# The Weekly Mail

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## THE SIMCOE DEMONSTRATION.

The closing open-air political demonstration of the Conservative Party, held at Simcoe last week, by its numbers, the excellence of the arrangements, and the hearty spirit of enthusiasm which animated the audience, was a fitting wind-up of the season's campaign. These meetings, as Sir JOHN MACDONALD observed, were in no way prompted by him, or, he might have added, by any one in Toronto. The desire that they should be held came from the constituencies, and once started, the wish, nay rather the anxiety, to do honour to Sir JOHN became so general throughout the Province that it was found necessary to repress rather than to encourage the feeling. Many invitations were declined of necessity. Perhaps next year—should the Government not tumble to pieces from debility meanwhile—it will be possible for the Opposition leader to gratify the many thousands in various parts of Ontario whom this year he has found it impossible to address. Indeed that he has been able to go through so much hard and fatiguing work during the past three or four months is the best evidence of his physical capacity to retain the position in his Party for which he is preeminently fitted: a circumstance to which it would be unnecessary to allude but for the slanderous assertions of his opponents to the contrary. There are few of the young politicians of the day who could come as well, physically, through a four hours' open-air speech as did Sir JOHN MACDONALD the other day.

There were few subjects referred to either by Mr. MACKENZIE or Mr. CARTWRIGHT in their recent speeches in the west which Sir JOHN did not touch upon, more or less minutely, at Simcoe. Instead of attempting to traverse the record we refer to the report contained in our Supplement. There are just a few points to which some allusion may be made here. Both Mr. CARTWRIGHT and his organ have sought to convey the impression that Sir JOHN had no authority for stating that the member for Lennox withdrew from the ranks of the supporters of the late Government because of Sir FRANCIS HINCKS' introduction into it. Sir JOHN read a letter of Mr. CARTWRIGHT's which sets that matter right. It was a public letter on a public question, and Sir JOHN was quite justified—though his opponents have industriously laboured to create a different belief—in referring to it as he did. There are some other letters of a confidential nature which passed between Sir JOHN and Mr. CARTWRIGHT; these, Sir JOHN says he will next session place in the hands of any one Mr. CARTWRIGHT may select—Mr. BLAKE if he pleases. Is there a fair-minded man in Canada who doubts that Mr. CARTWRIGHT deserted his leader for any other reason than that his ambition was thwarted? It was no secret then that he aspired to the Finance Ministership. He saw his hopes blasted when so experienced a financier as Sir FRANCIS HINCKS was—happily for the country—asked by its leader to join the Government; whereupon he went where small talents would be likely to bring a higher price; and he got his reward in the autumn of 1873.

There is a world of irony in the concluding words of Sir JOHN MACDONALD's speech. Thanking his large audience, he ventured to express the belief that "the good old reign of *corruption*, happiness and prosperity will soon be seen "again." There is no word which cuts into the very soul of a Grit more deeply than this word "corruption." The election courts have disclosed an extent of bribery and corruption on the part of the Grit standard bearers which is now known to every elector in the country. Sir JOHN mentioned Mr. H. H. COOK, with his $28,000. We must now add to the list Mr. JAMES REDFORD. While every one must sympathise with Mr. REDFORD's legitimate losses in trade—if he made such—what shall be said of his labours in behalf of the Party of Purity in the County of Perth, and of his much-prized efforts to "elevate the standard "of public morality" in one of the Ridings of that County? The local papers, informed us the other day that in two contests he trod hard on the heels of Mr. HERMAN COOK. The one bled to the tune of $28,000! The other "came "down handsomely" with $27,000! And now Mr. REDFORD's creditors—his dupes, we should rather say—are looking in vain for the investments, large and small, which they entrusted to his keeping. Why, these two standard-elevators alone spent more hard cash in "putting down "bribery and corruption," than the whole of the amount which Sir JOHN MACDONALD received from Sir HUGH ALLAN in 1872! Is it any wonder that the people have turned against these hypocrites?

Mr. MACKENZIE drew a heart-rending picture of the condition of affairs which came to him as a legacy from his predecessors. It was a fancy picture indeed. Never did a man come into power under more favourable circumstances than he. Nova Scotia had been quieted. At the polls the people of New Brunswick had settled the school question in a way which precluded Dominion interference. The rebellion in the North-West had been put down. The Pacific railway question was the only question of importance left to them to deal with. How they have dealt with it it is unnecessary to say here, except to remark that they have got it into such an inextricable muddle that the Imperial Government have considered it desirable to send the Governor-General to British Columbia to look into the whole question, alike in the interest of the Empire and the Dominion. Sir JOHN MACDONALD took up the gauntlet thrown down by Mr. MACKENZIE, and painted a picture which the whole country will recognize as a much more truthful one than the Premier's. General content has given place to universal discontent; and the change is based on substantial facts, all pointing to the incompetence of the Government. No one can read this portion of Sir JOHN's speech and say it is not true to the letter; and saying this he must, of necessity, declare Mr. MACKENZIE's assertions to be groundless, and reckless. To which declaration we will add just one remark, the force of which we are sure the public will recognize: that while both Mr. MACKENZIE's and Mr. CARTWRIGHT's speeches were in a large measure ill-tempered, to some extent scurrilous, Sir JOHN MACDONALD's speech does not contain a single word which is offensive; though we venture to think it will appeal none the less strongly to the reading and thinking people of the Dominion.

## CAN HE RETAIN HIS SEAT?

THE receipt from the Government of some $8,000 by the Speaker of the House of Commons, for printing, has been considered mainly from the point of view of its violation of a principle for which the Grit Party contended strenuously when it was in Opposition. There can be no doubt as to the grossness of the act in this respect. It is so utterly indefensible that in neither of his recent speeches did Mr. MACKENZIE, though urged and requested to do so, make the slightest reference to it. The question has even a more important aspect, however, than the faithlessness of a Party to what it has been pleased to call its principles. We do not see how Parliament can avoid considering it in respect to its violation of the Independence of Parliament Act, which declares that:

"No person whosoever holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing, directly or indirectly alone or with any other, by himself or by the interposition of any trustee or third party, any contract or agreement with her Majesty, or with any public officer or department, with respect to the public service of Canada, or under which any public money of Canada is to be paid for any service or work, shall be eligible as a member of the House of Commons, nor shall he sit or vote in the same."

There can be no doubt, we apprehend, that both the Government and the Speaker have violated this clause of the Act, and that Mr. ANGLIN is disqualified from sitting in Parliament. If the reverse view be taken, we should like to see how Mr. BLAKE and Mr. MACKENZIE can explain some speeches of theirs in Parliament on this topic. Mr. ANGLIN's plea of duality—his declaration that the work was given to him as plain TIMOTHY WARREN ANGLIN, and not as a member or the Speaker of the House—will hardly avail against the lucid expositions of the law which we have already had from the Premier and his Minister of Justice. The question is one on which the sense of the House should be taken. No other question could set in clearer light the amazing hypocrisy of the men in power.

## A BOON TO TRAVELLERS.

THE man who invented circular notes deserves to have a monument erected to his memory at Liverpool, Southampton, Dover, Marseilles, and any other port where travellers do congregate and Customs officers are the daily witnesses of the miseries and discomforts which are the price of Anglo-Saxon restlessness and a desire to see the world. Money, always the pest of life, is peculiarly an annoyance when you can't get it. To be penniless in a foreign country thousands of miles from home with only your own bare statement that you have funds somewhere or other, and that if you could only get to London Sir JOHN BLOOMER would at once recognize your name and advance any amount, is a situation not unknown to Canadian tourists. Trusting mainly to the blandishment *ingenui vultus* youthful Canadians who have chanced to empty their pockets have been in the habit of "running their "faces" for small advances obtained on a bill of exchange, endorsed by some friendly acquaintance on the other side: whose intervention has not unfrequently been obtained at a cost of some personal annoyance, and perhaps some wounded sensibilities. Moreover, we have known instances of middle-aged moneyed men, travelling with their families, left high and dry on the continent without a cent, and at their wits' end to get money enough to carry them to London. The announcement, therefore, that the Bank of Montreal had made arrangements for the issue of circular notes was one well calculated to interest the travelling public. Not unknown in the financial circles of Europe, and only too well known and dreaded in Wall street, the Bank of Montreal is an institution of which Canada has reason to be proud. If not in name it is in fact the Bank of Canada, and the day may come when our public exchequer will be more intimately connected with it than now. The Bank of Montreal has a paid-up capital of £2,250,000 sterling and a reserve of £1,125,000 sterling, a capital only exceeded by the Bank of England with fourteen millions and a half, and the Bank of Ireland with four millions. The two principal jointstock banks in England are the London and Westminster with £2,000,000 paid-up capital and £667,500 reserve, and the Union Bank of London with £1,395,000 paid-up and £411,123 reserve. The strength of the Bank of Montreal may thus readily be estimated; and its means of obtaining correspondents for the benefit of Canadian travellers were practically unlimited. Hence it is not surprising to find in the list of correspondents attached to the letters of introduction given to the bearer of its circular notes gentlemen at Paris and Wagga Wagga, at Smyrna and Salt Lake City, at Buffalo and Jerusalem, at Moscow and Singapore, in fact from the Dan to Beersheba of modern travel, willing to cash its notes, and be of any friendly service to the travellers presenting them. Canada is every day assuming a position of greater importance in the eyes of the world, and the movement under notice is not the least sign of her progress and development.

## THE EXPECTED BUSINESS REVIVAL.

THE cry of "hard times" has been now so long kept up amongst us that some people feel it monotonous and tiresome, and are looking with eager eyes to discover, if they can, any passably good reason for believing that a revival of business is at hand. All signs of the times pointing in this direction are made the most of, and not a few are trying hard to believe that the hard times are nearly over. It cannot be said that these efforts have been very successful so far. People talk much of their great expectations for the future, but nobody can be found who is *acting* upon them, unless in limited and exceptional fields of enterprize. A patent medicine man, for instance, may be making a fortune, so perhaps may some of the three per cent. a month money lenders, but their prosperity does not much contribute towards that of the country generally. We call a country prosperous when its real wealth-making classes—men able and willing to engage in actual productive labour—find plenty of work to do at fair wages. That we are just now in a situation the reverse of this is very apparent; many of our most productive workers are idle, and some of them have either left or are about to leave for the States. But are prospects there any better than they are here, after all? Does it appear that a revival of business is really at hand over the border, and, if so, what are Canada's prospects for a share in the benefit?

