Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number.

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE. GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, MARCH 10 VOL. XVII.—NO. 6

IN THE BOX.

(From Chambers's Journal.)

(Continued.)

THE MESSRS. ROOSTER'S STORY.

There was a silence for some considerable time, except for a whispered colloquy between the two cousins as to which was to undertake the responsibility of relating their joint narrative; this was eventually put an end to by the simple intervention of a halfpenny, which coming down 'Tails,' whereas Mr. William had cried 'Heads,' that gentleman, without further altercation, commenced as follows:

'Well, gentlemen, the story is not my story, nor yet Bob's after all; it is our Aunt Sarah's story, and true, as I sit here. From first to last. She has often told it us, and I will tell it to you in her own words, which will be easier to me than in any other way, totally unaccustomed as I am to public—I mean literary composition.

'It was not my first situation, but I was in a manner new to service, and only eighteen when I went to live with a family in Kilburn. Their name was Nutley. They were very respectable people—in their ways and doings, I mean: the master was head-clerk in a great City house, and had a pretty fair income; but the family was large; there were six children, the eldest not above my own years, and the youngest quite a baby. So they had to look at a shilling before they spent it. Making ends meet, in a close, genteel way, was just as much as they could do; but they did it: every tradesman was regularly paid; the missis and all the children were plainly but respectably dressed; there was no penury in the house; but it was carefully managed: nothing too much allowed, and everything well looked after, from the coal-cellar to the tea-canister. I suppose it was to get a genteel place cheap that brought them out to Kilburn. It's a new neighborhood yet, but was far newer then: a dozen houses or so scattered along the high-road after one passed the turnpike, with fields and building-ground between them; every house standing alone, shut in its own garden, and the place near enough to Paddington for the tramps and idlers, that were never scarce there, to come out and look about them. There was need for locking of doors and bolting of windows, when the long nights came on, and one did not see a policeman often. But the houses had been built on speculation, they said, for a richer class of people, who did not take them; and on account of the loneliness—I am speaking of ten years ago, when Kilburn was thought the world's end, in a manner—they let them at uncommon low rents, considering the number of rooms and the garden-ground they had back and front. It was a long way for the master going to the City every morning, and only one omnibus: if he happened to miss it, there was nothing but walking to the Marble Arch in all weathers. But Mrs. Nutley liked the place, it was so private and genteel; and I believe master had taken it through her persuasion.

She was a small, thin woman, with a sharp look in her eyes, and rather withered and careworn, considering her time of life, for she was not forty then; but they said she had been grandly brought up, though without fortune, by a titled lady in the West End, who was her nun's, who would have adopted her, for she was an orphan; but in becoming Mrs. Nutley, she had made a match of her own choosing. The titled lady could not acknowledge the head-clerk, of course; and her niece was cast off on his account; but never forgetting what she had been in her young days, Mrs. Nutley's whole endeavor was to keep up a fine appearance, and associate with nobody but the best and grandest she could get at. For the one reason, her house was perfectly kept; for the other, she had few acquaintances. The children were mostly all girls—I have noticed that always happens in pinched families—three boys out of the ten, and they the youngest. The whole family were like their mother, no great beauties; and rather thin and pale, in spite of the clear air that blew over their home from Cricklewood and Hampstead Heath. It might have been owing to their strict bringing-up: there was very little play, and no humors allowed in that house. Mrs. Nutley's word was law, and to make them genteel, appeared to be her only consideration; and they were kept mighty close to lessons, partly by herself, partly by masters, old and severe ones, who came to teach music, drawing, French, and I don't know what else, three times a week. They were giving the girls a good education, that they might get their own living; there was no other prospect before them, you see.

Mr. Nutley was out every morning by eight o'clock, and never in till seven in the evening, except on Sundays; but he liked gentility too, and looked thin and careworn with keeping it up, as the heaviest end of the burden fell on him. He was a tall, handsome man, with a sair complexion and dark hair, and might have been a beau among the ladies before he got married, and had ten children, which is enough to make sober sides of any man. But every child in the house liked him far better than their mother, was glad at his home-coming, and missed him when he happened to stay late at business. We did not wonder at it—I mean the cook and myself; that was all the servants they kept, and we had plenty to do, I can tell you. The plain truth was, that missis had master under petticoat government, as the men call it; she got the handle of him somehow when they were first married, kept it ever after, and governed house and family, may be on account of her having been niece to a titled lady and seen high company. At any rate, she had the rule of them all. A strict mistress, I must say, but not a hard one; and whether it was that I suited her particularly, and did not grumble over stints, as the cook was apt to do, Mrs. Nutley took a sort of liking to me as much as she could have, I suppose, for any servant; used to send me on her special errands to get things cheap in Paddington; used to trust me with candles about the house after nightfall; with the shutting up of doors and windows—she always sent the master, however, to see that they were all right at the last minute—used to give me the keys of the cupboards when she went out, which was not often, except to church, and tell me little family affairs when I was taken into the back-parlor to help in the mending and making for the children, which was mostly done at home.

