was full; the surge came on, burying her for an instant, and actually sweeping the boat clear of her bulwarks out upon the sea—a most fortunate circumstance, which was instantly taken advantage of by pulling with the oars for a single instant, and still further clearing the wreck, which now rose high at the bows for a moment, as the stern settled and gradually sunk, causing a vortex, which would certainly have engulfed the boat, had it not been able thus to pull a short distance away, and which even now drew it rapidly back to the spot where the ship had laid, and causing it to toss heavily for a while—but in a few moments more all was quiet.

"Look that, that is you!" said the mate, eagerly.

"It was time short of a miracle that we did not all of us go down with the ship."

The widow covered her face with her hands and hearkened and prey of thankfulness. It was already night, and steering by the stars the mate laid his course after affording a spare sail to cover the mother and daughter, who, having partaken of some slight refreshment, the first for many hours, were soon lost in sleep, indeed by the great bodily fatigue and physical exertion they had so lately encountered in this emergency. The mate stood watch and watch, relieving each other at intervals throughout the night, while the boat with its two lugger sails crept on steadily across its course.

It was remarkable to observe the delicacy observed by these three seamen towards the widow and her daughter, by each their anxiety towards them as to their necessities and their wants; while they, on their part, were patient, uncomplaining and grateful. The second and third day passed on, when the mate calculated from memorandums directs for the nearest point of land which they could not fail to reach in another day, lying the coast of Africa. His calculations were made under disadvantages, but he felt confident of their correctness. The weather, fortunately, had been very calm and pleasant thus far, since the gale had subsided, and the frail craft thus exposed upon the ocean, had really proved quite comfortable and weatherly, for the times being. A very little apology for a cabin had been constructed over the forward part of the boat, into which the ladies could retire at nightfall, and become secure from the weather and be entirely by themselves; and, under the circumstances, they were really quite comfortable—that is to say, they experienced little exposure to the elements at night, and slept securely in their narrow quarters.

In leaving the ship, clothes would have been, and had taken the but which contained her valuables and much papers as comprised her heavy bills of credit on England, in which way she was transporting the bulk of her husband's his valuable estate to her native land. It was the had taken especial pains not to have the fact known to the men that such any gems amount of valuables with her lest it should prove a temptation to them, and lest to some tragical result, as it regarded the safety of herself and child. But she need not, it have feared—those hearty sons of the ocean were true as steel; and it was only the second day that, having had the coast down carefully in the boat, she had ventured to think of forgetting it, when it was brought to be again by one of them, who remarked that he presumed it was something of particular value by the appearance of it.

According to Miss Bella's reckoning, the time had already arrived when the land should have in sight, and the three seamen were constantly on the lookout for it, in the supposed direction where it should appear; but all their search had proved in vain—there was the same endless expanse of ocean before them, day after day, bounded only by the dim horizon, and unrelieved by any object, while the same hope reigned in their hearts. The expense they endured, though not very severe, had begun to tell upon them all, and especially the mate and two seamen; and the cheeks of the seamen already looked sunken, their eyes less spirited. This was the combined result of their feelings of disappointment with physical labor—for they worked longer and harder than every day, aiding the sailing power of the boat, in the hope of reaching the land before another gale or storm should occur. Now, however, they began to discard the oars, and to feel less inclined to labor in propelling the boat.

The widow, who was not a little of a philosopher, and a woman of good sound mind, determined to do her part to cheer the men, and cheer them up in their sinking; she saw how sadly they needed some one to talk to, and telling her daughter of her purpose, the good young miss came on, she induced her to sing some of her sweet songs with all her power of execution, and the men gathered in agency from this the sweet to the real delight and joy of those who had proved an ark of safety to the adventurers, was then entirely, and soon by a mere speck upon the waters, unaided and alone.

As the boat drifted for a moment astern of the vessel before the party were taken on board, the mate read the name on the stern in golden letters—"The Sea Witch." The breathless hands who had been saved from the wreck soon mingled with the crew on the forecastle of the "Sea Witch," and told their story there: while the mate and the ladies were received in the most hospitable manner in the cabin, where the captain on discovered to her them every comfort the ship afforded and to place every resource entirely at their own hand.

Mrs. Huntington and her daughter were at first too tearful and full of gratitude for their preservation to converse, and soon took advantage of the kind offer which placed the captain's private apartments entirely at their disposal, and retired to rest, reflecting their adventures in detail, not forgetting the phantom ship which passed them in the gale, and which had caused such consternation on board the wrecked Indiaman. But his story in this particular was unfortunately spoiled, when captain Ratlin told him positively that he was at that moment on board the very craft which he had designated as the "Flying Dutchman"—a remark that for a moment puzzled the honest seaman, and led him to look suspiciously about him; but a few cork-bursting remarks soon placed the subject at rest in even the sailor's credulous mind.

The fact was, that the same gale which had made a wreck of the Indiaman had driven the "Sea Witch" two day's sail or more out of her course, and had thus brought her in sight of the Bengal at that critical moment when it would have been impossible to have rendered her the least assistance. The continuance of the gale had carried the ship far to the southward, from whence she was now returning.

