CANADIAN.

The cod-fishing on the Gaspe coast is reported to have very much improved of late.

About a dozen candidates are in the field for the office of Water Commissioner in Guelph.

Potatoes are scarce at Quebec, and getting daily dearer. It is said that they are rotting very quickly.

William Brown, of Amaranth, for stabbing his brother Thomas, has been committed to gaol for three months.

Mr. Harry Kinloch, late secretary to the Minister of Justice, has been appointe secretary to Sir John Macdonald.

It has been determined by the Conservatives of West Middlesex to enter a protest against the return of Mr. G. W. Ross.

Men are engaged in laying a railway track on the wharf, at Montreal, to connect with the rails of the Grand Trunk Railway.

The Ottawa Police Magistrate has decided that Hull bakers cannot trade in the former city without taking out a licence.

At Chatham last week when John Smith was enquired after by the crier of the Court, no less than thirteen gentlemen responded.

Mr. Drummond, of Montreal, has purchased 2,000 tons of coal, and there will be an early resumption of operations at the sugar refinery.

There has been an immense increase this season in the quantity of freight carried to Parry Sound, and the steamers have been doing a heavy trade.

A bazaar by which the funds of the Roman Catholic Church in Merriton were increased by four hundred dollars has just been held in that village.

At the criminal term just ended in the District of Beauce, Bartley, the alleged murderer, has been acquitted of all the charges remaining against him.

The quality of the wheat this year in the Parry Sound district is reported excellent. The mills are kept busy early and late doing gristng for the settlers.

They body of an old pensioner named Viney, who mysteriously disappeared from his house at Amherstburg, Ont., was discovered in the river near that town.

The Grand Jury at Ottawa have brought in a true bill against W. Boyle for uttering counterfeit Dominion notes, and for obtaining money under false pretences.

The directors of the Belleville Mechanics' Institute have decided upon having evening classes and a course of lectures during the winter in connection with the Institute.

Te last sentry posted on the Occidental railway, in response to the demand of the Provincial authorities, has been withdrawn, and the railway war is now over.

Hon. Mr. Masson promised a deputation of city members, who waited on him, to give the proposed new tariff shed scheme at Ottawa his earliest possible consideration.

Mr. Peter Byrne, Ontario immigration agent in England, has been up among the settlers in Muskoka, gathering information as to the immigration requirements up there.

Mr. Todd, the well known Constitutional authority, says that having been elected for Victoria subsequent to his acceptance of office, Sir John Macdonald need not seek re-election.

The men employed in the Grand Trunk Railway workshops at Point St. Charles, and it is supposed other shops belonging to the Company, commenced this week working full time.

This year's nut crop in Elgin County is exceptionally large. The butternut, chestnut, hickory, and walnut trees are so loaded that it is thought large quantities will remain ungathered.

The Liberal-Conservatives of Yarmouth, N.S., have conferred an address and a purse of $200 to Mr. W. V. Brown, as a tangible expression of their appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the party.

Mr. J. Woodford Smith, of Fredericton, Deputy Provincial Secretary of New Brunswick, was quite seriously injured at the Intercolonial railway depot at St. John recently by falling between two cars.

Three burglars on Friday last operated upon the residence of Mr. Elijah Moore, Wellington street, St. Thomas. On Monday one of the men was arrested in Detroit while disposing of a part of the stolen property.

The new Alma College in St. Thomas is nearing completion, and it is expected will be ready for occupation early in November. The *Times* thinks it will be the most ornate and commodious ladies' college in the Dominion.

The Ottawa *Free Press* lectures its Opposition brethren on the childish folly of attacking the new Ministry "in advance of the measures they propose to introduce, in fulfilment of the promises made to the country."

The Rouge journals denounce Mr. Mackenzie Bowell, and ask their readers to vote against Messrs. Langevin, Masson, Baby and O'Connor for sitting with him in the Cabinet. And of such is the "Liberal" party.

The Brantford *Expositor* says:—"The autumn rains have kept the grass so fresh and luxuriant that it has proved unwholesome food for cattle. We have heard of no less than twelve or more fatal cases in Burford alone."

The Young Men's Liberal-Conservative Association of St. Thomas opened their new rooms on Thursday of last week. All the leading papers and periodicals are to be kept on file and the rooms are comfortably and tastefully fitted up.

Mr. Rufus Stephenson, M. P., left Ottawa for Chatham, Ont., on Saturday evening. He has been at the Capital upon business connected with the harbours and Ordnance lands in his County and was very successful in his mission.

The St. Catharines *News* (Opposition) announces that a New York firm is about to erect a silk factory there, putting in machinery to the value of $30,000, and employing 500 hands. Without doubt they have heard of the change of Government.

The Rev. Mr. Huntington, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Ottawa, preached the funeral sermon on the murdered man McAuley yesterday evening. The Orange Young Britons, True Blues, and Prentice Boys attended in a body.

