing that the planet was and is still in a rather unfavorable position for the purpose, its Northern pole being at present out of sight, whilst the Southern pole has just passed through its summer period, when this its particular feature is reduced to a minimum. According to Arago's estimate, the brightnes of the polar spots is more than double that of the other brightest portions, such as the disc's edge.

(4) Some—as Lockyer—have also proposed to explain the color of the spots by the refraction of the sun through Mars' atmosphere—something like what takes place in our own atmosphere when the sun is near the horizon. But Arago has given of this hypothesis an easy and decisive refutation, remarking that if such were the actual cause, since at the borders of the disc the luminous rays have to traverse a thicker layer of atmosphere, and more obliquely, there also should the coloration be deepest, whereas the reverse is observed. It may be added that neither would the hypothesis account for the red tint not being general.

(5) Not *Always* remaining at the same distance, as an American author of some standing would have it. But *Quandoque bonus dormitat Homerus.*

(6) The title of one of Proctor's Essays.

(7) Of Uranus till new only four sattelites have been discovered, and one, or at most two, of Neptune. But considering the immense distance of these planets, no one can tell whether this empirical law of progression in the number of satellites is not verified also with them, especially if we reflect that even the two moons of Mars, so much nearer to us, have been discovered only so very lately.

(8) From this it may be inferred that the centrifugal force at the Equator of Mars is about one-half only of what it is at our Equator. Hence, granted that the polar depression of all planets is owing to a primitive state of fluidity combined with the centrifugal force developed in them by their rotatory motion, of all the valuations made by astronomers of Mars's polar depression, Mr. Kaiser's 1-118, which is the smallest of all, seems the most easily reconcileable with the laws of hydrostatics.

(9) In the Northern hemisphere the $668\frac{3}{4}$ days of the Martial year are distributed as follows:—Spring $191\frac{1}{4}$, summer 181, autumn $149\frac{3}{4}$, winter 147; so that spring and summer taken together last 76 days longer than autumn and winter. In the Southern hemisphere, of course, all the reverse obtains.

CAUTION.

The pianos advertised by some of the Montreal actioneers to be sold in private houses this spring as "Weber" pianos are not "WEBER" pianos. The advertisements appear to be intentionally worded so as to mislead the public. There is probably no piano maker in the world who has had so many imitators, both of his name and style, as "Weber." Several parties, particularly country people, are deceived by these advertisements, supposing that these low grade pianos are really made by Weber, whereas none of his pianos have been sold at auction at any of these sales. It the parties interested would use the style "Weber & Co.," or "G. M. Weber & Co.," which are adopted by the two factories in Kingston, we would not have so much reason to complain, but suppressing the style adopted by these firms, and using the New York Piano to palm off imitation rosewood pianos, selling at from $100 to $150, as "WEBER," is manifestly unfair, and carries with it the appearance of deliberate fraud.

NEW YORK PIANO CO.,
Agents for "Weber."

Montreal, 1st May, 1880.

TRADE WITH BELGIUM.

"Hopes are entertained of an interchange of trade between Belgium and Canada, shipments of grain last year from Canada having met with ready sale in Belgium. The kind of grain which the Low Lands will want is rye, for they grow almost enough of wheat to supply the demand for flour. They can, however, use more rye than their land yields for distilling purposes. The Netherlands ought also to take considerable quantities of lumber from Canada, though they are most convenient to the Norse and Swedish markets, to which they send vast quantities of hoops for fish-barrels. Canada buys from Belgium and Holland considerable quantities of glass and liquors, but it is perhaps not going too far to say that Canada's imports from these countries are not likely to increase much, even if it be possible to have direct return cargoes instead of sending the vessels with cargoes of lumber to Buenos Ayres or the Brazilian ports,—whence wool, hides and tallow are taken to the Netherlands as return cargo.—*Toronto Telegram*

THE FREE PORT QUESTION.

