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The Daily Tribune.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 15, 1872.

PUNSHON'S ORATORY.

A recent number of *Hearth and Home*, a weekly paper published in New York and slightly circulated in St. John, contains an article written with the manifest intention of disparaging Dr. Punshon's reputation as an orator. The attempt made to fulfil that intention cannot, however, be deemed highly successful by any man fitted to form an intelligent opinion on the subject. For though like Balaam, when on the hill top he took up his parable against the dwellers in the tents below, the writer desired wholly to curse, like Balaam also, at least in part, he was compelled somewhat to bless. Hence the article contains much that is eulogistic of Punshon's oratorical powers. It is admitted that he is a great orator, one of the finest specimens of his class,—great in rhetoric, affluent in language, gorgeous in imagination and of "a strong and overbearing passionateness." It is affirmed that he loses himself in his subject, sways his audiences at will,—now electrifying them by bold and impassioned denunciation, now dazzling them by brilliant rhetorical corruscations, and anon by some subduing stroke of pathos melting them into tears. It is asserted that his popularity is very great; that he is able in the commercial capital of the republic to crowd vast buildings which the ablest and best of American pulpit speakers are not attractive enough to fill. It might be supposed that the orator possessed of qualities like those just described, and able to bring them into play with the result set forth, would not, by a writer admitting both the one and the other, be subjected to decidedly disparaging criticism.

Hearth and Home, however, has a good deal to say depreciative of Punshon's oratorical merits. It declares that Punshon is a handsome personage neither in face nor figure. His body, it says, is round and short. Be it so, what then? Were the bodies of Demosthenes and Cicero long? Were the legs and arms of Apollos in due oratoric proportion? Can only a flat man be a perfect orator? Or must such an orator be literally many-sided? Or must he stand on the square before his audiences? If round men are naturally ineligible for the highest places in oratory, what is to be said of Charles James Fox, the most demosthenic of British Parliamentary orators; or of Daniel O'Connell, the most splendid stump orator of modern times; or of Mr. Bright, probably the most powerful political orator now known to the English-speaking race?

When an orator has a "comely" face, it may be a pleasant object for enraptured audiences to gaze upon. But is such a face worth much for oratoric purposes? Is the want of it a special misfortune to men otherwise fitted to win their way to the front rank of the immortal oratoric band? If so, how did Mirabeau, ugliest of revolutionary aristocrats, win his uncontested position as the grandest orator of the French tribune? Or, how came it that Whitefield, with his heavy features and unmistakable squint, flamed like a seraph amid sobbing crowds of men and women of all ranks and ages? And why is beetle-browed Dan. Webster held to be the most powerful orator yet produced by the English in America? (He ought not to have cheated us about that "thin, red line" though!)

Hearth and Home, notwithstanding, if Dr. Punshon's face and form satisfy him, as it is to be presumed they do, for they serve his purposes excellently well, there seems to be no good reason why the critics of any New York paper should fret themselves about either. For neither affects the quality of Dr. Punshon's oratory.

Hearth and Home finds no grace in Dr. Punshon's manner, but it discovers that men are "captivated" by his "dramatic action." If so, wherefore does it carp at the orator's manner? After all, is grace of manner essential to high oratory? Fox had it not. Chalmors had it not. But who that gave themselves up to the influence of that glorious Scotchman's magnificent imagination and intense oratoric energy, cared ought about the uncouthness of his gesticulation, or felt that it in any wise detracted from the effectiveness of his speech?

Hearth and Home hears no music in Dr. Punshon's voice. It is admitted that Dr. Punshon's voice has not the compass and melody which distinguish the voices of many speakers who are not orators at all. But the voice which he possesses is generally acknowledged to be managed with exquisite skill. And the critic of the *Hearth* might have remembered, if he ever know, that the voices of Charles James Fox and Richard Lawlor Shiel were sharp, shrill and perfectly ear-piercing when the souls of these great orators were "in a fine frenzy" blazing.