That a *bonâ fide* revival of business is at hand in the States, nay, that it has actually commenced, is no longer doubtful. The various exceptional activities incident to the Centennial year have mostly had favourable influences. Low freights have stimulated a large and prompt transportation of farm produce from west to east, and heavy cash returns for it are pouring into the United States from Europe. For the first time since the breaking out of the late war the balance of trade is turning in favour of the former as against the latter; and every month the exports of our neighbours are gaining heavily upon their imports. As we have had occasion to observe, the flow of gold has turned, and now sets from Europe to America, a fact the full significance of which will better appear by-and-bye. The Federal Government is engaged, and with success, in the work of changing the interest upon its obligations from high rates to low rates. This change must help on another, the lowering of commercial rates of interest also. And the latter must in its turn favour the beginning of new productive enterprizes and the expansion of old ones, especially in the west, where in time past the high interest of money has been felt as the greatest of all hindrances to progress. We may depend upon it that Chicago will not forever go on paying double the rates of interest that are paid in New York and Boston. That the railways have of late made any profits to speak of on freight can scarcely be supposed, but their passenger travel the latter half of this year is sure to prove the heaviest ever known in America since railways were. For three years compulsory economy of the severest kind in repairs and maintenance of both roads and rolling stock has prevailed, but the wear and tear incident to the heavy traffic actually done, whether remunerative or not, must at an early day render necessary a large expenditure for renewal of plant. This, again, means more work for the furnaces and rolling mills, and for thousands of men now idle or only half employed. And here, by the way, let us correct a wrong impression relative to the American iron trade, which prevails in Canada. We have been told of many furnaces and rolling mills being idle, and the fact has been cited as a proof that Protection was a failure, even in Pennsylvania. The true explanation of the stagnation in some districts of that State has only recently come out; it is that comparatively fresh discoveries of very cheap bituminous coal in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and other Western States, are causing the iron-making industry to move westwards. This western bituminous coal lies near the surface, it is very cheaply mined, and the iron-makers of the East, who have been using anthracite, find themselves unable to compete with the cheaper production of the West. A correspondent of the New York *Times*, specially commissioned to inquire into and report upon "the great coal "problem," says that "the use "of anthracite in the making of iron "will have to be abandoned." The cheaper soft coal instead of the dearer hard coal will be used for the purpose, but the aggregate American production of iron will not diminish, but will on the contrary greatly increase under the national system of Protection, which is sure to be maintained whatever political Party may be in power. Our Canadian Free Traders, who have been fondly hoping to see a collapse of the American system, with the proof upon a large scale that Protection does not protect, are doomed to grievous disappointment. While they are talking of the expected collapse, the revival is already in sight, most pronounced and vigorous. "The tide of "improvement in business," says a Canadian Free Trade organ, "which set in "from the Eastern States has reached "Pittsburg. Manufacturing in that city "is slowly reviving. The rolling mills "have started up and are running on full "time with an average number of work"men, the steel mills are employed, the "copper mills and foundries are fairly "busy, the glass houses are in full blast, "and various other industries are about "to resume. These are unmistakable "signs that the reaction is gradually "passing away in some of the American "centres of trade." And an American paper of recent date says: "The manu"facture of iron in the West is rapidly "increasing in amount. In Chicago "alone there are two of the ten Besse"mer steel works in the United States, "and these made 85,000 tons of the "291,000 tons of the Bessemer "steel rails manufactured in this country "last year." As the result of extensive enquiries a New York paper makes this general report, in addition to details very fully given:

"The bottom has been reached after three years of unprofitable business, during which many traders had to give way to financial embarrassment, brought on in a great measure through a system of large and long credits to their customers, which in a great measure is now abolished. A large portion of the business of wholesale merchants is now transacted for cash, and the buyers seem to be of a more substantial class than those who came here three or four years ago. Business of all kinds, too, seems to be springing up in all portions of the country. Mills which have been idle for years are again in motion, and on the whole there is every reason to believe that the evil effects of the financial panic of 1873 are rapidly passing away. Dry goods merchants say that the condition of their business has improved recently, that the improvement is steadily going on, and they look forward to a healthy and profitable fall trade. The boot and shoe dealers say that trade is very good, and that reports from all parts of the country are of a most encouraging character. The hide and leather business improves as the autumn trade advances, and, as a prominent merchant said, 'It is beginning to feel the invigorating effects of the improved business pulse.' The export trade in leather is very good, the home demand is increasing, and a gradual and steady improvement is expected during the fall. The carpet and upholstery trade has greatly improved during the past month; the demand has been very active, and business is in a healthier condition than it has been for many years."

Are we able to make such a report of business in Canada, and if not, why not? These are questions to which we shall on another occasion invite attention.

## A COINCIDENCE.

WE have called attention to the misrepresentation persistently put forward by the Grit papers in reference to Mr. MACKENZIE's offer of $750,000 to the Government of British Columbia. It is a coincidence worthy of notice that some of the English papers which arrived after our short article on the subject had appeared deal with the same point. However ill-informed as to some Canadian matters, they are, as a whole, on the right track as respects this one. The *Times* errs in saying the offer was made as compensation for the refusal of the Canadian Government to go on with the Island railway, as provided for in the CARNARVON agreement; but we fancy it does so in ignorance of the facts—which can hardly be said of our Grit contemporary in Toronto. The *Spectator* and *Pall Mall Gazette* both quote the *ipsissima verba* of the Canadian despatch in proof of the view of its construction which they take. The words will be found in the following extract from the *Saturday Review's* article, but they are so interwoven with some remarks bearing upon Mr. MACKENZIE's treatment of the question that we must quote all together:

"To this bargain [the Carnarvon agreement] the British Columbians insist upon adhering. The Canadian Government refuses to carry it out, on the ground that the Dominion Senate rejected the Nanaimo and Esquimalt Railway Bill; and that, moreover, it would be outside the province of the Federal Government to undertake a local work. The former part of the objection may be easily disposed of. It is the business of a Minister who has pledged his country to a solemn bargain to use all his efforts to procure the execution of that bargain. He must not give in to a single adverse vote in one House of Parliament; if beaten repeatedly, it is usually his duty to resign. If Mr. Disraeli had been refused by Parliament the money for the purchase of the Suez canal shares, or Mr. Gladstone that for the liquidation of the Alabama indemnity, we cannot doubt that either Minister would have vindicated his honour by resignation. But Mr. Mackenzie calmly accepts the vote of the Senate at Ottawa as relieving him from a troublesome obligation, and he says to the people of British Columbia, 'Will you take three-quarters of a million of dollars in hard cash (that is, if I can get the money from our close-fisted legislators), and hold your tongues about this second breach of faith?' British Columbia has refused to accept this offer, which was so conveyed as to include not only the abandonment by the party accepting it of the claim for the local line, but of the right to remonstrate against the indefinite postponement of the other stipulations. This is clear from the language of the despatch addressed by the Canadian Ministry to the Local Government of the Pacific Province, in which the Ministers pronounce it 'reasonable that the compensation to be given them [the people of British Columbia] by Canada for any delays which may take place in the construction of the Pacific Railway should be in the form of a cash bonus, to be applied towards the local railway, or such other local works as the Legislature of British Columbia may undertake.' It is now asserted, in defence of Mr. Mackenzie, that the British Columbians 'misunderstood' the offer, which they took to be 'in lieu of the time-limit.' But manifestly the language quoted from the Ministerial despatch bears out this very interpretation."

And the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:

"The sum of $750,000 was distinctly offered in compensation for probable delays, and the people of British Columbia argue that if they accept the money they will not be entitled to press for the construction of the main line. This, it will be observed, would be a very bad bargain for British Columbia, since, when the surveys are completed, the Canadian Government will be bound to spend annually within the Province nearly three times the sum now offered once for all."

We congratulate our London contemporaries on having kept such minute track of a negotiation which in this country has been grossly misrepresented, with the apparent object of placing the Government and people of British Columbia in a most unfair position.

The observations of the *Saturday Review* as to the readiness with which Mr. MACKENZIE slunk out of the CARNARVON agreement, which he accepted, are to the point and telling. The vote in the Senate on his bill gives colour to the belief that he desired its defeat. Apart from this, however, the course he should have taken is that stated in the *Saturday Review*, and that he did not take it is evidence sufficient that he preferred the retention of office to the fulfilment of a solemn bargain.

## THE STRAITS OF DOVER TUNNEL.

THE project for connecting France with England by a tunnel under the Straits of Dover grows in acceptance with people on both sides of the channel. Eminent engineers have pronounced favourably on the enterprise, and are ready to undertake it. It is most probable it will be attempted, and we think accomplished. Should it be constructed it will materially alter the relations which England has hitherto sustained towards the Continent, as it would bring the Island into easy communication with France, and through that country with the rest of Europe.

The times are favourable for the tunnel enterprise. Money is very plentiful in England, and is, to the grief of capitalists, lying almost unproductive in banks and other places of security. Various schemes for its profitable employment have been tried, and several have proved disastrous. Foreigners have borrowed largely, but in many instances have failed to make their payments of interest, to say nothing of principal. Now here is a work, beginning in England, under the control of Englishmen, vast in its conception, and likely to be very remunerative in its results. In addition, its completion would confer renown on its builders, as its magnitude and importance would be vastly beyond any similar work ever constructed.

The national consequences of such a sub-oceanic way would be very great, and would strongly affect the future of the countries connected by it. The events of the last twenty years have tended to soften the hard feelings that for centuries have existed between England and France. There have been almost incessant wars since the period of the Norman conquest between these powerful nations, who at last almost believed they were natural enemies and destined to perpetual conflicts, but in the reign of LOUIS PHILIPPE a better feeling began to prevail, and it has been increasing up to this time. The late Emperor, by his judicious management, did much to promote its growth, and it is now seen that the antagonism was a great mistake, and that it is to the interest of both nations to have not only peace, but also friendship. The more the English and French know of each other the greater is their mutual esteem, and the tunnel, by facilitating intercourse, would extend this desirable knowledge. Influences both social and political would doubtless follow such enlarged acquaintance. Englishmen would learn much from polite and ingenious France, and it is probable the French, from a closer observation of politics in England, and a more minute examination into the mode of conducting public affairs practised there—a mode that allows of so much liberty to the individual, and yet secures the general stability of the body politic—would be largely aided in adopting measures that would assist to develope a stable and constitutional government among themselves.

One of the many concomitants attendant upon the construction of the tunnel would be the employment it would afford to a large number of people both in England and France. The earnings of these workmen would enable them to purchase articles of food and clothing in a liberal manner. The clothing would be obtained from home centres, but for food a large amount would come from abroad, and of all countries whence a supply could be obtained, none would be in a better position than our own. The fertile soil of Canada would probably raise a considerable portion of the provisions necessary to sustain the brawny arms of the industrious host engaged in digging their adventurous way under the rolling waters that separate Dover from Calais.

## THE CONTEST IN SOUTH WELLINGTON.

THE electors of South Wellington are called upon to choose a member for the Local House, in the room and stead of Mr. PETER GOW, now the happy occupant of the Wellington shrievalty.

Are the "Reform" electors of the constituency aware that Mr. GOW's appointment is contrary to the doctrines of their Party, and therefore that in proceeding without an earnest protest to fill up the vacancy thus created they are conniving at that which not long ago they regarded as corrupt and reprehensible?

In 1870 Mr. SANDFIELD MACDONALD appointed Mr. GREELEY, M.P.P. for Prince Edward, Sheriff of that county, just as Mr. GOW, M.P.P. for South Wellington, has been appointed Sheriff of the county by Mr. MOWAT. On the 15th December, 1870, Mr. BLAKE moved for the correspondence in the matter of Mr. GREELEY's appointment, and took occasion to say (*vide Globe* 16th):

"So long as the present existing system of administering the Government continued—namely, that of giving offices to friends of members, provided that members were on the right side of the House—*it appeared to him extremely obvious that it was very objectionable that a member should himself be appointed to any vacancy in the constituency.*"

That is a pretty strong utterance on the subject, and doubtless Mr. GOW, among the other pure and high-toned "Reformers" in the Assembly at the time, thoroughly approved of it. But look at him now!

The *Globe* of the 16th December, 1870, was equally emphatic in condemning Mr. GREELEY's appointment. It held:

"Mr. Greeley * * was in effect the trustee of the patronage of his constituency, and must have recommended himself, appropriated his trust in fact to his own benefit, the Attorney-General being in collusion with him in this *very reprehensible proceeding.*"

We venture to say that every "Reformer" in Wellington, Mr. GOW and the *Mercury* included, took the same view of the matter; but, woe to them, Pharisees! they look upon Mr. GOW's appointment and Mr. MOWAT's "collusion" in a very different light!

The *Globe*, arguing on the theory that the member who accepts an office in his own constituency being trustee of the patronage must virtually appoint himself to it, went on to say:

"It may be difficult to amend the system under which local appointments are made, but the habit of men nominating—in other words, appointing—themselves, will admit of no apology or justification. A member may be made to feel a certain degree of responsibility to the public opinion of his constituents if his nominations of other persons are not guided by some principle or discretion, but once let a man instal himself in a snug berth and he can snap his fingers at all remonstrances."

All of which is equally true in the present case.

To be honest and consistent, therefore, the "Reformers" of South Wellington must condemn Mr. GOW's appointment as heartily as they condemned Mr. GREELEY's, and they can only do so by rebuking Mr. MOWAT for, to use the *Globe's* words, Mr. GOW is now "in a snug "berth, and he can snap his fingers at "all remonstrances."

