BUSINESS NOTICE.

We wish to secure good CLUB AGENTS at every Post Office in Canada. Will our friends be kind enough to send in to us the names and addresses of any they think would be suited for this work—by so doing they will aid greatly. When in Toronto we would be pleased to see you at our office, and receive any suggestions or information you may have to impart.

The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1877.

THE AMNESTY.

The Elora *Express*, which is said to speak for Mr. CHARLES CLARKE, M.P.P., and which is as orthodox an organ as any in the Ministerial party, is not at all pleased with the O'DONOGHUE amnesty. It says:

"The O'Donoghue amnesty is not a thing of which Reformers have reason to be proud. But a few months have elapsed since leaders of the party declared it improper and impossible, and the present Minister of Justice denounced it in the strong terms with which he is accustomed to condemn that of which he disapproves. To-day we see the Cabinet undoing what was but such a short time ago pronounced impracticable and impolitic, and the organs of the party openly applauding what was fiercely inveighed against last session. There is little wonder that Conservatives chuckle over this sudden somersault, and declare that party exigencies have prompted it. It may be that the change of policy is defensible on grounds of justice, but we confess that we cannot discern them. The interests of State may have demanded the surrender of an apparatently inexpiable position, but it is difficult for ordinary vision to see them."

There is another phase of this matter, however, which the *Express* overlooks, to wit, the entire abrogation of the principle of parliamentary control involved in the Government granting that which Parliament refused to demand. But possibly the *Express* has grown weary of bemoaning violations of old-time principles on the part of its friends.

A KNOTTY QUESTION.

Peccant nate nos—freely translated by Lord Byron, "The deuce take those who anticipate our ideas!" It is still an occasional subject of debate in select smoking circles whether Zach Chandler, when raising the wind at Washington in 1876, daringly plagiarised from Mr. Brown's Big-Push epistle in 1872, or whether he was only in Mr. *Puff's* amoying position of tumbling upon ideas and phraseology "somebody had hit upon before." A few citations illustrating the leading cardinal principles, and peculiar *façons de parler* employed by these respective purists may assist the members of any debating society which may address itself to the solution of what some people think will ever remain a knotty question in the ethics of standard elevation:—

G. B.	C.
"They are driving us hard."	"It is hard work."
"I can't understand where they get all the money from."	"The Government candidates have enormous money from."[illegible]
"We have done the best we can."	"We have expended our strength."
"We want to hold Ohio and Indiana in the worst way."	"A big push has to be made in the East and West Divisions."
"We are pretty bare just now."	"We have to apply to outsiders."
"We've turned our pockets into those two States."	"We have come down handsomely."
"Send along your draft."	"Will you be one?"
"I want to make up a parcel for Ohio day after to-morrow."	"We make our grand stand on Saturday."
"We've got to fight the Devil with his own weapons."	"We could carry all the Divisions easily but for the cash against us."
"Don't talk to anybody."	"Private and confidential."
"The thing is working well."	"Things look well over the Province."
"We'll beat them sure."	"We'll beat them hollow."

On the whole, in an action for infringement of moral copyright, we are disposed to think our Big Push would be able to make out a fair case for damages.

THE REFORM PLATFORM.

FROM time to time of late the Reform papers have contained brief local paragraphs like the following:

"An enthusiastic convention of the leading Reformers of this county was held at Brown's Corners on Thursday. Mr. Patullo, Secretary of the Reform Association, was present and delivered an inspiriting address. There was great enthusiasm. A series of resolutions was passed and the meeting dispersed, every one present being highly delighted."

We have never been able to get hold of an authorized copy of these resolutions which Mr. PATTULLO, the party organizer, presents for the approval of each of these conventions, but have reason to believe they read somewhat as follows:

(1.) That we view with disgust the increasing popularity of Sir John Macdonald (whose prestige is of course utterly gone), and pledge ourselves to carry out Mr. Cartwright's advice, and endeavour to induce the people in our respective neighbourhoods to "send the Tory leader from their hearts."

(2.) That we hereby pledge ourselves to continue to yield unqualified obedience to Hon. George Brown, to whose life-long efforts in pulling down Toryism the country stands indebted, not only for the civil and religious liberty it enjoys, but for the purity that now happily prevails at elections.