But our superfine critic notes that Punshon's speech is rapid. Why should it not be rapid when he has so much to say that admiring and enchanted thousands delight to hear? Is it necessary that a great orator's speech should be slow? Not by any means. Every man in his own order. Robert Hall was the most finished English pulpit orator of his day; and the defect of his light voice was redeemed by the rapidity of his utterance. Dr. Punshon's rapid utterance suits his style of oratory well; and it also suits his audience well. What more is to be said on that head?

Hearth and Home assumes that Dr. Punshon has no "restraining critical sense"—an assumption indicating the want of common sense in the party putting it forth. For what especially strike an intelligent analyst of the elements which are combined in Dr. Punshon's oratory, are the finish, the well proportioned completeness of his rhetoric, and the almost faultless rhythm of his diction. Dr. Punshon's taste in rhetoric and language is in fact of the very finest sort.

But then, wonderful to say, his "moral" power, his "religious thought, is very much below that of the Methodist body" in the United States, according to the *Hearth*. And "he has a materialistic way of representing things," if the same authority is to be relied upon. That means, we believe, that Dr. Punshon takes a strong and unhesitating grasp of the stern realities of life and of the solemn disclosures of fact and doctrine made in Holy Scripture, and that instead of playing at the evolution of misty, sickly sentiment from the depths of his inner consciousness, he manfully and forcefully proclaims what he believes to be God's truth.

Moreover, Dr. Punshon's oratory, we are told, "is of the sort almost the least valuable." That is easy to say, but hard to prove. Had the critic of the *Hearth* been kind enough to inform his readers what in his judgment was the best, the most valuable sort of oratory, one would be able the better to estimate the character of his sweeping statement. As it is, let it pass for what it may be worth. Apparently, the chief objection to Mr. Punshon on the part of the *Hearth and Home* is that he is "a bigoted Englishman," "a quintessential Englishman," which is, of course, distressing to think upon. If Mr. Punshon were such a "quintessential" personage, he still might be an orator of a valuable sort for aught that appears to the contrary. But, in fact, Mr. Punshon is one of the most liberal of men, though he is at the same time a thoroughly loyal and patriotic Briton. The *Hearth and Home*, no doubt, believes it a sweet and glorious thing to be a loyal and patriotic American, but to be a loyal and patriotic Englishman,—ah, that is a different sort of thing entirely.

However, such as Mr. Punshon is, millions of the British people will welcome him back to his native land all too soon. Such as he is, some thousands of St. John people will hail his appearance among them again a few weeks hence with unmistakable delight. The writer claims for him a very prominent position among the noblest living orators of the English speaking peoples.

OUR NEWFOUNDLAND LETTER.

The Result of the Disunion Policy—P. E. Jordan and his Newspaper Hoaxes—The Geehan-Hamilton Murder Trial—Graphic Description of the Court Scene—The First Execution in thirty years!

ST. JOHN'S, NFLD., June 8.

There must be some glaring irregularities in our Postal system which certainly call for inquiry. I have already written you letters by the following mails, namely: March 7th, one letter; April 24th, two letters; May 13th, one letter; May 25th, one letter. Of these you appear to have received but two. Our own Postal system is exceedingly loose, but I cannot help thinking that something must be wrong on the other side of the Gulf. As the matter stands, we are isolated and impotent. We plume ourselves upon an impotent independence. We scout the idea of Union with our sister Colonies. We hold ourselves aloof in high disdain of constitutional connection with them, and the natural consequence is that we have no superior authority to rectify those abuses to which ourselves and others subject us. Our lives are one perennial grumble. We grumble at this very isolation on which we pride ourselves; we grumble at defective mail services and defective postal arrangements; at our failures in self-government and at our lack of progress. And during all this time which we spend in grumbling, we shut our eyes to the remedy to which we might reasonably look for the abatement of our pet abuses. But while we are complaining that the outer world will not see our resources and will pass us by with indifference, there are, as it would appear, some persons outside who thrust us into a prominence for which we have no desire. The New York papers have for some eighteen months past been