The utter defeat of Mr. MOWAT's candidate will show that in Wellington at least "Reformers" are true to their record. His election will be a further contribution to the accumulated mass of testimony by which it is demonstrated that the creed of the average "Reformer" when in Opposition is one thing, and his practice when in office another.

## DEATH FROM STARVATION.

NOTHING appeals to the sympathy of cultivated minds more than one of those occasional reverses of fortune, by which a gentleman reared and nurtured in all the luxuries of refinement is brought to the end of his financial tether, and finding himself unable to make a living by any of the practical methods taught in earlier life to his less wealthy contemporaries, sinks into insolvency, and finds himself starving on his manners and education. What is true of men is equally applicable to newspapers. The death of a newspaper is always a catastrophe for which its bereaved relatives go into mourning, and which creates a shock of at least surprise throughout the community at large. The higher the newspaper has held its head, the higher the fall, and the more profound the grief.

The weekly paper called the *Nation* is dead, and we weep for the death of a Nation, while we take heart of grace to believe in the ultimate survival of this country. It would be a misnomer to style that a newspaper which copied without cost to itself or acknowledgment to its contemporaries any item of news which it published. It would be equally inaccurate to call the *Nation* a journal: for it was in no sense a record of the day's doings. It was a pretentious organ of half-hearted criticism, originally started by a combination of young men possessed of some money and some brains, whose ambition it was to be heard in the world: or in that limited part of it represented by the Confederated Dominion of Canada. Seeing no immediate opening for their noble selves in the ranks of the two great existing political parties, they thought to create a third. They could hit on no more probable avenue of success it seemed to them than by becoming the well-recognised but awhile anonymous apostles of a yearning nationality. This nationality grew, if we are to believe the *Nation's* valedictory address, out of Confederation; but strange to say it never yearned, and the people of Canada were content that the relations existing in 1867 between the scattered Provinces and the old country, should be and remain as they were. The young men therefore have had the pleasure for some years of paying the piper and of witnessing the people's disinclination to dance to his tune. There is no doubt that the earliest programme of these Tooley street conspirators was tinged with treason; and there is abundant evidence to show how soon they found it necessary in the absence of a responsive echo to moderate the views enunciated by their leader. Without mentioning names and thereby bringing the bearers of them into well-merited odium, which would be all the more intense in the presence of pecuniary failure, we may simply state that the noble author of Lothair in describing the sort of man who for a time pumped life into the *Nation*, says: "He was "quite a young man, of advanced "opinions on all subjects, religious, "social, and political. He was clever, "extremely well informed, so far as books "can make a man knowing, but unable "to profit even by that limited ex"perience of life from a restless vanity "and overflowing conceit, which pre"vented him from ever observing or "thinking of anything but himself. He "was gifted with a great command of "words, which took the form of endless "exposition, varied by sarcasm and "passages of *ornate jargon*." Never was happier language used to describe the dish long set before the readers of the *Nation*, and it was evidently not the stuff on which the Canadian public wished to be fed. "The commercial difficulties of "keeping on foot a high class literary pa"per *in this country*, are extreme." We pass over this reflection on our prevailing Bœotian stupidity; but we venture to question in all reality if the *Nation* did throw many pearls before us poor Canadian swine. The *World* has eclipsed the circulation of the *Saturday Review*, because it has been more lively and less didactic, and has not shut its eyes to the prevailing requirements of the general reader. The *Nation* was eminently respectable, when it was not personal and spiteful, as in the case of its attack on the United Empire Club; but the *Nation* has died because it had got to be dull, stupid, and uninteresting. It had created a mission for itself, of which nobody recognized the need. It came to preach to us without special call, and the congregation gradually dwindled. A revival was promised when the principal writer of "Current Events" in another periodical was advertised to have joined its staff; but here again cropped out the impracticable. The announcement was meant to indicate that Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH was for the future to be a contributor to its columns. It meant that or nothing in a small community like ours, where eminent writers do not grow on every hedge. But Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH, the advertised contributor to its pages, resented the public recognition of his great talents and threatened this and other journals with his own grave displeasure and the contempt of Christendom in general if we persisted in identifying him with the writer of "Current Events." We simply laughed, conscious of the old adage and assured of the side with which victory would eventually rest. Mr. SMITH's influence for good on Canadian journalism, and for the matter of that on the writing of all English-speaking countries, is heartily acknowledged, but his practical wisdom may as properly be questioned. It would be an opening of old wounds to quote the failures in trade with which his name and his no-party theories have been identified in the last few years here. In fact the moment we heard that Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH had associated himself with the publication of the *Nation* we knew its life was doomed. It might soar awhile above the heads of its audience, but there some day it would be left till, like any other exhausted balloon, it died of inanition, and fell to the ground without making any great disturbance of the surrounding atmosphere. "Among them "but not of them," it appealed to the people, and the people sitting in judgment got tired of the show and gate-money fell off. People, it has been observed, do soon get tired of looking up at coruscations natural or pyrotechnic, and Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH placed himself on a pedestal so very much higher than his neighbours that he stretched their necks somewhat too uncomfortably. His advertised withdrawal from the paper when it was in the very throes of dissolution will neither acquit him of its murder, nor raise his general reputation for manly heroism. It was slaughtered in Smithfield—a field which young and yearning aspirants to fame and name will do well to avoid, so long as Canadians are a sensible practical people, content with the machinery of responsible government, almost absolute autonomy, and a reliance on the reciprocated affection of a great and generous mother country.

## THE CENTENNIAL AWARDS.

ELSEWHERE will be found the list of awards to Canadian exhibitors at the Centennial in groups, one to thirty-five inclusive. The official prize list, from which our list is compiled, is very defective as regards the spelling of names and places, and the geographical knowledge displayed is often remarkable, Ontario being placarded in many instances as one of the English shires. It will be seen that although Canada made a most creditable exhibition, she has not been very successful in securing prizes, the bulk of which have, as might have been expected, gone to the United States. In natural products we have held our ground, but in manufactures, &c., we are virtually nowhere.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

A STRIKING example of the long life and persistence of great political questions is to be witnessed just now in the United States. The civil war came to a close in 1865, but nevertheless the issues supposed then to have been settled still divide the nation in 1876. English history is not without a somewhat similar instance, and the experience of the young Republic was long ago foreshadowed in that of the Mother Country. The strife between Cavalier and Roundhead did not end when the Restoration came, it continued during two reigns following; until at last what appeared to be the settled national verdict of 1660 was reversed in 1688. The parallel fails in one respect, however, for nobody expects to see the arbitrament of the American civil war reversed, or slavery re-established. But, although the blacks are not to be returned to slavery, their enjoyment of political rights is still in question, and the main issue in the present contest is, whether their votes are or are not to be allowed to count.

For the country's peace it would have been better that almost any issue other than this had been made the dividing line between parties. The question of Protection or Free Trade, of the currency, or of Civil Service reform, might have been made the great issue, in which case the bitterest memories of the war would have been left slumbering. But not one of these questions can now come to the front, simply because the question as to the right of the blacks to vote occupies the ground, and until that be settled there is a lack of room for anything else. Beyond all doubt Civil Service reform ought to be the great question of the day with our neighbours; but it is not. The experience of recent years has shown the pressing need there is for some change through which men having the negative merit of not being thieves may be appointed to office, but the demand is only imperfectly listened to, because other sounds fill the air. The prime requisite in a candidate on either side is not honesty, by any means, but a good war record. It is the same with the Democrats as with the Republicans. The old issues of the war are more prominent today than they were three months ago, and three weeks hence they will occupy the public mind even more than they do to-day. The tendency is for all other issues to sink out of sight for the time, and to make the right of the blacks to vote the sole question on which the national verdict is to be given. It may be said that nobody disputes their right to vote, but the answer is that although the right be conceded on paper it is not so in fact. Over the far greater part of the South the blacks will be able to vote only under protection of United States troops, but, as the troops cannot be everywhere, the black vote actually cast will in all probability be but a fraction of the whole.

Why the Southern whites are so resolutely opposed to allowing the blacks to vote is not difficult to explain. The experience of some years has shown that the principal result of black men's votes has been to put thieves and "scallawags" in office. The blacks *might* vote for honest men, if they chose, but somehow or other they do not, except in rare instances. Their votes go to the men who shout loudest for the Republican Party, and in nine cases out of ten the shouting on that side, in the South, is but a means of obtaining the chance to plunder the public purse. In some States the consequence of black and carpet-bagger rule has been the piling up of a debt counted by scores of millions, all squandered, and without any tangible value received to show for it. The alternative in the South is indeed a sad one; give the Democrats their way and a black man votes only at the peril of his life, give the Republicans theirs and a saturnalia of plunder is sure to follow. President GRANT and his Secretary of War are preparing to use the troops for keeping order at the approaching election, but the area over which their services will be required is so vast that the task to be set them is an impossible one.

There are just two eventualities that may prevent the national verdict from being given almost wholly with reference to the old issues of the war. Among the October States, as they are called, are Ohio and Indiana, both of which have State elections set for next Tuesday, the 10th instant. Both parties confidently expect that the result then will foreshadow that of the great day four weeks later, and both are straining every nerve to win in these States. In Ohio and Indiana, more than perhaps anywhere else, are issues other than the old one between North and South likely to make themselves felt. The popular feeling there is overwhelming in favour of a greenback currency and against payment of the national debt in gold, and the fact that Governor HENDRICKS is a greenback candidate, also that he practically carried his point over Governor TILDEN in the Democratic National Convention, may draw to him many Republican votes. If the Democrats win in Ohio and Indiana next week it will be because of the popular feeling in favour of a greenback currency, and because of opposition to Governor HAYES on account of his having supported the anti-liquor crusade a year or two ago. The German vote, it is confidently said, will be lost to him for the latter reason, and for that alone, the question as to prohibitory legislation being almost the only one that can divide the public attention with the old issue of the war. So important is this question deemed that whereas Ohio would have been a certainty for Governor HAYES had it not arisen, the fact that it has arisen is before all other circumstances that on which the Democrats build their hopes of success. Upon the German vote, in fact, the result of the contest will almost certainly turn. If the Germans vote as they have done at the four preceding Presidential elections, the Republican candidate goes to the White House without doubt; but if they change front TILDEN's chances will be good. Whether they will change front or not at this time remains to be seen, but it is said that CARL SCHURZ, who knows his compatriots well, believes that they will. The Germans have no sympathy with the ex-slaveholders, but if they take it into their heads that the question of slavery is settled, and that the question of prohibition is a main issue before the country, the aspect of affairs may be entirely changed.

## AMERICAN.

Chicago gets gas for public use at $1.50 per thousand feet.

The creditors of H. A. Pierce, a Springfield bankrupt get one cent on the dollar.

A Nevada miner staked the savings of years on faro, lost, and then killed himself.

A man was killed in Georgia for stealing a kicking mule. The mule was the executioner.

Near Summit, Miss., a man jumped off a train to get his hat, and did not get it because he broke his neck.

A delegation of the descendants of the old "Bounty mutineers," the Pitcairn Islanders, are in San Francisco begging supplies.

Not only is drinking diminishing in Massachusetts by the pressure of hard times, but Temperance societies are collapsing for want of funds.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleetwood, of Texas, held a national convention, and nominated Mr. Fleetwood for President of the United States and Mrs. Fleetwood for Vice-President.

A Nevada man, being commanded by a robber to throw up his hands, obeyed promptly, and concealed his money in them. The robber searched his clothing, but not his hands, and so got no booty.

Two women in Kansas recently had a prize fight, with seconds, a referee, a ring, and six brutally contested rounds. Finally one pulled the other's hair, which the referee declared was "a foul," and that ended the fight.

The company of a San Francisco variety theatre intended to take the remains of a comrade from the hospital in which he had died and bury them; but they got the wrong body, and made a touching public demonstration over a Mexican horse thief.

A somewhat singular lawsuit has arisen in a Cincinnati court. A householder living next to a suburban engine-house, planted a pumpkin-vine, which ran under the engine-house, and bore fruit twenty, thirty, or an hundredfold. The firemen kept the pumpkins, and the owner has brought suit for their value.