(3.) That we view with alarm the establishment of the Protection heresy in the United States, Germany, Austria, France, Russia, Spain, and even Great Britain, and pledge ourselves to uphold until the end of time the doctrines of Smith and Cobden, which are fast making this "a cheap country to live in."

(4.) That while we cannot say that we favour Coalitions, Jobbery, Extravagance, or Violations of the Independence of Parliament Act, we are of opinion that our views on those questions have been considerably modified of late, and are liable to be still more so.

(5.) That our attitude with respect to his Holiness the Pope of Rome depends largely upon the drift of the Catholic vote. We are prepared either to ride the Protestant horse, as of old, or to keep on promising the Irish Catholic people a fair representation in the Government, in Parliament, and in the public service; but these are matters coming more directly within the prerogative of the *Globe* office.

(6.) That we shall ever continue to regard with unspeakable horror the Family Compact, the Double Shuffle, the Burning of the Parliament House, and the Pacific Scandal, and are prepared at the coming election to appeal to the enlightened and progressive people of this county on those vital issues.

(7.) That we consider the Protection agitation a wretched Tory trick for drawing public attention away from those important public questions.

(8.) That we agree to accept as our candidate for this riding, should the Party leaders in Toronto recommend him to our consideration, Mr. James David Edgar.

(9.) That when this Convention adjourns, the members here present disperse to their respective homes and use all due diligence in putting down the Hessian fly, that pestiferous insect which by attacking the welfare of our agricultural population, threatens to shorten the tenure of office of the great Reform Party.

We are assured that if this version of Mr. PATTULLO's resolutions is not literally accurate, at all events it embodies the spirit of the originals.

WHAT FOUR YEARS HAVE SHOWN.

FOUR years ago this morning our King street contemporary congratulated the people of Canada that they had "at last the happiness of living under a Government pledged to a pure administration and under a Party that has never struggled for purity in public affairs." Thousands believed in the Party's purity and the Government's purity at that time, but what an experience the country has had since then! Let us take "a gentle retrospect," as old Sam Johnson used to say to BOSWELL when the year was on its death-bed.

Great as to the general corruption of the Party itself, that is proven beyond all quibble or plea of extenuation by the number of Liberal members convicted and punished for corrupt practices:

DOMINION.

Shibley,	Cushing,	
Geddes,	Trembley,	
Mackay,	Macdonald (Cornwall),	
McGregor,	McNab,	
Gibson,	Wood,	
Irving,	Cameron (S. Huron),	
Norris,	Walker,	
Devlin,	Mackenzie (Montreal),	
Coupal,	Stuart,	
Bigger,	Kerr,	
Murray,	Macdougall (S. Renf'w)	
Aylmer,	Cook,	
Wilkes,	O'Donohue,	
Prevost,	McLennan,	
Higginbotham,	Dymond,	

LOCAL.

Barber,	Neelon,	
Haney,	Paxton,	
Striker,	Currie,	
Ferris,	Smith (Victoria),	
Miller,	Chisholm,	
	Oliver.	

Secondly, as to the wholesale corruption of the electors by the Party. Mr. WORKMAN, chairman said in his evidence in the *Herald*—WORKMAN suit that "when he went into an election he "went in to win, and didn't care a d—n "if it cost $20,000." That was all alike, i.e. all who possess the means. Hon. JOHN SIMPSON urged an elector on polling day in one of Mr. BLAKE's contests in West Durham to "never mind the "poll, but go in and buy all the votes he "could." The same worthy Liberal "mesmerized them in batches of fifteen "and sixteen, and turned a hundred "that night at Gates'." Mr. H. H. COOK admitted he spent $28,000 in two elections in North Simcoe, but in the third, the 1874 contest, he did not spend as much, because "he thought he "would have the sympathy of the people "in consequence of his previous expenditures, and because his opponent had "to carry the Pacific Scandal." Mr. M. C. CAMERON, of Huron, spent $14,000, according to his own testimony, in one contest there, and Major WALKER spent $20,000 in London. Poor old MALCOLM CAMERON in his last harangue importuned the Party to recoup him for the money he had spent in the Party's behalf in buying up an Ottawa newspaper; for the $6,000 he had spent in contesting Russell, the said $6,000 "having had a robed office in subsequently securing that constituency to "the Reformers;" and for the "time "and money he spent in carrying South Ontario in 1874. It cost Mr. LAPLAMME's friends $25,000 to carry Jacques Cartier, and a mint was used for other days in Quebec East.