It was early morning upon the day succeeding the auspicious night for the party in the boat, that Miss Huntington and her mother made their appearance upon the quarter-deck, and tendered their thanks for the service rendered. Captain Ratlin received them there with a frank, manly air, assured them of full protection, and that he would land them at some port from whence they could take ship for England. A very few hours placed him on the best of terms with his passengers—for there was that frank and open discourse of manner with him which his countenance promised; while he felt irresistibly drawn towards the gentle and beautiful girl whose protector he had thus strangely an suddenly became. Not one point of her sweet beauty was lost upon the young commander, and her every word and movement he seemed to dwell upon, and to consider with a tenacious degree of interest.

On her part, Miss Huntington looked upon him as her preserver, and did not hesitate to accord him that confidence which the circumstances of her situation would so naturally lead to, being so delighted and entertained by the sketches he gave her of sea life and adventure upon the ocean, elicited by her suggestion. The mother, too, was well-pleased with the profound respect and polite attention which herself and daughter received from him that cordial countenance in his intercourse with her child which placed him quite at ease.

"We have not even asked you, Captain Ratlin, what trade you are in," said the mother, as they sat together—her daughter and the young commander—upon the quarter deck beneath awnaming which had been rigged for their comfort.

"Ahem! madam," hesitated the young officer—"we are—that is—yes, we are on a trading voyage to the coast—just at the present time."

Whether the mother saw that the subject was not one which was of an agreeable nature to him, or otherwise, she at once changed the subject, and congenial themes were discussed, to the delight of the daughter, who dwelt with evident pleasure upon the manly tones of the captain's voice, which seemed to have some secret charm upon her. Even her mother noticed this, and seemed to regard her with sensative watchfulness while the captain was near—though there was no well-defined suspicion of fear in her mind.

"Is it customary for traders upon these seas to go so thoroughly armed, Captain Ratlin?" asked the daughter, one day, after she had been shown about the decks, as her own request, where she had marked the heavy calibre of the gun amidship, as well as the neat and serviceable array of small arms within the entrance to the cabin.

"It is a treacherous latitude, lady, and the strong arm often makes the right," he answered again, evasively, as he called her attention to some distant object in the horizon, while at the same moment there was shouted from aloft—Land O!"

"Land! land!" repeated the gentle being by his side, "what land?"

"Africa," quietly responded the captain, without a token of satisfaction.

"Africa? that is indeed an inhospitable shore; can we land there?"

"Yes; I shall make sure that you land safely, and can despatch you to Sierra Leone, from whence you can take ship for England, but—"

"Sail O!" shouted the lookout.

"Whereaway?" asked the captain, promptly, seizing a deck trumpet and abruptly turning from her whom he had been speaking with, while his whole manner changed at once.

"A couple of points on the larboard beam, sir," answered the seaman.

"All hands, Mr. Faulkner, and 'bout ship; that square rig and the heavy lift of those topsails tell what there must be below to sustain them. Lively, sir! the "Sea Witch" must show her qualities."

Miss Huntington had watched with some amazement these orders, and the result of the same, and as she saw the beautiful craft in which she was put at once on the opposite tack, and steer boldly away from the shore which had just been made, she could not help for a moment remembering the words of the mate in the boat, that *pirates* were sometimes found in these latitudes!

After a moment's thought, she felt that she did Capain Ratlin injustice—for, whatever might cause him to flee from the sight of what she presumed by his remarks to be a man-of-war, yet she felt that he could not be a pirate. True, the vessel, even to her inexperienced eye, was very strongly manned, and there was a severity of discipline observed on board that was very different from what she had seen while they were in the Indiaman; but that man could not be a pirate—she felt that he could not; she would not do him the injustice to think it possible.

Let the stranger be whom he might, the "Sea Witch" seemed to have no intention of making his acquaintance, and as easily dropped the topsails of the vessel again as she had made them; while from the manner in which the stranger steered, it was doubtful whether his lookout had made out the "Sea Witch" at all—and so Captain Ratlin remarked to his first officer, while he ordered the ship to be kept on her present course for an hour, than to haul upon the wind and run in shore again.

"Is it usual, Captain Ratlin," asked the young and beautiful girl, "for vessels on the coast to so dread meeting each other as deliberately to alter their course when this seems likely to be the case?"

"Trade is peculiar on this coast, men-of-wars-men take extraordinary liberties on board such vessels as they happen to overhaul," was the reply. "I always avoid their company when I can do so conveniently."

As Captain Ratlin said this, his eyes met those of his companion for a moment, which were bent anxiously upon his face, as though she would read his inmost thoughts. He noted the expression, and replied at once:

"Whatever suspicion or fear may have entered Miss Huntington's mind, I beg of her to dispel, as it regards her own and her mother's safety and comfort. Both shall be my sole care until you are safely landed upon shore, where I shall at the earliest moment place you in a situation to reach your homes in England."

