

gold and jewels that equals even the appearance of the Knights of the Garter. And now there is a long and solemn pause, during which even whispers are audible, and the rustle of the dresses comes with a noise as their fair wearers turn to survey the scene.

It is in truth a scene of such stately pomp and royal circumstance as few have ever seen before, where the noblest by birth and intellect, the greatest and most revered in power, are all assembled within the narrow precincts of this grand old choir, like the treasures of the nation in their carved oak casket.

THE QUEEN.

Suddenly there is just a perceptible movement—a kind of consciousness that something has occurred which tells at once that the Queen is either coming, or has come, and all eyes are quietly directed toward the quaint old pew in the wall. In another instant the Queen herself appears, accompanied by His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the brother of the late Prince, and, as we all know, so like him as to make the resemblance almost startling as he stands by the side of Her Majesty. The Queen wears the simplest and plainest of widow's weeds—a widow's cap, a black silk dress with white collar and cuffs, and black gloves. The only colors which appear upon her are the star of the Order of the Garter, and its blue ribbon, narrowed to the width Her Majesty usually wears, across her left shoulder. She looks well in health, but thinner and older, with the permanent traces of deep grief and care stamped on every lineament of her features.

She stands at the window of the royal pew, a little withdrawn from general gaze, and only to be seen at all by those on the opposite side of the choir glancing quietly into the interior, while the Duke of Saxe-Coburg speaks, and apparently explains to her the arrangements going on below for the great ceremony which has drawn her from her mourning and seclusion. After a few minutes, she seats herself a little way from the window, and the Duke retires—Hon. Mrs. R. Bruce, clad like the Queen in deep mourning, takes his place. It is 12 o'clock, and the noise of cheering can be heard outside, and then a pause, broken after a few moments by the great rustle and peculiar hum which the great mass of visitors in the nave make on rising.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NOTICE.

ADVERTISEMENTS must be sent in to the Office of this paper before one o'clock, to ensure their appearance the same evening.

The Evening Despatch.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.:
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1863.

CONTRACTORS' CLAIMS.

We observe by Monday's despatch from Fredericton, that the bill for referring those long standing claims to arbitration is again before the House; and for the sake of common justice to the public and to the contractors themselves, we trust that it may pass into a law. The case of these men is peculiarly hard. The contracts having been nominally made in the Queen's name, the contractors cannot prosecute in a court of law, as in cases between two of Her Majesty's subjects. By the rules of law the Queen cannot be made a defendant; and thus, by a legal technicality, the ordinary channels of justice are closed against them. No matter whether their claims are well founded or not, there ought to be some means provided of settling the question. If their claims are well founded, these men should have their just dues—if otherwise, they should be dealt with accordingly. A denial of justice altogether, is intolerable.

We are astonished at the opposition of the Attorney and Solicitor Generals to this bill. Surely the government are not afraid to face an open tribunal upon those claims! We mean by an open tribunal, something in the nature of a public court, before which witnesses can be examined on oath and subjected to the usual tests of cross-examination. No such investigation has yet been attempted in reference to those claims. If ex-Attorney General Smith is correctly reported, he seems to think that there is danger of public sympathy being roused in favor of the contractors, and that the arbitrators would, of course, yield to its influence. This argument is not very complimentary to the people of this province. Might it not just be possible to find three referees above suspicion? If not, let the bill be amended so as to enable the several cases to be submitted to a court and jury. The dread of public sympathy evinced in this matter is but a puerile excuse for the perpetration of injustice, and we trust that it will be frowned down, as it deserves to be, by the Legislature.