THE VICTIMS OF SOME CRUEL HOAXES,

in which Newfoundland has figured largely. First of all, we had a "Terrible gale on the Labrador," with fearful loss of life. Then we had a "Frightful Shipwreck" at St. Shott's, and a barbarous pillage by one "Barnacle Bill." After this came a graphic account of "Black Mail levied on a Shipwrecked German Steamer" by the German Consul at this port; and in rapid succession we have been thrilled with the story of "Terrible disasters and loss of life at the Seal Fishery" and—crowning horror—"The murder of Ten Persons" in one family at St. Peters! I had omitted to mention that there was a picture in thrilling detail of "the execution of the murderer Geehan" and his accomplice, ostensibly written by an eyewitnes of the scene. Now all these sketches have been racily and forcibly penned; highly colored, if you will, but with a marvellous boldness, nay, audacity of execution. The details of all the horrors have been filled in with that pre-Raphaelite fidelity which American sensation-mongers so much affect. The plots have been well conceived, the most dramatic situations have been presented, the vivid light of a fantastic imagination has displayed the whole scene in a most fascinating *coup d'œil* and the only element wanting to render the work complete has been a single atom of truth. These stories have been the purest of fabrications from beginning to end, and there is this much credit due to the artist that he had not a single stone of fact upon which to base these superstructures of fancy. It is most probable, from internal evidence, that they are all the work of one man, and if that be so the Colony is indebted to one Mr. P. E. Jordan for the peculiar notoriety which it has obtained. Mr. Jordan has been for some time past residing in the States. He is the son of a respectable Tailor who (peace to his ashes!) was a well known character in St. John's. Young Patrick studied at Rome for the priesthood; but circumstances made this avocation somewhat uncongenial to him and he came back to Newfoundland, whence he went with all his peculiar abilities to the land where even daring mendacity finds encouragement and remuneration.

But in addition to these imaginary sensations of which our Island is made the scene, we have our own terrible and real horrors. In my last letter I sketched the details of a horrible murder which had been brought before the Grand Jury of the Supreme Court.

THE TRIAL AT BAR

commenced on Wednesday week. The Attorney General had opened the case and the first witness had been examined, when an irregularity in the constitution of the jury was discovered. Upon the panel was the name of one "Thomas Brown" upon whom no service of process could be effected, as he could not be found, but upon the name being called another "Thomas Brown" not upon the panel answered, passed unchallenged to the box and was duly sworn. It was subsequently discovered that this man resided in Carbonear and was only casually in St. John's, and upon this being made known to the Court the jury were discharged, a fresh panel was summoned and the case commenced *de novo*. Twenty six witnesses were examined by the Crown who proved substantially without the slightest shaking of testimony the facts which I have already narrated. The case lasted four days. The jurors were locked up all the Sunday, with the exception of a couple of hours, during which by the direction of the Court they were treated to a drive out of town; being kept together in the custody of sworn bailiffs who permitted no communication with them. During the progress of the trial a most peculiar incident was related by one of the witnesses and sworn to. As

A VERITABLE AND AUTHENTICATED GHOST STORY

it is strikingly strange, to say the least of it. On one evening after the disappearance of the murdered man Sears, and while there was little or no suspicion of foul play, it being generally believed that he had gone on to St. Johns, the witness swore that he was standing at a neighbor's door. It was about half past nine o'clock on a fine, clear, moonlight night. The witness saw a man coming down the road and went from the door to the lane. As the figure approached he felt that it was Sears, but there seemed, he said, to be something over the face so that he could not distinguish the features. He began to feel a strange sensation and endeavoured to get over it by approaching the figure. As he came nearer and endeavoured to recognize the face, to use his own expression, he "felt a change," and before e recovered the figure had disappeared. He was still, however, convinced that it was Sears and on his return to his own house he told his family the whole circumstances. On the following day he saw Geehan, the prisoner, and asked him if Garrett (the murdered man) had passed down last night. Geehan looked at the ground for a moment and then used these remarkable words: "Well, he did not, unless he went down dead." The striking peculiarity of this incident consists in the fact that at the time spoken of Garrett Sears was lying murdered in a pit with a Guernsey shirt and a sou wester hat pulled over the face and concealing the deadly wounds which he had received. I give the story without varnish, as it was sworn to by the witness, who evidently believed every word he uttered. It may afford matter of speculation to lovers of the marvellous, who are wont to contend with Hamlet that "there are more things in Heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy."

