the walls, within which her husband ...ished. But her heart was broken, and ...ore a year had passed she lay upon her ...r. The Siberian heaven fosters no blossom ...on the grave, and the heedless wanderer ...eps upon the little mound which covers the ...ictim to conjugal love. May her memory ...e green in our hearts forever.

The poor Constantine Wenski, whose fair fate it was to be loved as few are loved, survivers yet forgotten by the world, a miserable being. Forgotten even by his own family, who might do something for his relief, he is a prey to the most wretched suffering. The Russian Government does not forbid alms to the exiles. The post goes to Nertschinsk, and God's blessing consecrates every mite sent thither for the alleviation of an unhappy man.

AN ECCENTRIC EMIGRANT DOCTOR.

In a work entitled "Walks and Talks of an American Farmer in England," the author says, "On board the sailing vessel we came in from the States, were four medical men, who had gone out in emigrant vessels to New York, and were returning home, and the most notable character in our part of the ship is one Dr. T., another returning emigrant physician. He appears to have been well educated, and is of a wealthy Irish family. His diploma is signed by Sir Astley Cooper, whose autograph we have thus seen. Though a young man, he is all broken in spirit and body by hard drinking. He makes himself a buffoon for the amusement of the passengers, and some of the young men of the first cabin are so foolish as to reward him with liquor, which makes him down right crazy. Even the pale-faced student who kept his neighbours awake with his midnight prayers, while he was so sea-sick, has participated in this cruel fun. Dr. T. has been 'smutten,' as the second mate says, by a young lady of the first cabin, who does not altogether discourage his gallant attentions. He keeps up the habit of a gentleman in the reduction of his circumstances, eating his dinner at 4 o'clock, (being thus enabled to cook it whilst the first cabin people are below eating theirs, which is served at half past three.) He declared that it was only to oblige the owners that he took a berth in the second cabin, and he certainly should not have done so if he had suspected the promiscuous character of the company he should be associated with there. The forenoon he spends in combing his hair and whiskers, cleaning his threadbare coat, smoothing his crushed hat, and polishing his shoes. Now, indeed, since he has become conscious of the tender passion, and can feed on love, he has traded off a part of his stock of bread, for a pair of boots, which enables him to dispense with stockings and straps, much to his relief in dancing and fencing bouts. Towards noon he comes on deck, with his coat buttoned to the neck; he wears a hat and no collar; his hat is set on rakishly; and he has a yellow kid glove for his right hand, the thumb only is missing—his thumb, therefore, is stuck under the breast of his coat, allowing the rest to be advantageously displayed, his other hand is carried habitually in the mode of Mr. Pickwick, under the skirt of his coat. He is a good fencer, boxer, card player and trickster; a safe waltzer, even in a rolling ship; and when half seas over, dances a jig, hornpipe or French *pas seul*, and toins a *pirouette* on the top of the capstan; plays a cracked clarionet, and can get something out of every sort of musical instrument; he spouts theatrically, gives imitations of living actors, sings everything, *improvises*, and on sunday chaunts from the prayer-book, so that even the religiously inclined may conscientiously enjoy his entertainment. A most rare treasure for a long passage. Some of our passengers declare they would have died with dulness if it had not been for him.

THE MONKEY BOY, ON AFRICAN WONDER.—This is one of the strangest freaks of nature that we have yet witnessed. The African Wonder as it is termed, represents a being presenting so peculiar an affinity between the human species and the monkey tribe, as without any previous knowledge of its history, to puzzle a naturalist in the effort at identification. Its neck chin, mouth and nose, are those of a human being while the comparatively small conformation of the head, with its retreating frontal bones depressed temporal, pointed occiput, peculiar physiognomical characteristics represents a close affinity to the monkey tribe. It is about 33 inches in height when erect, but usually goes on fours. The only peculiarity denoted by the general organization of the limbs is in their greater length,—the fingers and hands being attenuated, the feet and toes of the inferior extremities corresponding also with the upper or superior. A peculiar development of the Astragalus or heel bone, is also perceptible. The actions of this strange being partake in every respect of those of the class to which it so closely allies, the highest order of animal; and it is upon the whole one of those wonderful freaks of nature which opens a wide range for speculation or credulity, and continues the chain of being by a graduation aught but flattering to our species.—*Charleston Standard.*

AUDI ALTERAM PERTEM.—James the First, soon after his accession to the English throne, was present in a court of Justice to observe the pleadings in a cause of some consequence. The council for the plaintiff having finished, the King was so perfectly satisfied that he exclaimed, "'Tis a plain case!" and was about to leave the court. Being persuaded, however, to stay and hear the other side of the question, the pleaders for the defendant made the case no less plain on their side. On this the Monarch rose, and departed in a great passion, exclaiming "They are all rogues alike!"

