The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1877.

NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the coloured address label of each paper sent to them shows a figure which indicates that the number of the paper up to which their subscription has been paid, serving, in fact, as a date. The current number of paper can readily be ascertained by reference to the volume and number printed on the title page.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Subscribers to the *Weekly Mail*, a paper already affording more reading than any other weekly published in Canada, may for the future rely on an extended report of Parliamentary proceedings appearing in our columns. Beautiful new bright type, smaller than that hitherto used for Parliamentary reporting, has been procured, and while the actual difficulty of reading will not be increased, the amount of matter which we are able to provide in this department of the paper will be doubled.

There is more news and reading matter in the broadsheet of the *Weekly Mail* than in any of the other weeklies, some of which are printed in a shape purposely intended to deceive the public as to the quantity of their contents.

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The full news and gossip of the week are interspersed with tales and agricultural information of instinctive value to farmers and others. If you would be abreast of the times and know what is going on in the world take

THE WEEKLY MAIL.

THE PREMIER AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

IF when Sir JOHN MACDONALD was Premier, he had visited the city on a stumping tour and simply had a public meeting of his supporters in the Legislative Chamber of the Parliament Buildings, what would Mr. BROWN have said? He would have cried out that the Legislative Chamber was not a proper place for holding political meetings of the kind, and Mr. BROWN would have been supported in that not only by the members of his own Party but by all those of thinking man in the land regardless of Party.

It was a protest of this kind that was entered the other day by the people of Prince Edward Island when the little army of Dominion office-holders in that Province determined to enthrone their master in the Legislative Chamber of the Island. The petition of the protestants to Sir ROBERT HODGSON was as follows:

"Sir Robert Hodgson, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island:

"SIR,—We have heard with great astonishment and surprise that extensive arrangements have been made in Charlottetown intend to use the Legislative Council Chamber, Library and Assembly rooms, or some of them, for the purpose of a dinner for the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, and also intend to appropriate the balance of the Provincial Building, as a platform from which to address a political meeting on Queen square.

"When his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and when General Williams visited the Province, the Provincial Building was, with the approval of all, thrown open to welcome the Heir Apparent to the throne, and the bravest of our countrymen.

"But the case is far otherwise—when these rooms and this Building, without the sanction of their guardians, are appropriated for a political purpose, and for the furthering of the designs of the leader of the Opposition party, whose policy and whose principles are, by the vast majority of the people of Prince Edward Island, deemed inimical to its best interests.

"The Governor of a Province has not, unfrequently, a difficult task to preserve the balance between contending parties, and he bears willing testimony that your Honor has never failed in impartiality and in fairness; and because we honor and love you we cannot bring ourselves to believe that the chief of the Executive has been consulted, or if consulted, has given his sanction to the public buildings of the Colony being thrown open for a Grit demonstration and to be made use of what are called, by a happy sarcasm, 'Reform Principles.' 'Grit' statesmen are distrusted, and so called 'Reform' principles are abhorred by the vast majority of the people of this Province, and we protest against the use of our public buildings for the purpose of demonstration, as not calculated to add to the supposed kindness with which this Province are in harmony with distinguished men whom they distrust, and principles that they abhor.

"As members of the great Liberal-Conservative Party of Canada, we protest against the Executive chamber being extended to the party in power, and to the studied slight on the constitutional Party of Canada and its leaders.

"In case your Honor should, to our great regret, decide to adopt a course adverse to ours, we beg to state that we hope soon to have a visit from Sir JOHN Macdonald, Dr. Tupper, Mr. Thomas White, and Mr. Dalton McCarthy; and we hope, indeed we feel assured, that your Honor will not deny to us the use of the Public Buildings, if the same be accorded to our opponents.

"We have the honor to be

"Your obedient servants."

The P. E. I. *Examiner*, a remarkably lively and well conducted daily, adds that "if Mr. MACKENZIE were to come here as the Premier of Canada, he would be received by all parties with the respect due to the First Minister of the Crown. But he comes as the chief of the 'organized hypocrisy' which misgoverns us at Ottawa; as the leader of a Party which by its mismanagement of the finances of the country, has paralyzed and unsettled our trade and commerce, and the recollection of whose steel-rails purchase will be remembered as their most brilliant financial operation; because he comes in these latter capacities he will be received and treated as any other politician by those who possess no confidence and whose principles they detest."

