THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Interesting Summary of News.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

The Government, says the *Times*, have chartered the Allan steamship Sarmatian to convey his Excellency the Marquis of Lorne and her Royal the Princess Louise to Canada. The Sarmatian, which is one of the best ships of the Allan line, sailed from Liverpool for Quebec yesterday, and is due in the Mersey, on her return voyage, in a month. She will then be fitted up for the reception of the distinguished party, and will sail on the 14th of November, as at present arranged, taking only the Governor-General and his suite. It may be remembered that the Sarmatian conveyed the Black Watch to Africa during the Ashantee war, and it is probable that the satisfactory manner in which she performed her duty on that occasion has led to her selection for the present service.

SILENT SPIRIT.

The *Examiner* draws attention to the injury to the public health caused by the increasing sale by distillers of silent spirit chemically flavoured to represent whiskey, etc. Modern whiskey in fact is not whiskey, but simply alcohol newly distilled, and charged with poisonous fusil oil and other deleterious belongings. Silent Spirit, says the *Examiner*, is produced by the distillation of fermented potatoes and the drainings of public-house bars, and anything else that will give alcohol of no particular character. Given the alcohol, chemistry supplies the flavour. The trade, not without a certain countenance from the Excise, sells this as whiskey, or "blends" it with the genuine spirit. This is a degradation of the original usquebaugh that is not to be tolerated, more especially as it interferes with the profits. We can, of course, sympathise with patriotic Irish distillers, in their wish to defend what is practically their monopoly against the invasions of chemistry and potatoes; but the one point which all spirit drinkers ought to look to is that the spirits they drink should be old, and should have been kept in bulk. Whiskey, as it first comes through the worm of the still, ought not to be called whiskey. It is an alcoholic compound capable of maturing itself, and of eliminating its impurities, so as to become in time drinkable. The mischief is that we drink it as fast as it is made, and so drink poison instead of the stimulant we seek.

GROUSE FOR NEW ZEALAND.

Experiments are being made at the Acclimatisation Society, of Otago, New Zealand, to introduce grouse and black game into that colony. The society have sent over one of their agents, Mr. Charles Bills, jr., for the purpose of procuring about 200 birds for breeding and rearing on the far-distant hills of Otago. Mr. Bills, since his arrival in England in July last, has succeeded in securing several excellent broods of both species. The first lot were captured in Glenfiddich, on the moors belonging to the Duke of Richmond; and Mr. Bills is now busily employed in the neighbourhood of Aberfeldy, on the Breadalbane moors, obtaining specimens. The cages in which the specimens are confined were specially made for the purpose. They are of wood, and measure 3 feet 6 inches in length, and 14 inches in depth. The top is padded with strong canvas, so that the birds when excited or flurried cannot injure themselves. In front there are strong wire bars, and blinds to regulate the light. The birds are daily fed on cuckwheat, soaked tares, Spratt's patent food, hemp and canary seed, German paste, hard-boiled eggs, maize and oatmeal. For the outward voyage a supply of cranberries is being obtained from Norway. At the Zoological Gardens, in London, they have never been able to keep grouse or black game alive longer than two months, and many eminent naturalists declare it utterly impossible for them to exist without heather, yet Mr. Bills caught his birds on the heather, and from the day of their capture until now—about eleven weeks—they have neither seen nor tasted it. The birds have not suffered in weight or appearance, and appear to be thoroughly comfortable.

THE REPORTED MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS THYRA OF DENMARK.

The Copenhagen Correspondent of the *Standard* writes, under date the 1st inst.:—"Two months ago I was able to state that I was informed on the highest authority that the reports circulated in French and other Continental papers relating to an impending marriage of the Princess Thyra and Prince Louis Napoleon were unfounded. The Paris *Figaro* has, however, reproduced this report. On one occasion this paper gave a long description of a "supposed" conversation between the Empress Eugénie and her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Denmark, who, the *Figaro* stated, had spontaneously proposed the hand of her sister-in-law for the Prince Imperial. I am requested to state, on unimpeachable authority—my informant having himself heard every word of the conversation when their Royal Highnesses paid a visit to the Empress at Chislehurst—that the report printed in the *Figaro* is utterly false from beginning to end."

TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

A Berlin correspondent says that of the 1,400 millions of roubles which Russia claims from the Porte as war indemnity it is proposed that payment shall be exacted in money, of only 200 millions. The remaining 1,200 millions are to be allowed for as having been paid by the cession of territory. But the Russian Government demands payment in money of the residue, which is made up of two claims of 100 millions each—one on behalf of the Government, the other on behalf of the Russian merchants who have suffered loss by the war. In addition to the above-named indemnity, Russia demands that the Porte shall repay to the Danube Commission half a million of francs expended in removing obstacles from the bed of the river.

THE COLONIAL INSTITUTE.