Thirdly, as to the hypocrisy of the corruption of the Party. MAGIVER's appeal to a hardy fellow-Liberal was the sum and essence of this hypocrisy of corruption—"Come along, JOHN, come "and help us put down bribery and "corruption; we've lots of money, so "come along." So, too, Mr. NORRIS' admission that he had made a bribery expenditure of $11,000 in his ledgers under the head "Missionary Expenses." It is well exemplified, too, in Mr. W. ROSS' wretched statement that he "placed "with his committee a certain amount "of money to relieve honest, worthy "men." But above all his humble followers, Mr. BROWN stands forth the best representative of the hypocrisy of corruption. In 1867, while he was courting South Ontario, he made the country ring with his denunciations of bribery. Yet, at that very time, he was secretly and surreptitiously paying the excellent Dr. MCGILL to contribute to a bribery fund. The doctor says: "Early in the canvass "I refused to contribute a sum demanded "by him to a fund which I had reason "to believe was being used for corrupt "purposes." Again, in 1872, while he was denouncing bribery and corruption, and calling the gods to witness that he and his friends were clean-handed, he wrote the famous Big Push letter to Senator SIMPSON, asking him to "come down handsomely," and telling him that the Party had exhausted itself in "coming down."

Lastly, the connivance of Reform leaders with this corruption and hypocrisy. Senator SIMPSON says in January, 1874, the Finance Minister hargained for his bank's support, and the bargain was made and consummated. The "mesmeric" seance at Mr. GATES's was one of the worthy Senator's efforts resulting from that bargain; and he was equally diligent in "turning "them" and "mesmerizing them in "batches" in East and West Durham, North Ontario, and South Victoria. The Government paid him in public deposits as promised. It was an out-and-out case of general and wholesale corruption, and of the hypocrisy of corruption, too, for the Government had just gained office by making the people believe they were pure. Take Mr. FRASER's letter: "I told MACKENZIE I would not support "his Government unless he gave me "enough rails to build the Central "railway. I have Mr. MACKENZIE's "letter promising me the rails." Or look at the members subsidized by the Government from the Speaker downward—these are proofs that it is not alone the rank and file of the Party that is corrupt. The Dominion Government even rewards the corrupt. Mr. FRASER, reported for corrupt practices in Mr. KIRK's election in Northumberland, has been appointed to a position worth $3,000 a year in the Receiver-General's office in this city. Proton NIXON has control literally of millions in connection with the Pacific railway and Indian matters in the North-West. Dr. HAGARTY, reported for corrupt practices in the WALKER election in London, is now Chairman of Board of Customs. The Local Government also encourages corruption by rewarding corruptionists. Mr. CAMERON, of Huron, has had the Crown business ever since it was shown in Court that he was a thorough-paced briber. Mr. HOWLAND, reported for bribery in London, is Licence Inspector there, and other notorious corruptionists have been appointed to similar offices elsewhere.

In brief the Party, which "has ever "struggled for purity in public affairs," has been effectually exposed. From Mr. BROWN downward, past Mr. MACKENZIE, past Senator SIMPSON and Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. W. ROSS, past the ex-Speaker of the Commons and the five-and-twenty members subsidized with him, past the forty other members unseated for corruption, past the veteran bribers like NIXON and HAGGARTY who have gone to their reward, down to humble JOHN MAGIVER, its pretensions as the Party of Purity are now appreciated at their true value.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

CHARGES having been made against the officials in the Bureau of Statistics at Washington, a committee of enquiry was appointed some time ago. That committee has reported, and among other things alleges:

"That Edward Young, chief of the Bureau, has been improperly interested with Brown, Canadian Commissioner, in preparing tables to aid said Brown in negotiating a reciprocity treaty, and that some of the clerks in the Bureau also aided him in the work; that Young, though at first opposed to a reciprocity treaty, subsequently changed after this transaction and favoured it; that numerous labour and immigration reports were issued from the Bureau without authority; that two earloads of books were taken from the Congressional Library to the Bureau, and the historical record of the labour reports was taken largely therefrom, and appears as original matter in said reports."