OPENING OF POST OFFICE LETTERS.—By the Bytown *Citizen*, we learn that a shoemaker named John Steen, has been sentenced to ten years in the Penitentiary for breaking open a desk in the house of the Postmaster, at Hubble's Falls, where he was at work, extricating a money letter, and then setting fire to the premises, the Postmaster and his family being absent at the time.—*Patriot.*

UPON coming into the office the other day we asked the "Devil" his rule for punctuation. Said he, "I set up as long as I can hold my breath, then put in a comma; when I gape, insert a semicolon; when I sneeze, a colon; and when I want a another chew of tobacco, I insert a period." We cannot withhold these rules, so admirable for their simplicity, from the public.

WOMAN'S BUSTLES.—At a pow-wow of Indians, on Columbia River, the subject of white woman's 'bustles' was discussed by chiefs, squaws, and medicine men. One squaw took a bag of feathers, tied it behind her, and intimated the way in which the pale-faced woman walk with them on. A warrior guessed it was to catch insects. Another thought it had something to do with the perspiration. At last, the old doctor, the medicine man, from whose decision there is no appeal, gave the signal for silence and then said, "That the white women had such notgood for us as the Indian women and that the whitewomen wore these bags to make the white men think they were very well formed.' He then sat down amid repeated grunts.

BEWARE OF THE IMPOSTER.—We wish to caution our brother printers and the public to beware of a scoundrel who calls himself R. Hali Smith, which is probably an assumed name, who is travelling, and engaged in the work of soliciting charity of the Sons of Temperance, and other Orders of the day, all of which he claims connection with, in establishing a new order called "The Knights of Humanity." He succeeded in getting some $20 more, and leaving town without paying a bill. He is of small stature, of boyish appearance, with a long pointed nose, and a countenance indicating assurance and low trickery. He pretended to be subjected to fits one which he had here, and did not see fit to pay the docter for bleeding him. We hope our brethern of the Press will "give him fit," and hope the next one he has will cut short the travels of the scoundrel.—*Adrian Expositor.*

LAUNCH OF THE ISABELLA.—At Cull's shipyard in this city, on the Queen's birthday, at two o'clock a handsome schooner of 225 tons burthen, built by Mr. Sidney Hamilton, one of the owners, for the lake trade, launched into Lake Ontario, where she floated very gracefully. Her size is 65 feet keel, 23½ feet breadth of beam, 9 feet depth of hold, she draws less than 4 feet of water when light, and is an elegant model, tight and strongly built. We trust that the merchants of Toronto will reward Capt. Hamilton's enterprise by their patronage.—*Examiner.*

CANDID AND PATHETIC.—Among the Mamotes, descendants of the Spartans, thieving is considered a very honourable employment. An English traveller, being entertained at the house of one of the mountaineers, took some silver articles from a packing case he had with him to eat his dinner with. At the sight of such costliness an old woman began to cry. The Englishman having asked what affected her so much, "Alas! my good sir," she replied, "I weep because my son is not here to rob you of those beautiful things."

THE WIFE OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—Eleanor Ann Porden was born in 1795. She early manifested great talents and a strong memory, and acquired a considerable knowledge of Greek and other languages. Her first poem, "The Veils," was written when she was seventeen. Her next was the 'Artic Expedition,' which led to her marriage with Captain Franklin. Her principle works is the epic of 'Cœur de Lion,' which appeared in 1825. Her poems display much elegance, spirit, and richness imagination. The lady has recently attracted the attention and excited the admiration of the circlized world by her energetic and persevering efforts to send relief to her adventurous husband in the frozen regions of the north, or to ascertain his fate, and that of his companions. Such devoted affection deserves to be rewarded by the safe return of her husband, and all would rejoice to hear of her warmest hopes being gratified.

THE QUEEN AND THE HERD-BOY.—One day last summer, when her Majesty was standing on the public road at Balmoral, sketching the palace from a particular point, a flock of sheep approached. Her Majesty being intent on her work, took little notice of the wooly people, and merely moved a little nearer the side of the road. A boy in charge of the sheep shouting out at the top of a stentorian voice, 'Stan out o' the road,' oman and, lat the sheep gan by.' Her Majesty not moving out of the way quite so fast as the shepherd wished, he again shouted, 'Fat are ye stan'in there for? Gang out o' that and lat the sheep pass.' One of her Majesty's attendants, who had been at a distance, in hearing this Royal mistress thus rudely assailed, went up to the shepherd, and thus addressed him—'Do you know who you thus address, boy?' 'Na, I neither ken nor care, but be she fa she likes, she sudna be i' the sheep's road.' That's the Queen,' said the official. The boy looked astonished; and after recovering his senses, said with great simplicity, 'The Queen! Oh fat, way dasna she pit on claes that fouk can ken her than?'—*Glasgow paper.*

ANTIQUITY OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—In Arthur Young's travels in France from 1787 to 1789, published at Bury St. Edmund's, in 1792, we find the following passage, which clearly points out the discovery of the principle and practice of the electricity he (Mons. Lormond) has made a most remarkable discovery: you write two or three words on a paper; he takes it with him in a room, and turns a machine enclosed in a cylindrical case, at the top of which is an electrometer, a small fine pith ball, a wire connects this with a cylinder and an electrometer in a distant apartment; and his wife, by remarking the corresponding motion of the ball, writes down the words they indicate; from which it appears that he has formed an alphabet of motions.