At a meeting of the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade, held on Friday, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved—"That the letter from the Secretary of the Harbor Commissioners, under date 6th inst., having been read, this Council accept with satisfaction the assurance therein given that the Government have officially informed the Commissioners that they will be prepared to submit to Parliament, at its next session, a scheme for the relief of the trade by the St. Lawrence route, which will include the removal of the Lake and River debt now resting on the Harbor Trust; and this Council returns its thanks to the members of the Trust for the exertions they have made to achieve this satisfactory result."

The letter above referred to was written in reply to one addressed by Wm. J. Patterson, Secretary of the Board of Trade, to the Chairman of the Harbor Board, and states that, previous to the session of Parliament now closed, informal communications had taken place between the Harbor Board and the Government on the subject of making Montreal a free port, and that since the commencement the Board have had repeated interviews with the Government; but the above mentioned promise is the answer given to the request for the introduction of a Bill to enable the Commissioners to abolish the tonnage dues on sailing vessels, and in view of this measure the Commissioners have been recommended by the Government to abstain from pressing any change in the tonnage dues till after the Bill is passed.

THE BRITISH GRAIN TRADE.

LONDON, May 3.—The *Mark Lane Express*, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says:—"Deliveries of English wheat have again been limited, and business was confined to best lots, which have gone quietly into consumption at previous prices. Secondary qualities were but little enquired for, and again receded 1s per qr. In foreign wheat operations buyers have been paralyzed by the weight of present and prospective supplies. Business, consequently, moved within very narrow limits, and although the trade only quoted at 6d to 1s lower on Monday last further reduction has been necessary when sales have been pressed. It is singular, considering the light stocks held by millers, that the decline of price consequent on the collapse of the American ring should not have been followed by a materially increased demand. The first rush to sell is now over. A pause has occurred, during which it would be well for both sides to consider the situation. It is impossible to say whether the lowest point has been reached, but it is certain that a few weeks of unfavorable weather would give a spur to speculation, for which the low prices now current offer tempting opportunities. Maize, in consequence of large shipments from America, declined in five weeks from 29s 6d to 23s 9d per quarter. Arrivals at ports of call have been very limited. Wheat during the beginning of the week declined until 48s 6d was accepted on Thursday for red winter. Since then there has been a large demand for the United Kingdom and continent. The closing quotations show little or no alteration on the week. Maize sold steadily at about 24s per quarter, the decline being at length arrested. Wheat for shipment was sparingly offered, but buyers continued reserved. The sales of English wheat last week 28,755 quarters at 45s 9d, against 58,937 quarters at 40s 9d for the same period last year. The imports into the United Kingdom for the week ending April 24 were 1,145,127 cwts of wheat and 168,326 cwts of flour."

TELEGRAMS.

A Dublin despatch to the *Times* says Parnell paid a farewell visit to Navan yesterday, and announced that he had definitely resolved to sit for Cork. A conference of Roman Catholic bishops and clergy unanimously resolved to accept Parnell's reason for leaving Meath, and by a majority decided to adopt A. M. Sullivan as his successor, provided he felt at liberty to co-operate cordially with Parnell. A public open air meeting was held in the evening, when the announcement of Sullivan's name elicited cheers and cries of "no." Several hand to hand fights among the partisans of the rival candidates, Drake and Sullivan, occurred, and the police were obliged to interfere several times to protect Drake's partisans from being severely maltreated.

LONDON, May 5.—A Berlin correspondent fears the days of free towns in Germany are numbered. Proceeding are now begun against Bremen, which threatens the deprival of that town entirely of its rights as a free port. The correspondent supposes Lubbreck will shortly receive its death warrant. This new and determined policy on the part of Prussia is regarded with the utmost interest by many English and American merchants, whom it will materially affect.

LONDON, May 4.—The *Standard* admits the truth of the rumors of a glaring discrepancy between the financial results actually realized in India and those promised in the budget in February. The difference is estimated at from three to five million pounds, originating in the fact that the financial members of the Viceroy's Council grossly under-estimated the expenses of the Afghan war.