Remove the officeholders and the Island Province is a unit against bogus Reform.

MR. MILLS AT WASHINGTON.

ALTHOUGH we know that to oblige his friends the Americans Mr. DAVID MILLS would cheerfully make over to them his country, we cannot believe it possible that he is now at Washington arranging for the surrender of Symrna Bank and his tribe to the American war authorities. Yet all the American papers in their Washington specials of Friday last say that such is his mission. Here is one of those specials:

"Several weeks ago a communication was received by Secretary Evarts from the Canadian Government, calling his attention to the presence of the hostile Sioux under the lead of Sitting Bull on Canadian soil and urging that something be done by the United States Government to induce the gentlemen to return to the southern side of the border. The Canadian despatches had a rather naive tone, one of the officials observing that he supposed that the United States Government would be glad to have the fugitive Sioux return to its soil. Mr. EVARTS referred the despatches to the war department and the interior department. Secretary McCrary at once forwarded a copy to General Sherman for his views and his reply, dated July 16, was received to-day. Sherman writes a highly interesting letter, intimating that our Government co-operate with the Government of Her Dominion in inducing the savages to return at once if possible. He says they are about fifteen hundred in number, and are encamped a short distance from the border. They are in a miserable condition, and he says there is great doubt if they are not brought back soon to the United States territory they will soon make a state of things on the border similar to that which prevails on the Mexican frontier. He says that he has talked the matter over with Gen. Terry, and Terry earnestly unites with him recommending that our Government send a commissioner as soon as possible to deal with them and to induce them to come back. Secretary David Mills of Canada is here in conference with the Secretary of State on the subject, and *offers to surrender them unconditionally. This is full of story enough, if military lines from Montana are being sent to meet Sitting Bull at the boundary line.*"

A brief but significant despatch from Helena, Montana, dated the 23rd ult., tells us why TERRY wants the Dominion Government to surrender the Indian war. Government is not the Indian war. Sitting Bull and his warriors have returned into American territory. The Sioux chief must have some very valid reason for this if this be true, for he was certainly two weeks since on British soil trying to supply of buffalo meat to Taylor's party. It is confirmed, however, by General Miles, who says he has received reliable information that Sitting Bull's band of Uncapapas, numbering twenty-seven hundred souls, of whom thirteen hundred are warriors, left Canada the British line northeast of the Little Rocky, and was heard from in the Musselshell valley. General Miles has placed reliance in this report, and taken every available man from Tongue river, leaving but fifty soldiers there, in the hope of striking Sitting Bull a decisive blow before he can reinforced by the many small bands which are desirous of join him. Lieutenant Doane, in command of the whole Crow force, is ordered to join the Yellowstone, to outflank the Big Porcupine, and then proceeding to the Big Dry to keep his command in readiness to support Miles in case that general concludes Sitting Bull. After Doane had crossed the Yellowstone the most terrible storm within the remembrance of Montanians, which succeeded his herd and camped with him, to lose over five hundred horses. A number of Sioux war parties are raiding in the upper Yellowstone valley, and several scouts are reported killed. All the troops in the Indian country are on the alert, and from appearances they are moving with extraordinary activity. There is strong evidence that Sitting Bull is still in British territory and that he has crossed the line and is now on the Dry Fork of the Missouri or the Musselshell, but the best authority seems to be on the latter side, and the outlook seems to more intensely interesting than we will escape to strike Sitting Bull than it has for over a year.

Clearly if SITTING BULL is ordered or forced across the line by our Government, his reception in the States by the "secret" Government of the American people, Prince Edward Island, deemed inimical to its best interests.

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We repeat that much as Mr. MILLS loves the Americans, we cannot believe it possible that he is plotting the surrender of the Indian refugees to the American troops. Will the other organs tell the country what he is doing at Washington, or at least give the assurance that he is not, as the American journals with singular unanimity announce, about to hand over the fugitive red skins to their merciless foes?

THE HOPE OF POLAND.