About 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, Mr. Justice Robinson commenced his charge. In an address of two hours he presented to the jury, with wonderful power and lucidity, the salient parts of the evidence. The charge was characterised with gravity, eloquence and impartiality. The jury retired at about six o'clock and for two hours and three quarters excitement was intense. At length there was a knock at the door of the jury room, a murmur through the Court. The jury had returned, and the Judges re-entered the Court to receive their verdict. The names of the Jury are called over and each man answers. Then comes the formal question by the Clerk of the Court: "Gentlemen of the Jury, have you agreed upon your verdict, and how say you? Is the prisoner at the bar, Patrick Geehan, guilty of the felony whereof he stands indicted, or not guilty?" Amid a silence deep as death the Foreman answers clearly and solemnly

"GUILTY!"

A similar question with regard to Johanna Hamilton receives the answer, "GUILTY, *but strongly recommended to the mercy of the Court.*" The verdict is recorded and repeated to the Jury who re-affirm it, and then the prisoner Geehan is asked, "Have you anything to say why the sentence of the law should not be passed upon you?" The prisoner desires that a statement made by him to his Counsel may be read, and this is simply a repetition of his defence that the shooting of Sears was accidental and a denial of the truth of the admission previously made by him that after the shooting he had put an end to Sears with a pitch-fork. In answer to a like question put to Johanna Hamilton, her Counsel pleads for respite of execution that she is "quick with child." The Court directs the Sheriff to summon a Jury of Matrons to decide as to the truth of this plea, and then the Chief Justice proceeds to pass upon both the convicts the awful

SENTENCE OF DEATH.

It was a moment of terrible solemnity. In words majestic and impressive the learned Chief Justice addressed the prisoners upon the enormity of their crime and exhorted them earnestly to employ what time would be allowed them in an endeavour to expiate their awful violation of the law of man and of God. As he concluded with the simple and terrible formula of the sentence, a feeling of awe pervaded all present and there were few so "unused to the melting mood" as not to be deeply impressed. The prisoners were then removed, Geehan stolid and protesting innocence, the girl in hysterical bursts of terror and dismay. The Court then adjourned. On the following day a Judy of Matrons having been empanelled brought in a verdict that "the prisoner Johanna Hamilton is with child of a quick child," whereupon the execution was respited until the 20th Nov. next. It is almost certain that the recommendation of the Jury will be attended to and that the sentence of the girl will be commuted. No day has as yet been appointed for Geehan's execution. Such an unhappy means of exit from life as death by process of law is fortunately little known among us. It is now over 30 years since there has been an execution in Newfoundland. God grant that it may be many years before a violated law may demand a victim for its vindication!

Wesleyan Delegates from the Maritime Provinces, at Montreal.

In the Wesleyan Conference sitting at Montreal, on the 6th inst., delegates from the Conference of Eastern British America, appeared.

The open conference, for the reception of delegates and visitors, was held in the Great St. James's Church, and commenced at 7.30 p. m., the President in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Ward introduced the Revs. Messrs. Pickard and D. V. Currie, delegates from the New Brunswick conference. Mr. Punshon very cordially welcomed them. The address of their conference was read, of which the following is an epitome: "Thanks are expressed for the kind address from the Canada Conference and for the deputation lately sent them, by their old frend, Dr. Rice." "The ties that bind us are those of origin." The address recognized the liberality and the growing power of the Canadian Conference. It speaks of numerical and financial prosperity in the Lower Provinces, of the educational interests, of candidates for the ministry, and of the hope of an honorable union with Western Canada. The strong impulse of Methodism is for one Church for the Dominion.

Dr. Pickard, President of the New Brunswick Conference, said a few words, as his co-delegate, who had to leave immediately, should have full time to address the Conference. He spoke of Canada as the elder sister, with whom they desired union, and hoped they would extend from the fishing grounds of New Brunswick to the Provinces washed by the waters of the Pacific.