It is not yet known whether the Prince of Wales will open the ensuing sessional proceedings of the Royal Colonial Institute, of which he has accepted the presidency. Sir Archibald Michie, Agent-General for Victoria, has promised to read a paper. One of the most interesting subjects of discussion will be New Guinea. So many Englishmen are now flocking to that island, that it will become necessary to consider what steps, if any, shall be taken to preserve order among them. It is said that the Government of Queensland is not unwilling to assume some responsibility in the matter. If this be so, the home Government would certainly be relieved of a great difficulty.

ROUMELIA.

The London correspondent of the Birmingham *Gazette* says there is every reason to believe it was no joke uttered by General Skobeleff when he boasted that Russia would place and maintain 50,000 troops in Roumelia despite the Berlin Treaty.

ITEMS.

The *Mark Lane Express* hopes that the Prince of Wales' efforts to introduce grouse into Norfolk will not succeed, as various abuses and inconveniences might follow.

It is currently stated in betting circles that one young man has, in successive seasons, lost £70,000 to one book-maker. The young men, it is said, has now nothing to bet with.

It is stated that the Duke of Sutherland, in addition to being an extensive shareholder in the Glasgow Bank, was a partner in the city firm which stopped payment after the bank's failure.

At a largely-attended meeting of the Liberal party at Chatham yesterday it was unanimously resolved to form a Liberal "Seventy" upon the Birmingham system, and the party will now be thoroughly reorganized.

It has been arranged to hold a great temperance mission in Birmingham. It will be opened on Sunday with sermons in almost every church and chapel in the town; and numerous meetings and conferences will be held throughout the week. About 40,000 tracts have already been distributed.

A lamentable accident occurred at Birmingham on Sunday morning. A lad named Callaghan dropped a coin into a mortar mill, and whilst attempting to regain it, was drawn between the machinery and so mangled that when the body was extricated it was scarcely recognizable.

The Australian cricketers, says *Vanity Fair*, will have no reason to regret their visit to England. They take back with them a sum of over £10,000, the net residue of their receipts from the matches in this country, after paying all expenses. For one match alone they received a cheque for £780 18s. 6d.

Light, the new literary and critical journal, hazards the opinion that, owing to the Afghan war and the unsettled state of affairs in Turkey, Lord Beaconsfield will, before many weeks have elapsed, be the most unpopular man in England. As for Lord Lytton, we strongly suspect that he will realise the fate of Humpty-Dumpty, and that, when his fall comes, neither Premier nor Queen will be able to set him up again.

A well-known turf patron, Sir Richard Sutton, Bart., expired suddenly on the 3rd inst., at his residence, St. John's Park, Ryde. Sir Richard was born in 1821, and succeeded his brother, the third baronet, in 1873. The eldest son, Richard Francis, who was born in 1853, succeeds to the title and estates. In 1868 the deceased gentleman won the Derby with Lord Lyons.

The London *Globe* thinks, now that people of all ranks and conditions have begun to assume not only the right but the habit of wearing moustache and beard, there is ample opportunity for fashion to invent and consecrate some special types, and by appropriating them skilfully to some party, political or otherwise, to re-establish on a new footing the somewhat faded glories of the barber's art.

Private letters from Dublin state that Mr. Parnell has the best chance of securing the Home Rule leadership. If successful, he will, it is believed, advocate a policy of a much more stringent character than Mr. Butt's, and will carry on the game of obstruction as far as the forms of the House of Commons will permit. Mr. Parnell pooh-poohs Federalism, but has faith in shillelaghs.

At the meeting of the Church Congress in Sheffield, the relation of the Church towards popular literature and recreation was one of the subjects discussed. Some members condemned, while others counselled a more sympathetic attitude of the Church towards the theatre. The Bishop of Manchester said that before they could reform the theatre they must reform society, the heart of which was not sound on the question.

Mr. Gladstone having been called upon by Lord C. Hamilton, M. P., to prove his assertion that "when an opportunity has chanced to occur, and the question has been tried, the constituencies of the country have returned in large majority those who disapprove of the conduct of the Ministry," the right hon. gentleman has replied, declining to answer questions involving only a part of the case, and stating that he intends to deal, if he can find time, with the whole of it.

The Southwestern Railway Company will save upwards of £1,400 a year by the Waterloo bridge being thrown open free. They have a line of nine omnibuses running between Wellington street, Strand, and the Waterloo station. Each of these omnibuses passes over the bridge eighty times every day, the toll being twopence for each journey. The footbridge at Charing Cross will also be opened free immediately under the terms of the Act of Parliament. Simultaneously with the opening of Waterloo Bridge, the free opening of Lambeth, Vauxhall, Battersea, Chelsea, Albert, Fulham, and Hammersmith will follow in succession.

At the Stafford Sanitary Congress, Dr. Richardson argued that a Minister of Health should be appointed, who should be an interpreter of the laws of health, but not enforce them on the country, and he proposed that the duties of the Registrar-General should be enlarged, and his title altered to that of Minister of Health. His duties should, he thought, include the registration of meteorological conditions; the collection of coroners' returns—the work now done under the Medical Department of the Local Government Board; the working of the Adulteration Act; and factory, veterinary, police and prison supervision.