A country chap went into Warner Bro.'s yesterday and enquired, "Dew you retail shirts in here?" "No," replied Warner, "we make 'em all now;" and country dropped his carpet sack like it was full of lead, and looked at Warner ten minutes before he picked that carpet sack up and waltzed out with it.—*Courier-Journal.*

Original G. W. item, from San Francisco *News Letter*:—"On a certain occasion, when Mr. Washington was at dinner at Mount Vernon, Mr. Randolph, who sat opposite, pressed the General to partake of the turnips. 'Sir,' said the Father of his Country, impressively, 'sir, I do not eat turnips, because they disagree with me!' There was not a dry eye in the room."

There passed through the Hartford Post Office, last week, an envelope about twelve inches long by five wide, on the face of which was the following remarkable effusion:—

In the old town of Milford,
Near Long Island Sound,
Is the place where my sweet
Old Gum Drop is found;
Mary A. Burger's her name,
And sad to relate,
She lives in Connecticut,
The wooden-nutmeg State.

Old Middlerib came home the other night and ordered a light lunch before going to bed. "Just a mouthful of tea and a bit of bread," he exclaimed. "Do you want just plain bread?" asked Mrs. Middlerib, with reference to the presence or absence of butter. And the old reprobate said he would take one piece plain, and the other with a looped overskirt, shirred down the gores with the same, and held in place with knife pleatings of grape jelly. He got the heel of the loaf.—*Burlington Hawk-Eye.*

"D'ye think the hard times are gone, Sammy?" said one boy to another on Washington avenue yesterday. The one addressed passed the cuff of his left sleeve thoughtfully over his nose, and then responded vehemently: "Hard times gone? Not by a darn sight! Dad's broke his leg; mam threatens ter run away; sis is got the ague; Bill Snigg's dog licked mine yesterday, an' ter-day I tore my britches. Hard times gone! Why, yer fool, they's just beginnin'!"—*St. Louis Republican.*

Miss Abbie J. Terry is writing in the New York *World* to terrify young men into never staying later with their sweethearts than 10.30 p.m. Hear the woman! When Miss Terry's own young man, who is now living in Burlington under an assumed name, told us himself that he ran away and came west because when he got sleepy and tried to go home at 3.35 a.m., six times a week, Miss Terry would cling to his collar and say, "Oh, Englebert, why flee from my side so early? Why can't you stay to breakfast?"—*Burlington Hawk-Eye.*

The Chinese always leave a meal at a grave, that a dead person may eat on the way to eternity. In former times it was customary in Nevada to leave the food exposed, and the loafers who watched from a neighbouring clump of trees were wont to regale themselves with these dainties. "Nothing is so pleasant," says the Virginia City *Chronicle*, "as to see a crowd of hoodlums seated on a new-made Chinese grave, going through a free lunch, and drinking the deceased's good health in his own rice brandy. Now, however, the Chinese place a guard over the grave until night, after which the wild animals and birds get the benefit of the repast."

Such incidents as the following are still common in stage-coach travelling in California: The coach contained eight men and four women, all unarmed. When the coach reached a part of the road lined by a thick growth of brush, into which it is impossible to turn a loaded waggon or even a light one, two men sprang up and commanded the driver to stop and throw out the express boxes. Both men wore white cloths under their hats, one end being thrown up over the front of the hat and the other, with eye-holes, covering the face. One man, with a double-barrelled shot gun, aimed at the driver, and the other at the body of the coach, where the passengers mostly were. After a short parley two boxes of treasures were thrown out, and the driver was compelled to drive on, the shot gun covering him until he was hidden by a turn in the road.

"Well, you are a nice boy to send on a message," said a Boston woman to a boy who had lost a bundle with which she had intrusted him. The boy struck the attitude of an orator, and replied:—"Not being a common carrier, and not having entered into a contract with you to carry your parcel for and in consideration of any sum, I have incurred no liability, and am liable to no penalty. If I had undertaken to carry the parcel for my own particular profit, my father even would not have been responsible for its loss (see Butler agt. Basing, 2 C. & P. 614), unless indeed he paid me smaller wages because of the opportunity thus afforded me to make small sums. On this point I will only quote Dwight agt. Brewster, 1 Pickering (Miss.) 50. But rising from the law to the equity of the case, I have only to say—" but before he could say it his father had yanked him from the room.

A man entered the Chicago *Tribune* office and left the following advertisement:—"PERSONAL.—The advertiser desires to make the acquaintance of a lady of refinement, five feet four and a half inches high, and weighing about 136 pounds; bust measure, thirty-nine inches; waist measure, twenty-eight and three-quarter inches; size of boot, three and a quarter; ditto, of glove, five and seven-eighths; complexion pronounced brunette; deep hazel eyes; with a view to matrimony. Address W., 1,798 *Tribune* office." "Seems to me your mighty particular about the size and kind of a wife you want," observed the advertising clerk. "Well, perhaps I am, but you see my wife died before we had been married long, and she hadn't begun to half wear out her clothes, and her father gave her an awful sight of 'em, so it seems to me kinder like flying in the face of Providence when silk and things are so dear and the country labouring in the throes of a financial convulsion to take another mate, and let the moths break through, and rust and corrupt all them duds. So I just want a wife to match them things."

A discovery was made recently on a sleeping car on the Little Miami railroad, which lifts a heavy load of suspicion from the conductors and porters. It is always the case when a passenger in a sleeping car is robbed, that the porter or conductor first falls into disrepute. Then, if they are not found to be guilty, it is taken for granted that thieves are in some of the berths, and honest passengers are made uncomfortable by being suspected of being common thieves. A lady made the discovery above alluded to. She was awakened at a point where the train stopped for water, not at a station, by finding a man's hand rummaging her berth for valuables. She gave the alarm, but too late to catch the man, but in time to make the discovery that the thief was neither conductor, porter, nor passenger, but a scoundrel who reached the open window of the berth from the outside, by standing on the chains or rods that stretch below the car, near the edge. It is not a comfortable position, but it enables an expert thief to make a pretty minute inspection of a sleeping berth, without entering the car. Moral, close your window when the train stops for water in a lonely place.

To an observer, comparing this with other seasons, these signs clearly indicate that the era of ostentatious extravagance has passed. No longer may one see a grand dress parade each evening on the piazzas of the hotels, or in the parlours, when the ladies are on their way to the full-dress hops. Diamonds are not so plentiful as of yore, and flounces, aprons, and over-dresses of point lace have entirely disappeared. In their stead may be seen cashmere, duchesse, and Valenciennes lace, the last in connection with Paris muslin. Black lace in the costly varieties is more used, but even that is not seen in such profusion as was formerly the case. It is thought that those who own rare laces are reserving them for the winter, which surely is wise, for there are so many fabrics which are suitable and becoming in summer that laces are not needed to set off. While the dresses of the present season make less show than those formerly worn, let none think they are inexpensive. The laundry bills would tell a different story. One bright little lady, whose husband, after eight years of wedlock, still believes her to be the most beautiful woman in any company in which she chances to be, tells a story *apropos* of this: "Will is always telling me I look best simply dressed," she says, "and three or four years ago he bought me some pretty lawns and cambrics, and asked me to have them becomingly made and wear them at Saratoga. I did, and he was delighted until our bill at the hotel came in, and then he asked, 'What in the mischief made the washing cost so much more than ever before,' and said, 'such bills would ruin him.' I told him it was all because of my simple dresses, which required to be done up frequently."—*Saratoga Letter.*

## SUMMARY OF NEWS.

### BY CUNARD STEAMER.

### From Liverpool, Sept. 16th.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Meetings continue to be held in undiminished numbers with reference to the Turkish atrocities in Bulgaria. At a meeting at Bournemouth yesterday, a letter was read from Lord Derby, offering the services of the British Ambassador at Constantinople and her Majesty's Consular officers in the distribution of the funds raised for the relief of the distressed Bulgarians. At a meeting of the committee which is making arrangements for the City of London meeting on Monday, it was resolved that, in order not to give the meeting any party aspect, Lord Beaconsfield, the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Lowe, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and the Archimandrite of the Greek Church should be invited to be present.

John Cawdron, a publican, after seconding at a meeting held at Norwich a resolution expressing horror at the atrocities committed by the Turks in Bulgaria, went home and knocked his wife about with a clockweight till she was covered with bruises from head to foot. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment by the magistrate.

Admiral Slade sends the following letter to the *Times*:—"I venture, with all deference to the national sentiment evoked by the outrages in Bulgaria, to say that it seems to me to be unusual, if not unprecedented, to charge an entire nation with the excesses of a fanatic mob in times of excitement or by the atrocities incidental more or less to internecine warfare between races rancorously opposed to each other. Your German correspondent in his letter from Leipsic, dated the 7th inst., commenting on the indignation excited in England by the said outrages, asks, 'Is it the first time that such atrocities have been committed in history, even in modern European history?' The answer decidedly would be negative. No writer has judged France by the sanguinary episode of the first Revolution, nor by the part acted a few years ago in Paris by the Versailles troops, infuriated by the spectacle of the fallen column, the charred Tuileries, and the burning Hotel de Ville. Fortunately the steam of indignation generated by those outrages is blowing off through a hundred safety valves. We may therefore feel safe from the danger of an explosion in the shape of a general war, and may hope when the pressure has abated that the crisis may be calmly viewed. The question, in my humble opinion, is not, as speakers at indignation meetings appear to think, the said atrocities. Far from it. The real question for the consideration of statesmen is the normal condition of the Slav subjects of the Porte during the last half century—that is, since the destruction of the Janissaries. This is important because Prince Milan has in his manifesto attempted to justify his rebellion by citing their 'miserable and enslaved condition under an intolerant and oppressive race,' and a greater man than he, moved by recitals of their sufferings, has held that race up to opprobrium by terming it the 'great anti-human specimen of humanity.' I do not know the precise meaning intended to be conveyed by that awful phrase; but it should, if taken in a literal sense, rather startle the illustrious individuals who of late years have feasted in Imperial palaces on the Bosphorus, the wary financiers who have had beneficial intercourse with the Porte, and the sage Ambassadors who have accepted gifts from the Sultan. Prince Milan, who has simply aimed at clutching, by hook or by crook, Bosnia and Herzegovina knew he was indulging in 'tall talk,' but Mr. Gladstone is eloquently serious in his advice to the Turks to perform the 'happy despatch' by consenting to the autonomy of Bulgaria. Yet, with the instincts of a British statesman, he declares himself to be all for the maintenance of the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire. Let him look at the map of Turkey, and he will see that Bulgarian autonomy is absolutely incompatible with the integrity of the Empire. Bulgaria contains within its ambit the fortresses on the right bank of the Danube, Widdin, Routschuk, Silistria, &c., the keys of the passes of the Balkan, Pravodi, Schumla, and Sofia; and south of that mountain the Gulf of Bourgas, with the secure harbour of Sizepolis. Autonomous Bulgaria, if left to itself, would be what the Bulgarian kingdom was a thousand years ago—a perpetual worry and at times a menace to Constantinople. But it would not be left free to organize itself and make what use it pleased of its autonomy. It would be virtually a Russo-Slavic dependency under a deceptive title. The Bulgarians, after the subversion of their kingdom by the Emperor Basil II., remained during several centuries politically extinct. They made a sorry figure in the Slavonic league against the advancing Ottomans, and gave no aid to the Servo-Hungarian League, which terminated at the Battle of Varna, gained by Sultan Amurath. The Ottomans, viewing in the Bulgarians a sort of counterpoise to the Greeks, took them by the hand. In their shadow Ternova, Gabrowa, Selimnia, Yamboli, Aidos, Ahiouvli, Bourgos, &c., grew up, all of them forty years ago flourishing with cloth or other manufactures. In every town, as a rule, the best house after the Konak belonged to a Christian; in every village there was plenty. St. Paul Ricaut, who wrote his work on Turkey when the Turks cared neither for Etchee nor Consoles, admits the material comfort of the thrifty, industrious Bulgarians. An illiterate, unhistorical people, devoid of glorious traditions, or of glowing aspirations, they did not evince under the superintendence of offensive self-esteem everywhere characteristic of a dominant race. That grievance fell to the Greeks, and was acutely felt by them. The Russo-Turkish war of 1828-29 proved disastrous to the Bulgarians, and for the first time compromised them with the Porte. I need not dwell on that sad period of their history. Suffice it to say that the zealous aid given by them to the Russians, in the belief that the Turks were over, was covered by a general amnesty. Relying on it they rebuilt their villages devastated by Cossacks and Delhis, replanted their vineyards, and in a few years no trace remained of the fiery blast which had passed over the land.