"I know you will do this," she replied, "and if my looks betrayed any anxiety, it was not for our safety, but your own, Captain Ratlin."

"My safety, lady? Do you then consider that worth your anxiety?" he asked, with unmistakable earnestness in his voice.

"You have been more than kind to us, sir," she continued; "you have been preserver, protector and friend, and it were strange if I did not feel an interest in your welfare."

This she uttered so ingenuously, so frankly, that it seemed not in the least indelicate or forward, while it thrilled the young commander's heart.

"Lady, since the moment you came on board, and I heard the tones of your voice, a strange interest has sprung up in my heart—an indescribable one—and now that you express an interest in a poor wanderer's fate, you attach to it a value that he himself has never regarded it as possessing. But I read your suspicions; you have feared the worst—your looks have betrayed it, and you are ready to believe that I am a—"

"*Pirate!*" almost groaned his companion. "You are not—pray say you are not?"

"Not so bad as that, lady."

"But you are then—"

"A slaver!" said the young commander, turning from her and moodily walking the deck, with a contracted brow and uneven step.

(To be continued).

THE EARTHQUAKES IN SOUTH AMERICA—Although over a month has elapsed since the first and most fatal shock, yet in Arica, Arequipa, and many of the interior ruined towns, the ground still cracks and jars and trembles, and the shocks have been counted by hundreds already, with no settled stillness so far. The poor, affrighted people are escaping by every steamer coming to Callao, and those remaining in the mountains, or scattered over the pampas, are afraid to re-build the fallen ruins, owing to the continued heaving and uprising of the ground. How much longer this will continue no one can determine, but many think it is the indication of another fearful outbreak.

MR. A. H. ST. GERMAIN, Proprietor of the Canadian Advertising Agency, Toronto, Ont., is our Sole Agent for procuring Absertion Advertisements, and is authorized also to receive Canadian Advertisements for this paper.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, OCT. 27, 1868.

☞ The *Signal* thinks we should sympathise with Queen Isabella instead of the revolutionists. Perhaps he would enlighten the world on the reason why.—[Star.

The reason why is simply this: Queen Isabella is a tory of the oldest of old schools and the President of the Spanish Junta is a liberal newspaper man—what would be called in Canada a *clear grit*.

Riots in the States.

It would take up columns of space to give a detailed account of the riots and bloodshed in some of the States. On Friday a riot took place at New Orleans, when three blacks were killed and several wounded. The whites have the upper hand and have ordered 100 policemen from Gretna, the scene of action. Several regiments of troops are called for to keep the peace.

GODERICH SALT.—We reprint to-day from the London *Free Press* a lengthy but able article on this subject. One of the editors of the *Free Press* having spent a part of the summer here knows whereof he writes. Of course we have given a complete account of the progress of our salt developement as it proceeded, but a recapitul ation can do no harm.

OUR ITEMS.—We need hardly invite a careful perusal of the items we publish from week to week, for they are generally read the first thing when the paper is taken up. We claim to give the principal *news of the world* in epitome in every issue, and to do this at first-hand requires a great amount of labor. An immense number of papers and magazines have to be examined carefully, column after column, until at last the list is exhausted, and the editor has in fact read for *his* readers all that they could have read and places in their possession all they would have known. Our local items embrace everything of interest that is worth recording. By this means we economise space and are enabled to give a mass of *general* information that is far beyond that of the local journals who delight in printing hand bill advertisements in their sheets at half price and whose habit it is to spin everything out to the utmost.

TROOPS FOR CANADA.—The London *Daily News* of the 27th ult, has received the following. Yesterday an order was received at this garrison, from the Horse Guards, directing a detachment of the 59th regiment, with two officers, to be despatched to Canada, to augment the service companies of that regiment. The troops will proceed to day to Liverpool by railway and there embark on board the Canadian mail steamer Belgian, for Quebec. The officers ordered to accompany the draught are Lieut. J. H. Pitfield and Lieut. W. M. Pendergast. The troops were inspected on the general parade ground at Chatham barracks yesterday by Major-General F. Murray.

Short Articles.

We notice with pleasure that, even in the case of leading journals, short, pithy editorials have replaced the long, shambling, posy two-column essays which were formerly in vogue. We have long entertained the opinion that, excepting in cases of special importance, a newspaper article stands a better chance of being read when the writer states his facts plainly and briefly and expresses his opinions in as few words as possible, leaving it to the reader to "point the moral" or adorn the tale." If the reader be intelligent he can easily grasp all the ideas suggested in a brief, pithy article, if he be stupid the less you say to him the better. We do not mean to say that it is easier for the editor to write a short article than a long one. Our experience proves that men who have little experience in composition are almost invariable prolix, and that nothing is more difficult than the condensation of thought. For example, we know from sad experience that some of the worst sermons we ever heard were spun out to an hour and a quarter in length, while some of the very best have not exceeded thirty minutes. The gifted Whitfield once said it would take an angel to listen to a man after the first hour; on the same principle, it would take an angel of patience to read an article after the first column. The world moves on so fast now-a-days, and the communication of news is so rapid, that if a man wishes to keep abreast of the times he must, in his newspaper writing, to use a homely phrase, be "short and sweet." Hence our admiration for short articles, and our pleasure in the fact that they are coming into vogue in this country more than ever.

