ONTARIO ASSEMBLY.

Second Session—Third Legislature.

JANUARY 3rd.

The second session of the third Legislature of the Province of Ontario was opened Wednesday, by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor with the usual ceremony. The proceedings seemed, however, to have attracted considerably less interest than on previous occasions. There were scarcely as many strangers as usual on the floor of the House, and the galleries, though well filled, were not crowded. Among the fair occupants of seats on the floor of the Chamber were the Misses Macdonald, Mrs. Mowat, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Macpherson and Miss Macpherson, Mrs. W. Macdougall, Mrs. and Miss McCill, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Grantham, Miss Riley, Mrs. W. Sutherland Taylor, Miss Cozens, Miss Shears, the Misses Mason, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Hodgins, Mrs. and Miss Burton, Mrs. Bethune, the Misses Campbell, the Misses Shaw, Mrs. J. C. Miller, the Misses Beatty, Miss Fraser, Mrs. Notman, Miss Adelaide Neilson, Mrs. Morrison, etc.

The following gentlemen were among those who were present in the Chamber during the reading of the Speech:—Rev. Dr. Topp, Rev Principal Snodgrass, Queen's College, Kingston, Archbishop Lynch, Vicar-General Rooney, Rev. Father Conway, Rev. D. J. Macdonell, Rev. John Smith, Lieut.-Col. R. R. Dennison, Lieut.-Col. Goodwin, Major Alger, Capt. Rideout, Military College Kingston, Capt. Grant, his Worship the Mayor, Sheriff McKellar, J. Leslie, W. J. McDonell, French Consul, Chief Justice Harrison, Vice-Chancellor Sprague, Justice Patterson, Justice Gwynne, Justice Morrison, Justice Strong, Justice Moss, Judge McKenzie, Judge Boyd, Sheriff Jarvis, Hon. G. W. Allan, R. Home Dixon, Consul to the Netherlands, Rev. David Christie, Hon. Wm. McMaster, Hon. John McMurrich, Dr. J. G. Hodgins, J. Herbert Mason, etc.

The Lieutenant-Governor arrived at the Parliament Buildings punctually at three o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Governor-General's Body Guard, and was received at the entrance of the building by a guard of honour furnished by the 10th Royals, and under the command of Capt. Fleming. The usual salute was fired by the Field Battery. Having taken his seat in the Chamber, his Honour proceeded to read the following speech:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

I have much pleasure in welcoming you again to your annual duties in connection with the legislation and government of the Province.

I rejoice to have it in my power to announce that the learned Commissioners for the Consolidation of the Statutes have completed their important and laborious undertaking, and that the results will be shortly submitted to you. I hope that it will be found practicable to give to the people of the Province at your present Session the benefit of this work with such amendments in the existing laws as your wisdom may suggest or approve. Bills embodying such amendments which have the recommendation of the Commissioners will be laid before you.

A measure giving votes to the sons of farmers in certain cases will be submitted for your consideration. Also, a Bill for extending the Voters' Lists Act, with necessary modifications, to Municipal elections.

Further progress and improvement may be looked for in the great cause of education, now that it has reached another stage of development under the Act of last session, which assigned the administration of educational affairs to a responsible Department. It is proposed to ask your assistance towards improving the qualifications of teachers, and to securing to all the schools teachers properly trained in the best method of teaching.

Reports will be laid before you as to the working of the law respecting the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors under the Act of last session. It will be seen that the Act has already had a beneficial effect in diminishing the evils against which it was directed. A bill will be offered for your consideration, embodying some amendments which have been suggested by experience as calculated to advance the efficient working of the law.

An agreement has been arrived at with the Government of the Dominion for the purchase of the Rockwood lunatic asylum, subject to your approval and the approval of the Parliament of the Dominion. Should this agreement go into effect, the criminal lunatics now confined in this asylum will be removed, and room will thereby be obtained for other patients; but I regret to say that it seems that still further provision will be made, at this session, for the accommodation of the insane, if our means of receiving and caring for these afflicted persons are to keep pace with the annual requirements which unhappily are to be anticipated.

I regret to find also that there is a necessity for increased accommodation for the Blind and deaf mutes. Arrangements are appropriate for additions to the existing establishments for the instruction of these unfortunate classes will therefore form your humane consideration.

Notwithstanding the extension hitherto applied to aid of important railway enterprises, urgent applications are made on behalf of some of the established as well as of the other projected railways, for fresh grants. I commend to your prudent attention any of these applications which may be brought before you.

The safety of the Records in the Crown Lands Department being of great importance to the whole community, I invite you to consider whether there is any sufficient reason for further delay in erecting such a fire-proof building as may afford the needed security in future.

It is for with satisfaction I note that, while the laborious and prudent character of our people has saved us from much of the depression which still prevails in so many countries, their energy and enterprise are opening up new markets for the produce of the Province.

