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ST. JOHN'S:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, Meeting-House Hill.

TER MULLOWNEY, Plumber and Copper-plate Worker,

leave to acquaint his friends and public, that he has opened his Establishment in the above line of Business in Water-Street, opposite the Premises of JOHN H. WARREN, Esq., where on hand, a large assortment of and COPPER-PLATE WARE, and STOVE PIPES, he offers for Sale at the very low Prices.
October 23, 1846.

HALIFAX, N. S., October 9.

Curious affair—Exhumation of a Corpse—Coroner's Inquest at Dartmouth.—Curious wonder of more than ordinary interest excited among the inhabitants of South, in the early part of the week, by the exhumation of a corpse, which had been interred in the Roman Catholic cemetery there, days previously, and by the empanelling of a Coroner's Jury for an inquest on the body. It was noised about that the deceased was the lawful consort of George Forbes, Esq., of Lake Loon, formerly an officer in the corps of Royal Engineers, but who had retired on half-pay, with the rank of Colonel, and that she had been kept in a state of confinement, and on a starving allowance of food for a long period before death, and that she had been oppressed, of a most unimaginedly dreadful. Other reports were that she was an aunt of the Colonel's, yet this was not the case, as the assertion that she was his wife's aunt, her birth place is alternately alleged to be Spain, Italy, and Corsica. Amid a mass of incongruous gossip, until the day of the inquest, which has been sitting since Tuesday, a discerning public will find its opinions, although the circumstances connected with the burial of the deceased so singular that it would indeed be marvellous if they did not arouse public suspicion. The deceased was interred without any coffin, in the burial ground of a community of particular and jealous regard for their sepulture has ever been proverbial; existence was previously hidden from the public eye; and hints and tales discreditable to Colonel Thompson were put into circulation, that, however disagreeable to himself, the up of the mystery, through a judicial investigation, has become needful, and we will come through the ordeal with a stain of imputed guilt removed from his name. The Inquisition stands adjourned until next Wednesday.—Recorder.

Coroner's Inquest at Dartmouth.—The inquest closed on Wednesday evening last. Verdict we give below—it speaks for itself. We presume the evidence will be of great public interest. The Jury have strong grounds for believing that the body of which they have obtained a verdict, was the wife of Colonel Thompson, of the Royal Engineers, that she had been insane for some time previous to her death, and had not experienced that care and attention that her situation required, but the Jury are unable to account for her death.—Alexander Lyle, John B. Flowers, George Turner, James Lunn, Joseph Wilson, John Elliot, William Frazer, Philip Brown, Peter Robb, D. Farrel, John Kennedy, James Foster.

As we perceive by the New Brunswick that the Directors of the Gas Company

have agreed to fix the price of gas at St. John's at 17s. 6d. per thousand feet. We are glad of this; we always believed the price paid in this city exorbitant, and judging from its cost in the old country, think it could be furnished at a much lower rate, but how the Company at St. John's, just established, can afford to supply the article for a less sum than is demanded by the Halifax Company, is a question we should like Mr. Peebles to answer.—Halifax paper.

CONSECRATION FOR OREGON.—A very imposing ceremony took place on Sunday morning last, in the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Montreal—the elevating the Episcopal dignity of the Rev Mr. Blanchet, one of the canons, who was nominated at Rome for the office of Archbishop of Oregon. His title is Archbishop of Walla-Walla. Seven dioceses are now formed in Oregon, and provisionally three prelates superintend them, the Archbishop and two Bishops.

NEWS BY THE PACKET.

Dr. Duncombe, who took so prominent a part in the attempted rebellion in Upper Canada in 1837, has returned to Toronto; and having luckily, not been retaken himself, has retaken the oath of allegiance.

The editor of the Circular to Bankers, than whom a more careful observer does not exist, has just published the results of his recent investigations into the state of the crops. The editor observes—

“The spread of the disease has been signally arrested, and a much larger proportion of the crop of potatoes in Great Britain, and we suspect also in Ireland, will, we trust, be preserved than any man dared to hope for a few weeks ago. This is so far extremely satisfactory, and has afforded to us great relief. No doubt this disease will prove a severe and trying calamity under the most favourable circumstances, but we may now rationally indulge a hope that it will not prove utterly destructive of that important resource for the annual supply of human food, the crop of potatoes. There is no important substance, no material proportion of anything raised annually in great bulk for the sustenance of civilised man, which is so liable to waste and destruction as the potato; and we have no doubt in ordinary seasons one-half the usual crop is in Great Britain, either used for cattle or wasted, and then not more than one-half is converted directly into food for man. This suggests a very interesting reflection at this juncture, for if only one-half of an ordinary crop be applied directly to human food, a much smaller than a usual supply would prove adequate to that purpose, exclusively, provided there be an abundance of other food fit for cattle, to be substituted for the potatoes and preserved roots usually given them. Then how stands the

case as to that point, of a much larger proportion of the potato crop being under the exigency applicable to the use of human food, because the abundance of other kinds of the food of animals will cause a much smaller demand for potatoes to feed them?”