Duncan D. Currie, Secretary of the New Brunswick Conference, was then introduced by Mr. Punshon. He said he would be "free and easy" in what he said. He spoke fluently and with much interest. In speaking of our country, he complimented Montreal, its river, bridge, &c. He said his own country was very prosperous commercially. He was in favor of Confederation. Before it was accomplished he used to talk about it and recommend it, but his people got opposed to it, and for a time he had to keep quiet. He was thankful for Confederation, and as they had no Fenians in his part of the Dominion they could come up to drive them away from this part should they come again. He repudiated the annexation idea, and said that their delegate to the Brooklyn Methodist Conference was misrepresented when reported in favor of annexation. He said, "We are Canadians" (loud cheers), we are Methodists in general, and Canadians in particular. He urged strongly for union, and spoke in high terms of Dr. Wood, Dr. Rice, Rev. Messrs. Dickson and Starr, who had formerly come from the Lower Provinces to Ontario.

Dr. Green moved and Dr. Wood seconded a handsomely expressed vote of thanks to the delegates from the New Brunswick Conference. The latter took occasion to say that he hoped Providence would keep Mr. Punshon in this country; (great applause.) He did not see how he should think of going to that little country, England. It was a pretty garden but a little one. How could he consent to put up there after roaming the spacious plains of Canada?

☞ Strawberries by the quart or pint. Strawberries and Cream. Prince Edward Island Oysters. Ice Cream, Pastry &c. &c, may be found at Geo. Sparrow's.

Amusements.

The following are stated to be the salaries given at Wallack's theatre: John Brougham is paid $200 a week; Charles Mathews, $500; John Gilbert, "the veteran," $100; J. H. Stoddart, $75: Mr. Polk, $50; Miss Plessy Mordant, $100; Miss Helen Tracy, $60; and Mrs. John Sefton, $75. The nightly expenditure at Wallack's are $700; the receipts average $1,000.

The Boston Jubilee building will contain the largest organ, the largest chime of bells and the largest drum in the world.

Howard Glover, formerly one of the leading critics and musicians of London, has been selected as the chorus master of the New York singers at Gilmore's great international peace jubilee. He filled the same position with credit in the Parepa Rosa English and Italian opera companies.

Owen Fawcett and Harry Crisp will play "Divorce" and "Saratoga" through Canada this summer with a dramatic company.

"Chicago, Before, During, and After the Fire," at the Theatre Comique, New York, is the most attractive performance in that city just now.

E. M. Leslie, and his Boston Comedy Company are playing New in Hampshire. T. H. Burns is with him.

E. A. Sothern plays in New Haven tonight.

Frank Mayo is at the Academy of Music, Chicago.

At the California Theatre, Carlotta Leclercq has made a great impression.

John Wilson is at the California.

Maggie Mitchell commenced an engagement in California June 1st, at a salary of $2,500 a week.

They've had "Buffalo Bill" in Toronto.

John Henry Cooke formerly with Stone & Murray's Circus is now with Lent's New York Circus. His horsemanship is much praised.

Harry Welby Cooke now with Stone & Murray's Circus is a brother of John Henry Cooke, and takes immensely with circus audiences.

Romeo, the oldest and largest elephant in the United States, died at Chicago, June 7th. He was owned by Forepaugh, the circus man, who paid £25,000 for him some years ago. He weighed over 10,000 lbs, and was a hundred years old. Since 1852 he has killed five of his keepers.

The Georgia Minstrels, all colored men, are at Lina Edwin's New York Theatre.

Charles Dillon and Company played "The Fall of Wolsey" at South Shields, England, May 20th.

"Across the Continent" is being played at Leicester, England,

The American minstrels seem to carry all before them in England. Hughey Dougherty has made an immense hit at Moore & Burgess Ministrels, St. James Hall, London.

Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault will play an engagement at Booth's Theatre next season,

Oliver Doud Byron is announced to open the Park Theatre, Brooklyn, next week, with "Humpty Dumpty."

George Francis Train lectured in New York, Sunday last.

The New Orleans Minstrels, Sheridan Gorton, agent, left for Nova Scotia in the "Empress" this morning.

Major Bishop's Company perform in Moncton to-night.