"I am, sir, your obedient servant,
"ADOLPHUS SLADE, Vice-Admiral.
"September 12."

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.

A summary of agricultural returns for 1876 just issued by the Board of Trade gives the following results:—Land in Great Britain under wheat, 2,994,958 acres, a decrease of 10.4 per cent. compared with the acreage of 1875; under barley, 2,533,106 acres, an increase of 0.9 per cent.; under oats, 2,789,583 acres, an increase of 4.7 per cent.; under potatoes, 504,913 acres, a decrease of 3.4 per cent.; under hops, 69,980 acres, an increase of 1.2 per cent. The total number of cattle, sheep, and pigs in Great Britain on the 25th of June was—Cattle, 5,848,214, a decrease of 2.7 per cent. on 1875; sheep, 28,178,950, a decrease of 3.4 per cent.; pigs, 2,293,717, an increase of 2.9 per cent.

EXPULSION FROM A PARLIAMENT.

In the Assembly of the Colony of Victoria, on the 27th of July, a Select Committee reported on the conduct of Mr. McKean, a member of the House, and found the allegations substantially true. Mr. McKean was then ordered to attend in his place; he admitted having made the statements affecting members of the Assembly, and said he had done so in the heat of the moment. He apologized to the House and withdrew them. The House, by 33 against 20, resolved that he be expelled.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The following is a copy of a telegram from Sir Henry Barkly, dated "Cape Town, Aug. 25th," received at the Colonial Office, on Thursday:—

"Army of President totally routed; deserters pouring into Pretoria; Sickakunj pursuing in force; meeting at Landroost's Office Leydenburg agreed to ask British Government to take over Transvaal; Volksraad summoned 4th September. Accounts from Cape frontier most satisfactory; friendly meeting between Secretary Native Affairs and Kreli."

The attack made by the Transvaal army upon the Kaffir Chief Johannes proved a complete failure. Commandant Coetzer, who commanded the Boers, has been superseded by Commandant de Villiers. The *Cape Times* says that "the conduct of Commandant Coetzer at the storming of Johannes' stronghold is spoken of with disgust throughout the Transvaal. The bravery of the Amswazies is much extolled, and the loss of their assistance greatly regretted." The Boers have destroyed Mapasiella's town. Being desirous of capturing Sickakuni's cattle, which had been placed out of harm's way, the Boers consulted Mapasiella, who promised to point out their whereabouts, and, although he professed friendship, sent a guide who led them into a Kaffir ambush. To avenge this trick the Boers attacked Mapasiella's town, and hanged the guide.

The *Daily News* observes:—"The terms in which the reverse of the arms of the Transvaal Republic is announced show that it could not well have been more serious. The Boers have not only been defeated, but have fled in confusion and lost their supplies. Sikerkune, or Secocoeni, the Kaffir chief whose country they had invaded, was said to be pursuing them, and their position must, in any case, be very precarious. It is asserted that in the field they proved 'great cowards,' and soldiers may have a right to say so. At all events, they are not trained to war, and we know that military courage is not a purely natural quality. These men, who had on previous occasions displayed considerable bravery, ran away, so the President Burgers entreated them rather to kill him than to disgrace him by flight. It is a misfortune for all the governments of civilized Africa that the natives have seen the backs of white men, and the consequence cannot be foreseen. President Burgers and his fellow citizens began the contest with great self-confidence, and without the least regard to the interests of their neighbours, a fact of which Lord Carnarvon complained last month at the South African Congress. It is stated that the Boers are now resolved to ask for the intervention of the British Government, which, if asked, cannot be refused. The Transvaal Boers must now perceive that there are common interests between their independent Republic and the British Colonies, which might have led them to reject in less decided terms the Confederation which the Colonial Secretary of Great Britain proposed to them last year. In any case the wisdom of Lord Carnarvon's proposal is signally vindicated. It will be well if Sir Garnet Wolseley has not to make another hasty visit to Natal."

THE CLAIMANT AT DARTMOOR.

The Birmingham *Gazette* informs its readers as to the daily life of "Sir Roger" at Dartmoor. He rises in the morning at five o'clock. He then has to dress himself, clean his cell, get his breakfast, wash up the utensils employed therein, and then to be in readiness for chapel at a quarter to seven. The service is brief, lasting only about fifteen minutes, and, should the weather permit, at its conclusion the prisoner is taken out for parade. Before commencing his day's labour, which he is supposed to enter upon at half past seven, he has, like the whole of his fellow convicts, to undergo the operation of searching. We should state that his daily task is to work a sewing machine, at which he has become quite an adept. After working for three-quarters of an hour he is allowed a quarter of an hour's rest. At the termination of this respite he is summoned to dinner, and confined to his cell until one o'clock. Previous to resuming his task he is again searched, and then works the machine entrusted to him until ten minutes past five. His day's employment is then at an end; he is escorted to his cell, served with tea, and at a quarter to eight on week nights and an hour earlier on Sundays he retires to rest. Our contemporary, after giving the Claimant's dietary table, remarks that his knickerbockers have had to be altered several times, and some significance may be attached to the fact that he is reduced in girth about 17 inches! His general health is stated to be good, although he begins to assume a careworn and haggard appearance.

THE ROTHSCHILDS.

A London correspondent writes:—The marriage of the late Baron Meyer de Rothschild's only child with the Earl of Rosebery, which is announced in the *Whitehall Review*, coming so soon after the marriage of Sir Anthony Rothschild's daughter to Mr. Eliot Yorke, is an event that will by no means please the children of the Hebrews. Their Rabbis like mixed marriages between Jew and Gentile as little as the Pope likes those between Catholic and Protestant. This will be the third marriage contracted between a female Rothschild and a member of the British aristocracy. Sir Anthony's daughter married the younger brother of a Conservative peer, Lord Hardwicke's brother, and the Duke of Edinburgh's particular friend, the Hon. Eliot Yorke, M.P. for Cambridgeshire. The Earl of Rosebery is the most rising peer on the Liberal benches in the House of Lords. He is happier than Daniel Deronda in being able to win a Jewish maiden without having to find himself transformed into a Jew.

LORD BYRON'S OPINION OF THE TURKS.

Mr. Geo. Rule writes to the *Standard*:—"Mr. Lowe has quoted from Lord Byron's poetry; will you allow me to call his attention to his prose:—'It is difficult to say what the Turks are, it is at least not difficult to say what they are not. They are not treacherous; they are not cowardly; they are not assassins. They do not burn heretics. They are faithful to the Sultan while he is fit to reign, and devout to God without the Inquisition. If they were driven from St. Sophia to-morrow it is doubtful if Europe would be the gainer; England certainly would be the loser.'"

SIR A. GUINNESS, M.P.

Sir Arthur Guinness, Bart., M.P., is lying in a critical state at Ems, suffering from inflammation of the lungs. The Hon. David Plunkett, M.P., and his brother, Mr. Edward Guinness, have proceeded to Ems.

THE MANCHESTER CONSERVATIVES.

The committee of the Manchester Conservative Club have completed their arrangements for commemorating the opening of their new headquarters in that city by a great Conservative demonstration, which will take place on October 20. There will be a banquet and popular meeting in the Free Trade Hall, at which, it is stated, several members of the Cabinet will be present.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

British Columbia reasonably looks to us for redress, remarks the *Daily Telegraph*, and some of her citizens state that the only alternatives are the "execution of "the Carnarvon compromise," or the recognition by England of their right to secede from the Dominion. It seems impossible to deny the justice of their reclamations. But before consenting to a breaking up of a Confederation planned under our auspices and sent into the world with our maternal blessing, we certainly ought to bring to bear on Canadian statesmen a fair amount of Imperial pressure. It is not much for England to ask Canada to keep her pledged word. If she should refuse, British Columbia has clearly a right to her position before 1871—a distinct self-governed colony, under the direct protection of the British Crown. Whether she will fall back on that position or not is a question for her own most careful consideration. Severance from Canada means for her perpetual dependence on the United States as regards communication and commerce; like South Carolina at the early period of Secession, she will be "a poor little sister left out in the cold." With frozen and Yankee Alaska to the north, the Rocky Mountains behind her, the United States border tariff-guarded at the south, her physical and political loneliness would be rather sad. Such a painful result, perplexing in every way, would, however, be averted by the honest fulfilment of Canadian pledges.

Mr. Mackenzie's Government, says the *Standard*, must be by this time convinced that the public opinion of the Mother Country, expressed with a decision and unanimity most uncommon upon colonial questions, is opposed to the vacillating and tortuous policy which has been pursued towards British Columbia. It is now more than two years since we first called attention to the course which the so-called "Liberal" or "Grit" Ministry were pursuing in regard to the project of the Canadian Pacific railway—to the shuffling and time-serving devices which were being resorted to in order to evade the fulfilment of a bargain to which the honour of England was pledged, and to delay the execution of a work absolutely necessary in order to secure the integrity and the independence of the Dominion. We charged the Mackenzie Ministry with studying rather their own political convenience in the manner they made use of Canadian capital and Canadian credit than the welfare of the Confederation and the Imperial interest. We spoke of their policy as "a challenge to secession," as calculated to "loosen the newly-formed bonds of Canadian unity, and to injure the Dominion in its relations to the Empire." In return we received a great deal of bad language, and were told that we were actuated by "Tory prejudices" against the best of Ministries. We were informed that the Pacific railway was being pushed forward as fast as was consistent with political purity in the Dominion, and that if the bargain with British Columbia could not be literally fulfilled it was because of its "physical impracticability." Since then the terms of that bargain have been greatly modified. A compromise was agreed to in 1874, at the instance of Lord Carnarvon, by which British Columbia agreed to waive its demand for a strict performance of the contract of 1871—the contract on the strength of which she was induced to enter the Dominion—in consideration of a certain new undertaking on the part of Canada. The terms of this new compact, as arranged by Lord Carnarvon and accepted by Canada, were five. The first was that a railway between Esquimalt Harbour and Nanaimo, in Vancouver's Island, should be commenced as soon as possible, and completed with all practicable despatch; the second, that the surveys for the mainland line should be vigorously prosecuted; the third, that a waggon road and telegraph line should be immediately constructed along the route of the proposed railway; the fourth, that at least two millions of dollars should be spent every year within the Province of British Columbia from the date when the surveys should be sufficiently advanced to admit of that expenditure on the construction of the railway; and the last, that on or before the 31st of December, 1890, the whole line from the Pacific to the present furthest western point of the Canadian railway system should be completed and open for traffic. Considering that according to the original contract the Pacific railway was to have been completed by 1881, it will be generally allowed that these terms involve a very great relaxation of the bond on the faith of which British Columbia was tempted to enter the North American Confederation. To a certain extent, however, the pleas advanced by Canada for the non-fulfilment of her bargain were admitted to be reasonable. If it was "physically impracticable," as Mr. Mackenzie urged, to construct the railway within the stipulated term, there was nothing more to be said. No one in this country, nor, as we believe, in British Columbia, had any idea of keeping Canada to the strict letter of her bond if the doing so involved the crippling of her own finances. It may be that the original contract was somewhat rashly entered into, and that Canada, as young countries are wont to do, promised more than she had any reasonable prospect of performing. The construction of a railway from sea to sea upon British territory, however important as a means of welding the Dominion together, was not the only object to be considered. If in the process of cementing the union we ruined its most important member, the result could hardly be satisfactory from an Imperial point of view. Justice and good policy alike demanded that the terms of the contract of 1871 should be liberally interpreted—that Canada should not be asked to bear a burden disproportionate to her strength—that British Columbia should not be forced into a premature development at the expense of her neighbours. All these considerations we cannot doubt were well weighed by Lord Carnarvon when he proposed the compromise of 1874. What we have to complain of now is, that not only have the terms even of that modified contract not been complied with, but that no attempt whatever appears to have been made to comply with them. While we find the Mackenzie Government energetic enough in pushing forward public works within those Provinces where it is most essential that its political interest is to be maintained, and prepared to enter into new engagements with the United States, involving the expenditure of a large sum of money, we do not see any sign whatever of a desire to comply with the terms of the Carnarvon compromise. The pretence that the Dominion Upper House rejected that compromise Mr. Mackenzie's own followers can scarcely be regarded as serious. In the majority of two by which the bill was defeated there were several of Mr. Mackenzie's own party, including one gentleman who had been only made a Senator a few weeks before upon his nomination. It is difficult to believe that if the Ministry had been in earnest they could not have carried the measure through both Houses of the Canadian Parliament. Their recent offer of $750,000 to British Columbia in lieu of the Carnarvon compromise must convince us, if there were no other evidence, of the fact that they never meant to carry out that bargain—that they have been only paltering with their engagements to the Imperial Government and to the Province. It is absurd to suppose that British Columbia can accept such a sum as payment in full of all her claims. We cannot wonder that there is very great discontent throughout the Province—a discontent which it has been beyond even Lord Dufferin's powers of diplomacy to allay. We must still hope that the Canadian Government will be induced to review its conduct in regard to this transaction, and we cannot doubt that what influence the Imperial Government possesses will be brought to bear in order that justice may be done between the Dominion and the Province of British Columbia.