(From Willmer & Smith's European Times, October 20.)

DOMESTIC.

The state of Ireland is the principal topic on which the quidnuncs are now exercising their pens and their tongues. The greatness of the calamity which has overtaken that country is to be read in the efforts which are being made to meet it. The first consideration is to find employment for the people, to enable them to buy food; and as the money is to come out of the public purse, the next point is to make the works so undertaken of a permanently useful and reproductive character. The Lord Lieutenant has assumed, on his official responsibility, backed, of course, by the Government, whose representative he is, the power of going beyond the act of last session, and employing the peasantry, not only in the making of bridges and public roads, but also improving the land by draining and subsoiling. The only feasible objection which can be urged against this modification of the Labour-Rate Act has been removed, by preventing as far as possible individual landed proprietors from taking unfair advantage of the alteration. It is a very delicate subject, and must be handled with consummate tact and talent, to prevent jobbing on the one hand, and do justice to the requirements of the people on the other. Hitherto the Lord Lieutenant has risen with the occasion; and it is wonderful, considering the number of State physicians that abound in Ireland, how he has contrived, as the instrument for carrying out the law, to avoid the obloquy which almost invariably accompanies the acts of the executive in that distracted land.

Several parts of Ireland have been the scene of famine riots, not produced so much by absolute want as by a disposition on the part of the unruly to take advantage of the prevailing distress for the furtherance of their own nefarious objects. Loss of life followed the riots at Dungarvan. The Government seems disposed to make every provision for the emergency, but it will submit to no attempt to overrule the law. We have often said, and we now repeat, that although the loss of the potato as a primary article of food must, in the nature of things, occasion great temporary distress in the sister country, it can hardly fail to give rise to a better state of things hereafter. The ease with which the Irish peasant has been enabled to raise his cheap and unsubstantial food, has nurtured that want of ener-

gy, neutralized habits of continuous industry,—and these constitute the defects and bane of the national character. The introduction of English capital into Ireland, under the circumstances which now exist, will be productive of great and public good. But care must be taken that it serves the people, not the landlord. The moral and social condition of the peasant must be raised, and if the calamity which now, like a pall, overspreads the land, is instrumental in making the peasantry, as one of Ireland's finest pastoral poets phrases it, “bold” by exertion and a noble self-reliance, they will become their “country's pride” in the most comprehensive and dignified sense of the words.

Ireland is not the only portion of the Queen's realms invaded by famine. In the Highlands of Scotland immense destitution exists, and there, as in Ireland, the poor have been reduced to the sad extremity of existing without the potato. To those who know and can appreciate the splendid romances of Scott, connected with the Highlands of his native country, will be pained to learn that men who can face death in every form are now reduced to the sad state of physical destitution. The Times newspaper has sent a gentleman, who rejoices in the *soubriquet* of a “Commissioner,” to the Highlands, and he has transmitted to his employers an awfully graphic sketch of the want of food amongst the peasantry which now exists there.

The Montpensier marriage is consummated. The great object of Louis Philippe's ambition is gratified—a French prince stands on the footsteps of the Spanish throne. Much ink has been spilt in the controversy between the London and the Paris *redacteurs* in this controversy. It has been a fine theme in these dull times for the professional politicians, and they have turned it on both sides to the best account. But while the dispute waged so fiercely—while the battle of the pen proceeded apace—the wily monarch of “Le Grande Nation” pursued his policy without turning to the right or the left, caring neither for the frowns of his ally, nor the feelings of his own people. He has steadily, cleverly, covertly pursued his game, and captured it. All his plans for the last half dozen years, as regards Spain, seem to have been concocted with especial reference to the result upon which the world now looks and marvels. The marriage, it is said, will, and has produced, a feeling of estrangement between the Courts of St. James's and the Tuileries. We hope not. Pity that it should. Spain seems so lost, so demoralised, that any change must be for the better; lower she can hardly sink. It has been our policy and our misfortune to interfere unnecessarily in the affairs of our continental neigh-