As the length of the wires makes no difference in the effect, a correspondence might be carried on at any distance; within or without a beseiged town for instance or for a much more worthy, and a thousand times more harmless purpose, between two towns prohibited or prevented from any better connection."

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.—One of the most ingenous pieces of Mechanism in the world, is said to be a clock in the Cathedral at New Orleans. It is an eight day clock, and has three dials—one of six feet diameter in front of the edifice over a hundred feet from the ground—another of the same size in the interior—all moved by the same machinery. The large dials are of transparent glass, the figures and the hands being painted white; and at the back of the glass is a cloth of black velvet, marking the surface of the dial to appear black. These dials are lighted at night by gas burners, which by an ingenious arrangement of the clockwork itself, are extinguished daily at a change of time conforming to the length of the night.—The clock occupies but a small space; strikes the hour on a deep toned bell; and is furnished with a regular compensation pendulum, and, besides its regular weight, a small weight acting solely on the escapement, which altogether render it an almost infallible time piece.

RUST.—A most excellent varnish to prevent rust is made of one pint of fat oil varnish, mixed with five pints of highly rectified spirits of turpentine, rubbed on the iron or steel with a piece of sponge. The varnish may be applied to bright stoves, and even mathematical instruments, without injuring their delicate polish.

TRUE PHILOSOPHY.—I saw a pale mourner stand beside the coffin of his friend, and his tears fell first and often. As he raised his humid eyes to heaven, he cried,

"My brother! oh my brother!"
A sage passed that way, and said,
"For whom dost thou mourn?"
"One," replied he "whom I did not sufficiently love while living; but whose inestimable worth I now feel."
"What wouldst thou do, if he were restored to thee?"
The mourner replied "that he would never offend him by any unkind word, but he would take every occasion to show his friendship if he could but come back to his fond embrace."
"Then waste no time in useless grief," said the sage, "but if thou hast friends, go and cherish the living, remembering that they will one day die also."

☞ We publish the following from the *British Colonist*, of 14th May, being part of the proceedings of the Council of the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel, by request:—

CASE.

The several Township Clerks of the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel having in compliance with the assessment Law furnished to the County Treasurer returns of the lands non-residents with the arrears of the taxes due thereon to the end of 1850, together with the taxes of 1851, including statute labour charged on each lot and part of lot separately, the County Treasurer proceeded in comformity with the Act, and sent to the Canada Company a statement compiled from such returns of such land as he supposed to be held or owned by them, with the taxes due thereon, but as it subsequently appeared, it did not contain all the lands belonging to them, they furnished him with a schedule of the lands omitted, on which the County Treasurer also gave the amount of taxes due thereon. The Company however objects to the charge for Statute labour being rated on the value of each lot separately, instead of on the aggregate value of the lands owned by them in each township, and tendered a sum based or arrived at on their own calculation. To this cause the County Treasurer demurred, and declined accepting a tender of the taxes as calculated by the Company on the grounds that the provision of the 22d section of the Assessment law as to reducing or increasing the number of days and the change operating generally and ratably, &c. &c. &c. relates to residents only, and that the statute labor on non-residents must be commuted according to the scale laid down in the Statute.

That if the law even contemplated that the statute labour should be rated on the aggregate value of the lands of non-residents, it would be inoperative in as much as the owners of such lands are unknown to the Township Clerks.

That the 32d section clearly points out that each lot or parts of lots of non-resident lands are to be charged separately with all taxes.

And that there is no provision in the Act to empower any officer or body to make any alteration in the taxes so levied and returned to the County Treasurer.

The opinion of Counsel is therefore sought to ascertain the correctness or otherwise of the position assumed by the County Treasurer, and whether sale of the lands in question, under all the circumstances of the case, a part of the taxes being tendered and declined, could be sustained by the Statute.

OPINION.

I am of opinion that the position assumed by the County Treasurer, as set forth in the case submitted, is correct, and I see no reason why the sale of the lands in question should not be proceeded with under the Statute.

The land referred to must of course be taken as "non-resident land" and the provisions of the 13 and 14 Vic., cap. 67, respecting such land, are clear and explicit, and by tracing them throughout, no other conclusion, I think, can be arrived at.

By Sec. 8—It is enacted that unoccupied land, not known to be owned by any party resident or having a legal domicile in the Township, where the same are situated, or belonging to any party whose residence or domicile, upon diligent inquiry by the assessor of such Township, shall not be found there in, shall be denominated "*lands of non residents*," and shall be assessed as thereinafter provided.