There was a good deal of that kind to do, as you may suppose; and as I could sew pretty well, and always made myself tidy in the afternoon, I was many an hour in the room with her, and spoken to quite familiar like, though I hope it did not make me forget my place. The missis was not a lady to let one forget it, however friendly she might be with one. I am sure it was nothing but pure loneliness that made her talk to me, for no lady could have less company in her own house. Her husband was out all day, and came home tired in the evening; her big girls were busy getting ready to be governesses, and teaching the little ones. They were said to be clever at learning, and I know they spent time enough at it; but whether it was their strict bringing-up, or their natural backwardness that made them so, they were every one childish and simple in common affairs, and one might as well have talked to a baby as to Miss Charlotte, the eldest daughter.—She was quite ready to go out as a governess, if estimation in a titled family could be got for her. Her mother would hear of nothing less, neither would the young lady, for that matter. Though there was not an ounce of their mother's sense and management among them, the whole seven girls had got her ambition to be fine and grand, and never forgot that their grandaunt was Lady Dangerfield of Belgrave Square. Anyhow, Mrs. Nutley found little company in them; and I could not help thinking she fretted day and night over the grandeur she had thrown herself out of—that is the way with most people who do the like: it made her withered and careworn before the time, as much as keeping up appearances and making ends meet, and it did more harm to her mind.

There was a side-window in the back-parlor; and out of it one could see through the garden paling all that passed on the high-road without being seen. There Mrs. Nutley used to sit in her dark print morning dress, sewing and darning most of the day, while the master was at business, and the girls at lessons; and when well-dressed people or carriages went by to the villas owned by rich retired tradesmen, the poor lady looked ready to burst with spite and envy. She never said a word at those times, and I never liked to look at her face, but I saw it often enough for all that, and the more fine dresses and carriages that passed, Mrs. Nutley was in the worse humor. It was uncommonly bad one day in the middle of my second quarter, when the neighbors were going off all in their airs, you may be sure, to one of the summer flower-shows at Cheswick. The baby wouldn't go to sleep at its usual hour, so my mistress had it in her lap, and it had got a rattle; and while the missis was looking out with her nose to the pane, to get a better sight, the child ran its rattle through the glass, and there was a window to be mended. Of course, her gentility could not put up with having it broken, because people could see it over the garden paling. She sent me to Paddington the same evening, where the nearest painter and glazier lived; but he knew the Nutley's jobs were small, and happened to be busy at better work. I was put off one day after another with promises that he would come or send his man next morning, but neither of them ever came, and missis could not sit at the broken window.

It had been in that state for a week and more, when one morning, as I was doing the steps and sweeping down the path in the front garden, a man came up to the open gate, walked straight up to me, and said:

'You have got a window to mend here, and I am a traveling glazier.'

Nobody would have taken him for one, if they hadn't seen the frail at his back. The man's picture is fixed in my memory; I would know him among a thousand, partly on account of what happened, and partly from his own remarkable appearance. He was a tall thin man, very straight, and very dark in the complexion; his hair was mostly gray, but it had been very black; his face was long and skinny, without a bit of whisker, every hair clean shaved off; he had a hooked nose, thin flap lips, and such a pair of eyes!—they were the most wonderful thing about him, and the worst looking too. I never knew what color they were; but you have seen the eyes of a cat while she is watching a mouse—well, they looked like that—steady, keen, and cunning, with a kind of bad courage in them. I never saw such eyes before, and I don't want to see them again. He was going to pass me, and walk right into the house, for I stood hesitating about letting him in, though the window did want mending.

'Stop,' says I, 'till I tell the missis;' and I thought it but right to close the street door behind me, though it was nearly in his face. Mrs. Nutley herself had seen him out of the back parlor.

'I don't like the looks of the man,' said she, 'but Johnson is not coming, and I am positively ashamed of this broken pane; let him mend it; he can't do any harm, for I shall be sewing here. Tell him to come in, and I will see what he charges.'

I showed the glazier into the room; and I heard the missis making a stiff bargain with him in her usual way; he wanted sixpence more than she was willing to give, but they split the difference at last, and he fell to glazing. Being about the garden, I thought it but right to keep an eye on the man, and partly I couldn't help it, he was so remarkable, I thought he spent a good deal of time about the window too; but Mr. Nutley sat sewing at the other all the time, and by degrees I noticed that there was more talk between her and the glazier than one could have expected. It was by her movements I knew it, and not by their voices, for they were speaking low. She had not liked the looks of the man, and appeared never to have seen him before; but when he was done and paid and gone about his business, I saw her looking after him anxious and concerned like; and when I mentioned his queer looks again, she gave me something very like a lecture against being prejudiced by people's appearances.