☞ The damage done by the earthquake in California was greater than at first anticipated. In San Francisco some $3000,000 worth of property was destroyed and several lives lost, and $2000,000 it is stated will hardly cover the loss in the interior. Few visitations could have been more terrible.

TOWN AND COUNTY.

☞ Our Goderich fishermen will be proud to learn that their brethren of St. Johns have beaten the Ward Bros., in a boat race, and are now champions of the world.

☞ A man was found dead in the woods near Saugeen recently He had only worn out socks on his feet.

☞ Mr. White of Lucknow has established a stage line between Goderich and Walkerton.

☞ The Hamilton *Times* has little faith in the ability of the Government to deal fairly of the matter of a harbor of Refuge on Lake Huron.

☞ The gun boat *Cherub* departed from this port at noon yesterday, (Monday) for Halifax. The officers and seamen have conducted themselves so well during their protracted stay at Goderich that the feeling on their final departure is one of sincere regret. It is not likely that we shall see the 'Cherub' here another year.

☞ The gun boat 'Prince Alfred' is to be dismantled in Goderich harbor. Her guns, stores, &c., will be taken to Kingston by the 'Cherub', and the officers and crew will rejoin the 'Constance'.

☞ One of the jolly tars of the 'Cherub' being deeply stricken by the charms of a Goderich girl, committed matrimony with heron Saturday night and amidst the plaudits of his messmates. How the bride will be able to follow the roving fortunes of her swain is something of a problem.

☞ One or two young men in this town want to get married, but can't get houses to live in afterwards.

☞ We have to thank A. & S. Nordheimer of Toronto for a copy of the beautiful new song "Our Old Canadian Home," composed by C. P. Woodlawn.

☞ The day of Goderich Township Ploughing Match has been changed from the 4th to Tuesday the 3rd Nov.

☞ Christopher Cooper, 1½ miles from Kinburn, Pickett, on Tuesday or Wednesday last week, had his arm badly mutilated in attempting to put the belts on a threshing machine while in motion. Although under the able treatment of Dr. Young of Kinburn, hopes are entertained for his recovery, mortification having yet to.

☞ The Dungannon volunteers are making rapid progress in drill, under the tuition of Lieut. Pennington.

☞ The Orangemen of the Wawanosh District intend celebrating the 6th of November here in grand style. The Lodges of the district meet in the village of Dungannon, at half past 10 a. m., they will then march through the principal streets, after which dinner will be served up by Messrs. Black & Swift; and, immediately after dinner, addresses will be delivered by the following gentlemen: R. Forbes, D. D. M., Rev. J. Whitley, Rev. C. Carey, Rev. Mr. Dockstader. A good turn out is expected.

☞ The Good Templars of Dungannon intend giving an entertainment on Friday evening, 30th inst. The public are invited to attend.

☞ We have to thank Mr. Wm. Campbell, fruit tree agent, for a fine new grape vine and some choice plum trees. Mr. C. has proven himself to be a most reliable agent in this line.

☞ We have received a copy of the Monthly Horticultural Recorder, published by Mr. Whitlock N. Y. It claims to be the best work of the kind in the country and does certainly convey a great deal of information.

☞ Walkerton had a pacing match on Thursday on a race-course formed around the edges of an out field.

☞ Don't forget the Townsend family on Friday evening.

☞ After the cold miserable weather we have had throughout October, we are now favored with a most delightful interlude of sunshine and soft south wind.

☞ The new block at the Huron well will be ready for operation next week. It is intended to run it with coal.

☞ A gentleman from St. Marys, together with one or two townsmen, have started a large conservatory in the old foundry, which suits the purpose admirably. It is surely a sign of progress when old, long neglected buildings are thus filled with workmen.

☞ See the adv. of Mr. Wallace, watchmaker, &c., whose shop has been removed to West St.

☞ The Goderich Volunteers sent a challenge to the Waterloo Battalion some time ago, to shoot a friendly match but have not as yet received a reply. They fear their letter has gone astray.

☞ SOUTH RIDING PLOUGHING MATCH.—The first Annual Ploughing Match of the South Riding will be held on the farm of Mr. Robt. McMurdie, London Road, half a mile north of Kippen, on Friday the 16th of Nov. next commencing at 9 a. m. First class to comprise all who have taken 1st or 2nd prizes at other matches and all others who may wish to compete. Prizes $12.00, 10.00, 7.00 and 5.00. Second class, men over 18, $10.00, 8.00, 6.00 and 4.00. Third class, boys under 18, $12.00, 8.00, 6.00 and 5.00. M. C. Cameron M. P. has given $20 to the match.