By Sec. 17—The assessor for each township shall prepare an assessment roll in which shall be set down in separate columns and according to the best information in their power, *the names of all taxable parties* in the Township, with the extent or amount of property assessable against each, and containing the particulars mentioned in the Schedule B, for each of the items whereof, the assessment roll shall contain a separate column.

By Sec. 20—*The lands of non-residents* are to be designated in the assessment roll—but in a part separate from the other assessment headed "non-residents lands assessment," and they shall be set down *without the names of the owners, by lot or part of lot*—numerically beginning at the lowest number—setting down opposite *each lot or part of lot*, the quantity and value.

By Sec. 22—*Every party* assessed upon the roll, shall, if the property of *such party* be assessed at or beyond certain specified amounts, be liable to a certain number of days labor, according to a scale given. And further, the Municipality of the Township may commute the statute labour for a sum of money, and may, by by-law, to operate, generally and ratably reduce, and at their discretion increase, the number of days to *which any such party* rated in the assessment roll shall be liable.

By Sec. 23—The statute labour mentioned in the next preceding section, shall *as against non-residents*, be and is hereby commuted for the sum of two shillings and sixpance, currency, for each day's labor, and the sum to which such statute labor shall amount, at the said rate, shall be added to the taxes payable by such non-residents respectively, and collected as other taxes, under this Act.

The assessors having completed their rolls deliver them to the Clerk of the Township, and by him they are submitted to the Court of Revision, and the roll, as revised by the Court, and finally passed, is binding upon all parties concerned.

By Sec. 32—The Clerk of the Township shall make out a Collector's roll for the Township, in which shall be set down the *true valuation of the lands non-residents, opposite to the respective lots, part lots, and parcels of land* as the same may be affected by the decision of the Court of Revision. He shall also calculate and set down the amount for which each party or each lot or piece of land of a non-resident is chargeable for County rate, &c., and shall also calculate and *set down in the roll, in a separate column, opposite to the names and lots* therein, the amount with which *each party or lot* is chargeable for *commutation* of Statute labor.

By Sec. 33.—The taxes on non resident lands may be paid to the County Treasurer, who shall give a receipt therefor, specifying the amount, *the period for which it is paid the township, lot and concession*, and for the purpose of the section it shall be the duty of the Clerk making out any Collector's roll to forward immediately to the County Treasurer a copy of so much of the said roll as shall relate to the land of non-residents.

By Sec. 40—The Collectors may receive taxes of non-resident lands if tendered within a certain period, but by the next clause he is bound to return his roll to the Township Treasurer by a certain day and by the 42d Clause, to deliver to him and the County Treasurer an account of all taxes remaining due and showing opposite each separate Assessment why it has not been collected, by inserting in each case either the words "Non-resident" or "No property to destrain.

By Sec 45.—It is the duty of the County Treasurer to prepare a list of such lands in each township upon which any taxes shall remain due at the time the Collector makes his return, distinguishing in separate columns and opposite *the lots or parcels of land respectively* the amounts due for County rate, &c. and point out how he shall proceed to collect the same.

By Sec. 48.—And several succeeding Clauses the sale of lands of non-residents is authorised and the mode of procedure provided.

Throughout the whole Act a broad distinction is drawn between residents, and non-residents, with regard to the former. The parties themselves are assessed upon the roll—while the lands of the latter only are set out. Even if the names of non-resident owners be known they must not appear, but each lot or half lot or piece of land must be stated separately, with its quantity and value. The assessors roll, thus prepared, goes before the Court of Revision, and after it has finally passed this body, from it the Collector's roll is made up, with the amount for which *each party* or *lot* is chargeable for Commutation of Staturo labour, and as far as this relates to non-resident lands such commutation is not left to the Council but is peremtorily fixed by the Statute; He is bound as Collector to exact the taxes as set forth in the roll. He has no power to accept of less in any case or vary the amounts in any way. Within a certain period he is bound to return his roll to the Township Clerk and to deliver to him and to the County Treasurer an account of all taxes remaining due, with reason why the same are not collected. The duty of the County Treasurer with regard to defaulters is clearly pointed out, and I can find no more authority for him to depart from the roll than the Collector. If he could decrease the amounts he could increase them, but he has in fact no discretion in the matter. Upon the return made to him he has to act and to account to other parties for the amounts. The Statute never could contemplate giving any officer the power to vary the amounts in the roll It would in fact enable them to renew the decision of the Court of Revision. Under those circumstances, I see no reason why the Council should recede from their position or hesitate to act in the matter.

C. GAMBLE.

Church street, 8th May, 1852.

HAMILTON ASSIZES.