I rejoice to be able from a personal visit to give my testimony to the success which attended the exhibition of Canadian resources at Philadelphia. Too much credit cannot be given to the great zeal and the intelligent efforts which were displayed in every department by the people of Ontario, and which largely contributed to Canada's gaining a proud position in its rivalry with older and larger communities.

Since last session the differences between Ontario and Quebec have continued to perceive the attention of my Government. Besides some correspondence on the subject, members of my Government met at Ottawa, by appointment, a Committee of the Government of Quebec, and, after discussing the course of action, to obtain without further loss of time an authoritative decision as to the award of 1870, was mutually arranged; such a decision being found to be essential to either an acceptance of the award, or any settlement of the important matters embraced in it.

For the determination of the Provincial boundaries by the agreed method of an arbitration, the appointment of a new arbitrator on behalf of the Province became indispensable necessary; the distinguished Judge who was to occupy that position having requested to be relieved from its. Meanwhile, a provisional line had been mutually determined upon, in terms of the resolution of the Legislative Assembly at a former session; a considerable amount of additional materials for the ascertainment of the ultimate boundaries had been collected; a new and exhaustive statement of the case of Ontario had been prepared; and a considerable part of the documentary and other evidence affecting the questions at issue had been printed. Almost everything is now ready for the final decision, within a few months, by able and competent referees, of questions which for two centuries have given occasion to keen controversy, and often to fierce conflicts, between the nations, as well as the great public bodies, who have from time to time claimed portions of the disputed territory.

I have given directions that the Public Accounts for 1876 shall be laid before you.

The Estimates for the various branches of the public service for the present year have been prepared, and will be submitted to you. You will find that they have been framed with every regard to economy as well as efficiency.

I trust that your deliberations will receive the Divine blessing, and will result in advancing the prosperity and happiness of all classes of the people.

At the conclusion of the Speech, the Lieutenant-Governor withdrew.

The Speaker took the chair about half past three o'clock.

Only about thirty members were then in attendance. Nearly all of the representatives of eastern constituencies were absent, owing, no doubt, to the strike on the Grand Trunk having prevented them reaching the city.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that during the recess he had received the resignation of the Hon. Peter Gow; that he had issued his writ for a new election, and that Mr. James Massie had been returned to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Massie was then introduced by Mr. Mowat and Mr. Fraser, and took his seat.

THE SPEECH.

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that he had obtained a copy of his Honour's Speech.

The reading thereof was dispensed with.

Mr. MOWAT moved that the Speech be taken into consideration to-morrow. Carried.

FORMAL BUSINESS.

Mr. MOWAT introduced a bill to provide for the administration of oaths of office to persons appointed Justices of the Peace, and made the necessary motions relative to the reporting and printing of the debates, the appointment of select standing committees, bribery, &c.

The House adjourned at 3.45.

Eppe's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets labelled thus:—James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, 48 Threadneedle street and 170 Piccadilly, Works, Euston Road and Camden Town, London, England. 223-35

The St. Thomas *Journal* has dropped the "Home" to its name, and is now the *Journal* of the popular Seaforter, Messrs. D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, Detroit, Their annual for 1877 far surpasses their previous numbers. This firm, one of the largest in the seed business, needs no indorsement from us.

FARM AND OTHER NOTES.

We should like to have those who are believers in the theory that all varieties of potatoes are predisposed to run out to degenerate account for the presence this season of as fine Mercers as were ever seen here thirty or forty years ago. In fact, we think there is a slight improvement in this variety, both in size and quality of the tubers.—*Moore's Rural.*

Coal ashes have a wonderful effect on pear trees, apparently like lifting in light soil. Our ashes of last year were used around trees in liberal quantities, and these bronzed have outgrown anything in the orchard. Some that were even sickly, and apparently ready to give up their hold on life, have been restored to perfect health by this treatment.—*Pennsylvania News.*

It is not enigmatic, but comparatively easy, for any farmer to so improve his seed grains, that with good cultivation, in five years he may increase the yield fully 20 per cent, and this at comparatively little cost, for the labour of cleaning the grain amounts to a small sum per bushel, and it costs little more to cultivate an acre well, and no more to harvest it, than if it were duly half cultivated.—*Western Farm Journal.*

I have read a great deal about "animal colour in milk," but when my daughter gives me milk that smells "cowy," I say, "Mary, see more water in washing your cow's hair. Wash it—rub it—wash it—and again." The next morning the milk is not "cowy." I am thoroughly convinced that the animal which ruins the milk sometimes bears in from no other cause than that the cow's hair has not sufficiently cleansed before milking.—*Ohio Farmer.*

Fuel that is saturated with moisture, even to a small degree, is not only deficient in heat, but is very uneconomical. Experience teaches that it takes the heat produced by one pound of coal or two of wood to convert fourteen pounds of water to steam. It therefore requires a considerable per cent. of the heat generated by the fuel simply to drive off the moisture. And all this heat is entirely lost for useful purposes. It is a very costly practice to season wood or dry coal after it has been put in the stove.—*Prairie Farmer.*