☞ Old Mrs. Wm. McCaig fell on one of the side-walks on Wednesday evg and broke a leg.

☞ Two Goderich boys *did* it a day or two ago. Being in a certain place, says (as we will call them) Jones to Smith, "I'll pay for two bottles of ale if you will drink them on the spot." "Done," says Smith, and sure enough in a few minutes he was outside of two bottles of ale. "Now ren," says Smith, "if you (hic) rink two bottles 'rale tippy fren." Jones went to work, and by a masterly effort got the contents of two bottles down. Exit Jones and Smith pretty well, 'how came you so."

☞ A woman residing in Elderslie, Co. Bruce says her husband Wm. Johnston, left her some months ago to look for work and she has not heard of him since. She says she heard of an item in the *Signal* in July or August relating the death of a man of that name by sunstroke. Will any one knowing of the matter write, for the benefit of the poor woman and her children, to Thomas Fairburn Esq., Teeswater.

☞ A correspondent, who is evidently of the Irish persuasion, writing in a sarcastic strain, says Mr. Blueit's bird was a "howl" not a "beagle." We think he must be wrong.

☞ Hugh Love Esq., Secretary of the S. H. A. S. writes as follows:—I am instructed by the directors of the South Huron Agricultural Society, to request that you will insert the following in an early issue of your paper. The attention of all interested in the S. H. A. S., is particularly called to sub-section 3, section 48 of the new Agricultural Act. It is very evident from the wording of said sub-section, that only those who have paid their subscription of $1.00 each before the 1st day of January next, shall have the right of voting at the election of office bearers, or upon any other question submitted to the next annual meeting which shall apply solely to the business of next year. It would be well then for all who intend to take an active part in the proceedings next year, to hand in their subscriptions prior to the 1st Jan. next, to Treas. Secy., or to the Pres. Vice President, or to any of the directors of the society, who will forward their names to the Secy. forthwith; this can be conveniently done, as there is a director in each Municipality in the Riding.

— The Spanish Colonies are entitled to send four representatives to the National Cortez.

The Salt Wells of Goderich.

Interesting Development of the Enterprise.

AMERICAN VERSUS CANADIAN SALT—THE COMMERCIAL VIEW OF THE QUESTION.

From the London Free Press 24.

The public are aware that an enterprise of much interest to the good people of Goderich has been developed in that town—we refer to the success of the salt wells which have been sunk there during the past eighteen months. The discovery of the brine was quite unlooked for, the result following the search for oil. A well having been sunk there with the expectation of getting petroleum, turned out a blank, no "show" of the greasy fluid rewarding the enterprise of those who bored the rock. It was then suggested that, by going deeper, salt might possibly be reached especially as the water obtained at a depth of 500 feet was rather salty in flavour. The drilling was resumed, and at a depth of between 1,000 and 1100 feet heavy brine was reached, which, it was thought, would yield salt in paying quantities. Before going further a chemical analysis of the brine was obtained, to discover if the properties contained would render the salt valuable for pickling purposes, and also to see if a sufficient percentage of solid salt could be obtained from a given quantity of brine to render the industry profitable. The samples were referred to competent chemists and their reports being highly satisfactory, it was determined by the Goderich Salt and Petroleum Company—the enterprising pioneers of the salt interest—to erect the necessary works for the manufacture of salt. These works have been for about a year in active operation, and so far have proved a financial success, and notwithstanding the competition offered by by the Americans, who seek to swamp the infant enterprise, the works are run at a profit. Other companies following the example of this company, have gone to work and sunk wells, and there is no question that Goderich is now in a position to supply all the salt required by Ontario. The wells finished and partly in operation number eight, as follows:—

	Capital.
Goderich Salt & Petroleum	$75,000
Tecumseh	5,000
Dominion (in operation)	20,000
Huron (do)	10,000
Victoria (do)	10,000
Ontario (do)	15,000
Maitland	10,000
Prince Well	10,000