SMILEY *vs* MCDOUGAL.—This was an action for damages, bro't by the Plaintiff, who is the Editor of the *Spectator* against the Defendant, the Editor of the *North American*. The circumstances on which the action was grounded were caused by some rowdyism about election time in December last: the Defendant in noticing the row, in which J. WHITE, Esq., M. P. P., was seriously abused, animadverted in strong terms on the brutality of the transaction and referred to the editor of the *Spectator* as being the leader of the rowdies. The trial lasted from about 5 o' clock till 11 p. m., when the Jury retired. After being locked up all night they appeared in Court next morning, and the foreman stated that owing to the *factious* opposition of three of the jury, there was no likelihood of their coming to any decision. JUDGE DRAPER requested that they would return to their room, and reconsider the matter. This conduct of the Judge created much surprise among the audience as the uniform practice is when a jury, after being locked up all night declare that they cannot agree, and that there is not the least chance of agreeing, for the Judge to discharge them. We wish not to be understood as imputing any political feeling on the part of the Judge, but it did appear to us, that on this occasion he exceeded the strict line of his duty. The case should never have been brought before a Court, but settled in the way usual among Newspaper editors. It is a bad sign to see editors dragging their contemporaries into court, and may lead to its being more frequently done by the public. The jury returned into Court at 12 o' clock on Tuesday, and gave £10 damages for the Plaintiff.—*Journal & Express.*

From the Barrie Herald.

TO THE PUBLIC.

We, the undersigned persons, having been the passengers on board the steamer *Belle, en route* from the Island of Manatoulin to Owen Sound, in Georgian Bay, do hereby testify and submit the following:—

That on Sunday the sixteenth inst., about four o'clock, P. M., a very strong breeze commenced to blow from the north-east, and continued to blow until about 8 o'clock, when it lulled—at which time the weather became very thick and foggy, and continued so for the entire night. So dense was the fog that any object could not be perceived at a greater distance than half the boats lengths, and that at about 10 o'clock P. M. the vessel struck on what we ascertained (on the morning of the 17th) to be Cape Crocker, or what is sometimes called Cape Montressor.

We further state, and testify, that the Commander, Captain Alex. M. McGregor, deserves the highest praise for his gentlemanly conduct to us whilst under his care, as passengers as aforesaid, and for his coolness, decision, activity and masterly conduct as a seaman, and a commander in the hour of danger. And that we consider it an act of justice to publicly tender to Captain McGregor our hearty acknowledgements and thanks for his conduct, on the day above referred to. And we believe that all which human nature could effect, and ingenuity and seamanship conceive and execute, was done by the Captain, officers, and crew of the ill-fated vessel, for the purpose of extricating her from her perilous posture, but unfortunately witout effect; although at the time the vessel struck she appeared to us to be moving through the water at a comparatively slow rate.

Given under our hands, at the town of Sydenham, Owen Sound, the 18th day of May, 1852.

Harriet A. Chase, Buffalo, N. Y.
Mary A. Beaman, Goderich, C. W.
Eli Beaman, " "
W. N. Beaman " "
Geo. Smith, Sault Ste. Marie.
D. J. Mitchell, Montreal.
Arch'd McGab, Owen Sound.

EMIGRATION FROM CANADA.—We alluded the other day to the number of persons who leave Canada with the view of settling in the Western States, but afterwards return to take the chances of life among the Canucks. We have heard lately of one of these cases—a very good specimen of the class. A very active, intelligent man, who had been successful as a merchant, in one of our frontier villages, became dissatisfied with his position as men will sometimes, without any good cause, and determined to seek a new home in the West. He wound up his business, brought a quantity of American land scrip, and started off on his journey. He visited Michigan, Illinois and other States, and returned to Toronto last week, declaring that for all the money in the world he would not live in such a country as that through which he had travelled; that it appeared almost impossible to preserve health in it: that law, order, and the luxuries of life were almost unknown: and that so far as the profits of farming were concerned, he would rather be in Canada than on the Western prairies. He will resume his business immediately, and never again, we presume, think of "changing his quarters."—*Globe.*

SHOCKING RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

One of the most shocking accidents which has taken place in this vicinity for a long time occurred about half past 7 o'clock, on Monday evening last, on the Fitchburgh Railroad, at a road crossing in West Cambridge near the Waverly depot. As we learn the facts from a passenger, it appears that the Northern special train from Burlington was approaching the crossing at a speed of about 40 miles an hour; the engineer blew his long steam whistle and rung his bell, as usual, at the same time reversing his engine. This was noticed by some of the passengers, who suspected that there was something more than ordinary in the way from the fact of the engine being reversed while the train was going at such rapid speed and some left their seats for the purpose of looking outside. Before the train could be stopped, however the engine struck a carriage containing Mr. William Sawyer, of Charlestown, his wife, three daughters, and Mr. John Gibbs, son-in-law of Mr. Sawyer, knocking the carriage into fragments, and instantly killing Mr. Sawyer, his eldest daughter, a young lady about 18 years of age, and Mr. Gibbs! The two other daughters were young children, the eldest of whom was thrown a considerable distance from the track, and escaped without any serious injury. The youngest, an infant, was in its mother's arms at the time of the collision, and singular enough, it was retained in her embrace, while she was carried a distance of seventy or eighty rods on the front of the engine, before the powerful instrument of destruction could be stopped. When picked up, Mrs. Sawyer was senseless, her skull being fractured and a portion of brain protruding therefrom.—The infant to whom she had so fondly clung in such a terrible moment, escaped unharmed.—She together with the two children were taken into the residence of Mr. Reed, near by, where physicians were speedily called, and every attention paid the sufferers.