A. W. Purcell's Company at Halifax has met with great success this season. During Marietta Ravel's engagement the theatre was crowded every night. The Halifax *Reporter* of the 8th inst says:

Mm'lle. Ravel took a benefit at the Theatre last night, and we have seldom seen it so crowded as it was,—a fact that speaks well for the popularity of this talented artiste. A fine opportunity is afforded Mm'lle Ravel for the display of those extraordinary talents for which she has become so celebrated. Mm'lle. Ravel's lightning Zouave Drill was executed by her last night with a skill that was truly remarkable, and with a grace and activity that an adept in the manual of arms might well have envied. Her grand Spanish dance and pantomime in the three last Acts were magnificent, and elicited round after round of applause. At the close of the piece she was called before the curtain.

LOCALS.

Rev. D. D. Currie
will preach in the Union street Congregational Church to-morow (Sabbath) at 11 a. m.

Large Advance in Salt.
Late advices from Liverpool announce that ten shillings and six pence per ton is demanded for salt. This is a considerable rise, being three shillings over and above prices of last week.

Teachers Salaries.
The Teachers of the Free Schools will be pleased to learn that their long expected Government allowance will be here the early part of next week.

Auction Sales.
Mr. George Stewart sold at auction at Chubb's Corner, at noon to-day, £500 of Corporation Debentures. Beverley Robinson, Esq., was the purchaser at one per cent. over par.

John W. Cudlip, Esq., also offered for sale, at the same time and place, the Clerk Farm in Carleton, near the suspension Bridge. The highest bid being $10,500, the property was withdrawn.

Shipping Notes.
The ship "Augusta" of Newburyport, sailed from Bombay for Liverpool on the 27th April with a cargo valued at $600,000 gold.

The bark "Napoleon," after an absence of four years and eleven months has arived at New Bedford with 1,620 barrels of sperm oil, 1,100 barrels whale oil, and 4,500 lbs. whale bone—a valuable cargo.

The bark "Sarah" arrived at Boston on the 10th inst., with one of the largest cargoes of wool ever imported into that place. 3,386 bales. The cargo is from New Zealand.

Personal.
The Halifax papers say:—

His Grace the Archbishop of Halifax returned in the *Carlotta* this morning, from his recent visit to St. Catherines.

— Mr. Albert Pilsbury, a well known American gentleman, who has resided in this city for many years, and formerly was United States Consul, died yesterday afternoon after a short illness of two days.

The Ballast Wharf Railway Extension.
The survey of the Ballast Wharf and that part of Lower Cove south of Britain street and west of Charlotte street, for the Railway authorities, by Mr. Wm. Murdoch, has been completed. To day he was engaged taking soundings along the harbor line, where it is proposed to build the wharf for the deep water terminus.

Steamers.
The "Lady Josyan" arrived in the harbor this morning from Liverpool via Halifax, between 9 and 10 o'clock, and lays anchored in the stream. At high water she will be brought alongside the Anchor Line wharf, when she will commence immediately to discharge. After disposing of her inward freight, she will take in a cargo of deals for Liverpool. The "Edith Emily" is the next steamer for Halifax and this port.

Sidewalks.
The plank sidewalk on the West side of Germain street, from the corner of Princess street, in front of the residence of Dr. Hatheway, is in a very dilapidated condition, the planks being loose and away from the fronts of the buildings about two feet, leaving nice little traps for unwary pedestrians on a dark evening. The unlucky individuals who chance to step on the outer ends suddenly find themselves going down and the planks flying up. This state of affairs should be remedied as early as possible.

The "Freeman,"
this morning, quotes with great glee the declaration of *La Minerve* of Montreal that New Brunswick shall not receive "Better Terms" until she consents to establish and maintain from the public treasury a system of Roman Catholic Schools. Do Mr. Anglin and his *Freeman* represent the Province of New Brunswick or the French Province of Quebec? If the latter, they will do well to inform their French allies that New Brunswick does not propose to sell her constitutional rights, the very essence of her liberties, for dollars and cents. She will *not* maintain Denominational Schools, and she *will* have Better Terms. The French may rely on that. They make a mistake in supposing they can rule the Dominion, and the sooner they lower their tone the better for themselves and their New Brunswick co-workers.