The window was mended well enough, and the men seemed to have charged little enough for it; I heard no reflection on that score, and to this day I can't tell how it was made plain to me; missis never said thy like, but some how I knew that she would not be displeased to see another window broken, and have the glazier back. He passed the house sometimes, but never looked at it—that man could see without looking, you understand. The cook and myself were set to clean the windows oftener than we used to do. Poor soul! she was rather unlucky with glass; and had a young man at the time, who was be having ill to her, that rather confused her mind, which was not very clear at the best, except on cooking business, and kept her from noticing anything particular that might be going on in the house. It also kept me from remarking anything about the glazier to her. Minds confused in that way are not to be trusted; but though she broke many a pane at other times, and had to pay for them, the glass escaped under her hands then; and we would not have had a broken window in the house, if the baby had not put its rattler through the back-parlour one day, just as the glazier was going by. Missis sent me out for him directly; it was such a lucky chance to get the window mended out of hand. He did not seem very glad of the job, but in he came, and fell to work. Missis sent away the child, shut the door particularly close, took up her sewing; and they must have talked there for a good while, for when the pane was in, and I dusting the drawing room, there was a continual whisper going on in the back parlour.

You see the partition was only lath and plaster, and I am not sure there were not crinks in it under the paper. There is no use in saying I didn't try to listen—very few would not under the circumstances—but not a word could I catch, only the constant whisper going on between them; and I noticed, what doesn't generally happen, that the man spoke the most. What on earth could Mrs. Nutley have to say in that confidential manner to the travelling glazier, whose first looks she didn't like, as nobody in their right senses could? She was a very proper woman, and he no beauty, or goodness knows, I would have had a bad notion of them.—While I was wondering what it would be, and dusting the window frame, I heard the outer door quietly close behind somebody, and there was the glazier walking away from the house in no great hurry, and laughing to himself in a kind of wicked scorn.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., MARCH 4th, 1864.

☞ Owing to the great pressure upon our space to-day, an editorial article and several new advertisements have been laid over.

THE ADDRESS PASSED.

After an almost interminable debate the Address was passed on Wednesday night. Did our limited space admit of it, it would hardly tend to the edification of our readers to reproduce all the objections brought by the opposition against the various paragraphs of the speech. As the items were taken up *seriatim*, gentlemen of the opposition, led on by the tongucy Cartier divided them into various heads, and subdivided them into as many more. Any one who had a personal grievance to ventilate or a charge to trump up against the Ministry contrived to get it edged in regardless of all the laws of relevancy, and the consequent boring is described as having been tedious in the extreme. But above all the din and uproar of the uprorious *debate*, the voice of Monsieur Cartier was heard ding-donging away with the monotonous ceaselessness of an auction bell.—Oh, how that little man did talk! What volumes of unmitigated clap-trap he contrived to pour out upon the heads of his luckless hearers! In every portion of the debate, as reported *in extenso*, it is Cartier, Cartier, Cartier. On Monday evening he actually spoke for *eight hours*, with but few intermissions. He went clear through the Address and then getting lost in the fog of his own eloquence retraced his steps backwards, after which he delivered a glib series of nonsensical remarks on general subjects, as far from the one under consideration as possible. It made no difference to him whether the benches were full or *almost empty*—which was the case towards the wind up of his speech—this Canadian Burke harangued away with all the ardor of a stump orator and all the bfidulitin of a Fourth of July patriot.—Even his own party were disgusted at last, as well they might be, and one *Lower Canadian* anti-Ministerial paper, at least, has had the hardihood to declare that it is but just and proper that the "Jonah, Cartier" should be cast overboard, in order to save those who are in the boat with him from utter destruction. The boasts of the opposition press that the Ministry has issued from the debate in a damaged condition are just as valuable as the prognostications ventured upon some weeks ago that Ministers would be driven from power before the Address was passed. Now that this little business is over, we trust the Legislature will set to work seriously on the work of the session.

A SOIREE AT RIVERSDALE.

On the evening of the 24th inst, the flourishing village of Riversdale presented to the eye a most animating appearance. From an early hour, sleighs might be seen delivering their contents, consisting of young and old, whose genial and smiling faces indicated that they were resolved upon having a good time. At the hour appointed, the hall appropriated, elegantly decorated with evergreens and brilliantly illuminated with lamps, was densely crowded. The Divine blessing having been invoked, all partook of a sumptuous repast, prepared in a most superb style by the ladies. The Rev. Mr. Fisher, the pastor of the congregation, delivered the opening address, in which he alluded, in a very humorous and happy manner, to his past and present connection with the congregation and the future prospects of the church. P. Ross, Esq., then interested the audience in a short and racy speech, which elicited great applause.

The last but not the least of the speakers was Mr. A. M. Moffat, the eloquent Temperance lecturer, who delivered a most animating address, which was listened to with the greatest interest. The choir of Riversdale discoursed several elegant pieces of ear charming and heart stirring music. The meeting was dismissed with the benediction at half past ten o'clock, when all departed to their homes, pleased with the entertainment.

