

POST OFFICE,
MONTREAL.

WE, this week, present to our readers a view of the building in which Her Majesty's mails are assorted in the commercial Metropolis of Canada. This city contains some of the finest buildings in British America. The Post Office is situated at the corner of Great St. James Street, and Rue St. Francois Xavier. It is a fine stone building. Part of the Cathedral of Notre Dame is shown in the engraving.

**ELEVEN REBEL-
LIONS.**—Since the organization of the federal government eleven attempts have been made to resist its authority. The first was 1782—a conspiracy of some of the officers of the federal army to consolidate the thirteen States into one, and confer the supreme power on

Washington. The second in 1787, Shay's insurrection in Massachusetts. The third in 1794, called the whiskey insurrection of Pennsylvania. The fourth in 1814, by the Hartford Convention. The fifth in 1820, on the question of the admission of Missouri into the Union.—The sixth was a collision between the Legislature of Georgia and the Federal Government, in regard to the lands given to the Creek Indians. The seventh was in 1830, with Cherokees in Georgia.—The eighth was the memorable nullifying ordinance of South Carolina, 1832. The ninth was in 1842, in Rhode Island, between the Suffrage association and the State authorities. The tenth was in 1856, on the part of the Mormons, who resisted the federal authorities. The eleventh is the present attempt at secession.

WONDERFUL DISCOVERIES IN THE SUN.—Great attention has been directed for several years past to the solar orb, for the purpose of acquiring some positive information respecting its real constitution,—whether it is, as some have supposed, a huge incandescent sphere, or an opaque body enveloped in an ocean of electric flame. Many scientific expeditions have been fitted out at great expense to make observations during the period of a solar eclipse, but these have done little, if anything, to extend the domain of scientific knowledge. At last, however, and that very recently, we have two new discoveries in this direction, which afford us something apparently reliable respecting the composition of the sun's atmosphere, and the nature of bodies near its surface. The first is the result of the combined chemical and optical experiments of Professors Bunsen and Kirchoff, of Germany, which consists in determining the composition of substances by the color of the flame produced by them when ignited, and by certain lines observable in the flame when examined by a peculiar instrument called the spectroscope. Prof. Kirchoff applied this instrument in making observations on the color and other phenomena of the sun's atmosphere. The results of his labors have lately been given to the public. He asserts that it has an incandescent gaseous atmosphere surrounding a solid nucleus, which has a higher temperature than its atmosphere. He states that he has detected the spectra

peculiar to iron chromium, and nickel in the solar rays. The conclusion at which he arrives, based upon these discoveries, is that the sun is a large sphere composed of the same elements as our globe, and that it is in a state of ignition—a ball of fire. The other discovery to which we have alluded is that of Mr. Jas. Nasmyth, (inventor of the steam hammer), a Scotchman, of Patrierost, who is an astronomer as well as a most skillful mechanic. He recently read a paper before the Manchester (England) Philosophical Society, containing his observations on the sun in which he stated that the surface of the orb was composed of objects shaped like a willow leaf, that they average 1,000 miles in length and 100 in breadth, and crossed one another in all directions, forming a net work, through the interstices of which the dark shades are observed, which gives the surface of the sun that mottled appearance familiar to observers. These willow shaped bands appear luminous stretching over and around a dark object under them which forms the body of the sun. Mr. Nasmyth has not expressed an opinion respecting the nature and functions of these peculiarly shaped objects. He intends to pursue his investigations at further length before he hazards an explanation.