A Mrs. Gillen, crazed by drink, fancying a man was going to kill her, jumped out of a second story window in St. John, N.B., last week. Her fall of twenty feet was broken by her dress catching on a nail, and all the injury she experienced was a sprained wrist.

A proposition to give property-holders two votes at local political elections is being ventilated in Prince Edward Island, but finds little favour with either party. A suggestion to wipe out the Legislative Council is generally endorsed by the Island Ministerialists.

A farmer named Vachon has discovered in one of his fields at Broughtham, Que., a quantity of silver ornaments belonging to a church, and believed to be part of the plunder stolen by a gang of thieves, headed by a man named Camiray, who infested Quebec and neighbourhood forty years ago.

Sir John and Lady Macdonald left Ottawa for this city on Saturday evening. They will return about Wednesday and shortly after take up their residence at Stadacona Hall, which is being repaired and refitted for their reception. Hon. C. Tupper, Minister of Public Works, will occupy the late residence of the Hon. A. Mackenzie.

The Quebec Government offer in the *Official Gazette* a reward of $100 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the parties guilty of placing, recently, a pile of stones on the track of the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental railway, between Hochelaga and Mile End, and a pile of cordwood on the track near Thurso.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Interesting Summary of News.

PROSECUTION OF SISTERS OF CHARITY.

A remarkable case has come before the county magistrates of Lancashire. Two members of the Roman Catholic order called the Little Sisters of the Poor, which supports institutions at Plymouth Grove and Cheetham Hill, in Manchester, were brought up under the following circumstances:—On Friday afternoon two Sisters, attired in their usual habit, called at Singleton Lodge, Singleton Brook, the residence of Mr. W. Rayner Wood, whom they saw, and one of them solicited of him "a little charity." Having, as a matter of punctillio, asked the other female whether she was upon the same errand, and being answered in the affirmative, Mr. Wood, who is a county magistrate, placed his finger upon each and said, "You are prisoners in the Queen's name." The two ladies were detained in the servants' hall, and subsequently handed over to the police, in whose custody they remained during the night. Mr. Wood, who appeared on Saturday as the prosecutor, gave his evidence from the bench, and was sharply cross-examined by Mr. Addison, the prisoners' counsel. The Chairman, after a very brief consultation with the other magistrates said:—"This is a very deplorable case. We regret very much indeed that Mr. Wood should have taken such a view of what he considered to be his duty. We have now our duty to perform, and I hasten to do it, which is at once to dismiss the case, and to say that so far as my own opinion is concerned these ladies were exercising the highest quality of our nature, that of asking for charity for those who require it." (Applause.) The prisoners were then discharged.

SUNDAY TRAVELLING.

A sort of internecine war has broken out in Belfast on the subject of Sunday travelling. Public opinion is divided as to the propriety of running tramcars on Sundays. On the one hand it is contended that the public demand for cheap locomotion justifies the use of the cars, and that in London and Dublin they run on Sundays the same as on week days. Moreover, it is urged that in a great manufacturing community like that of Belfast it is desirable that every legitimate facility should be afforded to the dwellers in smoke and gloom to breathe the sweet country air, and pass a few hours each week while the weather is fine amid the picturesque scenery in the neighbourhood of the town. The anti-tramcar section of the community insist that it is a desecration of the Sabbath to employ men and horses unnecessarily upon that day, and that people who wish to reach the country should do so by means of the appliances for getting along provided by nature. A deputation was asked to wait upon the directors of the Tramcar Company to dissuade them from Sunday work, but it was refused an audience. Public meetings and animated newspaper discussion followed, and the anti-tramcar party now propose a curious method of reprisals. It has certainly the merit of novelty, but it must be owned that it is altogether at variance with the principle by which the promoters profess to be animated. It is neither more nor less than to set up a Sunday opposition by means of cars, which at less fares shall run the others out of the field.

REVENUE RETURNS.

The following are the revenue returns for the financial year up to and including the week ended the 5th inst.:—

Receipts	£36,276,419
Expenditure	45,086,231
Balances	928,803

Corresponding period last year:—

Receipts	£36,472,766
Expenditure	42,850,041
Balances	1,167,854

HEAVY BANK ROBBERY.

A young man named Stafford, said to be a nephew of a member of the Gladstone Administration, who has occupied for some time the position of a clerk in the Bank of England, at Liverpool, was, on Wednesday afternoon, entrusted with notes to cancel previous to their transmission to London. The total amount of these represented something like £15,000, and perfect reliance was placed in the official. But instead of cancelling the notes, he put them in a parcel and left the office with them in his possession. He did not return to his duties on the following day. This aroused suspicions; inquiries were made, and it was then ascertained that Stafford had absconded with the whole of the large sum named. The matter was then placed in the hands of the police, and Liverpool detectives were despatched in different directions in search of the runaway. The affair was kept a profound secret, and did not become generally known or talked about until Sunday. Stafford got a good start of the police, and although he was seen in London on Friday, he managed to elude the vigilance of the detectives; and it is currently reported that he has gone to Spain, where he can evade main secure from apprehension, as the extradition treaty between England and that country has not yet been carried out. Three thousand pounds of the notes have been recovered, but whether this is true or not we are not in a position to verify. Stafford has left his wife behind him, and the lady knows nothing of the whereabouts of her husband.