Of the above, the first named is the largest, operating with 104 kettles; the Tecumseh is waiting till spring; the Ontario commenced in July, making 60 kettles; Dominion 60 kettles, and Huron 120 kettles, in full operation; Victoria, 60 kettles, Maitland, drilled to salt, operations for the present suspended, with a view to experiment on some cheaper method of evaporation; Prince well down 800 or 900 feet. We will now attempt to describe the process of salt making. The pumping machinery is precisely the same as that used by oil wells; the "well" is a round hole of from four to five inches in diameter, drilled perfectly down over a thousand feet into mother earth, and lined or cased with iron casing to prevent the surrounding earth from "caving in" and filling it up. Down this well is fixed the pump tubing, about three inches in diameter, which descends to about 600 feet. At the end or bottom of the tubing is fixed the pump, and inside the pump tubing are wooden rods, connected by iron couplings which work the pump valves and force the brine up the tubing to the surface. In the Goderich Company they use a 20 horse steam engine, which, by the aid of connecting machinery, works the pump. The brine, which is pumped up at the rate of 600 barrels in 24 hours, flows to a large vat, where it is held till wanted, and connected with the vat are pipes leading to the salt kettles. In the Goderich Company's works are four rows of these kettles, to the number of 104, each holding 140 gallons of brine. They occupy a space of 120 feet long and 64 wide, and are of course, built in brickwork, and underneath are the furnaces to heat the brine and carry off the vapor. One long furnace runs under each row of kettles, so that four furnaces are employed, each using about four cords of wood per day. When the furnaces are in full blast, the kettles are 'drawn' or emptied every four hours, and then the yield is generally a bushel and a half of salt to each charge. The kettles require cleaning once a day, the process being the chipping off the calcined salt which adheres to the sides, and is only valuable for manure, and is sold to the farmers for $2 a ton. The quality of the salt depends much upon the cooking of the brine, as the faster it boils the finer become the salt. Another plan of absorbing the water is by evaporation by solar heat; but this process requires extensive works, produces a coarse salt, and has not yet been introduced into Canada. The cost of cordwood at the wells is about $2 to $2.50, and some of the works are about to try coal as a more economical fuel, as it can be laid down at Goderich for $4.50 per ton. The number of men employed at the 'Goderich Company's' works comprise fourteen, including engineer and packers. The workmen state that the action of the salt has a singular effect upon their clothes, quickly rotting all cotton garments, rendering it necessary for them to wear woollen clothes, which are not affected by the action of the brine.

Taking the experience of the 'Goderich Company,' the manufacture of salt costs about $1 per barrel, including the package, which is made for about 30c at the factory. The cartage to the station or wharf is 4½ per barrel, and the freight to Toronto $2½ per car load, and to London $17. The amount turned out by the Co. named is about from 90 to 100 barrels per day, 280 lbs of salt comprising a barrel. A shipment of from 400 to 500 barrels has already been made to Chicago, although a duty of 70 cents in gold per barrel is placed upon its importation to the United States.

The American salt-packers of Onondaga Valley and Syracuse are already extremely jealous of the growing industry of our Goderich salt works. Last year American salt was sold $1.60 per barrel in our market, and now it is sold at $1.50, evidently with the view of closing up the various works at Goderich. This statement is supported by the fact that Saginaw and Onondaga salt is laid down at Detroit at $2.45 American currency or $1.80 in gold, while in London it is placed on the market table, and railway charges paid, at $1.50 in gold; a difference of 30 cents per barrel! American salt is laid down and sold at Port Stanley for $1.40, London $1.50, Toronto $1.50, Stratford $1.40, and at Goderich $1 30 per barrel! It is not surprising, however, that the Americans, who have for so long a period enjoyed the monopoly of our market, should seek to maintain it by this reduction in price; commercial instinct naturally prompts such a course. It is gratifying, however, to state that even this reckless competition has failed in its effect, and the salt companies already in operation in Goderich have all the orders they can fill at present. Of course the competition lessens the legitimate profits which would otherwise naturally belong to our Goderich friends, and the further development of the enterprise is checked. So far, then, the policy of the Oswego trade has been annoying. The inquiry may be made by some why not put a duty on American salt, and thus foster our own manufactories? If the Americans are so illiberal as to put a duty of 70cts. per barrel against our salt, why should we not put a similar duty against theirs, and consume our own products! This, at first sight, appears to be only a natural course to pursue, but the answer is that by so doing we should tax every Ontario farmer, dairyman, and pork-packer 70cts per barrel for the benefit of the owners of the Goderich salt works. It is just the question or free trade again. It is argued also, that if the Americans can lay down their salt in London at $1.50 per barrel, carrying it all the way from Syracuse, the Goderich makers ought to be able to compete at equal terms; this objection is apparently well enough, but it must be remembered that it is only the *surplus* that is shipped here at these rates by the Americans, and that in order to arrest the development of the new Canadian industry and retain the market themselves. Should they succeeded in so doing, they would as soon as possible raise the rates again. It is a question whether an incidental protection of say 30cts per barrel against foreign salt coming into the Dominion would not be judicious, thus enabling the salt makers of Goderich to make a fair living profit on their enterprise. Such a duty would hardly be felt as it would be only about one cent on every nine pounds of salt consumed, an insignificant item truly. Only last session of Parliament a duty of ½c per pound was placed upon the importation of American sulphuric acid, in order to foster the two acid works established in London. On the establishment of these works, the Americans tried the crushing-out game, and, had no duty been imposed to adjust the difference, and afford a slight protection to the manufacture of the sulphuric acid, the consequence would have been that works which had cost about $20,000 to erect, would have had to be closed, and the trade abandoned to the Americans. It is clear that if, as a community, we are ever to develope our own natural resources we must adopt such legislation as will prevent our markets being swamped by the importation of the surplus of the American factories thrown in upon us at and under cost. The Goderich salt makers very fairly argue that, as the government has placed a duty of 6 cents per gallon on the importation of American crude oil, and 15c per gallon against American refined oil—thus conceding the theory of protection—it is but fair that the growing salt intrests should also receive a helping hand. Nor could objection be taken by the Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick or Nova Scotia to such a course for American salt does not reach those places, the cheap rate at which Liverpool salt is offered excluding the American article. Mr. Goderich [illegible] profit, be sent further east than Kingston.