Mr. BROWN indignantly denies the truth of this report, and threatens to enter criminal actions for libel against all and sundry who shall dare to publish it. Mr. BROWN's denial is of course satisfactory as far as it goes, but it is absurd for him to talk of bringing criminal actions for libel against anybody in this country. Let him attack the Investigating Committee at Washington or sue the Secretary of the Treasury who has published the report in an official blue-book, but don't let him bluster and threaten people here with his vengeance. If, however, he is spoiling for a suit, let him try his hand on the *Pall Mall Gazette*, which appears to have obtained the report even before the American papers, a copy of it appearing in that journal's issue of the 29th ult. If Mr. BROWN wishes to bring himself before the British people, there's his chance; but let us hear no more idle threats from an old journalist who should know better than to attempt to browbeat the press of this country for publishing the finding of a tribunal that could have had no object in linking his name with a "big push," had it not been convinced by good evidence that he was fairly instrumental.

It may be added that last session, on the appearance in the Public Accounts of a refund item of $6,000 "from Hon. GEORGE BROWN on account of expenses at Washington," the Premier explained that when Sir EDWARD THORNTON and Mr. BROWN were appointed Reciprocity Commissioners in 1874, the sum of $10,000 was placed at their disposal by the Canadian Government, and the refund item in question represented the unexpended balance of that amount. It appears Mr. MACKENZIE also said that Mr. BROWN had not been paid for his personal expenses, the Home and Foreign Expenditure what had been done with the $4,940.

A MARE'S NEST.

How grateful the people of Simcoe should be to Mr. HERMAN COOK! He has saved them from a robed office in subsidizing a country that constituency to "the Reformers;" and for the "time "and money" he spent in carrying South Ontario in 1874. It cost Mr. LAPLAMME's friends $25,000 to carry Jacques Cartier, and a mint was used for other days in Quebec East.

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noticed that the Americans were obtaining a large footing in our toy market. This year the importers of toys are afraid to go to the German and English markets as extensively as heretofore, in face of the American competition. What with distance and breakage, laying down German toys here costs from 100 to 150 per cent. on their original value, and the cost of laying down English toys is nearly the same. But the American manufacturer can put his toys in King street at a cost of some 25 per cent., including duty. Save, therefore, in that class of toys which are due to incommunicable German or English taste, the Americans must monopolize the toy market; that is to say, in regard to those toys which are peculiarly the product of our time they can defy competition from abroad.

"THE ELOPEMENT MANIA."

LORD BYRON—no mean authority on such matters—tells us, "who loves, raves," and the context shows that he does not merely mean that the lover indulges in talk, poetic high falutin, makes sonnets to his mistress's eyebrow, and swears, like the hero of TENNYSON's *Maud*, that roses break and bloom wheresoever the tiny foot of AMANDA treads. No: the poet evidently meant that love is madness. It is an interesting madness, with which we are charmed and over which we sometimes weep, when it plays with young lives such as those of ROMEO and JULIET. There is poetry about it then; it is the purple tint of the morning of the heart; the day star of imminent maturity; we know that the clear light of sober day is at hand; we look with certainty for the useful, and practical, and sage manhood and womanhood which shall follow. But HAMLET's mother, with a grown-up son, already a ripe philosopher, falling in love presents no elements of poetry, and PELHAM's mother, full of years, in the hurry of her elopement, turning back to carry with her her favourite bric-a-brac, is, as she was meant to be, a ludicrous figure, and only wholly disgusting because indirectus. The heading to this article, which is one which was used a few days ago by a reporter to usher in a column of news, calls up nearly as appalling a vision, "The Elopement Mania!" Suppose for one moment that such a mania were to spread through the community; conceive a state of society in which elopement was epidemic! The few who kept their heads would stand morning and amazed in the midst of social chaos and universal defiance of the decalogue.