ELECTRICITY V. GAS.

This is now one of the "burning" questions in England. Indeed the excitement is rather stronger than it was, and the probability is the discussion will rage for months to come. It is said that more than one company will soon be started to try and establish the electric light permanently, as a substitute for our present means of illumination. Gas shareholders are still in a great state of disquietude. On the one hand they are told to fear not neither be afraid, while on the other they are threatened with extinction. The *Times* in its city article says gas shares have fallen 5 to 7 per cent. on a statement made with some amount of authority that Mr. Edison, the American electrician, has solved the problem of the sub-division of the electric light and its application to general purposes, and that he is only waiting until his patent rights are secured before he makes public his invention.

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

A London correspondent writes:—"The political "outlook" is on all hands regarded as gloomy in the extreme. There are not many men of legislative note in town. The Reform Club still has its doors closed owing to repairs, and its members are at present accommodated at the Devonshire. Less zeal is shown than usual by the leading men of both parties to address their constituencies, and the general consequence is apathy. But it is the apathy of foreboding and uncertainty. An uneasy feeling on all hands exists, and the inexperienced are asking what is likely to be the upshot. That a crash of some sort—a rearrangement of programmes—a new departure—is imminent, is, in the estimation of qualified persons becoming more and more certain. Even Ministers themselves are supposed to have caught the contagion, and though, as I said yesterday, they are united, they can hardly be said to be hopeful. The Turk is troubling them. Good advice is freely offered to him, but he will not take it. Threats, promises, and expostulations are lavished on him, but as yet they are falling upon a duck's back. No heed is paid to Sir Hy. Layard, in spite of his Cassandra warnings."

BANKING BUSINESS.

The following letter addressed to the *Times* will be read with interest by all concerned in banking affairs:—Your correspondent "M." has put his finger on one of the great faults of our banking system—"deposits"—and some day the public will see that his arguments are justified. In connection with deposits, however, another question arises. Assuming for present purposes that deposits form a legitimate branch of banking business, I would ask your readers to compare the paid-up capital of any bank with the amount of customers' money employed, and to say from such comparison whether the proportion of profit allowed to customers as compared to the shareholders' dividends is a fair proportion. Assume, for the sake of argument, a bank with £1,000,000 paid-up capital and £20,000,000 due to the public; is it fair that the latter should only receive, say, for the sake of argument, 4 per cent.—it does not average so much—against, say, 20 per cent. received by the former? With regard to dividends, I believe that some day there will be a fearful reckoning. Legitimate business appears to be fast on the wane, all classes of the community seeking to make money fast at proportionate risk. It is the custom to rely upon the exports and imports as an indication of the soundness or otherwise of trade. In former times, when business was done on sound principles, the exports were fair evidence. Nowadays, however, a large proportion of them are consignments, resulting, as in the case of Collie, in serious losses. Manufacturers in all classes of goods make for "consignments merchants," taking, say, half cash and half bills, the goods being got up for appearance and not for wear. The "consignment merchant" obtains, say, 75 per cent. advance on the goods from some bank; so long as he can get remittances to sustain his credit he leads a merry life, but as soon as the markets go against him the bank realizes and rarely leaves a margin for anybody else. The manufacturer, on his side, discounts the bills he has taken with another banker, taking renewals rather than force his "consignment merchant" into bankruptcy. The renewals are passed on to the bankers, who, on their side, do not care to face the probable consequences of forcing the manufacturer to extremities. As a consequence, dividends are kept up. The facilities given by our bankruptcy laws to reckless traders have done much to bring about the present system of speculation and the existing rottenness of trade. Of course, I should be called an owl for these predictions, but you yourself, sir, and all thinking men will admit that I am not far wrong in my statements.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

B.

October 7th.

SPECULATIONS ABOUT LORD DERBY.

The London correspondent of the Birmingham *Gazette* writes:—"I have been trying to ascertain the source of the rumour which has been by this time tolerably well circulated that at the next general election Lord Derby will throw in the whole of his Lancashire influence with the Liberal party, if, indeed, he does not join their ranks before the next electoral struggle takes place. I have been, however, unable to trace it to any very definite source. Lord Derby, in the ranks of the Liberal party, would be found a far more unendurable drag-on-the-wheels than he was in his own. A Liberal Government depends for its very existence on boldness of action, and what would become of it if it had in its ranks a leader who of all things abhorred a bold and original line, whose timidity would deter him from joining in any of those heroic measures by means of which the Liberal party at once seeks to catch the popular vote and to trifle with the British Constitution? I do not think that the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire is not a very brilliant one—he is not very likely to be asked to take a seat in another Conservative Cabinet, and it is only the historic influence of the name of Derby which still maintains it as a political power."