A tree agent attempted to mount the steps of a house recently, but a dog came around the corner and took half a yard of cloth from the back of his coat. The man was sitting out when the owner of the house came and asked, "did does dog bite you?" "He didn't bite me, but he ruined my coat, was the reply." "My good friend, exclaimed the man, "he didn't bite you. I'am a young dog now, but by and by he shall take hold of some tree agent and cut die purse side out of them. He bites a coat now, but he shall soon do better."—*Jokers' Own.*

I have been experimenting with putting up fruit with extracted honey instead of sugar. I think it is superior to sugar in every way. Fruit thus is preserved in honey is not so apt to sour and require a second boiling. I pick my fruit, wash it, and drain off as much of the water as possible. Then I place it in some large kettle or pan and add one-third as much honey, in measure, as there is fruit. I then let it boil until the taste of the honey has evaporated. Fruit preserved in this way is excellent.—*Los Angeles Herald.*

In view of the variability in the yield of apple orchards and the consequent desire to keep a larger number of trees than we would desire if the yield was uniform, it may well be considered the propriety of so planting and managing orchards as to make the land available for other purposes in an off year. In other words, to plant young orchards as pastures. The French, in some cases at least, plant the trees at several rods apart, so as to allow the land to be all field crops without much difficulty. In the more populous and dense portions of our own country we are inclined to think this last method could be advantageously adopted. The administrative of scientific ventilation and fine fruit, as well as leave the field sufficiently open for crops. In more northern localities wide planting will not be so practicable, on account of the need of shelter.—*Prairie Farmer.*

That the yellows can be disseminated by the seed is generally admitted. It is a most illusive disease, and it sometimes seems as the neighbouring trees as certainly as the smallpox is communicated from one person to another. We have heard of many cases of yellows in the West. Mr. P. A. Quintette got some peach trees from the East a few years ago, and got the yellows with them, and before he knew it, it spread in his orchard, and he had to cut down a large number of trees in the middle of his orchard. We think the disease is not as prevalent as the Rest as formerly. Fruit growers have become more observant, and take pains to destroy affected trees at once; and where there are a few trees, or even in a single orchard it sometimes gets quite a hold before being discovered. If Western or Southern pits can be obtained it is better.—*Rural World.*

He chose a difficult specimen—an orchard twenty years and more of age, which had ploughed for fifty years, in which the fruit was worm-eaten, scabby, and the trees badly decayed. He ploughed an area of five acres, and planted corn, thought he cared little for the yield of corn was larger near to his object being to improve the apples. He liberally manured these five acres, planted corn, and cultivated the crop. The result the dry weather the crop of corn was fair, but the effect upon the orchard more than compensated for the loss. The trees which stood upon the newly ploughed part yielded fair, fresh, wholesome fruit in abundance. Ten feet from the edge of this area the apples produced were in every respect up to the best standard of bulbous. The Greenings upon the ploughed ground grew to twice their former size. By this course of manuring and ploughing the fungus and other of the injurious insects which infest the trees and the fruit, are destroyed.

It is a pity that the farmer's best friend among the fruits—the sturdy and faithful apple—should be primarily responsible for a vile a drink as hard cider, especially when the process of alcoholization can be so easily prevented, and turned into a harmless pleasant drink. But in many sections the season still prevails of putting away in the cellar several barrels of cider to ferment and harden, and take unto itself the very spirit of ugliness and sin. Hard cider, well stuck on, will make a pretty decent man enough to strike his grandmother. It seems to astrain some natures all through with sullenness, and make them crabbed, ugly, and devilish. Whiskey crazes a man, but he insanity comes off with the effect. Hard cider "steady" cider drinker, however, is made chronically cross—sour and surly, like the beverage he drinks. Give a New England farmer who supposes himself to be a "friend of temperance," and, perhaps, even uncharitably at wine-bibbers and rum-drinkers, is made a brute to his wife, a tyrant to his children, a cruel taskmaster to his help, by his potations of villainous hard cider. Steam the evil spirit out of it or doctor it into quietude, or, better still, keep it in the form of apples—but don't let your cider ferment and then drink it as a harmless beverage.—*Golden Rule.*

