

DOCTOR.—One moment, my dear Major, before you begin. What will you give me for a piece of news?

LAIRD.—I'll gie ye three bawbees.

MAJOR.—And I not a cent, but on the contrary, were I a betting character, I would give you the odds that your fresh piece of intelligence relates to Jullien.

DOCTOR.—Well guessed!

MAJOR.—Did you suppose it possible that anything connected with Jullien's promised visit to Toronto could fail to run like wildfire?

DOCTOR.—What a treat the Torontonians will have in that incomparable band! and how I shall rejoice to hear again Kóéing, Bottesini, and the other stars who accompany him!

MAJOR.—When do they come? I did hear that they intended to visit us, but not the exact time.

DOCTOR.—On the 5th and 6th July their performances will take place, and I would recommend people from the country, who intend to come in for the concerts, to write to their friends to secure tickets beforehand, as doubtless the Lind mania will be re-enacted in Toronto. You know also that Anna Thillon will accompany Jullien?

MAJOR.—No; and I am not sorry to hear it, as I shall be able in one night thereby to kill two birds with one stone—that is, judge of two celebrities. And now I'll go on with my Colonial Chit-Chat. [*Major reads.*]

On the 8th May, Mr. Chukaluna launched a new steamer at St. Catharines. She was named the "Zimmerman." The ceremony of naming was performed by Miss Dickson. After which a large party was entertained by the owners at lunch.

A prohibitory Liquor-law has passed the Legislature of Prince Edward Island—ayes, 15; nays, 7.

It is said that thousands of cattle will starve to death in New Brunswick before the grass grows.

"Considerable damage," says the *Peterboro' Despatch*, has been done on our river this year, by the high waters. Several booms broke away, and logs of course scattered, and one dam was much injured.

Government has raised the salaries of the Professors in the University College to £450 a year. One, if not more, of the salaries stood at this figure before; and the present advance has made them uniform. One of the considerations which led to this step was the unusual dearth which prevails and presses in a peculiar manner upon persons in receipt of fixed incomes.

The Quebec *Canadian* says that Mr. Chaveau left Quebec a few days ago for Upper Canada, one object of his visit being connected with the formation of Deaf and Dumb Institutions in both sections of the Province. We are well pleased at this. It was rather a reproach to Canada to be so long

without such institutions. We trust the government will not neglect the matter, now that they have taken it in hand.

The *Guelph Herald*, of the 16th May, says a very handsome specimen of the Canadian porcupine, weighing over 20 lbs., was shot by Mr. D. Warren, a short distance out the York road. "We have seen," the *Herald* says, "several of these animals captured in the back woods, but none equal in size or appearance to Mr. Warren's specimen."

The inhabitants of Whitby have resolved to procure its incorporation, and also to take £25,000 stock in the Whitby and Lake Huron Railroad.

There are large quantities of snow between Quebec and Montreal, being the only instance for the last twenty-seven years of snow lying on the ground to such a late period of the season—at least so says the *Montreal Sun*.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE.

Friday, 26th May, was a magnificent day for an eclipse of the sun. The sky throughout was clear and unclouded, except a slight cirrous haze along the horizon. This continued without change up to the time at which the eclipse commenced. Then not a speck was visible. 41m. 41sec. past 3 o'clock was the time the first contact took place. At this moment a marked decrease in the intensity of the solar rays, as shown by a radiating thermometer, was observed. The wind at the time was S. S. W., and showing a mean velocity of from five to six miles an hour. The barometer was remarkably steady throughout the whole day, and at the period of contact exhibited no change. The point of contact was about 145° from the vertex toward the west. About 20 minutes to 5 o'clock, a slight haze began to gather on the western horizon, and also an appearance of layers of well-defined strata inclined from the sun towards the northern horizon. About 4 minutes past 5 o'clock was the period of the greatest obscuration. Then to the ordinary observer the sun presented the appearance as of the moon when two or three days old, the extent covered being about 11°·06—12 being unity. The atmosphere assumed a pleasing sombre gloom, a perceptible change having taken place in the sultry state of the air. Still, however, the birds kept singing around, and no change was manifested in the animal creation. Gradually the obscuration became less complete, and the air resumed its natural condition. At 35 minutes past 5 the edge of the moon appeared serrated, and the edge of the sun's disc appeared sharp and well-defined. The edge of the moon exterior to the sun was not at any time visible. About 14 minutes 6 seconds past 6 o'clock the contact ceased, and the sun's disc was perfectly clear. The range of the solar radiation from the commencement of the eclipse to the period of the greatest obscuration, was 23°·5, and from that time to the last contact it was 13°. There is something very striking in the accuracy of the instructions drawn up by Professors Cherriman and Irving, and published by the Canadian Institute some weeks ago. In reference to the eclipse, we were there informed that the period of the first contact would be 44 minutes 40 seconds past three o'clock, and that its last contact would be 18 minutes 50 seconds past six. The remarks already made show a variation of only four seconds