FRIGHTFUL CATASTROPHE AT LIVERPOOL.

A terrible catastrophe occurred on the 11th inst., at the Colisseum Theatre, Liverpool, resulting in the death of about forty persons and severe injuries to a great many others. It appears that the theatre, which is now used as a music-hall, was, as is usually the case on Friday evenings, attended by a crowded audience, comprising, it is computed by the lessee, between 4,000 and 5,000 persons, every inch of room being taken up, and, as the audience at the Colisseum is generally composed of rather a rough lot of people, a good deal of noise and occasionally uproar goes on. Last night was no exception to the rule. As Fred Coyne, one of the vocalists engaged at the hall, was on the stage singing a comic song, a free fight took place in a corner of the pit immediately under the gallery. The disturbance increased in intensity, and as those who were taking part in it could not be seen from every part of the house some excitement ensued, in the course of which some one seems to have raised the cry of "Fire!" Upon this a great stampede occurred; a rush was made to the doors, and in a few minutes a large number of people were crushed under foot, unable to effect an exit from the building, the doors of which seemed all to have been closed. The scene, as described by eye-witnesses, was a fearful one. Although there are no less than six available exits, everybody seems to have rushed to the one leading into Paradise street, and as the free passage of the people is interfered with by an upright in the centre of the doorway, a complete block ensued. Hundreds were thrown from the gallery in precipitate haste, whilst others slid down the pillars on to the heads of those in the pit. In the meantime, the attention of Inspector Buggy, who was passing at the time, had been called to the scene, and the alarm was at the same time sent on to the fire station. Inspector Buggy and an officer made their way to the doorway of the theatre in Paradise street, and, seeing the seething crowd trying to emerge from the building, he endeavoured to persuade them to hold back, but in vain. He at length succeeded in making his way through the crowd, and, other policemen coming to his assistance, something like order was restored, and the people gradually made their way out of the main door as well as by the other exits. The panic, unfortunately, had too well done its work, brief in duration as it was, and in a few moments no less than thirty-seven dead and large numbers of injured had been carried out into the street.

STOPPAGE OF FURLOUGHS.

An order was promulgated in Cork garrison on the 11th inst., suspending furloughs and leave of absence, and calling in all officers and men at present absent from their regiments.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND ROBBERY.

No clue has been obtained to the whereabouts of Stafford. The Bank has offered £500 reward for his capture.

ITEMS.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson keeps a well-stocked wine cellar, and also goes for prohibition.

It is announced that all the difficulties between England and France relative to Egyptian affairs have been removed.

It is said that a Frenchman recently deceased has bequeathed a considerable fortune to General Garibaldi and his sons.

The London *Globe* says that the enormous arrivals of American cheese are ousting the goods of English makers from the market.

The Duke of Norfolk has set apart twenty-six acres of land as free and open spaces for the recreation of the people of Sheffield.

The expenditure on outdoor pauperism in England for 1877 was £2,616,000, a decline of nearly a million on the outlay of a few years back.

The Middlesex Magistrates refused the license to the Argyll Rooms, but renewed the licenses to the Oxford Music Hall and other places which were opposed.

Mr. Ruskin, who is now quite well again, has wisely resolved, on the advice of his doctors, to write no more on political economy, but to dovote himself solely to art.

Mr. George Potter, of the London School Board, will again solicit the suffrages of the electors of Peterborough as an advanced Liberal and representative of the interests of labour.

Some scandal has been excited in colonial circles by the horsewhipping of a judge in the Mauritius. The operation was performed by another servant of the Crown, who, however, has apologized for the freedom which he ventured to take with the judicial back.

Major Malan writing to the *Daily News* with the authority of military experience in South Africa, does not hesitate to charge the Cape Government with the whole responsibility of the late war. He protests against the treatment of the Kaffirs and other native tribes of South Africa.

The Liverpool *Courier's* London correspondent writes on the 6th inst. "The state of affairs is very critical. There is deep suspicion of Russia in high official quarters. I believe we may hear before long of formidable preparations against any surprise on the part of his "peace-loving" Majesty in St. Petersburg.

The *Echo* advises people to look after their coal merchants. It is said that at several stations in the Metropolis sacks are expressly made to contain coal short in weight. A householder who recently laid in his usual supply for the winter was charged with six tons of coal, and discovered that the six tons weighed precisely four tons and a half.

At a large meeting, presided over by the Bishop of Sodor and Man, and attended by most of the leading citizens of Sheffield, it has just been resolved to form a sort of Association or League for the purpose of discouraging as much as possible the idle pomp, and worse than idle extravagance with which funerals are at present conducted, and of introducing a simple, plainer, and, we may add, a more decorous practice.