The late Mr. Payne, after bequeathing his plate, furniture, and other personal effects to his sister, Lady Elizabeth Martha Goodricke, goes on to say:—"From this bequest I except a magnificent present made to me by the farmers of Northamptonshire, and which I order may never be sold; and if Lord Spencer would allow it a place at Althorp, making any use he pleases of it there (except selling it), where it would be in the old county in which I passed all the happiest days of my life, I should esteem it a great favour and an act of kindness on his part; in the event of his allowing this request, I give the said testimonial or present to him and his heirs, with this stipulation, that it is never to be sold."

How the French do Murders.

(Paris Letter to the Dublin Freeman's Journal.)

The Abbe Lerredde, rector of Ardon, in the department of the Aisne, and previously vicar of St. Ambroise, in Paris, was most brutally assassinated last Sunday. His body was found at 8 o'clock in the morning on the high road, which he had been passing to say mass at Leuilly, a village a little remote from the principal church. A child happened, from a distance, to witness the deed of horror, and describes a man armed with a large hatchet as suddenly rushing on the venerable priest and striking him several times on the head with the weapon, until he fell heavily on the road upon his face. His skull was broken in, but the assassin again and again struck him when on the ground and apparently insensible. The wretch then coolly shouldered his hatchet, took a path at right angles to the main road, and walked quietly away. The assassin is believed to be a man named Alexander Pillois, aged forty, who had just come out of prison and was begging his way to a distant part of the country. No motive beyond a general hatred of the priests, which he was in the habit of violently proclaiming, is as yet ascertained. But I heard yesterday that the abbe had advanced money to bury a near relative of Pillois, and when he sent to ask repayment, the man answered, "Tell him I'll pay him when I meet him, but not in cash." The country around Ardon is in consternation. The good old man—he was nearly seventy—was universally respected. His unceasing benevolence knew no distinction of creed or politics. He had inherited two or three small fortunes, and was always, soon after, as poor as ever, for he gave with a generous hand and a feeling heart to all who stood in need of his assistance. I have just heard that Pillois, the presumed murderer, is in custody, and that a hatchet, which can be traced to him, has been found, spotted with blood, and having some of the gray hairs of the venerable victim attached.

A MOST SAGACIOUS DOG.—Says the "Flaneur" of the London *Court Circular*:—"Political partisanship occasionally exhibits itself after a curious fashion. I was lunching in a country house in Suffolk the other day, when a terrier dog made its appearance, and went through the following performance:—A piece of biscuit was thrown on the floor by its mistress, with the remark, 'Gladstone sent it.' Thereupon the dog turned away with a face of ineffable disgust, and gave a low growl, never attempting to eat. 'Dizzy sent it,' said the lady, and the animal at once rushed forward and seized the biscuit with a hearty good will. This was repeated several times, the dog being perfect in the trick, or rather I should say, consistent in its political opinions."

ENGLAND AND FREE TRADE.

A Cry for Tariff Readjustment.

The Shrewsbury *Chronicle* of the 26th ult., in an article on Mr. Gladstone's "Kin beyond the Sea," says:—"No doubt a great deal of what Mr. Gladstone says is true enough, and that we cannot resist the fact that America is fast driving many of our once flourishing manufactures from the markets of the world. If, however, Mr. Gladstone, instead of persistently attacking the English Government, would tell us frankly the cause of our flagging trade, and our declining industries, and show how we can best meet the emergency, he would unquestionably be doing a most signal national service. If he would put his political prejudices against England and the English on one side, and boldly impress his countrymen with the fact that our declining exports and dull trade are the consequences of English manufacturers being unfairly handicapped in the international race, and that our present disabilities to compete with the foreigner have been intensely aggravated by the folly of our trades' unions; if he would set himself to show, as he might easily do, that our difficulties in competition arise from our fighting an unequal battle against the hostile tariffs of the foreigner, not in America only but throughout united Europe, he might do much to retrieve his lost position among his countrymen, and mitigate by his counsel the growing evils and social disturbances around us. At the present moment America is meeting us by cheaper productions in our own markets. She obtains contracts for iron shipbuilding and machinery, and delivers her goods thousands of miles away from home greatly below English prices. A vast amount of knick-knackery, formerly manufactured in England, comes from America much below what they could be produced here. She even purchases iron in England, and can afford to send it back, at a profit, manufactured into English rails, after paying a low import duty. She has driven Sheffield and Birmingham not only from American, but from the markets of Australia. Canada, and even some of our home markets, suffer not so much from the effects of free trade, but in consequence of the higher rate of wages paid in England, and the fatal effects of trade unionism, she can sell a better article at a lower price. America has long been competing with us in the hardware line, and many of her manufactures are unquestionably taking the place of home-made articles. Even in cotton goods, for which England has long been proverbial, America is sending us large quantities of calico, of equal quality to our own, while our Lancashire trade is suffering terrible depression, without even a distant prospect of improvement.