JOKES ON AND BY PHYSICIANS.—Numberless have been the jokes against physicians and the art of healing; one of the best, because unintentional, was made by a French lady, whom we may call Madame L., and who was in the habit of consulting her physician, Dr. Z., daily, between the hours of 2 and 3. The doctor was a witty and charming man, and they talked of every subject under heaven. One day, however, the doctor came and was denied admittance. He thought there must be some mistake, and ordered the servant to announce his name, but the lady sent down a very polite message, informing the doctor that she was grieved beyond measure at being obliged to deny herself the pleasure of his company, but she was very ill." Doctors Comfort, however, have said the same thing of their craft. Radcliffe used to threaten his brethren of the faculty "that he would leave the world a legacy to be buried behind him, written on a half-sheet of paper." The medical men of the day recommend exercise for the sedentary, and giving him any knowledge of physic. In the country, people, when they have pain to be made, or rather, who had made themselves, to possess no knowledge of navigation, Dr. Radcliffe, by the way, had an extremely objectional habit—namely, that of leaving his bills unsetted. In his day each Londoner had to pave the street in front of his own door—at all events, the portion which ran along the front of his palace, who had been employed by the doctor, after long and fruitless attempts to get paid, caught him just getting into his carriage at his own door in Bloomsbury square, and set upon him. "Why, you rascal," said Radcliffe, "do you pretend to be paid for such a piece of work? Why, you have spoiled my pavement, and that covered it over with earth to hide your bad work." "Doctor," quoth the paviour, "mine is not the only bad work that the earth hides." "You dog, you," said the doctor; "are you a wit? You must then be poor, so come in"—and he paid him. Talleyrand, less good-natured, jested with his creditors and did not pay them. Avarice and a want of punctuality so paying bills are not often combined, your miser being in mortal dread of writs of law-costs, but Radcliffe is reported to have been classified as well as inexact in his accounts. Probably both the one tendency and the other have been exaggerated by his detractors; but there is a whimsical anecdote in reference to one of the doctor's supposed failings which will bear repetition. Attending an intimate friend during a dangerous illness, he declared, in an unusual strain of generosity, that he would receive no fee. At last, when the cure was complete, and the physician was taking his leave, "I have put every day's fee," said the patient, "in this purse, my dear doctor; your skill, your goodness get the better of my gratitude." The doctor took the purse, counted the days of his attendance in a moment and then extending his hand by a kind of professional mechanical motion, said, "Well, I will hold out no longer; single I could have refused the guineas, but all together they are irresistible." This was not a bad joke on the medical profession which was made by a clergyman in the time of Cromwell, who was deprived of his living for nonconformity. This parson, a harmless man enough, went about saying to his friends, "Than if he were deprived, it should cost a hundred men their lives." Drummond before a magistrate, in this interpretation of equity: "Sacred, I lose my benefice; I am resolved to practice physic, and then I say, if I get patients, kill a hundred men."—*Cornhill Magazine.*

Our readers will welcome the advertisement of the popular Seedsmen, Messrs. D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, Detroit. Their seed Annual for 1877 far surpasses their previous numbers. This firm, one of the largest in the seed business, needs no indorsement from us.

THE EAST.

The Porte Still Obstinate—Grave Fears of War—To-day Will End All Doubt.

[By Cable Telegraph.]

LONDON, Jan. 3.—A despatch to the *Telegraph* from Pera states that Monday's sitting of the Conference was brief. The Turkish delegates declared that they had no authority to discuss the questions of an international commission and a gendarmerie. The Conference adjourned until Thursday. A Turkish Cabinet Council will meanwhile deliberate upon the Porte's definite answer.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 3.—The Turkish delegates to the Conference not only declared that they cannot discuss certain points of the proposals made by the Powers, but their counter proposals differ completely from the scheme agreed upon by the Plenipotentiaries. Ignatieff has declared that he cannot discuss Turkish proposals and is reported by the other Plenipotentiaries Thursday's sitting will probably be decisive.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—A despatch from Constantinople says the Turks refused to accept the proposal that the official language in such districts be Turkish and the other that of the inhabitants. The Marquis of Salisbury adressed the Conference, condemning the obstinacy of the Porte.

Another sitting is appointed for Thursday, but little hope of an understanding is entertained. The plenipotentiaries have intimated their intention, if the Porte persists in rejecting the proposals of the Powers, to quit Constantinople.

Constantinople despatch says Lord Salisbury and Midhat Pasha had an interview after the sitting of the conference yesterday. In consequence of Salisbury's reproaches the Grand Vizier declared he was ready to resign, as he could not agree to conditions incompatible with the Turkish dignity and integrity of Turkey. Lord Salisbury urged that it was for the interest of Turkey to accept the proposals. Midhat replied that the Porte might make some concessions, but would, under no circumstances, sacrifice the dignity of the empire. Subsequently a Cabinet Council was held, and Midhat Pasha visited the plenipotentiaries. The council of Turkish Ministers is to be held to-morrow to decide on the concessions to be communicated to the conference on Thursday. Military preparations are proceeding.

The *Times'* Paris correspondent says the Russian army continues to be organized rapidly. The men are neither so unhealthy nor so discouraged as represented, and will be perfectly ready to take the field in two months, provided the capital general is placed at their disposal. The real complaint of the Grand Duke Nicholas is inefficiency. The moderation of Russia is not caused by military weakness, but by a desire to throw the blame of provoking war on Turkey.