The Duke of Norfolk, in his zeal for his faith, will not accept any Protestant farmer as a tenant, and he has even gone so far as to erect a wall to shut from the parish church the chancel in which his ancestors lie. His Grace possesses this power because he is the lay rector. The vicar of of the parish has, however, knocked a hole in the wall in order to get light. It is said that the question may come before the law courts.

An Irish Agricultural Labourers' Union is in course of formation, with the object of agitating for the improvement of the condition of agricultural labourers in Ireland, and the compulsory provision of labourers' comfortable dwellings in farms. The subject of providing facilities for the acquisition of small holdings is also to be ventilated by the new organization, to which many of the Irish M.P.'s have promised their adherence.

Twelve men, arrested for participating in a prize fight at Rylestone Park, Leicestershire, have been committed for trial. The question involved is whether a glove fight is legal or not. For the defence it was contended that boxing matches with gloves were not illegal, and were of frequent occurrence all over the country. The magistrates, however, could not be induced to take this view of the case.

In consequence of the death of General the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Biddulph, Keeper of her Majesty's Privy Purse, the Queen intends to appoint Lieutenant-General H. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to be Keeper of the Privy Purse, with two assistants. Lieutenant-Colonel A. Pickard, V. C., of the Royal Artillery, has been selected to fill one, of the appointments as Assistant Keeper of the Privy Purse.

The Under Secretary of State for War, speaking at Chelmsford, said that the times were very momentous because at any moment an emergency might arise which would strain the resources of the country to the utmost, and if they were not ready for it the blame would fall upon them in the history that was to come. If such an emergency did arise it would be the duty of every Englishman to sink party squabbles and selfish feelings in the interests of the nation.

Music halls seem to be even more profitable concerns than public houses. The arbitration in the case of the London Pavilion Music Hall has revealed the fact that the net profits of M. Loibl in 1875 were £10,978; in 1876, £12,083; 1877, £14,189. The Pavilion is now required for the new street between Piccadilly and Oxford street, and M. Loibl, who claimed £147,000 for the freedom and good-will, has been awarded £107,000. Such are the rewards of music hall enterprise.

Mayfair is pathetic on what the Princess Louise has to encounter:—"Omitting from the account the misery of an Atlantic passage in November, the Governor-General and the Princess will arrive in Nova Scotia in mid-winter, and mid-winter in Halifax is no joke. Then will follow the long railway ride through bleak New Brunswick, with the nor'-easter cheerily blowing in from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and they will arrive in Quebec just in time for the first fall of snow."

Mr. H. B. Samuelson, M. P., speaking at a public meeting, referred at length to Cyprus, which he recently visited. From the inaccessibility of the island, and, above all, the unhealthiness of the climate, he was of opinion that it was not likely to be a field for British enterprise or a valuable possession of the British Crown. He did not consider, either, that it was valuable in a military or strategic point of view, and he contended that Malta was sufficient for our purposes.

A correspondent of the *Times* says that the evil of exorbitant prices for bread is much aggravated by the fact, as our medical men tell us, that our modern fine white bread does not contain half the nutriment that it should. The fact is, it is made of the inner kernel of the wheat, which is chiefly starch, and starch is a non-nutritious substance. The middle part of the wheat, which contains its most important constituents, is eliminated too, and thus the public suffers in deterioration of bone and muscle.

The Royal Assent to the Bill passed by the Natal Legislature legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister, was refused on the ground of the smallness of the majority by Sir M. Hicks-Beach, who expressed his view that the subject should be left open for a further expression of opinion on the part of the Colony. The Bill has therefore been reintroduced, and the division lists show that on the third reading twenty-five out of a total of twenty-seven members voted—eighteen for the Bill and seven against.

Bishop Durnford addressing his clergy at Chichester, deplored the secessions to Rome which have recently taken place among his clergy at Brighton. Such defections, he said, betrayed inward unsoundness and unsettlement, and they asked, with fear, "Who shall be the next to forsake our communion?" Bishop Durnford declared that "the path towards Rome had been smoothed for these converts by excessive and illegal ritual," and "strongly counselled his clergy to obstain from ceremonia's which the English Church had rejected."

On Wednesday a deputation, consisting of the Revs. T. Aveling, D.D., G. B. Johnston, of Torquay; J. S. Russell, A.M., R. A. Redford, LL.B., J. De Kewer Williams, C. Gallaway, A.M., and Messrs. James Spicer and Henry Wright, waited on Mr. Crossley, ex-M.P. for Halifax, and presented him with a handsomely illuminated address, signed by more than 220 ministers and laymen, representing different parts of the country, and expressive of thankfulness for his improved health, and of the esteem and affection in which he is generally held.

A London paper states that a new source of meat supply has been opened by the arrival of 458 fine sheep from Southern Russia, being the first shipment to the London Meat Importation and Storage Company. The sheep were sent direct by rail from the Kherson district, by an organized route through Oswieczin, Breslau and Düsseldorf, to Antwerp, where they were slaughtered in the municipal abattoirs, and then shipped for the company's storage wharf, Upper Thames street. The company's refrigerating waggons are rapidly approaching completion, and the animals purchased by them in Eastern Europe will then be slaughtered in Vienna and Budapest. The meat arrived in excellent condition, and has sold readily.