But what the Goderich manufacturers desire is not Protection, but Free Trade in its fullest extent. All they wish is that the American government should admit Canadian salt to their markets, and then they would be perfectly willing the American salt should be imported here on the same terms. The duty of 70cts per barrel, exacted against our salt, is a heavy barrier to contend against; but for that fifty Goderich salt wells would be inadequate to supply the wants of the Western States. The question of freight is easily got over; grain vessels leaving Chicago for the ports of Buffalo or Oswego require a return cargo, and they take salt at a cheap rate, rather than go back in ballast and that is one reason why American salt can be laid down here so cheaply. We: the trade between the two countries thrown open, Chicago vessels, bearing Chicago spring wheat and corn, would land there freights at Goderich, and take salt as a return cargo. We understand that, at the next meeting of the Dominion Parliament, an effort will be made either to get a sight protection for our salt, or to secure a reciprocal trade with the States, which would be far more advantageous to the Province. The quantity of American salt imported into Canada in 1867 was 80,576 barrels, all of which might be raised and consumed at home, affording employment to thousands of workmen, wood choppers, barrel-makers, and giving freights to our lake vessels and our railways.

In closing this review of the Goderich salt enterprise, some remarks on the quality of the salt manufactured will be interesting. The brine from which the salt is made is of a very high gravity averaging from 90° to 100° in strength, as tested by the salometer. It is free from gypsum and any bitter flavour, and possesses in a strong degree the peculiar properties which preserve meat from decay. Some salts, it may not be generally known are destitute of this, and cannot be used in the dairy or for pork packing. When the brine reaches the density of 100°, by the salometer (the fluid being heated to 60° Fah. to make a fair test) the water can absorb no more salt, the highest standard of absorption having been reached; if more salt is added to brine which passes as the strength of 100°, it will not be taken up, but falls to the bottom of the vessel. With this explanation the reader can readily understand how rich in salt the Goderich brine is. We have received a sample from the "Dominion Salt Works," which is remakarble for its snowy purity, and excellence of flavour; indeed, all the Goderich salt possesses the same qualifications. In order to foster this new enterprise the public can do much; the self-interest of dealers still prompts them to import the American Oswego salt because a few cents per barrel additional profit is to be made on its sale. If the public wish to help the salt-works of Ontorio, let every one who is a consumer "ask for Goderich salt," and accept no other Directly a healthy and persistent demand springs up for the product, storekeepers will provide themselves with it, and the American article, imported at an annual cost of about $130,000, will be excluded, and the money annually paid out for its purchase will be spent at home, and give employment to thousands of willing workers. We hope that the patriotic citizens of Ontario will sustain "home manufactures," without which we should be a poor miserable country indeed!

Grand Lodge B. A. O. G. T.

The session of the Grand Lodge B. A. O. of G. T., terminated in this city yesterday morning. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—

G. W. C. T.—William Eastland, Peterboro', (re-elected.)

G. W. V. T.—Sister Abbott, St. Mary's.

G. W. Councillor—E. Ross, Kingston.

G. W. Chaplic—Rev. W. Tindall, Gorrie P. O.

G. W. Sec.—D. Shoff, McGillivray P. O. (re-elected)

G. W. T.—Joshua Gallaway, Goderich (re-elected.)

G. W. M.—Geo. McLeod, Rogerville.

G. W. D. M.—Sister Carter, Clifton.

G. W. I. G.—W. J. Wadilove, Longwood.

G. W. O. G.—J. Baxter, West McGillivray.

The next session of the Grand Lodge will be held in Toronto.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Forest City Lodge for their various courtesies during the session, and also to the railway authoritics for reduction of fares. *Free Press.*

A SPLENDID PRIZE.—At the Batt. Shooting match held in Seaforth on the 8th of last month the Connecticut Mutual life assurence company through their agent D. L. Sills Esq, offered as a prize to the best shot in the all comers match a beautiful Silver Cup. which was won by Gunner Potts of the Goderich Garrison Battery. As soon as Mr Potts, was declared the winner Mr. Sills lost no time in sending for it to Ellis & Co of Toronto. It has now arrived, and is a beautiful specimen of art and reflects great credit on the donor. It bears the following inscription beautifully engraved., "Presented by the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company of Hartford U. S. A. By D. L. Sills agent Seaforth, To Gunner Potts, No 1 Company Goderich Artillery 1868." Too much praise cannot be awarded to Mr. Sills for the means he has taken to bring the Company he represents into public favour, and we have no doubt that in selecting him as their Agent they will accomplish a large and prosperous business in Ontario.

East Wawanosh Fall Show.