Text day, the managers of the congregation waited on their pastor, and, in the name of the congregation, tendered to him the proceeds of the soiree, amounting to fifty dollars, as an expression of their regard for him and appreciation of his labors.

It may be stated, to the praise of this small but spirited congregation, that besides being engaged in building churches, they have contributed largely to the Home Mission Fund of the presbytery. They have nearly fulfilled their engagements with their pastor for the past year, and they are about commencing to build a manse. We wish them God speed and hope that they may not be we weary in well doing, but increase in well doing, that others seeing their good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven.—Com.

London Quarterly for January is a splendid number, one of the best, in fact, that we have seen. Every article is readable, and several of them are both timely and instructive. Contents: 1. China; 2. New Englanders and the Old Home; 3. Forsyth's Life of Cicero; 4. Captain Speke's Journal; 5. Guns and Plates; 6. Eels; 7. Rome in the Middle Ages; 8. The Danish Duchies.—Republished by Leonard Scott & Co., New York. Subscribers supplied at this office.

The cause of the inactivity of the iron-clad fleet of Charleston is to be inquired into by the Committee on the Conduct of the War.

Government Measures.

Notices of motion of the following measures have been made:—

Solicitor-General Huntington—An Act to amend the law respecting Parliamentary Elections.

Solicitor-General Huntington—An Act respecting Insolvency.

Attorney-General Dorion—An Act to amend the laws concerning the Judicature and Administration of Justice in Lower Canada.

Attorney-General Dorion—An Act respecting Jurors and Juries.

Solicitor-General Huntington—An Act respecting Bill in Criminal Cases.

Affairs in Mexico.—The Paris correspondent of the New York *Times* says: "The Emperor does not conceal his great joy at the happy turn in Mexican affairs. Juarez seems to have been sufficiently enfeebled by the late military events in Mexico to render further resistance useless. Mr. Seward has renounced all opposition to the new order of things in that country, and Maxamilian accepts the throne without a loan or any further guarantees, and why, therefore, should Napoleon not be happy? Surely no one ever got out of a bad scrape so cheaply. The *Moniteur* now calls the new Emperor Maximilian I; in a few days he will be received as such at the Tuilleries, and then the Emperor's triumph will be cried on the housetops!"

☞ If D. Shade Gooding Esq., the Solicitor for the Relator in the Queen vs. Watson, wished to give his correction of a statement made by this paper upon what he considers to have been incorrect information, the rules of professional etiquette as well as of ordinary propriety demanded that he should have sent the correction for publication to the editor of the paper in which the alleged misstatement appeared. Under the circumstances, we can take no further notice of his extremely disingenuous and far-fetched statements,—which, indeed, go far towards disproving each other.

SHERMAN TRAPPED.

By latest accounts it appears that Gen. Sherman has met with a hard experience in his movement upon Mobile. His communications are intercepted, and fears are entertained in Washington that his whole force will be captured. News may be expected soon from the army of the Potomac.

Appointments.

Secretary's Office,
Quebec, Feb. 27, 1864.

His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz.:

John McLay, Esquire, to be Registrar of the County of Bruce, in the room of Nathaniel Hammond, Esquire, removed.

George Thomas Webster, of Brantford, Esquire, to be a Notary Public in Upper Canada.

Prosper A. Hurd, of Prince Albert, Esquire Attorney at Law, to be a Notary Public in Upper Canada.

His Excellency the Governor General has also been pleased to grant a license to Robert Fowler, Esquire, of Trenton, to enable him to practice Physic, Surgery, and Midwifery in Upper Canada.

The loss of the Bohemian.

Portland, Feb. 27.

The testimony taken before the Coroner's jury in relation to the loss of the Bohemian, is all in.

Benj A. Willard, acting Pilot, testified as follows:—He had been out during the day eight miles when the fog shut down; ran in and anchored near Bang's Island Point; did not think it safe for the vessel to approach the coast that night; did not see the steamer's signal owing to the fog; the lookout heard one gun, but supposed it might be the firing in the city to celebrate Washington's birth day; the first knowledge he had of the wreck was from the tug boat with the chief officer of the Bohemian on board coming to the city.

Several witnesses were examined, corroborating the statements of those previously given.

The Coroner's jury in the case of the loss of the Bohemian, find the following verdict.

"That the collision was occasioned by an error in the judgment of Capt. Forland as to his distance from the light. That had the steamer been where he supposed she was, it would have been wise to have taken a more easterly course than he did. That the collision would not have occurred had there been a bell-boat on Alden's rock. That they censure the pilot for not being in a position to observe the steamers signals. That a large proportion of the lives were lost in consequence of the swamping of boat No. 2. That boat No. 6. in refusing to come back, though only partially filled increased the loss. And that after the ship had struck, every officer and man belonging to the steamer did his best to save the lives of the passengers."

Six more bodies were found to-day.