WHILE the Russians are getting more than they bargained for on the south side of the Balkans, the Poles are filled with hope that they too will be able to add to the burden of Muscovite troubles. The *Gazeta Narodowa*, organ of the Polish nationalists in Galicia, publishes an article on the present situation in which the restoration of Poland to her place among the nations is boldly proclaimed as the fall of Poland which made Russia a great European power, and a menace to the safety and integrity of its neighbours, will be followed by equal results. The acquisition of the Polish territories gave Russia the means of extending herself outward, and was, therefore, the immediate origin of the Eastern Question. From that time forward Russia has stretched her arm forward. Constantinople became a certainty of success, and has systematically laboured to become the possessor of the Bosphorus and the Turkish dominions. And just as the Eastern Question originated in the fall of Poland, so the restoration of Poland continues to keep that question alive, for it can only be settled by the restoration of Poland. Moreover, Russia new fights the battle of the champion of Panslavism, an idea whose realization would be fatal to some European States and perilous to nearly all of them. Poland, as the only Slavonic country which decidedly rejects the Panslavist idea, is naturally marked out as the most formidable opponent of the Panslavist movement; and in this respect, also, therefore, the Polish cause must be of the greatest service to the Powers whose interests are threatened by the aggressive policy of Russia. "We feel convinced," concludes the writer, "that the restoration of Poland will soon suggest itself more clearly and forcibly than ever to the European Cabinets as a means of insuring liberty, civilization, safety, and peace to Europe."

MORE COMMUNISM.

THAT the backbone of the great strike has been broken has been of late a standard proposition in the American papers; but we doubt whether it will strike people as being as true to-day as it appeared to be a week ago. The truth is that, even in localities where the trouble is over, it has left behind some very unpleasant memories of incipient Communism. From Cincinnati we hear that a workingmen's county convention is to be held there on the 18th inst.; also that a Communistic platform is to be adopted, and a ticket of their own nominated. In Pittsburgh the Communists are trying to organize a National workingmen's party, and it is suspected that another strike is being planned. In Columbus, O., and throughout the State as well, the movement is considered formidable. At Wilmington, Del., coal-mining town in Pennsylvania, citizens who had acted as "vigilants" to protect life and property were threatened with vengeance in the shape of a visit from a crowd composed of the worst and most dangerous characters. At the Kanawha Valley, West Virginia, the miners on strike have been notified that if they do not return to work to-day their places will be filled; and that they will not be in case be required to vacate the Company's houses. This we may be certain they will attempt to do, and that such an attempt will probably result in much bloodshed, if made. The week opened inauspiciously, it must be confessed, for the prospect for the preservation of law and order does not appear nearly so good as it did a few days ago.

There are no causes that have much to do with recent acts of violence, and present threatenings of more yet to come. During the Presidential election of last year both political parties undoubtedly tried, with more or less of sincerity and success, to rid themselves of the most disreputable members. Many of the "bad class" were compelled to take "back seats," and to make themselves less prominent than before in the conduct of party business. We may suspect that not a few of them will be more dissatisfied are now taking their revenge by trying to organize a new party, with popular and Communistic platform and design. Respectable men of both parties have tried to get rid of the demagogues who were leading them, and have done down to their own level, and now these dangerous characters mean to show what they can do with the vast and formidable material which they find ready to their hands.

Another cause is the prominence which very young men or more boys are taking in strike movements. If strikes were left to be decided by the adult portion of the men, there would be but little, and if there were none but men with families to support allowed to vote, not one strike would happen for half a dozen that now occur. But the boys come to this in many workmen's unions, that the men are cowed by the boys, and dare not vote against their wish on the question of a strike. It was a crowd of boys mostly that paraded Chicago, compelling men who were anxious to stick to their work to stop. To humour "young America," to flatter and to pat him, has long been the fashion with American journalists, but we hopes they think now that they are getting a little too much of him. In St. Louis a lot of boys marched through the streets with a drum and a paper banner, the latter bearing this inscription—"We don't want bread, we want cake and plenty of it, or blood!" The American street boy will have to be sternly repressed, with the strong hand, lest the beightened expectations of his quickness and quietness and not civil war.