A Berlin despatch says it is reported from St. Petersburg that Ignatieff has already remonstrated against the Turkish tactics.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"We have good reason to believe that the outlook eastward is as dark as the telegrams make it appear. We were not misinformed as to the thoroughly pacificatory of the Turkish attitude. If the Turks desire a rupture with Russia, it will be necessary to almost court general denunciation by rejecting everything. They might claim, if they pleased, to counter proposals which Russia signed could not accept. It may be that having determined to fight rather than submit to more onerous demands, the Ministers think it will serve them best with the people to appear all obstinacy and folly. The Grand General Ignatieff is instructed to listen to no counter proposals. If so, the next session of the Conference will probably be short."

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The *Standard's* despatch from Belgrade says Russia is anxious to enter into any engagement directly with Servia. This is considered a concession to Austria. All the Russian officers in Servia have been ordered to join the army at Kishinoff.

A despatch dated Constantinople to-day says the plenipotentiaries do not appear to have abandoned hope that a peaceful issue be avoided. Midhat Pasha when visiting the German and Italian Ambassadors on Tuesday, adopted a manifest more conciliatory tone. At the present moment, it is believed the Porte at the sitting of the Conference to-morrow will not give a formal refusal to the demands of the Powers.

A St. Petersburg despatch, dated Wednesday, states that the Porte's refusal is considered certain. Gen. Ignatieff has telegraphed to Sebastopol for the Imperial yacht Heroilik.

The *Times* Vienna correspondent telegraphs that a Turkish Cabinet Council, to decide on the Porte's answer, was held on Tuesday. On Wednesday the Turkish Ambassador in Vienna called at the Foreign office and communicated a long telegram from the Porte, according to which Turkey is unable to accept the basis upon which the proposals of the Powers are based.

VIENNA, Jan. 4.—The *Political Correspondence* prints a Constantinople telegram, dated the 3rd, which says in consequence of the great influence brought to bear against the resistance of the Turkish Plenipotentiaries, the Conference was more harmonious than before. Midhat Pasha has threatened to resign. There is possibility of a ministerial crisis.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—A Berlin special says, notwithstanding the serious turn affairs at Constantinople have taken, no immediate rupture is apprehended. Midhat Pasha is ready to fight if he must. The Constantinople people do not wish to fight unless it is unavoidable. It is expected that the negotiations will be prolonged while the weather renders war all but impossible. The departure of the delegates to the Conference would leave matters unsettled, and the negotiations might be continued by the ambassadors.

The Pesth correspondent of the *Daily News* reports that the Roumanian Government, in consequence of the Russian ukase like news on Tuesday, have revoked their orders for restoring the army to a peace footing.

Comic Clippings.

(From Punch.)

BEST FOUR-IN-HAND.—Honours at whist.

DRINK FOR QUIET DRUNKARDS.—The St. Ledger Sport.

YOUNG, BUT PRACTICAL.—Elder Sister—"What! Harry! not in bed yet, and it's nearly one! Why, what will papa say when he comes home?" "Oh, papa, he'll say, 'Sup-pose I Suppose! What's for supper?'"

POSTERS SELF-ADMIRATION.—My Lady (anxious to get home)—"Shall we turn to the right, Thomas, or go straight on?" Thomas (the new boy, much flattered at having his taste consulted)—"Lor, my lady, it makes no odds to me."

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.—Rustic (who had just been informed of the meaning of the "B. D." affixed to the name on the notice)—"Bachelor o' divinity! Then that there man ain't right man to preach, by my ways of thinkin'." Bachelor—"Why not?" Rustic—"Cause he calls himself a bachelor! An' I know he's a married man!"

(From Fun.)

THE NEW "BOX TRICK."—Brown has just asked his new story (whom he has had specially from the country so she shall be free from London servants' tricks) if she sees she posted the letters he gave her all right last night. Here's her reply:—"Yes, sir, I put it into the letter-box in the 'all door, sir, but it isn't gone yet, sir."

LIBERAL MEASURE.—Politician (who has been "discussing"):—"Excited, p'raps, but not drunk! Virtuous irrigation! Cooling of Gov'rnment! Condon o' Bull! Jariaah! Man deserving name of 'n Eng-lishman!—Trocions!" (Is put to bed instanter.)

THE TRUE CHARITY.—A laborer having no home was charged at Richmond the other day with "tearing up his clothes while in raving causal relief." His endeavour was only to endeavour to obtain real relief. And he did—twenty-one days, with hard.

SCRUPULOUS.—We are informed that Mr. Bright feels so strongly on the Eastern question that he has declined to preside at his own dinner table on Christmas Day, as he will not help Turkey under any circumstances.

(From Judy.)