Mr. Sawyer appeared to have been struck on the left side of the head and body, and was now much bruised. Mr. Gibbs was so badly mutilated as to scarcely bear even resemblance to a human being, his head being crushed to a jelly, his intestines protruding from his body, and his body and limbs mangled most shockingly. The horses just escaped on the instant, and the last was heard they were dashing up the road at a furious speed. The train was detained about an hour behind its usual time of reaching the city, and immediately after its arrival at the depot here, another engine and car with such friends of Mr. Sawyer and of the family as desired, returned to the scene of the accident.—*Boston Journal.*

DESPERATE AFFRAY ON A STEAMBOAT.

ST. LOUIS, May 19.

From passengers who came down yesterday, on the Packet *Kate Karney*, we learn that a desperate fight occurred on Monday night, on board the *Martha, No. 2*, bound to Galena, between some Pennsylvania German deck passengers, and the deck hands and firemen of the boat. It is stated, on good authority, that shortly after the boat left this port, a deck hand went aft and offered a gross insult to a lady deck passenger, which her husband, an aged man, and his two sons resented, and a fight ensued. Capt. Alford, hearing the facts, put the deck hand and one or two others ashore, and proceeded on his voyage. At a late hour the same night, two or more deck hands went to where the emigrant family were located, and made use of the most obscene and abusive language, which they bore with until the old man was struck, which exasperated them to such a degree that they drew knives, and other deadly weapons; and, although opposed by some half dozen stout men, the old man and his two sons cleared the deck, and drove the ruffianly crew to the forward part of the boat. In a very few minutes after, the lights in the engine and deck rooms were put out, and the entire crew and watch, consisting of ten or twelve men, headed, it is said, by the mate, rushed aft, and commenced a most murderous assault on the unfortunate family, with wrenches, hammers, and other dangerous weapons found in the engine room. The old man and his sons fought with desperation, but were finally overpowered and forced to yield to superior numbers. From all accounts it must have been a most deadly and determined fight, which the other officers and passengers tried in vain to stop, until the combatants were so dreadfully wounded and beaten, as to be unfit or disabled for action.

Three of the crew, it is stated, will hardly survive their injuries, and the old man and one of his sons were put off at the town of Louisiana, at which place they were lying, at last accounts with but little prospects of recovery. The Martha landed at Louisiana about daylight, and remained just long enough to put off the emigrant family and one deck hand, who had his hand terribly cut. The person was forthwith arrested.

The emigrant family are mentioned by us as respectable Pennsylvania Germans on their way to Iowa. The old gentleman had several of his ribs broken, and from other injuries, the physician gave it as his opinion he could not survive. One of his sons is beyond hope of recovery—his skull being fractured in several places, and the brains protruding, therefrom. The second son is also badly injured. The boat barely touched at the levee, and immediately proceeded on her trip carrying the deck hands who were unable to walk or leave the boat.—The Kate Kearney met her at Hannibal, at which place she did not stop until hailed, and then she landed a short distance above the usual place.

THE AMERICAN EXPEDITION.—It would appear from the following which we copy from the New York *Herald*, of the 21st inst., that the expedition now fitting out by the American Government to open a commercial intercourse with Japan, is considered inadequate for the purposes assigned it. It also seems that the Japanese are prepared to give the expedition a warmer reception than is expected. The *Herald* says:—"We have learned from practical and reliable sources—through the medium of some of the officers of the Dutch frigate *Prince of Orange*, now lying off Castle Garden—that we shall have a tough job in getting the Japanese to consent to a commercial intercourse with us; and so far from obtaining a peaceable negotiation, we may, the Emperor of Japan is making preparations to give us a warm greeting—that he has strongly fortified every part of his coast, and that he has a nation of well-equipped soldiers ready to pounce down upon us. They agree in thinking that our force is utterly inadequate to the task of making an entry into the city of Jeddo, and doubt the sufficiency of the quantity of "metal" for pounding down any of their batteries, which are all of the strongest construction; and that if the Japanese have no war marine, they are otherwise well provided. The nation is warlike and united, and the country altogether difficult of access."—*Colonist.*

Study to be more consistent in principle and more uniform in practice, and your peace will be more unbroken.