We may admit that the New York *World* is not far wrong when it declares one notable lesson of the strike to be this—that free-class schools, both honest and efficient in authority, are wanted for such positions as those of Sheriff and Mayor, as well as for President. Meanwhile the immense and ever increasing proportion of public expense is by all odds with those who take the view that only the National Government has the strength to cope with a great railway or coal-miners' strike. The railways are mostly interstate, and the most part the creatures of the States through which they run. These States are derived from their legislatures, of which, in turn, their managers have in some instances become the masters. Every road, more or less, is bound to be a part of a system whose ramifications make it subject to the laws of various States. The injunction initiated upon the creditors of a great railway enterprise by the conflict of local jurisdiction has been often enough demonstrated since the collapse of 1873. Evils of a more formidable kind are revealed by passing events. The railway system, local in its origin and local in its subordination to civil authority, has become national in many of its characteristics. The main trunk routes, composed, may be, of many roads, are so many arteries, whose healthy action is indispensable to trade and travel. Let one of them be cut, or so clogged that it no longer serves its purpose, and the interests which suffer extend across the continent. Not all of them be injured, and the whole country must pay the penalty. The movements of inter-State commerce are suspended. The East is deprived of its food supplies, and the West of its manufacts. For the protection of what are really great national highways, the power of the national Government must be exercised.

It is not to be wondered at that citizens of Pennsylvania and Ohio are demanding that certain points on these lines be put to permanent military depots. With a few exceptions, municipal authorities have proved powerless against the mob, whom nothing less formidable than the "regulars" will overawe. Rioters generally think that militia men may be all right enough in their place, but they putting down of mobs by local authority has not on recent occasions proved by any means a remarkable success in suppressing a riot. The American Republic, if it is to continue, will have to keep a respectable army and to pay for it. Congress will have to provide the requisite funds for military purposes in the South being done away with, the Government may place them where they are needed "most good," that is, at such points of Jasper and Pittsburg and Scranton. If our neighbours would abolish their thieving agents and contractors, and deal honestly with the Indians, they need have no trouble with the latter, and the soldiers might be kept where they are likely to be most wanted in time to come. The Americans, Republic, as well as the Monarchies of Continental Europe, will not any more be safe without a standing army. This will cost something, but the bill must be met at all hazards, and property must tax itself with the cost of its own preservation. Not, as we have before remarked, even if present difficulties be bridged over for a time, the time would be ripe to recur again at intervals; and the orderly citizen of the Republic may as well understand first-at least that protection from the mob is going to cost him something, and must be paid for.

PLACEMEN AND POLITICS.

A LITTLE piece of news comes to us from across the line which indicates a policy on the part of President HAYES. Secretary SCHURZ has written a letter which is perhaps the first step in a reform which will revolutionize the Civil service, and have a salutary effect on society of the greatest magnitude. In the United States they have done one or two things better than other people; they have done a great many things in a heavy manner, and they have made some matters in which their management contrasted most unfavourably with that of the country whence they learned so much, the Civil service being most prominently. The reasons for a permanent service were often stated by such journals as the New York *Nation*, of the best conducted and most independent of the Republic. They without set-off of any kind, and have long been universally recognized save among the army of expectants who wait on the providence operating for a change of Administration. There is necessarily an office in a great state, from the under-secretaryship in a first-class department to the watchmanship, which has no emoluments, but which has been long enough occupied by a permanent incumbent, and the sound hoofs of Europe are now more than five times the number they were at any time during the quarter of a century of wars arising out of the French Revolution. But our present business is not with the abstract question of peace or war among nations, but with that between Protection and Free Trade.

The London *Daily News* rightly observes that the work of the COBDEN Club was partly completed by the adoption of the principles of the doctrines of peace and non-intervention. Lord HARTINGTON, who presided at the dinner this year, frankly expressed his dissent from some of Mr. COBDEN's views of foreign policy, and his preference for the views of the statesman whose of all others Mr. COBDEN offenest opposed, Lord PALMERSTON. And Mr. FORSTER, in the few sentences in which he applied himself to the Eastern Question and England's duty in regard thereto, made it tolerably evident, so our contemporary thinks, that events which Cobdenism had predicted gave an absolute accordance of opinion on that subject. We are to understand, then, that while the Cobden Club is to be the direct advocacy of universal peace becoming fainter and more indefinite, it is fitted to be more and more almost wholly out of view, the object and purpose and raison d'être of the Club is distinctly and permanently lost. Free trade has not converted the world, but it has made a great number of converts, and in our own colonies, and in our own country, it is greater still, that the more popular the form of government the stronger is the leaning to Protection. The Emperor NAPOLEON and Prince BISMARCK have both been enlightened enough to see the folly of prohibitive duties, and have been strong enough to sweep them away. But Italy and its Austria the new regimes are more Protectionist than the old, and in our own colonies and the United States, even more trolled Democracy rules, Free Trade cannot get a hearing.