Serious Accident.—A most serious accident occurred yesterday evening to Mr. I. C. Burnett, proprietor of the "Burnett House", in this city, by which he came very near sacrificing his own life and that of his daughter and neice. About three o'clock in the afternoon Mr. Burnett took his daughter and neice for a drive upon the ice in the direction of Cape Vincent, and under the impression that the ice was firm, was not particular about keeping a beaten track.—When nearly within sight of Cape Vincent he observed one of the horses step through and immediately turning towards the shore, the team and sleigh went simultaneously down, leaving the inmates struggling in the water. Fortunately the water proved to be only five feet deep, and having reached the bottom, Mr. Burnett seized his daughter and threw her upon the ice. After successive attempts his neice also regained the ice and they were dispatched for assistance. There being no assistance at hand for fully an hour did Mr. Burnett struggle in vain with his horses to extricate them, until when nearly perished, relief was then procured, and the animals badly mangled, were got upon *terra firma*. The team was one of the finest in the city, and was valued at a very high figure. The sleigh and harness were destroyed—the most of the latter being still at the bottom of the lake. *Kingston British American.*

AN IMPORTANT MOTION.

Hon. Mr. Brown gave notice that today (Friday) he would introduce the following motion. We quote from the *Globe*:

Mr. Brown has given notice of the following resolution for Friday next:—Resolved that on the 2nd of February, 1858, the Hon. George E. Cartier, the Hon. E. T. Galt, and the Hon. John Ross, then members of the Executive Council of this Province, while in London and acting on behalf of the Government of which they were members, did address a dispatch to the Colonial Minister, in which they declared that "very grave difficulties now present themselves in conducting the Government of Canada in such a manner as to show due regard to the wishes of its numerous population;" that "differences exist to an extent which prevents any perfect and complete assimilation of the views of the two sections;" that "the progress of population has been more rapid in the western section, and claims are now made on behalf of its inhabitants for giving them representation in the Legislature in proportion to their numbers;" that "the result is shown by an agitation fraught with great danger to the peaceful and harmonious working of our constitutional system, and consequently detrimental to the progress of the Province;" and that 'the necessity of providing a remedy for a state of things that is yearly becoming worse and worse, and allaying feelings that are daily being aggravated by the contention of political parties, has impressed the advisers of Her Majesty's representative in Canada with the importance of seeking for such a mode of dealing with these difficulties as may forever remove them;" that a select committee of thirteen members be appointed to enquire and report on the important subjects embraced in the said despatch, and the best means of remedying the evils therein set forth.

ARRIVAL OF THE "BREMEN."

New York, March 1.

The steamer 'Bremen,' from Southampton, Feb. 18th, arrived about 8 o'clock.

The 'Canada' arrived out on the 19th.

The 'City of New York' and the 'City of Limerick' arrived on the 16th, and the 'Germania' on the 17th.

The seizure of the 'Tuscaloosa' at the Cape of Good Hope is confirmed.

High gales were prevalent on the English coast.

The following is from the London *Shipping Gazette* of Feb. 16th:—

'Bombay, Jan. 29.—The Confederate steamer 'Alabama' is of the west coast of India. She has burned the ship 'Emma,' of New York.

[Note.—This is probably the ship 'Emma Jane,' which was last reported at Bombay on Dec. 24th.

Denmark.—The revolutionists had expelled the Danish officials from Tonning Toolbern.

The Duke of Augustenburg has been proclaimed.

The Copenhagen journals say that the German account of the Oversee Beislaaw engagement is untrue. The Danes had only 3,000.

No fighting took place at Flensburg.

The Privy Council had resolved to devote the whole strength of the nation to recover Schleswig.

Prussia won't consent to leave Alsen to the Danes.

The allies attacked the Danish Entrenchments at Duppel. Mortars were placed to shell the Danes.

The Prussians occupy Frederickafort at Kiel.

In the Federal Diet the Oldenburg representative protested against the march of the Prussians through Sulbeck.

The Duke of Augustenburg had been proclaimed at Appenrade.

A Prussian battery of heavy artillery had gone to Gluckstorf, distant fr Holmes, from whence Flensburg harbor and the Duppel intrenchments can be bombarded.

In the House of Lords, Earl Russell proved, by comparison of dates, that the Government's decision as to detaining the Birkenhead iron rams was not influenced by any representations of Mr. Adams.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Peacock gave notice of motion as to the demand for compensation made by the United States for injuries done by Confederate cruisers.

Earl Russell said, in the House of Lords, as to claims for Damages done by the Alabama, 'Government considers itself in no way responsible for them, and, no hope is held out for changing policy respecting this.

Confederate loan, 51 to 53. French rentes, 66f. 65c. Consols advanced ⅛, at 91 to 91¼.

France.—The *Nord* dénies that a French army of observation is to be placed on the frontier.

The *Patrie* asserts that Austria was willing to accept the armistice on condition that the Danes evacuate Duppel and Alsen. Prussia refused.

Prussia.—The 6th army corps will be mobilized and quartered *in transitu*.