SIMLA, May 5.—The Indian Government sent a despatch to the Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for India, showing that the cost of the Afghan war will probably exceed the estimates by £4,000,000. A despatch declares the military department is solely blameable for the mistake; they believed the estimates sufficient, and advised their adoption by the financial department.

CINCINNATI, O., May 9.—The depositions have been taken of Archbishop Purcell and Father Edward Purcell, his brother, in the suit brought by the creditors of the Archbishop. Father Edward's deposition, which is very clear, is to the effect that he acted solely as business and financial agent for the Archbishop for the benefit of the diocese, and had done so since 1834 and 1836. He said he did a sort of banking business, receiving money on deposits and paying interest. The money was not used for his or the Archbishop's personal benefit, but for building churches and orphan asylums, for charity, and to educate priests in Rome, France and other places. The amount of indebtedness was over $3,000,000. With the exception of a few important creditors who got mortgages, the debts were all unsecured, it being understood the diocese was liable. The Archbishop has testified that none of the money received from depositors was applied to any personal use.

AN APOLOGY TO AUSTRIA—MR. GOSCHEN'S APPOINTMENT.

LONDON, May 9.—The Tories assert that Austria demanded and received an apology for Mr. Gladstone's language respecting the Austrian Emperor and the Western policy in regard to the Balkan principalities. The contrary is true. No formal demand was made, but a suggestion from Vienna that an explanation would be acceptable elicited a courteous but a firm declaration that the English Government intends to hold Austria to a strict compliance with the treaty of Berlin, and will require the ultimate evacuation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, being in favor of the development and independence of the nationalities. Mr. Gladstone caused the Emperor to understood that the language he used toward him, while meaning no personal disrespect, required no excuse. Subsequent semi-official telegrams from Vienna indicate that Austria acquiesces in the Balkan programme. The present Ministry will give a public definition of its whole policy on the Eastern question in the expected circular to the European Governments in the Austrian affair and other matters. Earl Granville has shown marked firmness in dissipating already the continental notion that the English policy is capable of being affected by vague menaces. Diplomatists applaud the promptitude shown in respect to the Montenegrin difficulty, Earl Granville having in a few days secured a concerted European demand that the Porte should first reoccuppy the district seized by the Albanians and then deliver it to Montenegro as agreed. The appointment of Mr. Goschen as ambassador to Turkey further signifies Earl Granville's determination to enforce her treaty obligations on Turkey. Mr. Goschen accepted the appointment most reluctantly; finally sacrificing his own personal objections and those of his family, because he was convinced that he would be enabled to carry out an energetic policy. The new Ministers are all busy. There is similar activity in the other Government departments. It is believed that Lord Hartington has already reversed Lord Cranbrook's decision to separate Candahar from Afghanistan. Mr. Forster devoted the week in Dublin to a careful examination of the condition of Ireland, and to deciding whether to continue the Peace Preservation Act or allow it to expire. Mr. Gladstone, amid the duties of organizing the Administration, determining its policy and settling the business of the coming session, finds time to institute a minute enquiry into the national finances. Each Minister is expected to master the condition of his own department before next Wednesday, when the Cabinet meets to decide its course and provide a legislative outline for the Queen's speech. It is understood that a Burials bill has been determined upon, but it is doubtful whether any other measure except the necessary administrative bills will be undertaken at the present session. Lord Selborne is unlikely to adopt Lord Cairns' land scheme without modifications.

The Princess Pauline, of Wurtemberg, has been married to Dr. Willem, medical practitioner, of Berlin, with the consent of the King of Wurtemberg. In a short address preceeding the ceremony, the officiating clergyman reminded the bridegroom that in marrying him the Royal bride had surrendered a good deal that was esteemed, grand and valuable in life. When the bride's turn came to make the marriage response she added to the syllable "yes" the following words in a quiet tone: "I declare I give up nothing that can at all be valued in comparison to the happiness awaiting me, and I consider my lot a most enviable one." The clergyman who was thus snubbed subsequently excused himself while lunching after the ceremony at the Ducal table.