We cannot but think, Cobden to BUSCAREN as a semi-Free Trader pass without remark. The German Parliament did pass little way in the direction of Free Trade, but the German people are in rebellion against the change, and there is now a quite popular demand that the wrong steps recently taken be retraced. These steps were not taken with Bismarck's strong will, but under the influence of the ultra-aristocratic party in Germany, who thought that a measure of English Free Trade thrown to the people, like a tub to a whale, would keep them from seeking too much after English constitutional government. The people find the morsel a bitter one, and will have none of it. BISMARCK, as the *Standard* should remember, showed himself as decided a Protectionist as TETTEN, when the two were arranging commercial relations after the war, and English journals remarked at the time what a pity it was that the two foremost statesmen of the Continent gave given over to economical heresy. Of course our contemporary anticipates a final victory for Free Trade the world over after all, but makes no attempt to fix the date. It will come some time, although as things now appear, no body may venture to guess when. But even this is not all. Free Trade in England does not "hold the fort" as many as its friends might wish. Let us come again to the disappointment, if not confined to other countries. The Marquis of HARTINGTON on Saturday last, speaking of the Liberal Party, "which was admitted with higher authority and on more definite grounds than any other party in the country." We do not for a moment doubt the speech against the extension of home hold suffrage to the counties—that the Liberal Party will be found ready to put the "darkies" on him. The clerk presented, and Surry placed the brackets upon the word, nearly in two. After keeping his clerk in this situation for some time, Surry went to unlock the bandcroft, but before he had the first one unlocked the key stopped, and not having another one about him, the clerk was forced to leave the parcel lying the store for a couple of hours in a mood bordering on despair. Surry plucked up courage to go and unlock the bandcroft and the brackets, and that other at once went to the nearest unfortunate victim of Dick Surry's practical joke. He never yet "put on" on for fun again.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BY CUNARD STEAMER.

From Liverpool, July 28th.

THE PARLIAMENTARY OBSTRUCTIVES.

In the House of Commons on the 27th inst. there was a large attendance of fashionable members, and the galleries were crowded with nobles, lords, and strangers, anxious to hear the debate which it was conceived would arise on the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposing his two resolutions with a view of preventing obstruction and facilitating the business of the House. On the motion that the Orders of the Day be postponed, a question was raised as to the desirability of the resolutions being postponed until Monday, just this did not meet the wish of the majority, and the right-honorable gentleman proposed, as an amendment of the rules for the present session:—"That when a member, after being twice declared out of order, shall be pronounced by Mr. Speaker, or by the Chairman of Committees, to be out of order, he, to be disregarding the authority of the chair, the debate shall be at once suspended; and, on motion being made, if the House that the member be not heard during the remainder of the debate, or during the sitting of the committee, the question, if the member complained of has been heard in explanation, shall be put without further debate." That, in consideration of the Irish Home, no member have power to move more than one motion in each sitting, and that motions, yea they like the time honoured motion, "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair of Aldermen has, under all the circumstances, exercised a wise discretion, in ruling that it ought not to be carried that Sir John Bennett and his friends will take that view." Sir John will probably stand again.

DISAPPEARANCE OF A DETECTIVE.

Information has been circulated through the metropolis, that Mr. Frederick Hamilton, Chief Commissioner of Police, of the 4th sounding—of Sergeant Charles von Tornow, of the Detective department, Scotland Yard. He is described as a German, aged thirty-five, of medium size, fair complexion, and has had most of the German expedition under his charge, and he has only recently returned from Austria-Hungary, where he was engaged in the De Tourville wife-murder case.

ITEMS.