FINDING OF THE BODY OF THE LATE MR. MCDONALD.—It will be in the remembrance of our readers that Mr Alexander McDonald, some twelvemonths since a storekeeper in Guelph, was wrecked on Lake Huron, near the mouth of the Saugeen, on the 14th of December last, just as the Lake was becoming froze up along shore. Over five months having since elapsed, but small hopes were entertained that the body would be found. By a letter received from Mr. McNab, Southampton, the friends of the deceased have the melancholy satisfaction of knowing that his body was found on the 24th May, very near the place where his little vessel came ashore. Mr. McDonald was close wrapped in a macintosh coat, and his watch, which has been forwarded here, appears to have stopt at 8 o'clock, having run down two hours from the time of winding. These circumstances would seem to indicate, that matters on board the schooner had been going on as usual, to within a short time of the catastrophe, which would appear to have been sudden and unexpected. Mr. McDonald's remains were interred in the village of Southampton. — *Guelph Herald.*

A BRITISH SUBJECT SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ROME.—Edward Murray a British subject, has been sentenced to death by the secret tribunal of the consults in Rome.—Some English residents have addressed a petition to the Pope in his favor. The principal charge brought against Murray is that, during his service as officer of the police in Ancona, he associated with known assassins, and that a Count Severino, and another Papal Partisan, who had been imprisoned by the republicans, were stabbed at night, whilst walking arm-in-arm with him away from the prison, he having had orders from the government to release them from confinement and convey them safely out of the city. Mr. Murray is the son of a meritorious British officer, himself a husband and a father, has now been in a horrible prison for nearly three years, debarred from consulting with a legal adviser, and prevented from receiving the visits of his mother, his wife, his child, or his friends, save through the bars of his prison, and in presence of two *spirri*, all communications going on in the Italian language. All the legal proceedings have been hitherto conducted in a secret chamber, by the criminal judges and their underlings; the prisoner is not allowed to examine the witness against him, nor even to be confronted with them, or to know who they are. He is permitted to have no advocate save the one appointed by the criminal tribunal itself, and even with him he is prohibited from having such conferences as are necessary to concert the plan of his defence

LOOK OUT FOR TAXES.—The *Gazette* official, of 22d May, announces lands for sale for taxes, in the County of Carleton, in the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel, in the Townships of Albion, Brock, Ghinguacousy, Caledon, Georgina, East Gwillimbury, Gore of Toronto, King, Markham, Pickering, Rama, Reach, Scott, Thorah, Uxbridge, Toronto Vaughan, Whitchurch, Markham, Whitby, and Scarborough; in the County of Kent, in the Townships of Howard, Camden, Gore of Camden, Zone, and the Village of Dresden; also in Chatham, and the Gore of Chatham; in the County of Stormont, Township of Lancaster; in the County of Wentworth, Townships of Barton and Glanford. Parties interested, are referred to the Official *Gazette*, for particulars respecting the announcements.—*Colonist.*

THE RAILROAD.—We alluded last week to the extension of our Railroad to Goderich, but had no idea of the fine feeling existing among the people of Huron on the subject of the projected road. On Saturday, we had the honor of a conversation with the Mayor of Goderich, who with another gentleman had been sent here as a deputation to receive information from and consult with the friends of the road here. He considers the construction of of the road to be a necessity and doubtless speaks the sentiments of the men of Huron when he said *it must be done immediately.* There has been, already, a public meeting held at Goderich and strong resolutions, in favor of the Railway, passed thereat. The ball is now set in motion. Let all who desire the prosperity of the Railway and of the fine country lying between Buffalo and Goderich, now lend a hand to keep it moving.—*Brant Herald.*

BUFFALO AND BRANTFORD RAILWAY.—A meeting of the shareholders of this Railway was held in Brantford on Wednesday the 2nd inst. The chair was taken at 10 o'clock, A. M., by J. C. Clement, Esq., Provisional Warden of the County of Brant.—The report of the Directors for the preceding year having been read by A. Gilkison, Esq., Secretary of the Company, proved highly satisfactory, and was adopted unanimously. The affairs of the Company were shown to be in the most flourishing and prosperous condition, and the works to be progressing at a very rapid rate.