STRANGE CURES.—Dr. Telephe Desmarts of Bordeaux has for some months past been making use of a most extraordinary medical remedy for the cure of certain diseases, which cannot fail to excite astonishment among those who hear of it for the first time. Some account of it has been published at Bordeaux in a pamphlet entitled 'Systeme d'Inoculations curatives,' from which we take a few particulars. That one disease may be cured or prevented by inoculation with the virus of another, is, as thousands of persons know, not a new idea; but there is novelty in the suggestion that painful maladies may be cured by causing insects to sting the part affected. This is the practice which Dr. Desmarts has been applying, and which he desires to extend, and as his experiments have been carried on for fifteen years, he does not speak without experience. They have been tried on plants as well as animals, and with similar results. He observed that plants inoculated with the virus of syphilis produced small cryptog-

amia on different parts of their surface, and that a second inoculation, not with another animal poison, cleared the plants of these parasitic growths, and of the insects or animalcules which they had attracted. It has long been a medical tradition that leprosy is curable by the poison of certain serpents, and it is well known that poisonous drugs are administered in medicine, as powerful alternatives in certain diseases. Mr. Humboldt, nephew of the late illustrious German, in his practice at Havana, has ascertained that the poison of the scorpion tribe is a remedy for yellow fever. He inoculated 2,478 men of the military and naval garrison; 676 afterwards caught the fever, of whom not more than 16 died.

A distinguished Frenchman, M. de Gasparin, having heard of the facts cited by Dr. Desmarts, communicated to him a fact in his own experience. He had long been afflicted with a rheumatism, which kept him almost constantly infirm. One day, in picking up a handful of weeds in his garden, he was stung by a wasp on the wrist. The arm swelled; but the rheumatic pain disappeared. Seeing this result, he caused himself to be stung the next day along the seat of pain in his leg, and was again delivered from suffering, and was able to walk with ease. This happened three years ago, and every subsequent reappearance of the malady has been cured by similar means; and by a wasp sting on his neck an attack of bronchitis was overcome. Among other instances mentioned by Dr. Desmarts, we notice a hopeless case of cholera in a man, and epileptiform disease in a child, both cured by the sting of a scorpion; and it appears that lachrymal fistula, and some other diseases of the eye, are curable by the sting of a wasp or bee.

These are curious facts. Their value will perhaps appear on further discussion. Dead insects and live leeches have long figured in pharmacy; but it will be something new to have to buy living hymenoptera, hemiptera, or aptera, in which orders stinging insects are found, to use as medicinal remedies. Yet after all, there may be nothing new in it; for, as M. de Gasparin remarks, are we not told that Mucianus, an important commander under Vespasian, used to carry

about with him, enveloped in white cloth, a certain insect to cure him of the eye disease, to which he was subject in Chambers.

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION.—At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on Monday, a letter from Dr. Livingstone was read. It stated that at Mount Zomba there were two tribes which were exceedingly warlike and destructive. There was a party of those people, who, elated with continued success, finding they were before a small number of about twenty, commenced shooting their poisoned arrows, when a resort to fire-arms was necessary. None, however, were struck by the fire-arms. Fortunately, none were hit by the arrows, as they were handled by native Portu-

gese slaves. On approaching Lake Nyass they found elephants and hippotami, which were very tame; and in that locality they fell in with a number of natives, who wished the English to sit in the sun while they remained in the shade. This was not acceded to, when they rattled their shields, and being frightened at the production of a note-book, which they thought a pistol, they became alarmed and sped away. Reference was made to a thick atmospheric-like smoke, which was composed of insects, which the natives collected and made into a kind of cake, tasting like roasted locusts, but fishy. Alluding to the cotton districts, which were most prolific, together with the lakes and cataracts, the letter concluded with a notice of the most extensive slave traffic, which was carried on to the westward.

SHERIDAN.—Just about the time that Mr. Sheridan took his house in Saville-row, he happened to meet lord Guilford in the street, to whom he mentioned his change of residence, and also stated a change in his habits.—'Now, my dear lord,' said Sheridan, 'every thing is carried on in my house with the greatest regularity—every thing, in short, goes like clockwork.'—'Ah,' replied lord Guilford, 'tick, tick, tick, I suppose.'