"But it is not America only that competes with our workmen. Sweden floods us with builders' joinery, in the shape of ready-made doors, windows, &c.; Austria competes in cheap furniture, and France pours into our markets an enormous supply of ribbons and lace, while our own Coventry ribbon and Nottingham lace trades are in a state of utter stagnation. France, America and Switzerland compete with us in watches, while the English watch trade may be said to be at a standstill before the glittering and toy-like manufactures of other countries. At the present moment an enormous amount of refined beet-root sugar is imported into England from France, while the sugar-refining trade of Bristol is paralysed, if not, practically speaking, ruined. It was a theory of Napoleon that he could ruin our West India Islands by encouraging in France the manufacture of beet-root sugar, and he laid his plans accordingly, by a prohibitive duty on English sugar, and encouraging by State subsidies the manufacture of the article at home. For nearly half a century English sugar has consequently ceased to be imported into France, and it has also been practically driven out of the markets of Belgium, Holland, and Germany, which manufacture their own beet-root variety, and sell at lower rates than sugar can be produced in England. We can scarcely therefore be surprised at the Bristol manufacturers protesting against a state of things which, while it ruins English trade, places a burden on French industry by drawing from its pockets the subsidies which give the sugar manufacturers of France an unfair advantage over those of England. The duties are apparently the same on each side of the water, but the Governments of France, Holland, and Belgium grant bounties on all the manufactured sugar exported, which prevents the English sugar from competing with the Continental article. The argument of the Bristol refiners is—'We are fighting with our hands tied. Foreigners come into our markets under the artificial stimulus of a Government bounty, but we are excluded from their markets, and have no opportunity of meeting competitors on their own ground.' The remedy for his unfair system of handicapping is, the Bristol merchants assert, the imposition of a Customs duty on French sugar entering England equal in amount to the bounty upon exportation paid by the French Government, until such time as the bounty is withdrawn and the two countries are placed upon a fiscal equality. This is after all nothing more nor less than a repudiation of the principle of that Free Trade upon which Englishmen at one time went mad, but which is now found in very many instances to act most prejudicially to English interests, because the foreigner gives the English manufacturer no reciprocal advantages. He does not like Free Trade which admits the English manufacturer to compete with him. While, therefore, we permit foreign goods to enter England, if not duty free, at a merely nominal rate of duty, the foreigner persistently closes his markets to English goods by an obstructive, if not a prohibitive, tariff, to the injury of the English trader. The injustice of the system is too obvious to need further illustration, but the representations made by English manufacturers to Continental and other Governments have hitherto failed to produce the slightest relaxation of those fiscal duties which are telling so seriously upon English trade. The Board of Trade returns for the last eight months are of serious national import, as they show the decrease of our exports of something like £2,200,000.

In the face of this falling off we still continue to allow the whole world to take our coal, which is limited in quantity, while our manufactures are, throughout Russia, France, Austria, and America, and other States, subjected to high import Customs' duties. Can the folly of such Free Trade as this go further? England's greatness as a manufacturing and iron-producing country chiefly depends upon her coal deposits, which scientific men tell us are limited to two or three centuries' consumption. When the exhaustion does come, how can she hold up her head amid the enormous coal deposits of America, which are scarcely tapped? And yet in spite of the known limit of our coal measures, we exchange English coal for French wines, which are unlimited in quantity so long as the French soil lasts and vines can grow. Facts like these have been brought before Parliament more than once, but the British Legislature has hitherto declined to take the initiative in restrictive measures. Like Nelson, when the signal for the retreat was hoisted, he put his telescope to his blind eye and declared he could not see it. So the English Parliament has hitherto declined to see the necessity of making any alteration in their Free Trade policy. One after another our manufactures have dwindled and died out, and others are showing symptoms of succumbing in a contest in which they are unfairly matched against the foreign producer. This state of things, however, cannot last much longer, for either English manufacturers must be content to be finally beaten in the commercial race by the more economical and non-striking workmen of the Continent, or the English capitalist must remove to Belgium, France, and Germany, or America, where at any rate his productions will be fostered by Government subsidies or Customs duties, and he will not be unfairly handicapped against competitors whom he could defy if he had but fair play."

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

CANADIAN.

The new school building at Smith's Falls is expected to be ready for occupation next week.

The Principal of one of the Halifax Public Schools, to whom we alluded in our last week's notes, has been dismissed.

The total number of officers, teachers, and scholars in the Sunday schools of Ottawa is 2,618, with an average attendance each Sunday of 1,554.

The Seaforth Mechanics' Institute have resolved to establish a recreation room in connection with the Institute. In it will be two billiard tables, chess, draughts, and other games.

At the meeting of the Board of studies of the University of Manitoba, held recently, Rev. Prof. Bryce was re-elected chairman, and Rev. Canon O'Meara secretary, for the ensuing year.

A special committee of the Manitoba School Board was recently appointed to take such steps as may be necessary towards the organization of school districts amongst the Mennonite settlers.