GENERAL.

One archivist of Antwerp has discovered a bill of sale of September 1, 1547, for twenty-two bottles of petroleum, at that early date imported into the city.

Faber Sellers, a druggist at Pottstown, Penn., fell suddenly from his chair one day last week and died instantly, just as in the same store his partner had fallen and died four years before.

The Sultan has telegraphed to the Imperial Commissioners at Batoum to buy for him twelve girls, assorted, between the ages of twelve and eighteen, *carte blanche* being given as to price.

A Minnesota candidate is reminded by a Hokah young man, in a published card, that he owes "my mother" a milk bill of $3.50, which he has been putting off for the last three or four years.

"Whereas dresses with trains raise in the streets clouds of dust injurious to the public health, the wearing of such dresses on the street is hereby prohibited," says an ordinance just promulgated at Prague.

The *Bulletin de Statistique*, of Paris, publishes a table of the foreign commerce of France from 1827 to 1876, during which period it increased from 1,168,000,000 francs—total value of exports and imports—to 9,456,000,000.

Commander Cameron, who earned great fame in Africa last year, is about to begin a journey to demonstrate the feasibility of constructing a railway from the Mediterranean to India without following the course of the Euphrates.

The *Invalide Russe* announces a plan for the reorganization of the Russian army, the effect of which will be to add 350,000 combatants to it. "In the course of a few years we shall be able to produce an army of two million combatants," says this authority.

The English Exhibitors at the Paris Exhibition are getting up an address to the Prince of Wales, thanking him for the personal labour and attention he, as President of the Royal Commission, has given to his work, and congratulating him on the successful result of his labours.

Two boys, sons of a grave-digger named Parrot, at Père la Chaise, Paris, lately went to Auxerre in the guise of butchers, murdered their grandfather and grandmother with their butcher knives, plundered the house, and returned to Paris. The elder, nineteen years of age, has been arrested.

Forty thousand Lombard peasants have been attacked by Pellegra, a malady which, beginning with the skin, impairs the digestion and nervous system, and becomes fatal. It is produced by the habitual consumption of flour made from damaged maize and by overwork, uncleanliness and unhealthy dwellings.

On September 26 a monument to Frederick William III., of Prussia, father of the present Emperor of Germany, was unveiled at Cologne. It is a colossal equestrian statute, 22 feet high, with pedestal figures 9 to 10 feet high, representing prominent persons and events. It weighs 34,850 kilogrammes and cost 150,000 thalers.

In Germany 50,000 acres of land are devoted to raising tobacco. The Government derives about $350,000 revenue a year from the product, the tax being about 50 cents per hundredweight. The duty of $3 per hundredweight on tobacco imported in the leaf, $8.25 on that imported in other forms, and $15 on imported cigars yields about $3,000,000 annually.

Notwithstanding the police surveillance, the Nihilists at St. Petersburg have circulated a pamphlet called "The Living Dead," threatening instant death to their persecutors, and a regular revolutionist paper named *Land and Liberty* was announced to appear regularly after the beginning of this month.

The deep adit level for the drainage of the Schemnitz mines in Hungary, commenced in the reign of the Emperor Joseph in 1782, was completed the 5th of last month. It is about 10½ miles long, mostly in very hard volcanic rock, and intersects the mines at depths from 800 to 1,500 feet below the surface. The point where the junction of the last sections was effected is about 2,200 feet deep being under a mountain mass.

A singular terrestrial phenomenon has recently been noticed at Ortall, Italy, where the earth has fallen, until it is now twelve or fifteen feet below its original level. In consequence of this freak of nature, the houses of the village are toppling over and the people have fled to the fields, and are now living in huts with their families. A still stranger fact is that about 200 yards from the town the earth has risen to a similar height, and at times the ground has risen so rapidly as to make its movement visible.

The new cathedral on Fifth avenue, New York city, is steadily approaching completion, and the stained glass windows are expected to soon arrive from Paris, where they formed a feature in the Exposition. Each of these vitraux or glass windows will have a plate glass window outside, the two being about three inches apart. This has never been previously adopted in America, but is common in Europe. The cathedral has been thirteen years in progress, and nearly $2,000,000 have thus far been invested in what will be the grandest religious structure in America.

A meeting of 2,000 skilled workmen was lately held in the Mausoleum of Augustus, at Rome, to consider what could be done to relieve the condition of the working classes. The only political allusions made were a demand by one speaker for universal suffrage, and a declaration by another that if the Government and municipality did not listen to their just grievances they would make themselves heard in the Piazza and sell their lives upon barricades. The chief grievance complained of was that of selling and reselling contracts until final holders can only pay starvation wages.