Best span of horses, James Johnston, 2d Andrew Black, 3rd John Webb; brood mare and foal, Duncan McSkimmick; 2nd James Rose, 3rd Robt Orr; 2 year old filly, Duncan Anderson, 2nd Senter Taylor; best yearling colt, James Robertson, 2nd Charles McKinnon, best boll any age R Currie, 2nd Wm Dutch; yearling bull, Henry Deacon best working ox, Thomas Cummings, 2nd Wm. Longworth best 2 year old heifer, G Fortheryll, 2nd Wm Durnin; best bull calf, G McKay; best yearling heifer Thomas Ross, 2d John Wilson; best heifer calf, Thos Ross Best aged ram, Geo Hoar, 2nd G McKay best shearling ram, Jas Tiffin, 2d best aged ewes, Thomas Taylor, 2d J Oliver; best pair shearling ewes John Robertson, 2d T Taylor; best pair ewe lambs, Geo McKay, 2nd T Taylor; best ram lamb, G McKay, 2nd T Taylor Best aged boar, D Brooks; best sucking sow, J Jackson 2d R Riley; pair spring pigs, D McShannock, 2d G Fothergill. Best 2 bushels fall wheat, P Donaldson 2d John Webb; best 2 bushels spring wheat, D McShannock, 2nd J Rose; best 2 bus peas, J Henry, 2nd G Tindall; best 2 bus barley J Henry, 2nd D McShannock best 2 bus oats, J Henry, 2nd W Carr; best 1 bus timothy seed, Adam Hoover, 2nd Geo Hoar Best 1 dozen turnips, N Nichol, 2nd T Taylor; best 1 bus potatoes, J Henry, 2nd J Robertson best clear table carrots, G Hoar, 2nd D McShannock best dozen field carrots, G Tindall, 2nd A Hoover; best dozen beets D McShannock, 2nd W Morrison; best one peck onions, D McShannock, 2nd G Hoar; best dozen gourds, W Carr, 2nd G Tindall; best 1 dozen ears corn J Cummings, 2nd J Redman best squash, W Graham, 2nd W McShannock; best pumpkin T Black, 2nd do, best 1 dozen apples, C Stewart, 2nd T Taylor, best dozen pears J Webb, 2nd J Craig; best 1 dozen plums J Craig G Tindall; best grapes, J Craig, 2nd G Hoar. Best set of horse shoes, J Rutherford Best cheese, G Tindall, 2nd W Carr best firkin butter, G Tindall, 2nd P Poindexter, 3rd J Harvourt; best 10 yds full cloth, H Helps, 2nd W Durnin; best 10 yds flannel, C Stewart, 2nd W Durnin; best blankets, W Durnin, 2nd H Helps; best mitts, H Helps; best crochet work, J Rose; best coverlids, H Helps, 2nd P Donahue; best patch work quilt, D Anderson, 2nd do. In connection with the above Society, a ploughing match was held on the farm of H Helps Esq., when the following prizes were awarded:

Men's CLASS.—1st Alex Porter, 2nd Duncan Robertson, 3rd Chas Girvin, 4th John Barbe.

Boys' CLASS.—1st J Breckin, 2nd J Helps. The day for both exhibition and ploughing match was very fine and the show was an improvement on former years.

JOHN TAYLOR,
Secretary.

News of the World.

(PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE SIGNAL)

— Santa Anna has been expelled from Cuba.

— The free schools in Spain has been re-opened.

[illegible] coming more intense and violent.

— Thirty thousand men have been furloughed by the French Government.

— Iron for the Ottawa street railway has arrived.

— We hear that it is in contemplation to invite Lord Monk to a public dinner at Montreal before his departure from Canada.

— Judge Drummond, of Montreal, had his leg broken on Wednesday night, by slipping into a hole in the side-walk.

Gov. Page, of Vermont, has stopped all racing between the Lake Champlain steamers.

Another illicit still was seized in Montreal on Saturday night, together with 600 gallons of whiskey. There seems to be a heavy business going on in this illegal way, but the authorities are vigorously attempting to put an end to it.

— My notion of a wife at forty, said Jerrold "is that a man should be able to change her like a bank note, for two twenties"

— A respectable lady was sent to prison on Tuesday, in New York, on complaint of her daughters, for being a confirmed drunkard.

— The American war with the Indians of the South west promises to be of a much more serious character than any which has been undertaken for many years.

—The American navy is being reduced.

—Potatoes are from £1,00 to 1,10 per bag in Guelph.

—They are going to plant wild rice in Burlington Bay.

—Reports from Tennessee indicate that the Republicans will probably carry the State by a large majority.

—Richmond has been excited about a duel with broadswords.

—H. T. Helmbold, of New York, has given the Democrats of that city $40,000 for electioneering purposes.

—Bowdoin College, in Maine, is giving trouble about shaving. Seventeen students were recently suspended for this offence.

—More accidents have occurred on Lake Michigan this year than in any previous one.

—In a scuffle which occurred at Ross's hotel, Mount Forest, on Wednesday, Edward Cosgrove was struck in the head with the pointed end of an umbrella, and he died from the effects after laying insensible