The Brockville *Monitor* of a recent date contained an article on "Examination Crams," deprecating the system now pursued, and stating that the tendency of the educational system was to foster cramming.

The question of finances between the London Board of School Trustees and the City Council has culminated in a determination of the Trustees to take legal proceedings to enforce their demands unless immediately complied with. The amount required for the current year is $36,253 against $26,500 last year. The increase represents the cost of the new High School lately inaugurated.

The Goderich, *Signal*, so says the Goderich *Star*, promised to publish a communication exposing the doings of the School Board, and hinted vaguely at 'tammany rings, &c. The latter paper sensibly remarks that the *Signal* had better out with it at once, as it is not fair that gentlemen holding responsible positions as school trustees should have their public characters attacked without a chance to vindicate themselves.

Previous to the departure of Rev. Jas. Duncan for Prince Albert Mission, N.W.T., over which he has been placed in charge by the Presbytery of Manitoba, his fellow-students in Manitoba College presented him with two handsome volumes as a token of their appreciation of him. Mr. Duncan has been in attendance at Manitoba College for the past four years, and is the first from that institution who has been ordained for the work of the Ministry.

The Huron *Expositor* regrets the recent attempt to dispense with one of the male teachers of the Public School. The reason given for the proposition is that next year a High School will be in operation, and that it will naturally draw away many of the Public School pupils, making such a large staff of teachers in the latter school unnecessary. It is surely necessary to keep the Public School efficient, and this will not be done by withdrawing one of the best and most efficient teachers. Unless the Public School is in a satisfactory state the High School cannot be. One acts as the feeder of the other, and if the preliminary training is meagre all the subsequent education will not supply its defects.

The Durham Educational Association held their semi-annual meeting at Bowmanville last week. In the absence of the President, Mr. A. Pinslow, B.A., LL.B., the Vice-President, W. E. Tilley, M.A., took the chair. Among the practical subjects discussed were "Euclid," by Mr. G. Andrews; "Chemistry," by W. Oliver, B.A.; "English Idioms," by Mr. Pinslow; "Geography," by Mr. R. J. Rowe; "English Grammar and Literature," by J. M. Buchan, M.A. Mr. Buchan also delivered a lecture in the Town Hall on "Poetry and Politics," which was characterised as a very happy effort. The Association resolved by a small majority that the work in Literature in entrance examination for High Schools, and in third-class examinations ought to be shortened.

The teachers of St. Catharines, and Lincoln County have made arrangements to hold their regular half-yearly Convention on Friday and Saturday, 25th and 26th October. Judging from the programme, the meeting will have an interest not for teachers only, but for the general public. Mr. James Hughes, Public School Inspector for Toronto, will conduct a Teachers' Institute in the daytime. Prof. Bell, of Brantford, the celebrated elocutionist, will give an entertainment in the City Hall on Friday evening. On the second day of the Convention, Prof. Young, of Toronto University, will deliver an address on "Psychology applied to Education," which, although more of a professional nature, will still be of deep interest to many who are not teachers.

The Norfolk *Reformer* says that "Payment by results," in connection with the recent modification of the law placing half the onus of support of High Schools on County Councils, is beginning to yield the fruits anticipated, namely, the shutting up, or the desire to shut up, of more than half the High Schools of the Province, the County Councils regarding the expense of keeping them open in the present state of the law as too serious a burden on the resources of the county. Mammoth High Schools and crowded Collegiate Institutes, to which foolish young men and women are inveigled from a distance, under the false pretence of receiving a better and a higher education than in the less crowded and really more comfortable High Schools of their own neighbourhood are coming gradually into fashion, to the detriment of teachers who are no way inferior to those whose quack boastings have unfortunately enabled them to flourish on the industry and talents of others. In the Collegiate Institutes, it is the pupils who are pretty nearly finished by other teachers that bring them all their fame.

The semi-annual meeting of the Teachers' Association for the County of Russell was held in the school house, Cumberland village, Osborn, on Friday and Saturday last, under the presidency of Rev. T. Garrett, Inspector. The attendance of teachers was large, and their attention most marked. The subjects brought up on Friday were varied in their character. In the evening an open meeting was held, and the spacious room was well filled with educationalists and their friends. The entertainment consisted of addresses, recitations and singing. The last part of the programme was efficiently rendered by Mr. Workman and Miss Fowler, from Ottawa. Considerable disappointment was occasioned by one deviation from what had been promised. The chemical experiments were an absolute failure. In spite of this *contretemps*, the day passed off pleasantly and profitably. The papers read by Messrs. Garrett, Cochrane, and Phillipps were thoroughly appreciated. The proceedings of Saturday were confined to strictly educational subjects. An able address by Principal MacCabe, of the Normal School, on "Reading," was a fluent and well arranged exposition of the essentials of good reading, as well as a reliable guide to the correction of bad habits in young readers. Then followed an address by the Rev. T. D. Phillipps on the importance of military drill in schools, the lecturer advocating drill as a substitute for one hour's daily work, as laid down by the present curriculum. Not only did this scheme meet with the approbation of those present, but Mr. MacCabe announced that it would be found on the next time-table of public school drill to be issued by the department. After dinner Mr. MacCabe gave another address on "Grammar," which was likewise replete with practical advice for young teachers. His hints as to procedure by an analytical process were most valuable, and cannot fail of producing good fruit, it practised in the future experience of those who heard him. The proceedings closed by the passing of a vote of thanks to those gentlemen from the city who had read papers and given addresses. The chairman announced that the next meeting would be held at Duncanville in January.