There was lately a great demand at the French Exhibition lottery for the ticket No. 148. It was originally sold for a franc, the regular rate, but speculators would have readily given 100 francs for the chance of reselling it for 500 francs to some superstitious individual. One hundred and forty-eight was the number of the hackney coach used by the chaplain of the prison of La Roquette, when he followed the decapitated corpses of Barré and Lehiex from the place of execution to their graves. The same coach was also used by the chaplain at the previous execution, and many lottery gamblers therefore argued that 148 would draw a big prize.

In the Alps recently Mr. and Mrs. Wainwright and Christian Grass, their guide, fell down a precipice. Hans Grass, the other guide, was a man of gigantic strength, and the rope by which the four were corded together was stout, and throwing himself backward, by sheer force of muscle he held them suspended and cried to his brother to cut steps in the ice and mount, and be quick about it for he could not sustain them for more than half an hour. Mr. Wainwright had not dropped his hatchet, which he handed to the guide, who soon reached the edge of the crevasse; his brother, still sustaining the Wainwrights gave him a hand and drew him up, then they hauled up their tourists, and all returned little the worse for their frightful adventure.

In reply to a resolution of workmen asking him to frame a bill for the purpose of controlling the liquor traffic, Mr. Bright wrote on the 7th:—"I cannot undertake to frame a bill on the subject of the drink traffic, or to take the part you and your friends invite me to assume. I watch the discussion which is now in progress, and hope it may yield some fruit, some plan of procedure which may prove useful for the cause of temperance. The subject is one of great difficulty—the inveterate custom of our people, their belief that stimulants are wholesome and necessary, their habitual and almost universal self-indulgence in them, are obstacles which seem insurmountable. Whilst these opinions and habits prevail it is difficult to alter the law; a change of law, though not absolutely useless, will do much less for temperance than many sanguine people expect. I hope, however, that what change of law can do may be done, and that a more intelligent public opinion may gradually be created to do more than even the wisest legislation can do. I hope the extension of education may give our people more self-respect, and thus save them from the miserable degradation to which multitudes of them are now subjected by a pernicious indulgence in intoxicating drinks.

CAMELS IN AUSTRALIA.—Camels and elephants for Australia to help in explorations are now advocated. When camels were first taken to the new country they died rapidly, but different localities were tried and diet was changed, so that the original 100 have so increased and multiplied as to number about 400. In some localities they have been trained for draught purposes, and though better adapted to carry than to pull heavy loads, they are, by judicious treatment, made to haul enormous loads, averaging a ton for each animal. The use of trained elephants in Central Africa, where they are reported to thrive well on weeds and grass, has lately been resorted to with considerable success, and the conditions in Australia are thought to be as favourable to them as those of Africa.

A shocking affair has occurred at Denbigh. The wife of a labourer left the house, locking in alone an infant about four months old, which was lying on a little bed. In the house was kept a ferret in a box, and by some means it got loose and attacked the child. The screams of the poor little thing did not attract the notice of the mother or the neighbours with whom she was conversing, but on the former entering the house she was horrified to discover the ferret in the cradle gnawing away at the child's face. The animal had eaten away one ear, one cheek completely, another partially, as well as the nose entirely. The agony of the babe was awful to witness, and Dr. Griffith Roberts dressed the wounds, but the child expired in about an hour.

It is really humiliating, remarks the Glasgow *News*, to think that in this age of enlightenment and education nothing is so easy to excite as a ghost scare. Hundreds of gaping fools may be seen daily in Sussex street, Kinning Park, straining their eyes to catch sight of something which their common sense should tell them cannot exist. Because some noises have been heard, or are said to have been heard in an empty tenement, these idiots have jumped to the conclusion that the place is garrisoned by malevolent ghosts; and there they stand, hour after hour starving with the vacancy that we suppose comes natural to them at the windows of the haunted house. It is hardly possible to think or speak of the matter with any degree of patience

The *World* tells a good story of the late Mr. Justice Keogh:—"When Mr. Justice Keogh went over to the Government he had for a neighbour in Bray a witty parish priest, who, unlike the celebrated vicar, was not all things unto all men. People were doubtful as to the religious orthodoxy of the new Irish Solicitor-General, and his ex-friends openly charged him with deserting the Church as well as the people. 'Do you knw what they are saying about me now, Father H.?' said Mr. Keogh to the P. P.; 'they are positively saying that I am going to change my religion.' 'I hope you will become a Catholic, then, if you change at all,' said the P. P., without moving a muscle. And yet priest and politician remained firm friends, and many a pleasant dinner have I enjoyed in their company."

In the August number of the *Moniteur Scientifique*, M. J. Laurent, of Marseilles, cautions the scientific world generally, and chemists in particular, against the use of De la Bastie's toughened glass. He considers the objects and utensils made of this substance to be no better than so many Prince Rupert's drops or Bologna flasks, from which they differ only by their shape. M. Laurent adduces an instance where a dish made of toughened glass was used at a stearine factory at Marseilles; it suddenly broke into thousands of fragments upon being placed upon the metal scale of a balance. It was then in a state of cooling down from 110 deg. C., at which temperature it had been maintained for some time; but it had previously been in use about a month, and its sudden destruction was entirely inexplicable, save by the theory above mentioned.