Bavaria.—It was officially announced that the Conference of Ministers of the minor States would open on the 18th at Wurzburg. Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, Baden, Saxe-Weimer, and Hesse, consented to attend.

Italy.—Parliament had resumed its sittings.

The armament of the National Guards was being hastened.

Large quantities of war material continue to be forwarded to Ancona and Bologna.

Austria.—The Reichsrath had closed.

The Emperor said that Austria's mission was peace. Notwithstanding the endeavors of Austria to exercise a conciliatory influence, war had broken out between Germany and Denmark. In conformity with the Federal Diet's vote, I have, as a German Prince, taken part in the Federal execution, and in concert with the King of Prussia, occupied Schleswig as a pledge.

Breadstuffs heavy and downward. Flour very dull.

The Danish frigate *Neil Juil* left Plymouth on the 17th. The captain announced the intention of seizing two Austrian brigs there, it caught three miles outside the coast. Two barks and one Prussian bark were also in the harbor. The course the frigate took will place her in the track of all merchant vessels going up and down the channel, while a continuation of the course will take her near Brest, where there is the Prussian frigate 'Thetis.'

Apenrade, Feb. 16.—The Austrian head quarters are transferred to Gravestein.

There are indications of an intention on the part of the Allies to enter Jutland.

Altona, Feb. 17.—The Austrian Civil Commissioner, in a speech at Flensburg, stated that all the wishes of the Schleswig-Holsteiners would be satisfied, although a personal union of the duchies with Denmark could not be given up.

Stockholm, Feb. 16.—Sweden does not support the proposal of an armistice, neither has she recommended the withdrawal of the Danish November constitution.

Madrid, Feb. 16.—A bill has been brought into Congress calling out 36,000 men.

Arrival of the Steamship Damascus.

Portland, March 2nd.

The steamship Damascus, which left Liverpool at 2.30 p. m. 18th, and Londonderry 19th, arrived at 10.30 a. m.

The Manchester *Examiner* believes the government is resolved to terminate the Galway contract.

The Great Eastern was knocked down at auction to the newly formed Great Eastern Steamship Company, for only £25,000. The Company had however, previously purchased bonds of the old Company to the extent of £70,000 sterling, which must be added to the above purchase money.

Parliamentary proceedings on the 17th were unimportant. Mr. Layard's bill for a more effective mode of taking anchors and chain cables in the merchant service passed its second reading in the House of Commons.

France.—It is stated that the arrangements for the departure of the Arch duke Maximilian for Paris, en route to Mexico, are complete. The *Revue des Duex Mondes* contends that France and England loss by want of co operation, and urges the re establishment of an active adherance to avert the catastrophe which menaces Denmark. The *Siecle* demands the support of France for Denmark, so shamefully abandoned by England.

The Prussians continued their operations against the entrenchments at Dupple.

It is asserted at Rendsburg that the Prussian commander has summoned the Danes to evacuate Duppel and the island of Alsen giving very short delay; failing to comply the Prussian army would immediately occupy Jutland. The Danes were strengthening the defences of Duppel and Alsen; 30,000 Prussians were concentrated in the district of Sundach. A Copenhagen paper says the Danish government has received no proposition respecting an armistice.

London money market, The funds were inactive but firm. Discount demand moderate, and tendency of rates downward. Gold was overpowering the banks.

The confederate loan had further advanced to 51 a 56.

London, 19th.—An attack on Duppel by the Prussian and Austrian forces is imminent, but no news of its commencement has been received. It is said the place is defended by 40,000 Danes.

Liverpool 18th.—Trade in Manchester dull. Flour very dull. Wheat dull and easier.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

Washington, March 1.—A special despatch to the 'Times says that the latest information received from the army of the Potomac is to 9 o'clock this morning. Heavy musketry, carbine probably, firing was heard early this morning off to the extreme right, in the direction of Stannadsville, where it was supposed that Custar's cavalry were engaging the Confederates.

Madison Court-house as well as Spottsylvania Court-house are in our possession.

There is an evident disposition on the part of Lee to avoid a battle by keeping behind his intrenchments.

Kilpatrick has been heard from. The report is favorable. Lee's communications no longer remain unbroken.

It was reported to-day at Culpepper that Hampton's Legion had been badly whipped by Kilpatrick, with a loss of several hundred prisoners, Hampton himself among the number.

A special to the *World* says:—General Kilpatrick with a large force of cavalry and mounted infantry started three days since for Richmond in the hope of capturing that city by a *coup de main*, or compel Lee to leave his entrenchments at Mine Run and march to its defence. The rapid retreat of Longstreet on Richmond is explained by this movement. It is rumored that Kilpatrick will have the co-operation of a large force advancing up the Peninsula.

A special despatch to the *World* says:—Since the disastrous retreat of Gideon and Smith upon Memphis the most serious apprehensions are felt about Gen. Sherman in official circles and among politicians. Their most earnestly desire is Sherman's communications all along the line of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and deprives his army of an important source of supply, without which it is believed he is incapable of maintaining his ground. Worse still, the falling failing back of the two officers takes away from him the cavalry force, upon which he relied to prosecute his operations. Military men believe also that an advance upon Mobile or Selma in his present condition has become impossible, and that Sherman will be compelled to retrace his steps and come back to Vicksburg.