ITEMS.

A rumour is in circulation in Dublin that Lord Chief Justice Whiteside is to retire shortly from the Irish Bench and have a Peerage, and that Vice-Chancellor Chatterton will be Chief Justice in his room.

Judge Phillips, of Natal, has been sent to Barbadoes to try the numerous individuals who are charged with having participated in the riots which lately took place in that colony. No doubt Lord Carnarvon has been moved to this course in order that the Judge may bring to the judicial investigation a mind free from the possibility of bias.

Mr. Gladstone, having been applied to for a contribution towards the Woolwich Boat Accident Fund, has declined to give one, on the ground that such a matter is "suited for the consideration of residents rather than of those who have simply a political connection with the borough."

At Marylebone Police Court a broker was summoned for exhibiting certain articles of bedding which had been exposed to scarlet fever, without having had them previously disinfected. The defendant was fined £4 10s and costs, the magistrate remarking that he considered the penalty fixed by law was inadequate to the offence.

Mrs. Rhoda Lindley, tollgate keeper, has been sent to a lunatic asylum, charged with persecuting the Rev. William Titley, a Baptist minister, of Coleford, having a monomaniacal idea that the rev. gentleman promised her marriage.

Great indignation prevails amongst the residents of Malta—more especially the military and youth—against the Roman Catholic bishop, for excommunicating the Maltese journal *Fenice* for upholding Freemasonry.

At Bournemouth, part of a new villa in process of erection fell in and buried five workmen in the ruins. One was killed, and the others were seriously injured.

The living of St. George's, Hanover square, vacant by the death of the Rev. Henry Howarth, has been offered by the Bishop of London to the Rev. Capel Cure, rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, and accepted by him.

On Sept. 14th an old sailor named Mitchley, while walking along the beach at Hunstanton, picked up a bottle which contained the following letter:—"June 28, 1876.—The Mary Jane, Hamburg—All is lost! Good-bye to all, especially to Alice, my love. Tell her I am faithful to the last. Don't forget me. Though sinking, I think of thee; good-bye, dearest.—W. F. J. Love to all. We are just sinking; no time for me."

The *Medical Gazette*, under the head of "complimentary," says:—"It is stated that Terra del Fuego has been traversed by Lieutenant Masters, R.N., who has discovered that the natives believe in devils, and hold them to be the departed spirits of members of the medical profession. The main object of their religious ceremonies is to keep these devils at a distance from them."

One of the Prussian Provincial Governments has prohibited pigeon-shooting matches on the ground that they come under the definition of cruelty to animals.

A great torchlight procession was formed at Christiania when an address was presented to Mr. Plimsol, M.P. It was estimated that 20,000 persons were present.

The 100-ton hydraulic crane which has been erected on the iron pier at Woolwich Arsenal has been satisfactorily tested, two 38-ton guns being lifted at once with ease. This crane will be further tried before it is trusted to put the 81-ton gun on board the barge provided to take the "infant" to Shoeburyness.

A distressing suicide occurred at Tottenham, near London. Deceased, Heinrich Ruhlemann, aged eighty-tree, was a Lutheran clergyman and a native of Schleswig-Holstein. The evidence given showed that in 1848 the deceased spoke so decidedly against the conduct of the Prussian authorities that a warrant for his arrest was issued, to escape which he fled to England. With the remnants of a once goodly competence he founded a school at Tottenham, which he conducted with great ability and success for many years; but at length failing health and other causes brought him into such pecuniary difficulties that he was compelled to give up his school. His talents, however, were so well known and appreciated in the neighbourhood that a subscription was started for him, which kept him above want for some time. He foresaw, however, that the time must come when he would be compelled to quit his lodgings and go to the union, and on Wednesday morning, after having had his luncheon, he shot himself in the heart with a pistol. The coroner having summed up and pointed out that deceased's troubles had probably unhinged his mind, the jury returned a verdict of "temporary insanity."

A sad occurrence is reported from Northumberland. On Thursday, whilst the family of a widow named Armstrong, residing on the banks of the river Coquet, were seated at dinner, an altercation arose. One of the members of the family, a young woman, rushed out of the house and threw herself into the river. Her brother, a youth of sixteen, followed with a view of saving her. Both were drowned.

## Fearful Outrage by a Married Couple.

MONTREAL, Sept. 30.—A most horrible outrage and attempt at murder was committed last night in a tenement house in rear of No. 82 Fulford street, which is unparalled for atrocity. The tenement faces the Grand Trunk track, and consists of three rooms. In this place live John Fraser, thirty-two years of age, with his wife. Until lately he had been engineer on board the steamer Fawn. About three weeks ago Fraser decided to lease one of their rooms to a young couple named Laurin and up to last evening the latter occupied the room. Yesterday Laurin was away at his work as usual and returned in the evening to find his wife drunk. This enraged him very much. She stated that Fraser had given her the whiskey. Fraser denied this and alleged that her brother-in-law by an old marriage, had "set her tight." A quarrel immediately arose between Laurin and Fraser, the former evidently being very jealous of the latter. The dispute grew in bitterness and Laurin secretly drew out his knife, the blade of which must have been exceedingly sharp. Armed with this he made a spring upon Fraser, who it seems, did not suspect such an attack, having previously remarked that he would not strike Laurin he being a much smaller man, while Fraser is tall, athletic, and powerful. As Fraser prepared for what he thought was going to be a blow of the fist, he was seized from behind by Laurin's wife, who acted like a tigress, and at the same moment Laurin stabbed him in a vital part, inflicting a deep wound. Fraser struggled hard and called for his wife to come and help him. She, it appears, was in the adjoining room under the influence of liquor. Before she came to his rescue Laurin and his wife had Fraser on the floor, and the fiendish couple proceeded to mutilate the poor man in the most shocking manner. He would undoubtedly have been murdered but for his wife who having armed herself with a heavy poker, struck Laurin a blow with all her might. He dropped his knife to meet her attack and knocked her down, inflicting wounds on her face and discolouring both her eyes, but she returned to the charge and Fraser struggled to his feet. By this time the shrieks of the combatants had drawn a number of neighbours to the outer door, and Laurin perceiving that he was in danger, rushed into his room and with his wife packed up their clothes and ran away, but were afterwards arrested.

The pain of Fraser's wound has been great, but as he sobered, he felt ashamed to say anything about it, and went to bed instead of seeking for medical aid, as he should have done in such a grave case. He could not sleep, however, and his agony was such that he sent for liquor. This morning early Mrs. Fraser came up to Dr. Walfred Nelson, and simply said that her husband had been stabbed, not revealing the true nature of the outrage. The doctor was not prepared for the horrible spectacle that met his gaze, and seeing that the man's life was so greatly endangered, at once communicated with the police, subsequently returning to dress the wounds of the sufferer.

Dr. Nelson says that in all his experience he had never seen such a wound, and though he has hopes for the patient's life, he fears inflammation. Every time the patient breathes, he suffers the most intense pain and borders on delirium.

A REBUKE TO STANLEY.—It is satisfactory to know that the modern method of preaching civilization to savage races through the medium of the elephant rifle and its explosive bullets does not find favour with the most eminent of English travellers. Capt. Cameron, whose feat of crossing Africa from sea to sea has never been surpassed, in the course of the discussion which followed the reading of his paper on African Exploration before the British Association at Glasgow, was pointedly asked how he managed to make his way without getting into conflict with the natives. This question was plainly suggested by the recent narrative of Mr. Stanley's "Civilisade," and was prompted by natural astonishment at the contrast between the violence which Mr. Stanley had found necessary on Lake Nyanza, and the gentle means by which Capt. Cameron had been able to overcome similar obstacles some hundreds of miles to the south. It is a fact that only once was Capt. Cameron driven to the use of force, and then he used it with the greatest discretion. In explanation the explorer said, "It should be remembered that a man, although he was black, was a man just as much as if he were white. The proper way to get on among the natives was to behave toward them like a gentleman, and he could assure them that they understood quite well what a gentleman was. He found that the use of any force that was unnecessary or at all wanton was likely to endanger any African traveller." More than this, it was plain that Capt. Cameron was only fulfilling his duty in taking care to remember in the course of his journey that to shoot any native wantonly and unnecessarily would retard and very likely endanger those who might be his successors in African travel. But the new school of advertising exploration cannot be expected to trouble themselves with such trifles.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

## CANADIAN.

Many sheep have been killed by bears of late in the township of Oro.

In Muskoka threshing shows the yield of grain not nearly so good as anticipated.

Messrs. Starr, Gill, & Co., Brockville, have just received a consignment of sugar direct from Holland. This is the first time that sugar has arrived at Brockville from that source.

Mr. John Roddick, Brussels, shipped on Monday, September 25th, 493 lambs for the Buffalo market. This makes 2,760 that have been shipped at Brussels station since 1st July, 1876, for above market.

The organ question is still an exciting one among Presbyterians in St. Thomas. The congregation of the church there have been directed by the London Presbytery to take a constitutional vote upon the matter, and thus settle it.

From Underwood the Bruce *Reporter* has the following:—"Thrashing is the farmers' chief employment at the present time. The grain does not turn out as well as was anticipated, being a very poor sample, as well as light in the ear."

Mr. John Glasser, of Brantford, a few days ago cut himself, almost dangerously, with glass. He was cutting glass with a diamond when the diamond slipped and his finger struck the edge of the glass. The wound continued to bleed for over two hours before it could be stopped.

The Stisted and McMurrich road is through to the 7th con. of McMurrich. Multitudes of land-seekers are looking for locations in that neighbourhood, and some who wish it, get work on the road, so that they earn most of the expenses of their exploring trip.

Mr. W. J. Shannon, lot 17, concession 5, in McKillop, has raised forty bushels of barley to the acre upon a portion of his farm this year. This is an exceedingly large yield when we take into consideration the almost complete failure of the grain crops in many parts of the Province.—*Brussels Post.*

The Wingham *Advance* says:—"Farmers and their sons, who wish to make a little money during the winter, have now a good opportunity. They can take contracts for getting out railway ties in any quantity [illegible] 2,000 up, and will get paid in hard cash [illegible] their work."

The Galt *Reporter* says:—"Mr. Samuel Cherry, of the Phoenix mills, on the Waterloo road, has lost recently by death some six or seven fine pigs. The cause of death is 'Black Tongue,' and the disease appears to be contagious from the fact that the first pigs died some days ago, while yesterday some four or five went off."