FOREIGN.

It is reported that the new Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University will be Dr. Evans, Master of Pembroke College.

Mr. George Dunn, B. A., Rector of the High School Dumferline, has been appointed one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in Scotland.

Professor Max Muller proposes to give the sum of £300 to provide an exhibition for a scholar at the High School for girls at Oxford, and wishes to vest it in the Corporation of the City of Oxford. The estates Committee of the Town Council have resolved to accept the trust.

Wellesley Female College, near Boston, has opened its doors to those wishing to be teachers, allowing them to enter without examination, to pursue elective courses, to watch the modes of instruction and obtain the advantages of a past graduate course without first going through the regular course.

Prof. B. G. Northrup, of Connecticut, follows President Porter in his criticism of "Not Enough English" in our schools. He says "in the old world the schools excel ours in the teaching of the vernacular of their country. Here we are apt to run into French and Latin, and neglect the English; scholars are, when they graduate without a popular knowledge of our language. The study of English ought to be pursued as a careful study everywhere."

The Duchess of Norfolk recently opened St. Edmund's Roman Catholic schools in Queen's Road, Sheffield. The Duke and Duchess afterwards received an address from the Roman Catholics and the Roman Catholic Association of Sheffield. A brooch, set in diamonds, of the value of 150 guineas was presented to the Duchess. The address and presentation were intended to have been made on the occasion of the wedding, but were postponed.

There are 8 universities in Austria, viz., Vienna, Gratz, Prague, Innspruck, Limburg, Kraka, Pesth and Czernowitz. At Gratz, which may be taken as a representative institution there are 4 faculties, theological, juridical and political, medical and the philosophical employing 61 Professors. These Professors get annually from the Government 2,480 florins and receive fees from the students in their departments. The appropriation in Austria for 1878 was 3,049,811 florins.

The Government of the Duchy of Saxe Coburg Gotha have issued a new regulation respecting teachers' pensions. In the first ten years the teacher will be entitled to a pension of 40 per cent. on his salary, and in each succeeding year 1½ per cent. will be added, so that after fifty years the pension will be equal to the year's salary last received. How many are expected to draw this maximum amount the Government minute does not specify.

GENERAL.

The King of Holland has sent his portrait to the Dutch colony of San Francisco with the gracious suggestion that "the gift is not from a King, out from a citizen to citizens."

Mrs. General Sherman is quoted as saying that her husband first aroused her admiration at the early age of ten years—"because he caught rabbits better than any of the other boys."

Patience Albro is a lady living in Foster, R. I., at the comfortable age of 102. She is said to remember well Monsieur the Marquis La Fayette marching through the village with his regiment.

The glut of cotton goods in Lancashire is simply unprecedented. At Preston the numerous mills with 30,000 spindles, and Sharple's mills with 32,500 have ceased running. Horrocks, Miller & Co., the best known firm in North England, have adopted measures to restrict production.

Alderman Sir Charles Whetham was, on the 28th ult., elected by the Livery of London and the Court of Aldermen Lord Mayor for the ensuing year. He is sixty-six years old, a flax and hemp manufacturer, Chairman of the National Provident Institution, the Metropolitan Bank, and the London and Blackwell Railway Company.

To write a good hand is one of the things every young man who means to succeed should set before him. Printers know what grave mistakes result from illegible writing. Mr. Loudon, the landscape gardener, wrote to the Duke of Wellington for permission to inspect the beeches of Strathfieldsaye. He wrote a bad hand. The consequence was that a few days afterwards the Bishop of London received the following letter from the Duke:—"My dear Lord; I shall always be glad to see you at Strathfieldsaye, and my servant shall show you as many pairs of my breeches as you choose to inspect; but what you want to see them for is quite beyond me."

Of printed books imported into Great Britain in 1877 there was a total valued at £157,303, against £150,099 in 1876, while her exports amounted to £897,742 against £881,839 in the preceding year. The books received by Great Britain from France were valued at £47,266, for which she returned those valued at £37,002; while her imports from Germany amounted to £33,707, and her exports to that country to £22,204. The imports of the United States had a value of £191,820, but the exports a value of only £23,732. The books sent that year by Great Britain to Australia were valued at £347,821, or considerably more than one-third of the total exportation.