THE WAY TO DO IT.—A great number of Englishmen are just now very anxious that the British flag should be hoisted at the North Pole. Mr. Cornell, the well-known tailor, states that he has devised a flag by which a balloon might be made to outshine in the heavens all the Aurora at that point. But there is one method which does not seem to have occurred to anybody. If it be desired to get the flag to the North Pole, why not let it fly there? Captain Nares should attend to this.

MORE LIVELY.—A Labour of Silence, recently unveiled in New York, turns out to be a female figure, with her finger on her lips. It is objected that this, being the figure of a woman, is not a figure of Silence at all, but is very much more like a figure of Speech. This is surely almost illebellous.

(From Punny Polish.)

CLERICAL DENTISTRY.—We note that Lord Penzance has commended the Rev. A. Tooth, Vicar of St. James's, Hatcham, for persisting in Ritualistic practices, after monition. The treatment here is very obvious. If A. Tooth cannot be "stopped," we must have that Tooth out.

SWEET THING IN COMPLIMENTS.—Totty (archly)—"And so you've never been in love before? Astonishing!" Horace—"Oh, no. It would have been wrong to have had, since I have never seen you before!"

(From the Hornet.)

The ladies and gentlemen at Madame Tussaud's have never suffered from small-pox. Is this on account of their being protected by their waxy nature?

The Motto for Lawyers—"Deeds, not words."

During the trip of the Alert it was found very difficult, we are told, to make her "go in stays." This was, no doubt, because the lace were frozen.

(From Yorick.)

New name for the crews of the Alert and Discovery—North Polish Refugees.

A certain distinguished theatrical house is surprised that none of the sculptors who competed for the proposed Byron Memorial had the happy thought to send in a model representing his post spelling bankruptcy.

What is the difference between Mr. Gladstone's position with regard to the Bulgarian question and the question Spelt?—He is Letters—it is Re-story.

THE GRAND TRUNK.

Strike of the Locomotive Brotherhood all Along the Line.

At five o'clock Friday afternoon and at nine o'clock Friday night, the members, drivers, and firemen, of the Locomotive Brotherhood in the employment of the Grand Trunk railway, struck all along the line. Saturday morning the following message from the General Manager was handed to every member of the Brotherhood on the road:—

No. 22 LOCOMOTIVE FOREMAN,

Report to Mr. T. P. E. S. E. D. C. F. and G.

Information reached me from various sources that the engineers intend, on the 5th, or a portion of them, intend to strike work to-night. I sincerely hope that no such step will be performed. An improvement is the through traffic and raise will follow, enable the Company to employ almost immediately a considerable number of men who left the service, but the course which it is said the men intend to take would frustrate that object and embarrass the Company to engage new men. I desire for the information of the staff in the locomotive department to say that I have expressed my willingness to meet any committee appointed by the men, and have offered to give them facilities to send delegates to any point they desire, and have refused to meet me. If any attempt at a strike is made you will communicate to me instructions you have already received from time to time, which I hope will be adhered to. I am sure no intention of to make a step which will cause the Company to suspend payment will enter into the minds of any employee, they must see that the Company is not in a position to meet the requisitions of the men.

JOSEPH HICKSON,

General Manager.

Montreal, 29th Dec.

This message, however, had no effect, and the strike was begun as announced.

The storm was raging at its height as word flew along the road that the drivers had generally struck at Brockville, and that the train approaching Belleville, and that no further progress would be made until order was restored. There was plenty of fuel and satisfaction to be had, and some of the travellers made themselves as comfortable as possible in the cars, and a great many went to the hotels. At one o'clock on Sunday morning the hotels were crowded and all the passengers were hurried on board to go west. Shannonville was reached at four o'clock the train was left at the station and the engine backed to Napanee. An engine came from the west and hitched on and brought the train into Belleville, which was reached at nine o'clock on Sunday night. Here lively times were made, although the drivers of west bound freight refused to take the train, the engineer seat in taking cattle being familiar with the engine, and the train was moved out by the strikers, but were young fellows who made the occasion an opportunity for letting off their spare vitality and committing mischief. A man from the machine shops at Montreal and a well drivers from Point St. Charles attempted to take charge of the engine, but the mob interfered. The Montreal man succeeded in getting up steam to power 4 off. He got out of the cab with a cooked revolver in his hand and walked backwards with it in the face of his opponents. Finally he jumped on board a second-class car, next to the engine, and ran through the baggage, with his shooter ready for action, and reaching the end car made his exit to the ticket room, leaving three shots in the hip, and injuring no one. He was pursued and found underneath a table. After being dragged out of his hiding place he was roughly handled. The intercolonial man was nowhere to be seen at this point. He was found next morning at his home from Montreal, a volunteer war caught running as fast as his legs would carry him, marching in one hand and his baggage in the other. But, of course, this incident must not be taken as a specimen of the volunteer force, who Mr. Jones says, behaved admirably. At ten o'clock Wednesday morning the passengers at Belleville received word that a mixed train would be made up for them, and the company had been arrived at, and right they went. The train left the station from Belleville between eleven and twelve o'clock. Much credit is due to Mr. Sam. Detrice, the conductor, for his bravery and courteous treatment of the passengers.