The meeting having adjourned at 12 o'clock, met again at 2 P. M., for the purpose of appointing Directors for the ensuing year. The choice of the shareholders fell upon Messrs. Wadsworth and Bush, of Buffalo, Oldfield, of Dunnville, and Huntingdon and Cockshutt, of Brantford. A vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

We are glad to learn that the affairs of the Company are in so flourishing a condition, and that there is every likelihood that this valuable and important line of railway will be speedily completed.—Thirteen miles of the road are already graded, and it is confidentially expected that the cars will be running between Dunville and Buffalo by next fall.—*Haldimand Independent.*

BUFFALO AND BRANTFORD RAILROAD.—This line of Railway is fast progressing; several bodies of workmen are engaged upon it in various places. Near this town the works are carried on with vigor, and in the township of Humberstone, and other places, operations proceed at a rapid rate. Through the kindness of Mr. Cook, we were lately shown along a good portion of the line in Humberstone. A number of workmen were employed upon it, and good progress appeared to be making. In many places it was graded and ditched, and everything was in readiness for the rails to be laid down.—The works have been interrupted in some places, owing to the proprietors of the land through which the line had to pass, refusing the price that has been offered them by the company. Those cases will have to be submitted to the decision of arbitrators, and until that is done, operations cannot be proceeded with. We are sorry to see that a spirit of antipathy to this line, and to railroads in general, appears to provail among some of the farmers, and render them averse to having a railway pass through their lands. Surely, if they but knew how much the value of their property would be enhanced thereby, they would never be so simple as to oppose so great a benefit and advantage both to themselves and the public.—*Haldimand Independent.*

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1852.

THE GODERICH AND BRANTFORD RAILROAD.

THE Hamilton *Spectator* of a late date endeavours to discredit this great enterprise by saying that it is not a Canadian, but a foreign project, meaning a United States one. This is all very well (we suppose) so far as Goderich is concerned; but if the interests of Hamilton were to be furthered, it would be immaterial to the *Spectator*, whether it were by home or foreign means. The Great Western Railroad must be condemned on the same ground as the Goderich and Brantford one. The only difference being, that Boston is regarded as the further point or outlet of the one, and New York may be of the other.

It is very foolish in a paper of the standing of which the *Spectator* pretends, to endeavour to obstruct the improvement of the country by such a silly pretence as this. If our Railroad only went through Hamilton, it might end in the Capital at Washington for all that the *Spectator* cares.

Toronto is also indirectly endeavoring to obstruct us. The people of Goderich for many years have endeavoured (in vain) to secure their co-operation in a Railroad, to terminate at Toronto. Buffalo and Brantford now come forward and offer their co-operation; parties at Toronto seeing this make a like offer; but we see no reason to reject the first offer.

The outlet (for many years) to Hamilton and Toronto in winter must be Boston or New York. In fact it must be so, unless nature itself changes, unless the climate ameliorates along the St. Lawrence. Railroads are already completed from Lakes Erie and Ontario to New York and Boston—both of which have harbours accessible at all seasons to vessels. Toronto and Hamilton are wisely endeavouring to avail themselves of these advantages. If it can be right in them to do so, it cannot be wrong in Goderich and Brantford to act likewise.

The *Spectator* and all of his way of thinking may rest assured that Goderich Brantford will reciprocate the offer of Buffalo, fully as much as they do that of Boston.

Goderich has the best harbour on Lake Huron. It offers, therefore, the greatest inducements for being the depôt of the commerce of Lake Huron. The country for a great distance is fertile and healthy, and becoming well settled. It will on this account have a large local business. The valley of the Grand River on the lower end of the Railroad, is fully equal in attractiveness to any country. All these advantages will make this Railroad one of the most desirable investments for capital.

UNITED EMPIRE.—This monster sheet dilates in every number on what Canada will do and shall do, provided the free trade policy of Great Britain is not reversed to suit the Canadian farmer, by giving him a few pence more a bushel for his wheat. This in the estimation of the *Empire*, is cause sufficient for dissolving our connexion with Britain, and assuming an independent station, or annexing with Uncle Samuel. The doings of the Derby Ministry do not seem to come up to the expection of our contemporary. They appear to evince no desire to disturb this vital measure of free trade for the sake of the (to them) petty interest of Canada.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—There are no indications yet of its assembling.—What can be the meaning of this unusual delay? It cannot be for lack of subjects to legislate upon. However, the people need not get uneasy about the matter, because if Quebec is the place for their deliberations, they cannot delay much longer, as the winter may overtake them. If legislators do not always attend to the interest of their constituents, they are not so apt to forget their own, and this will demand their assembling shortly. The delay may be occasioned by causes over which Canada has not the control.

NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT.—The Democratic party of the United States (in Caucus Convention assembled at Baltimore,) have nominated General Franklin Pierce of New Hampshire for President. Name of Vice President not stated.

ACCIDENT AT STRATFORD.—On Friday afternoon the 4th inst., as the Goderich four horse stage was driven out of the yard of the Union Hotel, (P. Woods) a boy, Thomas Williams, son of Thomas Williams, near Stratford, happened to stumble on a platform and fell, on the path the stage was coming, and which he could not see, owing to a house corner intervening—and the horses and stage went over the lad, breaking one of the bones of the lower part of his right leg, and wounding him on the back and front of the head. Dr. Hyde was instantly in attendance. No blame could be attached to the driver, as the boy fell before he could pull up.—COM.