King Humbert of Italy is very pale and thin, and his chest, they say, is affected. He devotes a portion of his time daily to the investigation of the financial affairs of his father, who has left a troublesome crop of unpleasant monetary claims behind him. A special secretary attends to this business. Knowing very well that Humbert is averse to any public scandals, the Roman tradesmen are exorbitant in their claims for luxuries supplied to the ladies of the late King's establishment. The ladies refuse to pay, on the plea that the debts belong to the dead King, and in some instances the bills have only been settled when initiatory proceedings have been commenced in the civil courts.

A FOOL IN COURT.—"What is the lady charged with?" asked Judge Morgan, as Mrs. Annie Devere, plump, pretty and exceedingly Frenchy, took her stand opposite John J. Hulit, who was sour, grim and irascible. "She broke the Sabbath day," quoth Hulit, producing a bundle of legal cap to refer to. The Judge didn't look a bit shocked. "What else?" asked he. "She called me hard names—very hard names, indeed," simpered Hulit, with the air of a martyr. "What were they?" demanded the Court. Out came the legal cap again. "An old fool. A crazy fool" A crazy old thief. A blackguard. A——l The list seemed a long one and the Court interposed, "Did she do anything else?" Hulit seemed astonished that such enormities could be listened to so calmly, but he said:—"She shook a cane at me and seemed about to knock off this honoured head." "Get home," was the Court's advice to the defendant, and to the plaintiff, "Get out, and don't let that honoured head show up here any more." No sadder spectacle has been visible for many days than the departure of Hulit and the fools-cap.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Mr. Jennings, the London correspondent of the New York *World*, an able Free Trade journal, writes:—"Prosperity has not fully returned to the United States, but they must be on the high road to it. Who except a doctrinaire or a political economist can believe that England is so when she is selling less and less of her manufactures and spending more and more every year with foreign nations? No cotton manufacturer or iron-master is to be deceived with regard to the difficulties now accumulating upon his head. It is idle to assure him that he is not being injured by foreign competition; his ledger tells a different tale. * * * Dispute as people may about English trade, there can be no doubt that the facts I have before noticed in these letters concerning the progress of American manufactures in Europe are becoming too plain to be misunderstood. A lady friend of mine was told to-day on inquiring for some calicoes for children that the 'Americans were the best—they could be worked on the sewing machine more easily than the English.' 'Why?' 'Well, they are softer. The English goods are stiffened up with size, and consequently do not lend themselves very readily to the sewing machine.' When English shopkeepers talk like this all Mr. John Morley's theories count for very little."

DEAN STANLEY ON THE AMERICAN PRESS.—Dean Stanley is quoted as saying of America to a correspondent of the Utica *Observer*:—"I like the people and as much as I have seen of the country. You are enterprising, and for so go-ahead a people remarkably thrifty. But sir, I hardly know what to think of the newspapers. I presume that they mirror the people, to a certain extent, but I sadly fear that some of their enterprises is begotten at the expense of veracity, I really—" At this point Mr. Grove entered the car with a paper, and pointing to a paragraph asked Dean Stanley to read it. Taking the paper he read as follows:—"Dean Stanley has accepted an invitation to preach in the Unitarian Church, Concord, some time before his return to England." That was all, and yet his reverence seemed almost angry as he threw down the paper, remarking as he did so:—"There, that illustrates precisely what I just brought before you. I have not even been invited to preach in the church in question, much less have I accepted an invitation of that character. It is true that I have been asked to preach in two or three Episcopal churches, but in no instance have I been asked to officiate in the church of any other denomination. It is very unpleasant, sir, for a stranger to be thus misrepresented upon the occasion of his first visit to America, but I cannot believe for a moment that the writer intended to wound my feelings."

THE FIRST PLAYING OF WHIST.—The origin and date of the first playing of whist have of late been much discussed, particularly in England, where the game receives a degree of attention and study well nigh religious. Edmond Hoyle, the earliest writer of any note on whist, commonly called the father of the game, published his first *Short Treatise* about 1742, in his seventieth year. Though educated for the law, he loved cards passionately, and was so skilful a player that he used to receive a guinea a lesson for teaching different games. He spent his days and nights at the card table, which so agreed with him that he lived to be 97. Whist is thought to be a development of the game of trump or triumph, played in England at least as early a he reign of Henry VIII. Trump is mentioned in a sermon by Latimer, the Sunday before Christmas (1529), and by Shakespeare, punning on the word triumph, in "Antony and Cleopatra." Whist, however, is not named by any writer of the Elizabethan era. The earliest reference to whist is in 1621, in the poems of John Taylor, the water poet. In the first edition of Cotton's *Compleat Gamester* (1674), no allusion is made to whist, but in the second edition, issued six years later, it is mentioned as a game "commonly known in England." Cotton's saying that the game gets its name from the silence observed in playing it, albeit generally received, is by many regarded as incorrect. The proper name is probably whisk.—*New York Times.*