A private letter, dated Memphis, Feb. 20 states that Sherman had reached Meridean, but that having heard of Smith and Grierson's repulse he had not dared to proceed any further, and was waiting in that locality for provisions and munitions of war. He had established some earth works around the city as a protection against an attack from the enemy. The news of the occupation of Selma by his forces was entirely discredited, inasmuch as that city being as far from Meridean as Meridean is from Vicksburg, that is to say 100 miles. Gen. Sherman could not have had, at the aforesaid date, sufficient time to reach Selma, which seems to have been his object and not Mobile.

The news from the South announces that Gen. Polk was between Selma and the Tombigbee river, watching closely Gen. Shermans movements, and preparing to dispute with him the passage if he attempted to force it. Pearly Peak, the place alluded to as occupied by Sherman's advance, is believed to be a station on the Selma and Montgomery railroad, about 10 miles east of Meridean.

Starbed at a Ball.—A stabbing affray occured at a military ball at the City Assembly Rooms, at about two o'clock on Thursday morning. John Jackson became involved in a quarrel with Thomas Ryan, when the latter stabbed Jackson just below the ear, inflicting a wound four inches long. Ryan was arrested, and Jackson's wound was dressed by a physician.—*Free Press*

Body of an Infant Found.—On Saturday night last, information was given at the Police station, that the body of an infant was lying upon Colborne street, and had been there for some hours. Constable Harry Phair at once went to the spot indicated, and found the object, which was taken to the City Hospital. A man named Campbell has been arrested, as it is supposed that he can throw some light upon the mystery. An inquest was held on the body of the infant yesterday afternoon, but was adjourned for one week.—*Free Pres.*

Town & Counties.

☞ We would call attention to the sale of lots in the flourishing village of Exeter.

☞ Mr Trueman, it will be seen, has a number of extensive auction sales on hand, in various parts of the Counties.

☞ Local news correspondents are ever welcome to our columns, but we must again entreat of them to study brevity. A great deal may be condensed into a small compass, and, moreover, the practice is in accordance with the advice of the most eminent authors.

The Shakspearean Readings last night proved a complete success. The Court House was filled with a highly respectable and fashionable audience. Mr. Griffin fully sustained the reputation he bears as a splendid reader. His fine voice and poetic taste are calculated to give effect to the grand conceptions of the World's dramatic bard. During the reading of the Merchant of Venice, Mr. Griffin was repeatedly applauded, and the Tale of the Trumpet convulsed the house with merriment. It is really gratifying to see that anything in this line can be made to succeed in Goderich.

Natural Weather Indicator.—We have been shown a little instrument invented by Mr. P. R. Randall of Toronto, the principle feature of which is a small plant brought from the deserts of Arabia, which is so sensitive to moisture as to indicate by means of a hand pointing to graduated figures any change in the weather 24 hours before it takes place. The most eminent Professors in the Province have tested the instrument and pronounced it perfect. If it preforms all that the inventor claims it will be a boon to farmers and others. An agent is in town and will canvass for purchasers both here and in the neighboring country.

Escape of a Prisoner—almost.—A constable from Clinton brought up a prisoner yesterday, and while on the way to the gaol the man wished to go into Mr. Bush's to buy a pipe and bit of tobacco to have a smoke. Being a reasonable person, the constable assented, and waited on the side-walk till his prisoner should come out. Thinking he was rather long about it, he stepped in to hurry him up, when lo and behold, the bird had flown through the back door. A hue and cry was raised, when, after a considerable amount of rummaging the cute one was found stowed away amongst the rafters of Mr. Savage's store-house. The constable kept hold of his collar until he saw him safe in limbo.

DOG-SHOOTING IN TOWN.

Dear Signal,—In your issue of the 18th ult. we observed with pain the sad evils effected by a rabid dog. Now it is very strange that these animals, notwithstanding all the precaution ostensibly used for their decrease, are, nevertheless, to all appearance, on the increase. Your correspondent cordially joins in the hope that the power of destroying unmuzzled dogs may speedily be vested in the hands of the public generally. The inefficiency of the constabulary is sufficiently apparent to all A circumstance which very recently transpired in town proves the fact. A farmer from the country, having driven in to market, his dog (which is one of those faithful animals, kept for use, not for ornament) broke out of the barn, when his master thought he was secure, and followed him. On arriving in town and hearing that the destroyers of the unmuzzled canine species were busy, he took a strong rope and tied him to his sleigh.—After a short time, however, one of the constables mauve his appearance, and the poor dog, with the rope still round his neck, was made to feel the dire ire of said gent; the first shot not taking effect, the gallant con resolved to "do or die," held him by the rope and fired a third, twice more; and yet, to our great surprise, we have had the pleasure of seeing said dog to-day, not *hors de combat*, but alive and prepared for further engagement in his master's service. Now, Mr. Signal, what would individuals of that type of valor and accuracy of aim do with a "mad dog" when, with three shots and the instrument of death in close proximity with the animal's body, he could not affect his object? We would further remark that said con. had at his heels a dog of his own at the time with his mouth at liberty.