Prince Leopold, with a suite of several officers, sails next Thursday on the Sardinian for Canada. His royal brother, the Duke of Connaught, met with an accident a few days ago, in being violently thrown from his dog-cart close to a public house called "Tumble-down Dick," near Aldershot. No harm was done.

The Queen is seldom seen in public. She may possibly open the exhibition of Indian collections at South Kensington this month, but it is very uncertain.

THE BLASPHEMY OF INFDEL LECTURERS.

THE LEGAL PENALTY FOR COMMITTING THE OFFENCE, OR FOR "AIDING AND ABETTING."

Blasphemy, as cognizable by the law of England, is described by Blackstone to be "denying the being or providence of God, contumelious reproaches of our Saviour Jesus Christ, profane scoffing at the holy scripture, or exposing it to contempt or ridicule" "The Christian religion is received as a part of the common law in the United States, as well as in England, and to revile it or its Author is deemed to be blasphemy, and an indictable offence."—Burrill. Theologically speaking, blasphemy is essentially evil—*malum in se*—always evil and cannot be otherwise than evil. Its punishment by the Jewish law was death. In Catholic countries it was punished by the civil power as a crime. In Canada blasphemy is a crime as much as it is in England or the United States, consequently, American citizens coming into Canada to speak or lecture against God, are committing a crime against the laws of their own country as well as against the laws of Canada, and should be dealt with as criminals. This is clear. It is also clear that no man, or company, or corporation can rightly or legally rent a hall or room to any one to enable him to commit the crime of blasphemy. Our Canadian courts have decided this question. And as no man would speak against God unless he had an audience, those who form an audience for such blasphemers are guilty participators in their crime. Newspapers also become aiders and abettors of those criminals by advertising or reporting their lectures. It is no palliation of the offence to say, we publish their lectures but we refute them afterwards. You have no right to help to commit a crime and then try to undo the evil effect of it afterwards. It is not always in your power to do so.

Lecturers against God—scoffers and ridiculers of the sacred scriptures—have no right to complain of persecution and bigotry and intolerance on the part of Christians, simply because the latter refuse to aid and assist them in carrying on their criminal work. If you refuse to lend the use of your paper to call together an audience, or if you refuse to give the use of your hall or house to hold an audience for what you consider criminal purposes, and which are criminal according to the laws of the land, what right has the blasphemer to complain? Bigotry! Intolerance! persecution!—How? Because you will not place your property at the disposal of a criminal, to help him to commit his crime? Singular persecution indeed!

Seeing that blasphemy is a crime against God and against the laws of the land, the very utmost the blasphemer can claim is to be let alone—thus on his own grounds. He has no right to our property to help him. He has no right to our press. He has no right to our money. He has no right to our time. Let him carry on his war against God without any help from us. This is not persecution, but common sense.

M. STAFFORD, P. P.,
Lindsay.

RUSSIAN ADVANCE ON MERV.

It is stated that all is in train for the Russian march to Merv. We hear that the Russian general has actually summoned the chiefs of the Tekke in the district adjacent to his base of operations to join him in punishing their brethren. It seems, moreover, that his invitation has been successful. If this be so, we have another instance of the venerable and familiar trick of war by which conquering races in all ages have simplified the labor of subjugating inferior peoples. The Muscovite is dividing the Tekke amongst themselves, in order to profit by their suicidal quarrels and the weakness they must produce. In the meantime the growing opinion is that we will let Russia do just as she pleases in Central Asia. She may occupy Merv, or she may seize on Herat. That is none of our affair since the Liberal Government has come into power. Provided the Czar respects the Indian frontier—he is free, so far as we are concerned, to sweep away all neutral zones, and advance as far as ever he can. This is the forecast and, of course, time only can tell if it is the correct one.—*Irish Times.*

Cincinnati lovers don't say, "My sweet little rosebud" or "My own darling sugar plum," but it's "You sweet little ham."