RISE OF THE MOUSTACHE.—The clerks of the Bank of France have been forbidden to wear the moustache, an appendage which has frequently been the subject of legislation. In February, 1792, soldiers were forbidden to wax their moustaches or wear them in sharp points, and in June the wearing of the moustache was limited to the grenadiers; ten years later it was extended to all the cavalry but the dragoons. In 1822 the infantry, grenadiers, carbineers and voltigeurs were allowed the coveted ornament, as well as all officers, and in 1832 its wearing was made obligatory. In the French navy the moustache is forbidden as likely to arrest saline particles and ulcerate the lip. The decree of 1810 and 1822, regulating the costume of lawyers, is silent as to the moustache, but any advocate who should appear in court wearing one would in all probability be refused a hearing. The French clergy have shaved since 1789, though up to that time the neat little abbé wore a natty little moustache, powdered and pomaded, and in the days of Richelieu and Mazarin the priests wore chin whiskers like the courtiers. Missionaries, priests on service in the colonies and chaplains, however, not only wear the moustache but the beard. Among civilians the moustache did not come in till after the fall of the empire, whose military régime it was taken as recalling with mockery. The outbreak of the Romanticists in 1830 established it firmly in popular favour. No first-class restaurant or café will employ a waiter with a moustache.

ENCYCLOPÆDIC JOURNALISM.—An Englishman who sees many papers knows exactly where he will find in its best form the special thing he happens to be looking for.... Anyhow, he has some encyclopædia or other to refer to, and by force of habit and dint of practice an Englishman can not only get through an encyclopædia a day, but can get through it in an incredibly short time. He reads much, and he skips much, and the art of skipping is part of the art of reading. It is a matter of course to read the telegrams, the city articles, a part at least of one leader, the announcements of new appointments, such intelligence as that the Queen has been walking on the slopes at Windsor, and the replies of ministers to questions which have given them a chance of distinguishing or comforting themselves. But few readers think themselves bound to bestow more than a passing glance at reports of agricultural shows or clerical meetings, accounts of suicides or fires, or statistics as to the hop and coal trades. All these subjects interest special classes, and the encyclopædia would not be an encyclopædia unless it met their needs. And even those who skip the articles would despise their peculiar encyclopædia, unless it contained them. They insist that when they buy an encyclopædia it shall be one, and accordingly they get what they want. If we look on English newspapers as encyclopædias, and on English journalists as contributors to encyclopædias, we get a fairly accurate notion as to what was represented, and who represented it, on behalf of England, in the pink pavilion.—*Saturday Review.*

THEATRES IN PARIS.—Of these establishments the French capital possesses 48. The Châtelet holds the largest number, having 3,500 seats; then comes the Théâtre-Historique with 2,500; the Opéra, 2,100; the Château-d'Eau, 2,000; the Ambigu Comique, 1,900; the Gaîté and the Porte Saint Martin, each 1,800; the Opéra Comique, 1,500; Odéon, 1,467; the Théâtre Français, 1,380, &c. As to the people employed, naturally the Opéra has the largest staff. It comprises 95 musicians, 26 male singers, 18 female, 7 men dancers, 42 women, 92 choristers or figurants, 87 ballet assistants, 155 machinists o special workmen, 40 female box-openers, 34 money-takers, accountants, &c., in all a total of 596 persons. The most important of the other houses, as regards the persons occupied in them, are the Porte-Saint-Martin, with 359 men and women; the Châtelet, over 300; the Opéra Comique, 239; the Théâtre Français, 220, &c. In short, 3,210 men and 1,859 women are at this moment employed in 26 of the larger Parisian theatres. These totals include 1,777 actors, 1,102 actresses, 428 employés, 568 machinists, 671 box-openers and 613 special workmen. The theatre which possesses the most extended repertory is unquestionably the Comédie Française, which during the last year, played 76 pieces, of which 25 were old, 47 modern, and 4 new. Then comes the Gymnase, with 58 plays; the Palais-Royal, 46; the Odéon, 40, of which 32 were old and 8 new. As to the musical theatres, the Opéra played 15 pieces—12 operas and 3 ballets; the Opéra Comique 27, of which 24 were old and 3 new. Besides the 48 theatres, Paris possesses 56 cafés-concerts, without counting the hippodromes, circuses, balls and other establishments for amusement whose name is legion.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

THE LADIES' CORNER

PRESERVING MEATS.

It is curious to note the widely differing methods adopted by different housekeepers for preserving meats for family use. The methods, however, are not more variable than the quality of the meats after they are preserved. Meats may be preserved in a a great variety of ways. Beef will keep for an unlimited length of time if pickled in a strong brine made of clear salt and water, but such beef, after a short time becomes so hard and dry as to be unpalatable to most people. The salt removes all the rich juices of the beef, and leaves it hard, woody, and tasteless.

The secret of keeping beef, hams, or other lean meat in pickle, is to use just as little salt as possible, but enough to prevent decomposition. Sugar is more expensive than salt, but many people use it very freely for making meat pickle, and usually with good results. Pepper and other spices will keep meats from tainting