The sudden death is announced of Mr. William Keddie, F.R.S.E., lecturer on natural science in the Free Church College, Glasgow.

The Committee of the House of Commons on the Adulteration of Food Act, in their report, state that, while the Act has protected traders from the risk to their whole fortunes, it has failed to secure the public from adulteration, and that it has not forced a full disclosure of the ingredients necessary to the security of the traders' capital. The Committee therefore propose legislation upon the basis of a compulsory sale of the mixture, or of a balance sheet at least once a year to shareholders.

Dr. Bernstein, of Berlin, attacks the press for giving credence to the stories of world being transmitted by telephone. He says it is "a fable" that the telephone can be used, and would, but certainly not commonly. Bernstein is an authority on the subject.

Well may it be said that Kent is the garden of England. The Kent Fruit Farm is sent to market in one day 2,500 packs, above sixteen tons weight, of strawberries, so says the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, who actually tasted last Sunday.

At Kilkenny Assizes the Rev. Mr. Kirwan, Protestant Rector of Ballyragget, received £50 damages from Mr. Donagman, a young gentleman, who had taken the Rector's daughter, unknown to her father, from a boarding house in Southport, knocked against Mr. Kennedy, injuring him severely.

The Rev. Mr. Prentice has been published expressly for the Queen by the American artist, Professor R. Von Angeli. The Queen, who is known to be a likeness of Mr. Prentice's characteristic and forcible, with a little of the pictorial flattery which artists know how to add thereto. Prentice is impossible for a portrait painter to employ, and Professor Angeli has succeeded in the style of positive portraiture. This portrait is one of a series of distinguished men and women which Professor Von Angeli has been commissioned by her Majesty to paint for Windsor Castle. It is only four finished her Royal Highness the Princess Royal of England, Princess of Prussia, the Duke of Edinburgh, Dean Stanley, St. T. M. Biddulph.

AT YORK ASSIZES ANN Griffin, a nauseating young woman, was charged with a number of the Rev. Mr. Gorham, the member for Water-ford). He is nearly eighty years of age, and in 1868 seconded Gladstone's first concerned the county against Mr. Veal Finger-ald. He has fought twenty-nine duels in his time. (He had four challenges, he says, one after the election in 1869, but three of his challengers backed out.)

ORANGE PROCESSION AT LURGAN.

In the House of Commons, in reply to Mr. Verner, Sir M. Hicks Beach said—A large procession of Orangemen, stated by have numbered 10,000 persons, marched through Lurgan on the 12th of July. Their leaders had expressed a determination to march through a street inhabited by Roman Catholics, and informations were sworn before the magistrates by three persons that if this were permitted serious rioting would result. The magistrates, after a long and very deliberate and four local magistrates, were unanimously of opinion, not only from these informations, but from other circumstances, that the procession must be prevented from passing through the street in question. They called in a considerable force of military and constabulary, and their decision was carried into effect without any breach of the peace. I may state that a similar course was followed at Lurgan last August with reference to a Roman Catholic procession.

I do not think any useful object would be gained by giving the names of the persons who swore the informations; and, on the other hand, it might result in a great deal of mischief. My feeling which I am sorry appears to be very high in Lurgan at present.

CAPITAL AND LABOUR IN AMERICA.

"Anglo-American" writes to the *Echo*:—"In the able leader on the American struggle between Capital and Labour, which appeared to-day, allusion is made to the "following of the Knights of Labour" in Pittsburg. Some little misdirection as to the sources from which the class of religious flow would be useful. We do not have to go far to find out the condition of rufianism in a great community, but in the case of the United States it has to be taken into account. The last report of the Commissioner of Statistics, Dr. Jarvis, says, "Our knowledge asked for by mere speculative theorists, is, that the condition of all sanitary progress depends on the accustainment of facts illustrative of the laws of health, of the laws of the moral universe of climate, locality, and occupation. An insight into the influence of these and other conditions affecting health and life is not only of importance to the political economist, but to the whole body of the people." "Liberal" Governments ought not to need reminders or memorials on these obvious facts. However, if for some impossible reason, Reformers can not be got to reform and Progressionists to progress in this matter—if Mr. MACKENZIE always finds "difficulties" which stop the way, and Mr. MOWAT equally so MACKENZIE—if, in fact, it is absolutely impossible for a baker's dozen of Cabinet Ministers lying their pistols at heads together to compass the simple problem of ensuring a registration of the births, marriages, and deaths annually occurring among us—then in the name of common sense do away with that costly figure-head, dubbed Registrar-General, and the whole tribe of Vital Statistic officials and machinery with all their expense, and apply the money not wasted on the collection and diffusion of misleading and utterly valueless returns to the relief of the poor, to the erection of drinking fountains and other public conveniences.