☞ We hope our correspondent is not drawing the "long bow" in the above.—The thing looks a little *fishy*. The dog tax when levied will probably diminish the number of canines.

TEESWATER.—TEA MEETING.

Dear Signal.—According to notice the Wesleyan Tea-Meeting was held in the School House, Teeswater, on Friday evening, the 26th February. The day being a beautiful one, the turn out, as might be expected, was very large, the house being filled to overflowing. The Tea, which was prepared by some of our Teeswater ladies, was all that could be desired, and the speaking was first class. We would particularly refer to the speech of Rev. Wm. McLean, Presbyterian minister of Pushnich, which called forth from the audience their warmest applause. The other speakers also sustained their parts well. The choir is well worthy of mention; they contributed much to the harmony of the meeting by singing some very select pieces. The melodeon was very ably presided at by Miss Worthington, of Howick.

Altogether the meeting was a decided success. All parties present seemed to be perfectly happy, and no doubt looking forward to a happy meeting of the same kind at some future date. We parted pleased with ourselves and everybody else.

WINGHAM.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

Sir,—As it must have become evident long ere this to every attentive reader of the Weekly "Signal" that its editor has taken pleasure in opening its columns not only to the effusions of the literatoms of our fine County Town, but to those also of our Forest Villages. I beg most humbly that you will add Wingham to the list of those places which form a residence for one of your "speech correspondents," and I feel convinced, Mr. Editor, that had you been here on the evening of the 16th, you would have been at once convinced that, considering the youth of our village, we are making rapid strides towards complete civilization. For a number of weeks attractive posters have been circulated, announcing that a Tea-Meeting would take place here, and that for a most laudable purpose, viz., the purchasing of books for the use of the Sunday School established here by the Baptist denomination, of which the Rev. Mr. Ratcliffe is pastor. An immense amount of energy and perseverance has been exerted, especially by the ladies, in preparing for the Festival, and, Sir, I can assure you that in all my experience of Tea-Meetings, which is rather extensive, too, I never, in the whole of Upper Canada, sat down to more sumptuously piled tables, or witnessed such a magnificent display of choice delicacies spread for such a purpose. Had the elements assumed human form and met in solemn conclave, they could not possibly have determined upon visiting our earth with a more terrific snowstorm than our village was blessed with upon that day and night. The effect upon the visages of those most interested in the success of the undertaking was truly blackening, and no wonder. Judge of their surprise, then, when long before the hour appointed, had arrived, crowds of people of both sexes began to flock in from all parts, some of them whose zeal in the good cause must certainly have been worked to its highest pitch, travelling a distance of over thirty miles for the sake of adding their mite to the list. When 7 o'clock arrived, the spacious hall was filled completely, all with happy and some with exceedingly interesting faces. The room was beautifully decorated, and presented more the appearance of some delightful arbour than anything else to which I can liken it. The head of the room immediately over the children's table was tastefully ornamented, with the words in cedar: "Suffer little children to come unto me." After the repast had ended, we were delighted and entertained by a number of recitations and hymns by the children, some of whom did not exceed three years of age. Too much praise cannot be given the teachers for the indefatigable exertions which they must have made in bringing their interesting pupils to such a state of perfection. The meeting was then addressed by the Revds. Mr. Ratcliffe, the congregation's worthy pastor, followed by Messrs. Mundial (who made his maiden speech) Scott, Bruce and Fraser.—The chair was occupied by Peter Fisher, Esq., who performed his duty admirably. Altogether, the affair was a decided success, and reflects great credit upon the ladies and gentlemen who take such a deep interest in the welfare, both temporal and spiritual, of the young committed to their charge.

QUIS.

It has been decided by Judge Jones of Brant, and Judge Cowan of Simcoe that none but Barristers can be permitted to practice as counsel in County Courts.—Should the decision become general, the interests of Attorneys will be considerably affected.

WHO IS SHE?

The Detroit *Free Press*, of Saturday, has the following:

"Yesterday morning officer Titton arrested a girl dressed in boy's clothing, while walking upon Brush street. There are many versions of the history of this girl and several names assigned to her, yet one of these, Charlotte Lovings, has some corroborative points which lead to the belief that this her name, or, at least, the one she generally answers to. She walks the pavement of the corridor in the jail 'like a thing of life,' and has a very happy faculty of appearing graceful in her male apparel. With hands thrust into the pockets of her pants, and a rakish style of wearing her cap, she exhibits a very fair counterfeit of a fast young masculine—The various stories circulated relative to who and what she is, stamp her history as