DR. COLENSO'S REPLY TO THE ENGLISH BISHOPS.—The bishops of the Church of England recently addressed a communication to Dr. Colenso, and suggested the resignation of his Episcopal charge in consequence of the difficulties created in the Church by his work on the Pentateuch. In a note addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury, under date of March 5, Dr. Colenso returns to this suggestion a firm refusal. He says:

"I trust that I yield to none of your lordships in a heartfelt reverence for the Holy Scriptures. But certainly I do not believe, as the words of the address seem to imply that your lordships do believe, that 'all our hopes for eternity rest' on the literal historical truth of such a narrative as the scriptural account of the Noachian Deluge. But I must refer to my books for a statement of the reasons which justify to my own mind the course which I am taking. To resign my office would be to admit that my conduct has been legally or morally wrong, which I am very far from feeling. Rather, I am persuaded that my duty to God and the national church, through which I have received, in the same manner as your lordships, that episcopal commission which we have no power of abdicating, requires me to persevere in the task which I have undertaken—namely, to set before the English Church the real facts in the case in regard to the composition of the Pentateuch, in accordance with the most trustworthy results of recent criticism. I venture to add that the progress of true religion appears to me to be seriously impeded in this country by the contradictions which undeniably exist between the traditional notion of the historical truth of all the narratives contained in the Pentateuch and the conclusions of science, as now brought within the comprehension, even of the youth of both sexes, by the general extension of education. And it is my firm conviction that this subject deserves, more than any other at this time, our most serious consideration, and, if possible, our united action, as bishops of the National Church."

J. W. NATAL.

ADVERTISERS.—From the cheapness of this paper, and considering the quantity of news and other matter given in its columns "for the price," we are justified in anticipating for it an extensive circulation. Advertisers, therefore, will see that it would be to their advantage to secure a small space in the columns of the *Evening Despatch*; but as only a small space can be allotted for this purpose, we must ask them to bear in mind the old adage: "First come, first served."

MULTUM-IN-PARVO.

We acknowledge, with many thanks, the kind wishes expressed by our city contemporaries for the success of the *Evening Despatch*.

AMONG the candidates for the Mayoralty, we notice the additional name of Mr. George Scoullar. The opinion shared by many is, that the race will be between Mr. Woodward and Mr. Smith.

It seems that we were in error in stating that Mozart's Twelfth Mass would be sung at the R. C. Cathedral on Easter-Sunday. Haydn's No. 2 will be sung. As a grand and beautiful composition, it is favorably compared with the other mentioned.

The *Church Witness* deserves the credit of being the first in this province to publish the long and interesting account from the London *Times* of the Prince of Wales's marriage, a portion of which description will be found in this evening's *Despatch*. The last number of our contemporary is one of the fullest and most attractive in the quality of its contents, that we have seen for a long time.

We read that an Agricultural paper has been started in Fredericton called *The Farmer*. It is published by Mr. S. L. Lugin.

AN EXPLANATION.—We owe an apology to our subscribers in the city and country in that the *Weekly Despatch* was printed too late for either delivery or mailing, yesterday; but the delay this week was altogether unavoidable.

MR. Southern has played *Dundreary* at the Haymarket Theatre, London, more than 360 times. The N. Y. *Albion* calls this fact "a significant comment on the debased condition of public taste."

It is stated by the London papers that the plate on the table at the Prince of Wales's wedding breakfast was worth ten millions of dollars!

"LIGHTNING LINE OF STEAMERS."—The first trip from St. John to Boston by the *Admiral Dupont* of the new line of steamers is advertised to be made next Thursday. Mr. Chas. A. Bovey 12 North Market Wharf is the agent for St. John.

TO-MORROW, Good Friday, being a public holiday no paper will be issued from this office.

CAUTION.—The public should be on their guard about receiving or paying out American currency. American cents, we understand, are refused by shopkeepers and a deduction of one fifth is made from American silver in almost every case.

MELODEON

FOR SALE:

FIVE OCTAVES, PIANO STYLE, and in perfect order. Warranted.
JOHN S. ROWE,
march 31, 91 Prince William street.

CASTOR OIL.

JUST RECEIVED—5 cases—100 gallons of the best Cold Drawn CASTOR OIL.
For sale by
J. F. SECORD,
King's Square.

BALDWIN'S EXPRESS.

RUNNING on the E. & N. A. RAILWAY, carrying Her Majesty's Mails from St. John to Shediac, connecting at St. John with Expresses to the United States, Canada, and Fredericton, and at Shediac with Steamers and Stages for Richibucto, Miramichi and Prince Edward's Island.
Goods sold, and Notes, Drafts and Bills collected.
Office in St. John, 35 and 37 Water street.
H. W. BALDWIN.