"Mania" was, however, hardly too strong a word to describe a set of facts which is sufficiently serious to excite painful surprise and call for grave remark. While a trial was going forward at our sessions here, one feature of which was a runaway wife appearing as witness for the prisoner whom her husband prosecuted, a romantic grocer at St. Thomas, who was very much in love and in—debt, decamped with, to use the language of the local paper, "a simple-minded woman, the wife of a respectable minister of the Gospel." An intimacy sprung up in the summer between CLARK and the wife of the Rev. W. P. TOMPKINS, the Baptist minister at New Sarum, about six miles from St. Thomas. The Rev. Mr. TOMPKINS was induced by his wife to remove to St. Thomas. When a few weeks ago he was placed over the church at Alvinston on behalf of his wife, he found his wife remaining behind on the pretence of visiting some friends, went to Detroit, where she met the absconding CLARK. The latest account is that Mrs. TOMPKINS has returned to her husband. At Port Burwell, again, a farmer, a married man, bearing the unromantic name of JOHN SMITH, ran off with a Mrs. BARBER, the wife of a painter and the mother of four children, the youngest of whom she carried with her. BARBER is a sober, industrious, and good man. JOHN SMITH by all report is the reverse, and the fact that while he took with him some $4,000, the proceeds of the sale of his property, and left his wife only $60 to face the winter with, sheds an eloquent light on his abandoned ruffianism. Still another case at Amherstburg. The wife of Mr. J. C. THOMPSON, a wealthy and respectable man, runs away with the postmaster, ERNEST PARK, who deserts a wife and four children. Yet another instance. At St. Catharines an Italian named BEALE eloped with the wife of a coloured man.

Such scandals would be rarer than they are if MICHELET's wise advice were taken, and married people never allowed any third person to encroach on the sacred ground of marriage, be it between themselves. The last mail brought a little crop of such scandals from England. The busy husband engrossed with affairs, the wife—happily the exceptional wife—thinks she may have a little harmless flirtation, no, not flirtation, a little friendly chat with an idle young man or an idle old one. Hence arise all the nonsense of Platonics, "mock "mothers," and the like, so often ending in elopement and disgrace and misery. PARIS is the type of the whole class of fallows who run away with other men's wives. He was her husband's guest. He loved and was beloved by ZOZORA. He betrays every sanctity that should govern the heart of man, and sails away with HELEN. What carnage, what loss of men, what misery and what domestic misery and contempt ensued. The history of like fools ever since has been a repetition of PARIS and PARIS and HELEN, though the incidents were in some cases more ludicrous, as when a wife of sixty-four, a Mrs. ELIOT of Belford, ran off with a boy of eighteen, and a blind matron tricked a young shoemaker into eloping with her. What can be more absurd than the elopements which have called forth these observations; people old enough to have sense and weighted with responsibilities, cutting off like a giddy boy and a boarding-school miss! The most charitable of all satirists, HORACE, says the world is one great asylum. In sheer justice to our self-esteem we may doubt this. But we have no hesitation in saying that the male and female scapegraces we have referred to are little better than lunatics at large.

There is as much red-tape in the United States as elsewhere. At the wreck of the Huron, an officer named Conway stripped himself naked and jumped into the sea. Every article of clothing which he had was lost, and as he was without money it was not convenient for him to obtain a suit immediately. When he appeared before the court of enquiry he is reported to have been rebuked somewhat sternly by one of the officers of the court for venturing to appear before so dignified a body without a uniform. He was asked if he was not aware that the regulations required that he should appear on such occasions in the uniform of his office. "But," interposed Conway, "I have no uniform; every garment I had was lost, and I was washed upon the shore." Thereupon the court held a consultation, but the matter was subsequently allowed to drop.

There seems to be a very general understanding that the Dominion Parliament will be called together about the end of January, with a view to getting through business in time to prorogue before Easter.

BEECHER ON HEAVEN AND HELL.