MONTREAL, Jan. 3.—From information received at the general offices it appears that Mr. Hickson positively and absolutely declined to accept the ultimatum delivered by the men to him on Friday evening last, and he distinctly informed them so, saying, moreover, that he thought the first proposal they had made presented a basis for a settlement. He further informed them that he was willing to accept it on condition that they would at once resume work, and that the committee of the men should meet him on the subject of the wages of the engine drivers and firemen, and in connection, with the scale of promotion amongst the men in the service. The proposition of Mr. Hickson, when submitted to the committee of the men, was by them forwarded to the various committees representing the men along the line at all points, and just to the difference committees going to Toronto, where a general meeting was held at which the proposed basis of the settlement was accepted. The authorities are of opinion that the trouble has mainly arisen from the action of the previous overtures of Mr. Hickson which were not, as had been laid before all the representatives of the engine drivers. It is a stipulation of the arrangement in the hearing of the circumstances shall any man who has been guilty of any overt act of violence be re-employed by the Company, Mr. Hickson making this a sine qua non of the settlement. The representatives of the men are to meet Mr. Hickson at any time he may call on them with a view to arranging all matters of difference and settling the rates of pay, promotion, &c.

The arrangement is based on the following propositions:—

(1.) That the agreement of 1875 made between the Company and the engineers be faithfully adhered to.

(2.) That the fourth class of engineers and the third class of firemen recently introduced be abolished, and all engineers and firemen who have been notified that their services would not be required after December 25rd, 1876, be reinstalled to their former positions, and the work divided equally among all.

(3.) That all questions of dispute or difference that may arise between the Company and their engineers be arbitrated by a committee of engineers and officers of the road selected by the General Manager, and failing to effect a satisfactory settlement by them, the case will be referred to the chief Executive of the road for his decision.

An English resident of Shanghai recently discovered that his Chinese house-boy was addicted to tapping the sherry bottle surreptitiously, and to correct this frailty charged the decanter with tartar emetic. He left his master on Christmas Day, and was soon after his departure two personal friends dropped in to see him, and being weary and thirsty, helped themselves to sherry and tumbled down in a state of insensibility. After the doctor had pumped out the contents of their stomachs, and the house-boy had been dispatched for a surgeon.

"If I was as fat-footed as you are I would be afraid of slipping on the ice sometimes." "Yes," was the response, "some people are fat on one side, and some on another." And then the first chap looked thoughtful, and went down street.—*Chicago Journal.*

THE ELECTION MUDDLE.

A Proposal for a New Election Next Fall.

[By Telegraph to *The Mail.*]

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—A *Tribune* Washington special says that the favorable solution of the Presidential complication now is to hold a new election next fall, and to allow the President of the Senate to administer at interim. This will be brought about by the Democrats in the Senate debating questions arising in Court until the 4th March, when it is claimed it operates to counsel the Vice President-elect. The Republicans say that it would be the duty of the President of the Senate to interpose, clock the debate, or order count to proceed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The United States Supreme Court has decided that, in case like the Louisiana application for protection against violence, the President must decide who are the right Government and Legislature, hence it is asserted that Packard will be recognized in Louisiana.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—A *Herald* Tallahassee special says that the Canvassing Board made a return of the vote for Governor yesterday, which was accepted, and the Board dissolved. Great rejoicing followed, many Republicans attending. The Legislature as organized is Democratic in both houses.

A *World* Indianapolis special says that Governor Hendricks, when claimed as Republican, will act with the Democrats, giving them a majority of two.

A Washington special of the *World* says:—Ten special says the despatches to Senator Morton, which contained the news of the organization of the Legislature, with six Democratic majority in the Senate and eight in the House, have not been received. It is hope that the State Court will take action in regard to a recanvass of the elections.

Young Bachelors may hold up with that "bright and beautiful" smile, when an interview with Wm. A. Wheeler, now in this city, and says that Mr. Wheeler spoke of the Presidency in the following manner:—"Of course, know how the native feel about it, and so, for the benefit of the gentlemen who opportunity to inquire how they feel has personally gone by. (Laughter.)