CITY TANNERY

185 UNION STREET,
A few doors East City Hay Scales.

FOR SALE:

400 SIDES SOLE LEATHER,
100 SIDES LIGHT, (Damaged.)
ALSO, ON HAND:—A general assortment of LEATHER.
april 2. C. H. P.

SPRING GOODS.

TO ARRIVE—Per steamer from Portland, on Friday, 3rd inst., and will be ready for inspection the following day—5 cases of Goods, steamer *Bohemian*, consisting of STRAW BONNETS, HATS, FLOWERS, DRESS GOODS, SHAWLS, &c.
april 2. MAGEE BROS.

LECTURE

AT THE INSTITUTE.

DR. A. B. SPINNEY

WILL lecture at the MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, on Tuesday evening, April 7, upon the subject of "ELECTRICITY." The lecture will involve an explanation of Electricity as connected with the mineral and vegetable kingdoms, Planetary Electricity, Atmospheric Electricity, and Animal Electricity. Also, its Mental and Physiological relations.

Doors open at 7. Lecture to commence at 8 o'clock.
Tickets 25 cents, to be had at the Colonial Book Store, at J. Chaloner's Drug Store, and at the Door.
P. S.—There will be no postponement on account of the weather.
april 1.

TO LET.

THE BRICK BUILDING on Water street, lately occupied by Capt. Thos. York, A Store in Brick Building, No. 62 Water Street. The House and Premises lately occupied by C. E. Luckie & Co., in Brick Building, on Merritt's Wharf. And the SAIL LOFT at present occupied by Mr. S. H. Fought. Apply to
C. MERRITT,
march 31. No. 69 Water street.

VALUABLE

Business Stand

TO LET.

THAT well known Shop and Premises lately occupied by Thomas R. Jones, Esq., in the Brick Building owned by Mrs. M. Johnston, on the west side of Dock street, near the corner of the Market Square, suitable for either a Dry Goods Store or Grocery. Possession can be given immediately.
Apply to
W. WRIGHT, Esq.,
march 31. Office, 13 Princess-street.

Just Received from Boston,

49 DOZ. OF THE

CELEBRATED PATENT FLEXURE SKIRTS!

AND FOR SALE BY F. A. COSGROVE.

THESE SKIRTS have now been brought to such a state of perfection that the manufacturer unhesitatingly offers them to the public, believing that they possess more of the desirable qualities sought for, than any other Skirt in the market, and is confident that they will give entire satisfaction to all who wear them.

By the use of Joints in the Hoops of the Skirt, a heavier and better quality of steel can be used, giving to, and retaining in the Skirt a more Graceful and Elegant Form;

while the Flexibility of the Joints permits the Skirt to assume an Easy and Graceful Position when the Wearer is Seated!

prevents the breaking of the Hoops under pressure—also that permanent flattening of the Skirt so objectionable and universal—always allowing the Skirt to return to its original form when the pressure is removed.

The quality of Braid and the peculiar construction of the Skirt adding so greatly to its durability, particularly commend it to the favour of those who desire to unite in their purchase, elegance, convenience, and economy.
march 30. F. A. COSGROVE.

No. 11 KING STREET.

Just received by the subscribers—
A SPLENDID assortment of Carriage HARDWARE, consisting of the following, viz. Side and Elliptic Carriage Springs, manufactured to order;
Hickory and Oak Carriage Spokes, assorted, 1½, 2, &c.
Wagon Hubs, assorted sizes;
Axles, (long and short bed,) ass'd., 1 to 2 in.;
Mal. Castings, Carriage Bolts,
Enamelled Clothes,
Patent Dasher Leather,
Carriage Mats,
Carriage Trimmings, &c.

The above comprises the best assortment to be found in the City. Carriage makers will find it to their advantage to give us a call before purchasing elsewhere.
march 30. W. H. OLIVE & CO.

Hearth Brushes.

ELEGANT styles of Hearth Brushes.
For sale by [sic. I.] F. A. COSGROVE.