For a sermon which he delivered last Sunday Mr. Beecher is being roundly taken to task by the New York papers. The *Sun* charges that he has sought to overthrow a settled doctrine of Congregational belief, and that he has no right to be considered a Congregationalist any longer. His proper place is among the Universalists. Surely the heresy hunters will be on his track. Or is he not amenable to any law, civil, criminal, or ecclesiastical? This is the emphatic way in which Mr. Beecher is reported to have spoken:—

"It was said Adam was created perfect. It was also said that Adam sinned, and that, in consequence of that sin, the whole human race fell. The numbers of the human race were actually beyond computation, and for thousands and thousands and thousands of years they had been born into the world, had lived and struggled, and finally died, and gone—where? If you tell me that they have all gone to heaven, my answer will be that such a sweeping of souls into heaven does not sound right, and I cannot accept that. If you tell me that they have gone to hell, then I swear by the Lord Jesus Christ, whom I have sworn to worship forever, that you will make an infidel of me. The doctrine that there are so many for thousands of years peopling this earth with human beings, dying a period in fourths of which was not illuminated by an altar or a church, and in places where a Christian never came, and living lives such as those of ROMEO and JULIET. There is poetry about it then; it is the purple tint of the morning of the heart; the day star of imminent maturity; we know that the clear light of sober day is at hand; we look with certainty for the useful, and practical, and sage manhood and womanhood which shall follow. But HAMLET's mother, with a grown-up son, already a ripe philosopher, falling in love presents no elements of poetry, and PELHAM's mother, full of years, in the hurry of her elopement, turning back to carry with her her favourite bric-a-brac, is, as she was meant to be, a ludicrous figure, and only wholly disgusting because indirectus. The heading to this article, which is one which was used a few days ago by a reporter to usher in a column of news, calls up nearly as appalling a vision, "The Elopement Mania!" Suppose for one moment that such a mania were to spread through the community; conceive a state of society in which elopement was epidemic! The few who kept their heads would stand morning and amazed in the midst of social chaos and universal defiance of the decalogue.

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> "Force is at its best
> A fearful thing, even in a righteous cause,
> And only helps when man can help no more."

The New York *Herald* is both irreverent and incorrigible. Thus:—"The Baptist clergymen of Philadelphia have piously resolved to offer up a prayer on the hard times, and suggest the 10th of January as a day of national humiliation. But Congress meets that day, and what is the use of praying while it is in session?"

By a printer's error in our News Summary yesterday, M. Methot, just elected for Nicolet, was said to have been the Ministerial instead of the Opposition candidate. M. Turcotte ran as an independent, but received the Rouge vote. There is no change in the political complexion of the constituency.

The death of Hon. George Brown's mother-in-law, Mrs. Nelson, Edinburgh, Scotland, is announced. The honourable gentleman and his respected wife have our sincerest sympathy.

Some months since, owing to the progress of large works in London and the labour strikes there, a number of workmen left the United States with a view to finding employment in that city. The fact was at once held up by the Free Trade organs as evidence that a Free Trade country was offering more attractions to the workingman than Protectionist America. The circumstances were exceptional enough to establish the weakness of this contention. But there is now proof that the workmen who hurried off to England made a mistake, and are now anxious to get back. The United States consul at Manchester writes the State Department calling attention to the influx of workmen from the United States to various points in Great Britain, and to what he calls the delusive notion that the labour market there is better than at home. He says that unless the mechanic goes to England under a contract that will stick it will be far better for him not to come. Hundreds of Canadians have gone over generally find themselves without work, and, of course, work, and, after sifting what few personal effects they have to gain money wherewith to support life, and experiencing the worst hardships, are forced to apply to the nearest United States consulate and beg to be sent home. As the consul writes, the case of George Francis Train's or Col. Sellers'.

Speaking of Mr. Cunningham's resignation for New Westminster, B.C., because he had been selling supplies to the Government, and was afraid to face the Independence of Parliament Act, the Brockville *Recorder* says:—"He is a candidate for re-election, and he made an excellent representative against whom nothing can be urged, it is altogether probable that he will succeed." "Against whom nothing can be urged!" This is refreshing. Mr. Cunningham has for years been helping himself out of the Government purse; but that is "nothing." He has been directly violating the Independence of Parliament Act; but that, too, is "nothing." Indeed it was "nothing" for Mr. Anglin, a member of Parliament and Speaker of the Commons, to have drawn $20,000 of public money for printing in three years; nor for Mr. Norris to have engaged his steamboats, at a large profit, to carry rails for the Government. "Nothing!" It would be difficult to conceive of any offences more calculated to sap the foundations of parliamentary independence than those used by the present Dominion Government to bribe members of Parliament. Never did there exist in Canada such an accumulation of "nothings" as that with which the country is now cursed.