OHI that the Buckeye fatally reputation for accurate prophecy, and thoroughly well deserves it. You take up the paper and observe how every thing I said would happen, or nearly so, and how the Democrats who checks off what to-day's weather is going to be on the Pacific down South, in the Middle States, in the Wisconsin region, see him sail along in the joy and pride of his power will be gone to New England; and then see his tail drop. He doesn't know what the weather is going to be in New England. Its a sight very more tell than he can tell how many Presidents of the United States there's going to be next year. (Applause.) Well, he mulls over it, and by and by he gets out something about like this: Probable nor'-east to sou'-east winds, varying to the south to sou'-west winds, varying to the west, if the wind is from the east they will shiver, and so requiring much food to raise the temperature of the blood, and a large ox will eat 150 to 200 pounds (?) of sliced roots a day, 90 per cent. being water. It is just like pumping cold water into the boiler of a steam engine; the temperature falls rapidly and extra fuel is required to restore the original temperature. This is not all. The plan is extravagant; as half the time the ox is not required to be prepared. Pulp the roots and mix them with dry feed.

The object of keeping milch cows is to get pure milk. Milk is extremely sensitive to external influences; hence the utmost cleanliness is essential. Dirty milk turns cans, in short, all the surroundings, must be as pure as possible. Milk absorbs odours at a distance, so as to be much agitated and cooled, never throws up so much cream as it would if it was undisturbed by jolting. The taste and colour of milk is affected by what the cow feeds on. It costs 20 per cent. more to keep some cows than others. Heyward, an English farmer, tested the time required for churning the milk, to make a pound of butter. Cows, in the Summer and early out with your sprinkling-pot, and ten to one you will find the butter will come up make up your mind that the earthquake is coming. Cows should be treated like a friend of something to steady yourself, and the first thing you know, you get struck lightning. (Laughter.) Cows are a great disappointments. But they can't be helped. (Laughter.) The lightning here strikes a thing it doesn't leave enough of that thing behind to be worth picking up. Well, you'd think it was something valuable, and a Congressman had been there. (Loud laughter and applause.)

And the thunder When the thunder commences to nearly tame up, and scrape, and saw, and fiddle, and generally tune up for performance, strangers say, "Why, what awful thunder rains! and the real concert begins, you'll find that stranger down in the cellar with his head in the ash-barrel. (Laughter.)

Now, as to the size of the weather in New England—Well, Boston, Boston, is a little disproportioned to the size of that little country. (Laughter.) Half the time, when Boston thinks it is one thing, it turns out that New England weather sticking out beyond the edges and projecting several hundreds and hundreds of miles over the neighbouring States. (Laughter.) She can't hold a tenth part of her weather in. It is see cracks all about, where she has strained herself trying to do it. (Laughter.)

Now, as to the weather, the inhuman perversity of New England weather, but I will give you a single specimen. It has been rain on a tin roof, or I covered part of my roof with tin, with an eye to that specimen. Well, sir, is it rain, or is it rains on the tin? No, sir, skips it every time. (Laughter.)

Now, in this speech I have been trying merely to do honour to New England weather, no language can do it. (Laughter.) But after all there are at least one or two things about that weather, (or, if I prefer to use the plural, the weathers,) the residents would not like to part with. (Applause.) If we had not our bewitching weather, we should have enough to be able to credit the weather with one feature which compensates for all the bullying vagaries of the weather—that is, the way it is clothed with ice from the bottom to the top—from that to the top of every twig crystal; every bough and twig is strung with ice beads, frozen dew-drops, and the whole plantation, and forest, and field, and garden, make a good and palatable food, to which bran meal may be added; roots, field rabi, and mangolds, and after each mess a feeding of hay, twelve pounds a day; such a nutritious food, that it will give a flow of milk. The annual yield of milk from an ordinary dairy cow is 500 gallons or 2,000 quarts, some cows giving much more and others less.

Stables where cows are kept during the winter season should be warm and well ventilated. Pine boards, economically laid, will do much to have hay and grain in keeping live stock through the winter. See to it now that your herds and flocks are comfortably housed for the long and severe season. Let these hints and suggestions be heeded.—*The Cultivator.*

A large-frame building in Stratford, formerly known as the Wm of England Hotel, was burnt down last week.

The dwelling of Richard Jones, Marmora, was burned to the ground on Friday, part of contents saved; family all absent at the time.

THE BARBER CASE.

Remanded Further Until Jan. 9th.

W. B. C. Barber, late assistant accountant of the Bank of Montreal, charged with embezzlement of money, was brought up in the Police Court Wednesday morning.

The Magistrate said that on account of communications between the authorities of Toronto and Montreal, and certain articles being required and not at present obtainable, he would, if the prisoner, Barber, agreed to let the matter stand until next Tuesday. Barber was then remanded till that day.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—The advertiser, a retired physician, was induced to introduce a discovered, while a Medical Missionary in Southern Asia, a very simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Catarrh, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical remedy for Nervous Debility, Premature Decay, and all Nervous Complaints, feels it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, he will cheerfully send (free of charge) to all who desire it, the recipe for preparing, and full directions for successfully using this providentially discovered remedy. Parties who wish to avail themselves of the benefits of this discovery without cost, can do so by return mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming paper, Dr. CHARLES P. MARSHALL,