The London *Free Press* has the following story of a rather disagreeable practical joke on County Clerk Surry. Surry, of late, has played a good joke on a brother county clerk, who resides near the City Hall, and the joke has caused a good deal of amusement to quite a number of people who were made acquainted with the circumstances. Some time ago Surry had a parcel addressed to his friend, the clerk, per express, and Surry placed the brackets upon the word, nearly in two. After keeping the clerk in this situation for some time, Surry went to unlock the bandcroft, but before he had the first one unlocked the key stopped, and not having another one about him, the clerk was forced to leave the parcel lying the store for a couple of hours in a mood bordering on despair. Surry plucked up courage to go and unlock the bandcroft and the brackets, and that other at once went to the nearest unfortunate victim of Dick Surry's practical joke. He never yet "put on" on for fun again.

CANADIAN.

Alliston has a circulating library.

Stratford is to be incorporated as a town on the 17th of January next.

Mr. Gibson is manufacturing brick in large quantities at St. John's, N.B.

Manchester, Guelph, has raised $2,000 to aid the Knox church, Fergus.

The new Presbyterian church at Parry Sound was opened on the 29th ult.

A religious revival is stirring the Tankers, or Quakers, of North and Gorrie.

Wooden houses are being rebuilt rapidly. The new houses are almost entirely of wood.

The Kincardine School Board has resolved to erect a new High School building.

A Lodge of Orange Young Britons was organized at Ingersoll on Monday night, 6th inst.

Mr. Ward, of Ward's Island, has purchased Harwich Station, C. S. R., named Rane gate.

Negotiations for a settlement of the wages dispute continue to be in progress between the Canada Southern railway and the employees.

The port of Chippawa has been reduced to an outlook, and placed under the survey of Mr. Colborne, at Clifton, the change to date from the 1st of August.

The congregations of Duff's and Winthrop churches, Bruce, have presented Mr. Ferguson with a gold watch, on his leaving for Mr. Musgrave's Milverton, asking him to be their pastor.

The Scottish Clans in Canada hold their half yearly meeting on the 16th and 17th inst. at the Prince's meeting house, Sparks street, Ottawa. On the 18th the proceedings will be open to the public.

The erection of the Agricultural Hall, Ottawa, is to be commenced in the spring, and will be ready for the annual fall show of Fowl and Cattle, which will be held in Dreyden this fall.

St. Patrick is needed in Keppel, County of Bruce, to kill the snakes. Mr. Ed. Ferguson recently the sons of Mr. J. J. Wilson, Keppel, had a long battle, lasting—varying in size from six inches to three feet and of thirteen.

Mr. Jas. Alongside, N. S., reports that a young man named Samuel Isaac Hiss, who had committed three robberies, on the first, second, and third instants, respectively, and for the second offence, because they did not wish to put the county to the expense of a trial, hanged himself.

The Montreal Gazette says:—Quebec is to have a new French daily paper, *L'Etoile*, to be published by a society, the first issue will give the sister city, with two-thirds of the population of Quebec, the Gazette, the city of its fathers, all of which appear in Montreal while the city with difficulty tries to support one French paper.

More than a week ago young man from Kingston fell overboard from the Island into the Lake, and was drowned. Yesterday his corpse was found floating near the place where he fell overboard. The deceased was a young man of good family, and his death will be a great loss to his friends.

A few days since a son of Rev. Geo. Boggs, of Guelph, by forwarded letter, received a letter from a young lady friend of his, in which she informed him that she was expecting a child, and that he was the father. The young man at once consulted his father, who immediately proceeded to the place where the lady lived, and married her.