Rev. Father Bloomer, of St. Patrick's church, Elmira, N. Y., has been sent to gaol for contempt of court under peculiar circumstances. He was a witness in an alleged bigamy case, upon complaint of Mrs. Dennis O'Hare, against her husband. Counsel for Bloomer was subpœnaed, and upon examination the following questions were asked him by the Recorder: "Did you marry Dennis O'Hare?" To which witness answered, "No." He was then asked, "Did Dennis O'Hare call on you about Thanksgiving last and offer or attempt to be married by you?" This question the priest refused to answer, and the Recorder committed him, and he still remains in custody. The matter has been laid before Bishop Ryan of Buffalo. Father Bloomer says he will be guided in some respects by the Bishop's advice, although he claims it is a matter between him and his people in their pastoral relations, and says he cannot see how he can honourably break the confidence reposed in him. He disclaims any idea of resisting the authority of the law, and says it is not a conflict of civil and ecclesiastical law, but a question of honour and special privilege.

The *Saturday Review* states the anti-English feeling in Russia thus:—"As if for the purpose of provoking and defying opposition, the organs of the Russian Government state that in resentment for the unfriendly feeling attributed to England the Emperor will not allow the English Government to take part in the negotiations for peace. As at the time when the Berlin memorandum was tendered, to the Powers for signature at forty-eight hours notice, the three Imperial Governments are to undertake alone the settlement of the Eastern question. Germany is for some mysterious reason more Russian than Russia herself, and it is true that Austria has hitherto strenuously followed the lead of Germany. It is not improbable that terms of peace will be settled independently of England, but exclusion from the councils of Europe of a Power which has hitherto protected Turkey against a rapacious enemy will depend not on the choice of the Russian Government but on the possible inability or willingness of England to interfere." The *Review* urges the British Government to assert at all hazards the right of England to be heard on the Eastern question, for if the three Emperors alone decide it "then Britain's decadence will indeed be a fact."

Though it is stated that, despite the serious reverses which have lately befallen them, the Turkish Government intend to continue the war with all the vigour at their command, it may well be believed that the thoughts of the Porte are just now turned rather in the direction of peace. The New York *Herald*, regarding this point as having been reached, discusses the terms which the Czar will exact from the Sultan. It thinks the latter will have to yield in Europe the independence of Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro, and accept a Russian protectorate over all the Christian populations in Bulgaria, Roumelia, and Eastern provinces, while in Asia he must yield as much of Armenia as will include Kars, Batoum, and Erzeroum, and must concede the right of Russian men-of-war to pass the Dardanelles, and must further surrender his navy. These terms are not the hardest that may be presented, as the Porte would in all probability find it forced a Russian march over the Balkans.

General Terry in his report to the Washington Government on his visit to Sitting Bull land (Montana), says:—"The tribes which occupy the region between the Upper Missouri and the forty-ninth parallel have been for some time past restless, disorganized and dissatisfied. Among these tribes are the Yanktons, themselves Sioux, and the Assiniboins, kindred of the Sioux. Though these tribes have been nominally at peace, there is no doubt that during the past year and a half many individuals from them have helped to swell those bands which have been engaged in hostility. It is impossible to prevent constant communication between those tribes and the band of Sitting Bull; and so long as the Canadian Dominion is so near to our frontier as they now are, they cannot fail to exercise a most injurious influence over the former, giving evil counsel and advice, stimulating disaffection, and encouraging acts of hostility." General Terry trusts the Dominion Government will send Sitting Bull and his people back to the Red Deer country as soon as possible.