A tramp who had got over his three thousand miles since he began his vagrant course, was in Oshawa recently. He stopped in every town of any size, and kept a diary of the trade in every place he visited, with remarks upon it. He has several bulky volumes of his written memoranda.

The Dundas *True Banner* says:—"Mr. William Gerrie, who sold his Clydesdale mares for $1,000, and bargained to deliver them at Chicago at the purchaser's expense, met with a serious loss by the death from inflammation of one of the mares shortly after reaching Chicago."

Miss Farquharson, of Whitby, sent on exhibition a painting on velvet to the Women's Department of the Centennial, and put thereon the price, $300. It has been sold by the Managers of the Women's Department for $1,000, who generously give Miss Farquharson an extra $100, and pocket the balance of $600.

The town of Walkerton is in a "muddle." The Finance Committee's report states that that it will require a rate of three cents on the dollar to cover expenses this year—one cent more than can legally be levied. The Mayor has been authorized to stop all work now in progress until the rate for the year has been fixed.

The members of the "old" Wesleyan Methodist Church, of Guelph, with a spirit of enterprise worthy of imitation, have given the Elora carpet factory an order for between four and five hundred yards of first-class carpeting; with a view to carpeting every inch of flooring in the church. They also intend cushioning the seats, and making other changes towards the beautifying of the church.

On the 19th inst. Louis Lardie, who was working in Watt & Walker's barrel factory, in this village, made up in twelve hours the large number of sixty flour barrels, the work being done in first-class style. Lardie is a man of forty-six years of age, and challenges any man in the Dominion of his age to beat it. Any one accepting the challenge will address to W. Johnson, Harriston.—*Harriston Tribune.*

A traveller from McMurrich (Muskoka district) states that he saw tobacco leaves from a seed sown last June, in that township, the leaves of which measured two feet by eleven inches. One of the stalks left for seed is yet in full bloom. This shows that frost in this neighbourhood is not so severe as in townships farther south. On his way south through Stisted, he noticed tomato plants in flower, not touched by frost—and the tomato is a delicate plant.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Richmond, Fenelon Falls, whose wife was accidentally shot at Coboconk recently. The Funeral on Sunday, September 24th, was largely attended. The family have lived here for several years, and had the respect of their neighbours. Mr. Richmond is a hard-working man, and now has the care of a small family, the eldest of whom is sixteen, and the youngest an infant of ten months or a year.

From Spence the *Free Grant Gazette* has the following:—"A settler has got 1,000 acres secured two miles from Spence, and intends chopping 100 acres before burning the fallow. He speaks of starting a cheese factory. There are fourteen Norwegian families north of Burke's. In Norway, the season is often so wet that they have to dry hay, &c., on a sort of fence work of poles. A Norwegian in this neighbourhood was seen drying his peas in a similar manner, from old habit, and not knowing the needlessness of such precautions in this climate."

The Guelph *Mercury* says:—"On Wednesday morning as a young lad was using a straw-cutter on the premises of Mr. T. Couch, on the Elora Road, he was warned to be careful or he would cut his fingers, and Mr. Couch undertook to show him how to feed the straw into the machine properly. He had only cut a very small quantity when he got the fingers of one of his hands caught between the knives, and before stopping the machine, had shortened his fingers by about an inch. Dr. McGregor dressed the wounds and the sufferer is doing very well."

A serious robbery occurred in the office of Mr. Scofield's mill and Bickerton & Co.'s planing factory, Woodstock, the other day. About nine a.m. the bookkeeper, Mr. Clarkson, went out, leaving the door of the safe open, Mr. Scofield, who was in the office with him, going out about the same time. On returning in not more than five minutes it was found that the money drawer of the safe had been emptied of its contents, about $34, and $135, belonging to Bickerton & Co., abstracted from a drawer in the desk. No clue whatever has been found to the guilty parties. It is very strange that so daring a theft could be committed successfully in daylight in a place which persons are constantly entering and passing.

The Woodstock *Sentinel* has the following bit of scandal from Wolverton: "You will remember that some time since a hint was given of the discovery of a case of intrigue between a pair of antiquated individuals. During the time intervening, the affair appears to have been considerably quieted; but now it has been revived with a vengeance. The aggrieved husband has entered, against the alleged destroyer of his conjugal peace, a suit for damages for the sum of $5,000. As I have before stated, the accused parties are pretty well advanced in years, too old one would think to have so recently become stricken by the darts of the wicked little god who carries the heart piercer. Should the complainant recover the damages sought it is possible the aged Lothario may be brought to see the folly of a too liberal indulgence in sentimentalism or something worse."

The Lindsay *Post* says:—"This crime (train-wrecking) has, we regret to notice, extended to this section, an attempt having been made to "wreck" a train on the Victoria railway. In this case, however, the excuse is offered that it was all done "in a joke," but such jokes are too serious and practical to be tolerated for a moment. From the evidence in the police court it appears that on the evening of the 19th two young men named James O'Brien and George Earl were at the Cameron crossing, where were two others named James Brock and Daniel McDonald, on their way home, and hearing a train coming O'Brien picked up a pretty big stick and placed it across the track. McDonald pointed out the rashness of the act and in the endeavour to have the stick removed he and O'Brien had a scuffle. In the meantime Earl crossed the track and taking up a railway tie laid it across the track at an angle. The other spectator, Brock, fortunately succeeded in getting the rail out of the way in time, so that no harm was done. The Police Magistrate committed the two men for trial at the assizes. They were yesterday admitted to bail. Mr. Hudspeth appeared for the Company and Mr. Ketchum for the prisoners."

The Tilsonburg *Observer* says:—"The usually quiet village of Springford was thrown into a state of excitement one day recently by the announcement that Mrs. A. Brown had been found dead in her bedroom. Mr. Brown and his wife occupied three rooms connected both to the house occupied by Mr. N. Brown, his family, and the large store occupied by Mr. L. Wilcox. Mr. A. Brown is a carpenter by trade, and has been engaged for some time in the firm of Shaw & Pennington, of Otterville. On the day previous to her death Mrs. Brown, in company with her father, was in Otterville, and on returning in the evening went almost immediately to her room. How soon she retired is not known. Her father-in-law not noticing her around in the morning went into her rooms from his own part of the building. Not seeing her he went to her bedroom door and called her by name; receiving no answer he entered her room, the door of which was partly open, where, to his consternation, he found her as if in a comfortable sleep—but dead. Her body was still warm though her limbs were cold. Medical aid was at once summoned, but to no purpose; life had taken its departure."

A church in Vermont advertises for a pastor, and says:—"No political stumper need apply."

"How much will your new school books cost, Johnny?" says father. Johnny calculates to himself:—"Lemme see; 62 cents for the singing book, 75 cents for a new 'rithmetic, $1.25 for a new 'joggrephy,' 25 cents for a hockey, harf a dollar for a new bat, and a quarter for candy." Then aloud says:—"'Bout four dollars, pa!"

## FARM AND OTHER NOTES.

THIN SEEDING OF WHEAT.

The following from the *Mark Lane Express* gives the favourable side of the question of the "thin seeding" of wheat. There is much to be said on both sides; this is one side:—

"The first instance we shall adduce as to thin seeding is that of Jethro Tull, who about the beginning of the last century occupied a farm or farms of 200 acres of his own, which he cultivated on perfectly novel principles, the first and foremost of which was, "that thorough tillage is competent, with or without manure, to secure the profitable growth of any given species of cultivated plant year after year in succession." This theory he carried into practice for upward of thirty years with so much success that, instead of impoverishing the soil, he let off a part of it at one-third more rent than he had previously been given for it. He introduced the practice, more recently adopted by the late Mr. Smith, of Lois Weedon, of sowing half the land in portions of three feet, embracing three rows, having unsown intervals of the same breadth between them, and he found that he could grow heavier crops on half the land than his neighbours did on the whole. Mr. Smith, too, practised this plan for nearly twenty years, and produced on half the land from thirty-five to forty bushels of wheat per half acre. The amount of seed sown was from one to two pecks per acre, no more being ever applied. Mr. Hallett, of Brighton, offers another example of this seeding. His farm or farms consist of about six hundred acres, a considerable portion of which consists of "down" land, having from four to six inches of soil lying on a chalk subsoil. It is unnecessary to go at length into the system adopted by Mr. Hallett, whose object is to produce a quality of wheat founded, like superior cattle, on an authentic pedigree. His system embraces thin seeding as a first principle. Thus, sown early, one hundred acres are seeded at the rate of one bushel to six acres, while the latest sowing is one bushel per acre. Mr. Hallett's neighbours seed at the rate of three bushels per acre; he therefore saves in seed alone from one hundred and eighty to two hundred and eighty bushels. As a sample of what may be done by this system, Mr. Hallett hired a large field belonging, we believe, to the corporation of Brighton. It was such a barren spot as to be considered actually incapable of growing wheat. We saw this field under wheat seeded at the rate of one peck per acre, the product of which was a crop of forty-eight bushels per acre. One good effect of thin seeding is the entire absence of "under-corn"—that is, weak and short plants holding inferior ears and containing thin and imperfect grain. Heavy seeding always produces this defect, which detracts from both the quality and quantity of the return. There was no such under-corn in Mr. Hallett's crop, the ears being all one height, and as level on the top as a table.

Another case is that of Mr. Piper, an Essex miller and farmer, who, for twenty-five consecutive years, grew wheat every year without manure, except a dressing of soot, and without ploughing the land, using only a hoe to scuffle in the seed, and planting in at the rate of one and a quarter pecks per acre. It was said that the produce exceeded by a quarter (eight bushels) per acre more than obtained by the neighbouring farmers, and in one season reached to seven quarters per acre. Like Mr. Mechi, Mr. Piper was accustomed to send annually a printed statement of the profit and loss accruing in the season. Mr. Miller, the curator of the Botanical Gardens at Cambridge, inserted an account of the experiment which he undertook, in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society:—"In the mouth of June, 1866, sowed some wheat, and on the 8th of August one plant was taken up and separated into eighteen parts, and replanted. These plants were again taken up and divided, in the months of September and October, and planted separately to stand the winter, and this division produced sixty-seven plants. These were again taken up in March and April and produced five hundred plants. The number of ears thus formed from one grain of wheat was 21,100, which which gave three pecks and three-quarters of corn, estimated at 576,840 grains. The land was of medium quality, and no manure applied."

An acre of land contains 43,560 square feet; three bushels of wheat contain at the rate of Mr. Miller's wheat, 1,532,534 grains, which, divided by 43,560, the number of square feet in the acre, gives 42 grains of seed to the square foot! Is it surprising that frequent failures of the crop should occur with such crowding of plants which, like human beings, can only be healthy and strong with plenty of room to develop their productive faculties?

MISCELLANEOUS.