The Spring Hill Coal Mining Property
is attracting a good deal of attention in Halifax and St. John. We notice that a delegation from this City, comprising Messrs. R. P. Starr, Noris Best, D. G. Smith, of the *Telegraph*, G. F. Matthew, geologist, H. L. Sturdee, and Nathan Smart, accompanied Mr. E. N. Sharp, the Company's representative in this City, to the Mine this week and made a special examination of the property. They returned strongly impressed with the value of the Mine and its ability to supply the markets of the Atlantic coast with a superior quality of coal, which appears to be deposited in the property in an almost inexhaustible quantity. The *Telegraph* of to-day has a full report of the "pilgrimage" and the lay of the land.

The Halifax "Citizen"
at the close of an article, in which it belabors Hon. Dr. Tupper savagely, finally demolishes him in a closing sentence, as follows:—"We can picture him to ourselves years hence when he has been effectually sobered by political disappointment, and has been brought to see the wickedness of his past life, returning to one of his youthful prodilections, and employing his spare moments distributing tracts among the mining cottages of Spring Hill, as in his student days he did among the poor of Edinburgh." This does not seem to be such a very hard fate, after all.

Messrs. Scammell Bros. Circular
of to-day reports much firmness in Deal Freights; American ships are finding more profitable business at home and do not evince any disposition to carry deals, unless at extremely high rates,—a fact which tends to stiffen prices here, and the market closes firm at their quotations. They hear of no engagements in South American freights. West India freights remain very quiet, the only engagement for the fortnight being brigt. "Isabel" for Matanzas or Cardonas at $11. Coastwise freights are active and small vessels in demand.

The following are the quotations ruling to-day:—

Liverpool, 73s. 9d. to 75s. 0d; London, 60s., nominal; Clyde, 65s. 0d.; Bristol Channel, large size, 67s. 6d. to 68s. 9d., small ditto, 70s. to 72s. 6d.; Ireland, East Coast, 75s. 0d. to 80s., according to size and destination; Ireland, West Coast, handy sizes, 80s. to 85s. River La Plate, nominal; North side Cuba, $11.00 to $13.00; South side, nominal, $12.00; Windward Islands, $8.00, nominal; Boston, $3.75; Providence, $4.25; New York, $0.90, laths, $4 50 lumber; Philadelphia, 90c. laths, $4.50 lumber.

The clearances to Cuba for the fortnight were four vessels 1,000,941 sup. ft. lumber.

The Boat Race.
The steamer "Lady Josyan" which arrived yesterday from Liverpool, G. B. brought another boat for George Brown, built by Searle, of London. Brown has now three boats from the workshops of three of the best builders in the world, viz: Searle of London, Jewett, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Elliot, of Greenpoint, New York. He will take practice in all of them at his training place near the Four Mile House, and then decide which one he will select for his race with Fulton.—[Halifax Reporter.

The British American Presbyterian,
a weekly, published in Toronto, continues to be conducted in a style that can not fail to gratify all Presbyterian readers. Its St. John Correspondent's letters are full of facts and valuable suggestions. The initial "H." and the practical character of the St. John correspondence lead us to suppose that Rev. Mr. Houston has something to do with it. "H" places the School controversy in its proper light before the readers of the *Presbyterian* in the Upper Provinces.

Messrs. Dickson & Bowser, Sackville,
N. B., who lately made an assignment of their stock-in-trade, have advertised that 33⅓ per cent., is now payable to creditors. We learn that the concern will prove entirely solvent, and that a second payment of 33⅓ per cent. will be made within another month.—[Exchange.

Anglin vs. Costigan.
Mr. Anglin, M. P., appears to have "gone for" Mr. Costigan, M. P., the other day in the Public Accounts Committee. They are brother Irishmen, the only two in the Commons from New Brunswick, and they ought to pull better together. The Inter-Colonial Railway Contract of the Connors, of Gloucester County, was under discussion, and Mr. Anglin was anxious to discover why their tender was accepted in preference to the tenders of other parties who named precisely the same amount. He thought there must be a reason for it. By his persistent probing, the fact was developed that Mr. Costigan, M. P., had applied to the Commissioners on behalf of the Connors, and Mr. Mr. Anglin declared he was satisfied that if he had time he would be able to produce affidavits to prove that this contract was really in the interests of three members of the House of Commons,—meaning Costigan, Renaud and a French member from Quebec. The Chairman of the Commissioners seemed to corroborate Mr. Anglin's statement, for he stated that "in reference to a contract "on one of these sections, a member of the "House of Commons had been acting on a "power of attorney from one of the con-"tractors, and endorsing the checks to one "of the contractors in payment of ties de-"livered. Some of the checks had come "back to the contractors thus endorsed." Mr. Costigan, M. P., is the gentleman indicated.