London Iron of the 24th ult. in an article on the depression in the iron trade in England says "all hope of the iron rail trade has been given up," and "the castings trade is no better, light castings from the United States being imported into Staffordshire in increasing quantities." It adds "local gas masters declare that the local trade of Sheffield has not been in such an unsatisfactory condition as at present since 1845. Many of the mills are standing still, and more than half of the blast-furnaces are out." The *British Mercantile Gazette* of the same date says:—"In Australia and New Zealand the United States houses, we are assured, are carrying all before them, and at the present rate of progress it will evidently not be many years before these splendid and expanding markets are entirely lost to the manufacturers and merchants of the old country." And yet Free Trade builds up while Protection crushes out manufacturing industries! O, vain and foolish doctrine!

How common something like the experience of King Lear has been in Ontario is well known to old settlers, and the neighbouring States can furnish an immensely larger number of instances. "The old man" is persuaded to deed the farm to his son, and, as a natural consequence, almost gets turned out of doors for his folly. At the last Wentworth spring Assizes, a case of this kind, from the Township of Caistor, came up, and, on the advice of Mr. Justice Galt, the parties left it to arbitration. Mr. Thomas Stock, Warden of the County of Wentworth, was chosen arbitrator, and recently gave his decision. He estimated the amount that the father and mother should receive per annum at $75 each, obtained from an actuary a calculation of what, with their expectation of life, this should be capitalized at, and adjudged that the son pay over $1,100. But not much even at this rate will his farm to his son is even as lucky as this one.

Poor Vanderbilt! At the will trial last week one of the witnesses called by his dutiful children who are trying to prove that he was insane was a phrenologist, who testified that deceased's "passion for accumulating property was so enlarged that it dwarfed every other moral sentiment and intellectual power. Commodore Vanderbilt's bump of acquisitiveness was in a state of chronic inflammation all the time, and all his intellectual faculties ministered to the gratification of that passion to the neglect of everything else. Morally and religiously his mind was a howling wilderness. His love of money amounted to a mania, which would render any act of his void, if it could be shown to be the off-spring of the delusion under which he laboured." This sort of thing is calculated to dishearten would-be millionaires.

Rev. Mr. Collyer, of Chicago, said in his sermon last Sunday:—"Do you reflect that the first of the year is almost on hand? When you will be called upon to swear off again? And when you will feel in your heart of hearts—and in your pockets—that the swear off you made a year ago never took? Have you thought of these things?"

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Niagara has issued a circular to the laity of the diocese, reminding them again "of the goodly custom which we have inherited from our mother diocese of Toronto, that the offerings of our people on Christmas Day should be devoted, (without any direction), to those who minister to them in sacred things."

Mr. Hepworth Dixon has written a new novel with the commonplace title of "Roly Grey."

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

European

The Imperial Parliament will meet on January 17th.

Five hundred cotton operatives at Macclesfield are on strike.

The German estimates for 1878 show a deficiency of $8,000,000.

James Ballantyne, the well-known author, died at Edinburgh on Tuesday.

A corvette has been sent to Nicaragua to support the claims of the German envoy.

Nothing is known at the India Office of the report concerning the Marquis of Salisbury's resignation.

The Pope has granted a special dispensation authorizing the marriage of the King of Spain with the Princess Mercedes.

China is expected to appeal to Great Britain and the United States for money to assist the famine in the northern provinces.

The failure of Gladstone, Peel & Co., commission merchants, London, is announced, with liabilities amounting to £439,000.

Most of the collieries in Northumberland have stopped work, the men being determined to resist the proposed twelve and a half per cent. reduction.

An Englishman has been arrested in Berlin for treason to the German Empire. He had in his possession plans of Metz and other fortresses.

The date of the Consistory has been postponed from the 17th to the 21st. The Vatican is in permanent deliberation concerning the Conclave.

American

The United States Senate has adjourned till January 10th.

A Brooklyn, N.Y., miser worth fifty thousand dollars has died of starvation.

President Hayes has signed a bill for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the Huron.

A number of Kentucky shorthorn breeders are in financial difficulties and a general smash-up is feared.

A number of mechanics employed in the Brooklyn Pottery Company's works have struck for increased wages.

A new telegraph company has been formed under the laws of the State of New York, with a capital of ten million dollars.

A Deadwood, D.T., telegram says:—"Old Abe" mine, situated near Lead city, has been sold to parties from Lake Superior for $500,000.

The defalcations in Hildreth & Co.'s New York collec