"Keep corn smut away from your cattle as it is poisonous," says Dr. Horne and other Western veterinarians.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Mr. T. J. P. Atkinson forwards the following remedy for cabbage worms:—Pull cabbage or collard leaves, after sunset, and place one with the smooth side down on top of each cabbage or collard. Early on the following morning the worms will be found on the under side of the leaf, and may be destroyed. I killed 387 worms on last Friday morning in this way.—*Greensboro' Herald.*

One grape grower, who had part of his vineyard mulched with hogs' bristles, in the severe winter of '72-'73, found the mulched vines went through safely, while a part not mulched perished; but mulching on a large scale is too troublesome to be generally adopted, and is objectionable in summer as intercepting the heat, which you want at the roots of the vine. Hogs' bristles, however, would not be liable to this objection, as the mulch would be so thin—about one inch—the heat would go through it, and the bristles are also a fertilizer.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

President Sayles asked the Club if there was any particular benefit in drilling wheat north and south over any other way? Horace Sayles replied that the prevailing winds here were from the west and southwest. If the drill was run north and south the ridges would hold the snow longer and protect the wheat better than if the wind blew with the ridges. C. W. Holmes could agree with Mr. Sayles in the theory, but the best crop he ever saw was drilled east and west. Madison Graves was of the opinion that there was no difference practically, for he had experimented on it, but had never got to any satisfactory results.—*Michigan Farmers' Club.*

It is doubtful whether, with all the experience farmers have had in reclaiming the numerous swamps of this country, they have yet settled upon the best way, or whether the swamps that have been reclaimed in the careless, unsystematic way pursued, have not cost more than the profits. There is still a great deal of swamp land, marring the appearance of the best farming districts of our country, and yielding but little income, and it seems to us that farmers cannot do better than to discuss thoroughly the best and most economical methods of draining, clearing, and working and seeding the different kinds of swamps.—*Rural Home.*

The Austrian system of making sour hay is very simple. It consists in digging long graves or trenches, four feet in depth by six or eight feet in breadth. The newly cut clover and grass is crammed into the trench and tramped tightly down. When the trench is quite full, so that the contents are a little above the surface, the whole is then covered up with a foot or fifteen inches of earth, just as a heap of potatoes is covered. Prof. Wrightson states that the preservation is complete, and the wetter the fodder when it goes together the better. No salt is mixed with the grass. He further states that this "sour hay" affords a capital winter fodder, and when cut out with hay spades it is found to be rich brown in colour and very much liked by stock. The pulp left in the manufacture of sugar from beet is also preserved in the same way, and, it is stated, will keep fresh for five or six years. Although Prof. Wrightson does not say so, still we imagine that green vetches may also be stored by the same method. When we formerly referred to this matter we expressed a wish that some of our readers would make a careful trial of the Austrian mode of preserving green fodder.—*London Times.*

The very hot weather which commenced on odd days in June, and was more continuous in July, appears to have been somewhat prejudicial to newly-shorn teggs and lambs in some of the Medway marsh pastures. Directly the animals are shorn a great number die—perhaps fifty at one place. It is not improbable that death, in the rapidly fatal cases, was due to a kind of cutaneous asphyxia, from cessation of the function of the skin, by extreme engorgement of the superficial blood vessels. Probably derangement of the nervous system may also have had much to do with a fatal termination, for the sudden denudation and exposure of the skin in the region of the spine must have produced a marked alteration in the condition and function of the spinal cord. Indian sportsmen well know the danger incurred by remaining long in the sun without some protection to the head, neck, and spine, and, in addition to a sun-hat, the more experienced wear a coat the back of which is thickly quilted with cotton. The loss of sheep and lambs should indicate the necessity there exists for keeping them sheltered from the direct rays of the sun for a few days, if removal of their fleece is absolutely demanded during extremely hot weather. In the absence of shelter, the winter jackets, now humanely employed to protect sheep from cold, might be advantageously resorted to under the circumstances.—*English Veterinary Journal.*

A few summers since when I was staying in Shropshire, on Sabbath afternoon passing through a quiet village, I saw what to me was a joyous sight. In a cottage garden, under the superintendence of an aged widow, I was gratified by seeing, arranged in two rows, not less than forty strong stocks of bees. Looking over the hives without interfering with them, a bee, perhaps previously angered from some cause, without any warning stung me just below the right eye. The old lady at once went into her cottage, and, bringing out her hair oil bottle, commenced to rub the oil gently into the wound, with the happiest result—in fact I was overjoyed to feel the pain almost instantly cease, and the part was not afterward at all inflamed or swollen. Previous to this a bee's sting had a dreadful effect upon me—the swelling and smarting were both frightful. Ever since this, to me, well-remembered Sabbath, I have, when stung, without loss of time, removed the sting and applied plain olive oil, rubbing it gently into the part, then a small quantity of tincture of arnica, and although I have since been stung hundreds of times, I have not in a single instance, after applying the oil and arnica, experienced the slightest inconvenience, so that a bee-sting to me is now a matter of no moment, for the part, although very painful for a few seconds, never inflames; the pain, as if by magic, disappears, and I cannot perceive the slightest swelling.—*London Gardener's Chronicle.*

## THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S TOUR.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

KAMLOOPS, Sept. 9.

The Governor-General and party left New Westminster for Yale at midnight of Tuesday, the 5th inst., on board the steamer Royal City. His Excellency, Lady Dufferin, and suite were accompanied by Sir Matthew B. Begbie, Chief Justice of British Columbia, and Commodore Chatfield, commander of the Amethyst. The three newspaper correspondents travelling with the Governor-General were the only other passengers, the Royal City having been chartered for the exclusive use of the vice-regal party. Wednesday morning we were again in the midst of fine mountain scenery. On either side of us was a grand range with a stretch of alluvial soil between it and the Fraser. On these flats an occasional small ranche was seen. Members of the vice-regal party spoke of the scenery of this part of the trip as very similar to that of the Rhine above Bingen. The Fraser, below Yale, is a wide, muddy river, with a very strong current. In ascending it the steamer is continually crossing and re-crossing it in order to take advantage of the back currents below the frequent little points and bends.

Toward noon the Royal City arrived at Hope, ninety-five miles from the mouth of the Fraser river. There is a Hudson's Bay store here and a few other houses, among them the residence of Mr. Dewdney, M. P. for Kamloops district. The place had a very dead-and-alive look, and there were only a very small number of persons about; but a salute was fired from it as the steamer made her appearance, and it otherwise showed signs of its inhabitants being desirous of giving the Governor-General and Lady Dufferin a hearty welcome. In the neighbourhood of Hope silver ore exists in large quantities, but I understand that no mines are being worked. To the east of it is the Similkameen river gold bearing country; since the discovery of the auriferous metal in greater quantities in the Cariboo District this has been almost deserted. The location of Hope is the most picturesque imaginable. Just below and above it the river bends sharply, and the mountains thus seem to close into an amphitheatre. Standing in the middle of the low ground on which the village is built an artist might almost, by changing his point of sight to each of the thirty-two points of the compass in succession, obtain the material for as many strikingly grand pictures.

Between two and three o'clock the steamer reached Yale, 110 miles from the mouth of the Fraser. This is a prosperous town, situated in what seems to be an immense gorge in the mountains. It is the highest point to which steamers run, though up the river there are other long navigable stretches separated by rapids. It is also the point at which the stage road up through the country to Kamloops, Cariboo, &c., commences. The place was very profusely decorated with flags, arches, &c., and all the places of business were closed. At the door of the stables of Messrs. Barnard & Co., who run the stage line, a horse was standing with a cover over him, on which was the legend, "Gold, but not iron." A large number of Indians drawn up in two ranks at the landing, and armed with their muskets and rifles, formed a guard of honour. The vice-regal party having been placed in carriages were driven along the main street as far as the first arch where a halt took place, and the Governor-General was presented with the following address:—

*To the Right Honourable Sir Frederick Temple, Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, etc., etc.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—The inhabitants of Yale, British Columbia, approach your Excellency as representative of our beloved Sovereign (her Majesty Queen Victoria) with feelings of sincere loyalty and attachment, and most heartily welcome you to our town.

Although distant, and at present unfortunately isolated, from the rest of the Dominion, yet we have watched with interest and admiration your Excellency's career since assuming your exalted position.

We fully appreciate the honour of your Lordship's visit to this Province, and with pleasure recognize your desire to become personally acquainted with the places and people under your Excellency's benign rule. Such an acquaintance and knowledge we feel assured will result in our mutual benefit.

We would also extend a right hearty welcome to your esteemed Lady the Countess of Dufferin, and we trust that your sojourn amongst us will prove a time of unalloyed pleasure.

The Governor-General in reply expressed his satisfaction with the assurances of sincere loyalty and attachment to the throne and person of Queen Victoria contained in the address. It had always been a pleasure to him to become acquainted with his fellow subjects in various parts of this vast Dominion, and he could assure them that he had found the hardy pioneers of civilization in these distant regions, second to none in those characteristics, feelings, and sentiments which are the support and mainspring of a great and powerful nation. He thanked them for their kindly expressions towards Lady Dufferin and himself, and assured them that it would afford him the greatest gratification to promote by every means in his power the prosperity and welfare of this most lovely Province.

A number of presentations were then made, after which the carriages went on to another fine arch erected by the Chinese residents. Here, on behalf of that section of the community, a Chinese merchant presented the Governor-General and Lady Dufferin with an address of welcome, written in Chinese characters on a roll of pink paper. As far as I could make out from listening to the reading of the document, it ran something like "Ching mung, ding dong, sang long may wah shing nire ning," &c., a series of monosyllables ending in "ing" and interspersed here and there with an occasional "ay" sound. The address was read deliberately, and the effect produced was very musical. The words came from the reader's mouth like the tones of a bell, or rather, perhaps, like the ringing of an anvil as two smiths bring their hammers down upon it alternately and in regular cadence in the process of welding a piece of iron. After the address had been read in the original tongue a translation of it was read by a young Englishman as follows:—

*To His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada:*—

We, the Chinese residents of the town of Yale, B.C., beg to approach your Excellency, as the representative of the Queen of England in the Dominion of Canada, with the offer of a sincere welcome to this town, and trust that you will carry back none but good and happy reminiscences of our people and your visit to this Province on your return to the seat of Government.

The Governor-General replied as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—It is with especial pleasure that I accept an address from the Chinese subjects of her Majesty at this place. Wherever I go I receive the best reports of the Chinese residents as regards their industry, sobriety, orderly conduct, and loyal obedience to the laws; and I am glad to think that their European fellow-subjects of British Columbia should invariably treat them, as I understand to be the case, with the friendly courtesy and generous good feeling which should prevail in a country where impartial justice reigns supreme, and none of us can afford to consider ourselves independent of each other's help in developing the resources and promoting the prosperity of the Province.

Having proceeded a little farther, another halt was made to give an Indian an opportunity of having a talk with the Governor-General on behalf of his fellows. Although there was no written address, there had seemingly been some pre-arrangement as to what should be said, for when the orator hesitated, before he had proceeded far, a voice in the rear of the crowd of aborigines was heard prompting him, the owner of which, upon being invited to take a more prominent position, was found to be a squaw elaborately dressed in the costume of a white woman, with hat, jacket, gloves, crinoline, &c. An Indian officiated as interpreter, and gave an English translation of the chief's address, which was just about as intelligible as the Indian dialect itself. A portion of it was something like this:—"We are glad see you come; are you come make good business all the time? That's all right, say business all the time. All right, s'pose God come this night. S'pose God come down make white man, s'pose He come make Indian too. S'pose God make the gold, s'pose he make the fish. S'pose God make the land, s'pose he make the water," and so on. The Governor-General made a brief reply which the interpreter, speaking for some time in a declamatory tone and with an energetic manner, apparently stretched considerably in rendering it in his native tongue. It looked very much as though he understood the Governor-General's English no better than the white persons present understood his, and therefore to sustain his reputation with his people as a linguist invented a reply for his Excellency in the Indian dialect. At any rate the aborigines appeared to be pleased with it.

After leaving the Indians the vice-regal party were driven to the residence of Mr. C. Oppenheimer, a prominent resident of Yale, whose guests the Governor-General and Lady Dufferin were that night.

The next morning the party resumed the route toward the interior in carriages provided by Messrs. Barnard & Co., Captain Layton, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, who had been making arrangements for them along the road, accompanying them. The three correspondents left together about eight o'clock in another conveyance. Rain fell copiously during nearly the whole of that and the following day. The road by which we left Yale runs for the first ten or twelve miles along the north side of the Fraser river, and through a series of cañons, the scenery of which is of the grandest character. It then crosses the river by a pretty suspension bridge, and continues up the south side. This road, which is the great avenue of communication between the seaboard and the interior of the Province, was constructed sixteen years ago by the Imperial Government; but since British Columbia entered Confederation it has been kept in repair by the Provincial Government. The greater portion of it is cut along the slopes of mountains which rise directly up from the edge of the river, and at numerous points it is built up with crib work of stone. Occasionally it passes over a piece of level ground of a few acres extent, but it is generally in the form of a ledge so narrow that two vehicles cannot pass each other on it, and drivers have to be continually on the look-out so as to be on a wider part of it than usual when meeting a conveyance from the opposite direction. It is said that men engaged in the construction of it had, at some points, to be suspended at their work with ropes. The road is continually going up and down hill and turning from one side to the other, and frequently the traveller is passing