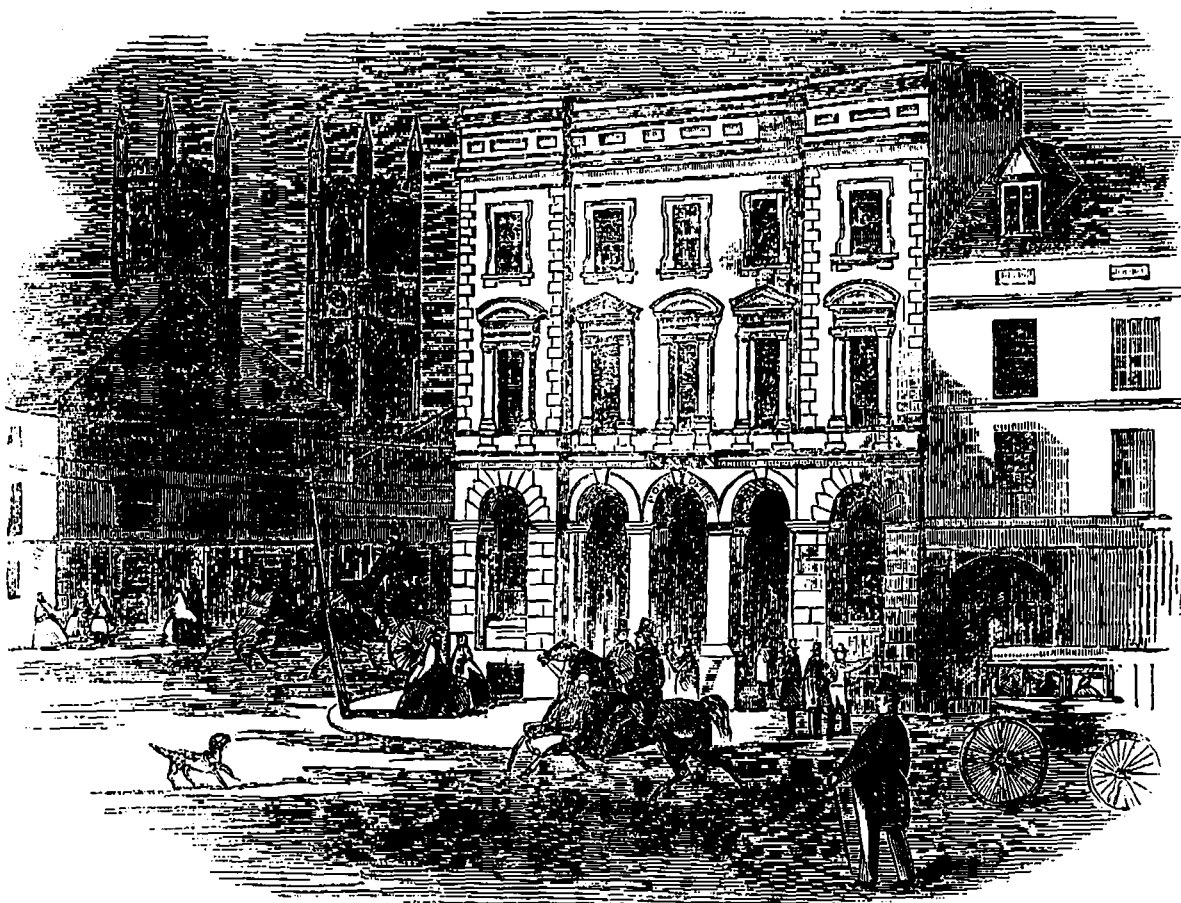
COURTLY RHYMES.—When Queen Elizabeth visited Folkestone, the inhabitants voted a loyal and patriotic address; which, to pay a higher compliment to the Virgin Queen, they employed the parish clerk to versify. The time for the reception of the epic being appointed, the monarch took her seat upon the throne, and the worshipful mayor of Folkestone being introduced, he with great dignity mounted a three legged stool, and commenced his poetical proemium thus:

O mighty Queene!
Welcome to Folkestene!

Elizabeth burst into a roar of laughter, and without allowing his worship time to recover himself, she replied—

You great fool!
Get off that stool!

The warmest manner in which ne Brazilian can introduce another to a family is:—'This is my friend, if he steals anything I am accountable for it.'



THE POST OFFICE AT MONTREAL.