Mr. Pelton Stockdale, of Perth, has found an effectual cure for the ravages of the potato beetle, which is to dust the vines with a mixture of equal parts of pepper and mustard, which operates on the beetle and the vermin of the pepper-box. Mr. Hutchison has hundreds of plants, on which he tried the experiment in the morning, and in the afternoon an hour or two later, the vines were dead.

The Quoit has been pleased to send Mr. Jane McCoubrey, of Ashfield, Huron, and daughter of the late Lieutenant James Anderson, who served in the regiment under Wellington, and was present at the battle of Waterloo, and was wounded in the Duke of Kent, her father, at Halifax, the Queen has forwarded a handsome Bible, and Prince Leopold has forwarded a Bible and Prayer Book.

The Chatham *Tribune* says:—Quite a large crowd of people assembled on Friday evening, to witness the execution of Mr. Thomas Hodgins, who was hung for the murder of his wife, Mary Ann Hodgins, at Chatham, on the 18th of last June. The prisoner was attended by the Rev. Mr. Hewitt, who read the service for the dead. Hodgins was cool and collected. He made a short address, which was inaudible to the crowd. He was pinioned by Sheriff Ross, and the rope was placed around his neck, and he was cast off at half past 8 o'clock. He died without a struggle.

The Thibbeau trial, which has been a long and tedious proceeding, was ended on Friday, one, as is shown by a Treasury return just issued, which shows that the amount of the claim, which was originally made, and called "The Systematic Investment Co.," but there never was such a company, was $2,000,000, but afterwards carried on the business of Archer & Co. at Glasgow about October or November last, and finally ended in the hands of James Wilson in Glasgow. He was in the police in Scotland. I introduced myself to Mr. Wilson, and he introduced me to Mr. Frank Buckland and Mr. Spencer Walpole, and I made a bargain with them, and Buckland and Walpole, and Mr. Archibald Young, Commissioner of Scotch Salmon Fisheries, to introduce me to Sir Ranald Martin, who lives in Scotland, with the view of encouraging the Government of Scotland, and the Government of Ireland, to promote the welfare of the fisheries, and increase the supply of herrings for the benefit of the people.

It would appear from a Parliamentary return which has just been issued that we are in a very good position as regards our trade with Turkey. Being our trade has been for the last years, in 1871 the total amount of exports to Turkey amounted to £4,000,000, in 1872 it amounted to £4,100,000, in 1873 to £3,751,000, in 1874 to £3,656,000, in 1875 to £4,100,000, in 1876, 13,656. This shows a high value of exports.

The Mercers' Company have purchased sixteen acres of land in Hammersmith, at a cost of something over £60,000, and on the site buildings will be erected for the celebrated school, founded by Dean Colet in 1512, and now in Mercers' Hall, Cheapside, and behind the east end of the cathedral, and known as St. Paul's school. The expense of the building will be borne by the late Mr. George Smith, about the year 1860.

A few days since, says the *Star Anglia Daily Times*, the asphalte flooring in Lowestoft Market Hall, appeared to be "blistered" in several places, and it was found that they were caused by the foreign elements in the asphalte, which, when exposed to the sun, plants, the roots of which had been left in the ground, which had formed a kind of a kitchen garden.

A servant girl, only sixteen years of age, is in custody at Glasgow on the charge of having poisoned her mistress's children. The crime is stated to have been discovered when the mistress, who is which the girl murdered in her sleep having been overheard by her mistress.

A meeting called by several members of the House of Commons and others is about to be held, for the purpose of appointing a deputation to wait upon the committee of the National Aid Society, in order to urge upon them the expediency of despatching a second number of ambulances to the Danube and the Turkish armies, and especially to send relief to the Montenegrin sick and wounded.

Sutton, York county, has a brass band.

Highgate has organized a Red Ribbon Society.

The Montreal Gazette says:—"We regret to learn that a sad accident occurred at St. Lambert yesterday afternoon (Sod instant), whereby Jessie Thomson, a lovely girl, aged three years of age, daughter of Mr. Thomson, cabinet manufacturer, of this city, lost her life. It appears that she with her brother Willie were playing in the garden, and the latter, who was at the time of the accident, in the act of throwing a stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the child ran from the house to the other side of the garden, and in the act of throwing the stone, the