NEW SUSPENSION BRIDGES AT NIAGARA.—Mr. Benjamin Rhodes, superintendent of the new suspension bridge, is preparing drawings for two new cable suspension bridges to connect the Clark Hill islands with the Canadian main shore. Each of the proposed bridges will be two hundred and fifty feet in length, and will be supported by wire cables resting on iron towers. The style of the work will be very similar to that followed in the erection of the new suspension bridge. With the completion of these bridges, and the laying out of the desired roads around the Clark Hill islands, a continuous roadway will be secured along the bank of the river including Cedar Island with the Clark Hill islands. This scheme of connecting these islands with the main shore by means of two new bridges, in addition to the present suspension foot bridge, is the project of Mr. Sutherland Macklem, the owner of the property.—*Niagara Falls Gazette.*

TROLLOPE AND BRIGHAM YOUNG.—Anthony Trollope told me that on his way from a visit to his son in Australia he passed through the United States, taking the Salt Lake in his way, and took the opportunity of interviewing the great Mormon High Priest. "Guess you're a miner," said Brigham Young. "No," replied Trollope, "I am not." "Guess you're a miner," reiterated the other. "Indeed, I am not, I assure you." "Do you work for your living?" "Yes," said Trollope. "Guess you're a miner," with a skeptical shake of the head; "what do you work at?" "I get my living by making books." "Guess you're a miner, though," with another shake. I asked Trollope if Young knew who he was or what he was. He said, "I sent in my card, but he had never heard of me—not very flattering, was it?" Trollope's stalwart look and frame possibly suggested to the Mormon chief fitness for the rough work of a gold-digger.—*The University Magazine.*

An aged French Deputy and strong Legitimist, who died twelve years ago in Paris, desired to leave $220,000 to the Count de Chambord, whom he regarded as the only rightful monarch of France. Fearing that his will might not be executed, he bequeathed the property to Madame Conord, an old servant of the family, requesting her to present it to the Count on his decease, as her personal gift. The old woman complied, and, proceeding to Frohsdorf, displayed to the astonished Count 1,100,000 francs in bank notes. He requested her to keep the extra 100,000 as a reward for her probity, but she would receive nothing, and, returning to Paris, entered the service of another master. A month ago the old woman died at the age of 85, and 80,000 francs was found in her bureau. It was chiefly derived from an income of 6,000 francs a year which the Count had insisted on her receiving. She would spend none of it, and relied solely upon her wages. Her sister was summoned as the natural inheritor, but soon a notary appeared with a will, in which the Count was named as her sole legatee.

CLARA MORRIS' HORSE.—Clara Morris has a new horse, which she named Aimee the moment she put eyes on her, and this horse has a little history. Mr. Harriott happened to be at a sale the other day, and among the stock to be disposed of was an apparently worthless animal, for which there was no demand. To start the bids, more than anything else, for he certainly did not want the beast, he offered $25. Recognizing the joke, another gentleman bid $5, and out of pure fun they continued to compete, each fearing the other would leave the horse on his hands. Before it had passed much above $50, Mr. Harriott found himself possessor of an animal which he considered dear at half the money. When he got home he sent his groom for her, and was surprised to learn from that person the next morning that the unwelcome occupant of his stables had made the distance between New York and Riverdale in what appeared an incredibly short space of time. To make the story short, he speedily changed his mind about her qualities. When Miss Morris saw the acquisition she simply remarked, "Aimee," because, as she said afterwards, "she looks so demure and is so vicious, and because of her general cussedness." Miss Morris rides her now as often as she did Bonny Belle. Aimee is blooded, has a handsome head, is gold colour, with four little white feet, is hanged very short, and takes a wall or fence like a bird. "She looks so gentle, so demure, and is the devil," says Miss Morris. "She can outkick any mule, donkey or blonde that I ever saw."

HOW BISMARCK BULLDOSED THIERS AND FAVRE.—Prince Bismarck is quoted by the London *Times* as telling this story of his conference with Thiers and Favre during the days of peace-making between France and Germany: We had met to discuss a question on which we could not agree. M. Thiers fought like a *beau diable*. M. Jules Favre wept, made tragic gesures, and no progess was made. Suddenly I began talking in German, M. Thiers looked at me with an amazed air, and said: "You know very well we do not understand German." "Just so," I said, "when I discuss with men with whom I expect ultimately to come to an understanding, I speak their language; but when I begin to see that it is useless to discuss with them, I speak my own. Send for an interpreter." The truth is, I was in a hurry to settle matters. These tactics had a strange effect. M. Jules Favre extended his long arms to heaven, his hair stood on end, and, concealing his face in his hands, he rushed into a corner of the room, pressing his head against the wall, as if he would not be a witness to the humiliation inflicted on the representatives