The Theatre.
"Ben McCullough" was played again last night. It is without doubt the most popular play of the season since it drew the largest audience. Mr. Byron must feel proud of his success, as St. John is the first city on the Atlantic coast where "Ben McCullough" has been put on the boards. Since it has met the approval of the critics of this city, other cities will anxiously wait for its production. Full of variety, introducing representatives of all nations, and selections of popular music, etc., it is withdrawn in the full tide of its success. The "Lancashire Lass" will be played to-night.

Stone & Murray's Circus.
Before the performance commenced last evening the tent was jammed, packed to its utmost capacity right up to the ring ropes, and the doors were closed in the face of many who were turned away. The performance in every respect was superior The feats of horsemanship, the bare back riding, the female equestrianism, athletic feats and vaulting were superior. Another performance is given at half past two, and one at half past seven this evening, which closes the series in this City.

The Company will leave on Monday for Nova Scotia, and will entertain the natives of Annapolis, Kentville and Halifax in turn. They will return here on the 29th and give one more entertainment, when, we hope, they will not be so chary of their passes to the Newspaper offices.

Dolly Varden.
The number of airs in the "Dolly Varden Quadrilles" is as varied and fanciful as the grotesque patterns in the Dolly Varden suits. They comprise: "Begone, dull care;" "Oh, dear, what can the matter be;" "Why are you wand'ring;" "Once I loved a maiden;" "Come lasses and lads;" "'Twas in the merry month of May;" "Old King Cole;" "Cherry Ripe," and five other pretty tunes. It is for sale by E. Peiler & Bro., Prince Wm. street.

The Methodist Camp Meeting.
Preparations are being made for this monster gathering. A communication to the Kentville *Star* says:—On Saturday, June 1st, a large number of the inhabitants of Berwick, Haborville, Grafton, Prospect, &c., with Rev. John Prince at their head, repaired to the site selected for the Camp Meeting near the Berwick Station. About twenty-five strong men, famous for lifting up the axe upon the thick tree, soon cleared about an acre; a speaker's stand and other necessary work was also accomplished.

Lobster Fishing at Cape Sable Island, Shelburne County.
Labster packing is quite a business in Shelburne county. A correspondent writes us as follows:—"The Portland Baking Company of Maine have a large and prosperous branch of their business on the West Head of this Island, near Clark's Harbor. It is only one of the eight establishments in operation in different localities belonging to this company, the general warerooms being at Portland, Maine. Messrs. Johnson & Oates are managers at Cape Island. Mr. Johnson receives and counts the lobsters, and pays all demands against the shop. Mr. Oates has under his supervision the canning process. They have delivered to them by catchers from eight to ten thousands lobsters per day, for which they pay one dollar per hundred. They put up from three thousand to three thousand five hundred cans per day, employing in all one hundred and forty hands. The main building in which the work is performed is 110x40 feet, two stories in height, new and systematicall arranged for the work. There is a railroad in the building (and I am not certain, but there is telegraphic communication) together with the indications of American style and push or rush. The process is quite similar to the description given of Mr. Shand's Factory. With this palpable difference, experience and capital are more liberally shown and used. This branch expends in one season's operations about thirty thousand dollars, most or nearly all of which is left among the Provincialists. This, in connection with Mr. Shand's Factory, some ten or twelve miles distant, but in the same County, must certainly be to the inhabitants an inestimable source of livelihood, which a very few years back was nearly the same as worthless, and from which they seldom realized a dollar, but from which they now count dollars by the thousands.

Professor Selwyn,
Director of the Canada Geological Survey, arrived in the City on Thursday evening and left on Friday morning by train for the Londonderry Iron Mines, N. S It is reported that Sir Hugh Allan and other capitalists are contemplating investing largely in these Mines, and it is supposed that Prof. Selwyn's mission has some connection with this financial movement.